



FALL 2020

COVID-19

HEALTH & SAFETY

PROTOCOLS

2.1 Metrics for Advising School District Opening Plans:

The Moscow School District is working closely with our local medical community and Idaho District 2 Public Health to monitor a number of metrics to be used to inform decisions for when MSD 281 would recommend moving from a hybrid schedule to online or fully in person.

Given our area is home to a large university performing universal COVID-19 testing, it is important that the school district consider several factors and use a variety of metrics to inform its decision.

These metrics include, but are not limited to, the following:

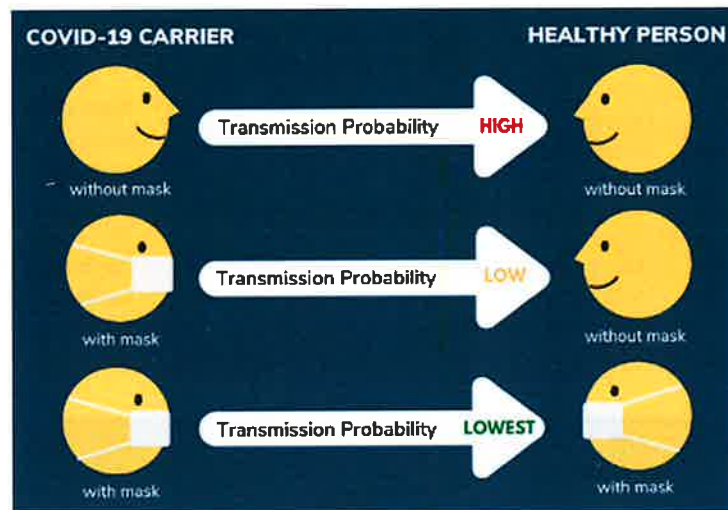
- We will be looking at BOTH testing positivity and daily incidence trends together
 - Daily incidence rate: number positive/100,000 population per day averaged over 7 days
 - We will compare a 7-day rolling average to the previous 7 days, looking at whether these numbers are increasing
- Decisions regarding school-level openings/closings will consider the sequential trends of multiple, 7-day periods (14-21 days), for both percent positive tests AND incidence trends.
- In addition to the above, we will consider the following for recommendations to change school plans.
 - Hospital capacity.
 - Community outbreaks.
 - Outbreak in schools.
 - Number of cases connected with students / staff.
 - Absences (Student & Staff).
 - Grouping or location of outbreaks.
 - Upcoming risk factors.
 - City or State directives.
 - Medical staff input.
 - Regional public health input.
 - Other circumstances at the moment.

Families will be provided as much advanced notification of school closure as possible.



2.2 MSD Mask/Face Covering Guidelines 2020-2021

The following guidelines were designed to best protect the health and safety of all students, staff, and community members as we work together to provide quality educational opportunities within our schools. Thank you for following these measures to ensure our entire community can have a successful and enriching school year.



Overall Guidelines

- All students, staff, and other people present in school buildings/facilities and district offices or riding on school transportation vehicles are required to wear a mask/face covering. This includes all transitions such as entering schools and hallways. Accommodations for students with a 504/IEP/Medical Action Plan who are unable to wear a mask will be considered and addressed on a case-by-case basis.
- Face masks will be provided for staff and students as needed to ensure all parties can participate within the school/activity.
- To protect our staff, students, and school community, failure to follow the mask/face covering guidelines may result in the student being sent home from school.
- Students exempt from wearing a face mask due to specific IEP/504/Medical Action Plan services will not be sent home if they do not wear a mask/face covering. Mask exemptions will be addressed by individual education teams/IEP teams on a case-by-case basis. Extensive screening protocols will be required for students not wearing a mask. Items such as face shields and other types of face coverings may be considered as appropriate.
- Stigma, discrimination, or bullying may arise due to wearing or not wearing a mask/face covering. The District will have a plan to prevent and address harmful or inappropriate behavior as aligned with the Moscow School District Building Code of Conduct Policy (5051.00).

Mask/Face Covering Details

- Types of allowable face coverings include: 2-layer paper or disposable mask, 2-layer cloth/fabric face mask, or religious face covering. The covering should cover the nose and mouth completely and not be overly tight or restrictive. A face covering is not meant to substitute for social distancing but is especially important in situations when maintaining a 6-foot distance is not possible.

DO choose masks that	DO NOT choose masks that
 <p>Have two or more layers of washable, breathable fabric</p>	 <p>Are made of fabric that makes it hard to breathe, for example, vinyl</p>
 <p>Completely cover your nose and mouth</p>	 <p>Have exhalation valves or vents, which allow virus particles to escape</p>
 <p>Fit snugly against the sides of your face and don't have gaps</p>	 <p>Are intended for healthcare workers, including N95 respirators or surgical masks</p>

HOW TO WEAR MASKS CORRECTLY

DO THIS



Handle mask by straps Secure over nose and cover chin Secure tight fit around nose and chin

DON'T DO THIS



Don't wear below mouth Don't wear below nose Don't have loose gaps

- A face shield (a clear plastic barrier that covers the face) allows visibility of facial expressions and lip movements for speech perception and may be used as an alternative to a face covering in the following situations: for staff providing direct student support services or when a face covering impedes the service being provided. A face shield is not an adequate substitute for a face mask/covering. A mask with a clear portion over the mouth is preferred instead of a face shield.
- For optimal protection, the face shield should extend below the chin anteriorly, to the ears laterally, and there should be no exposed gap between the forehead and the shield's headpiece.

Unique Locations and Settings

- Face coverings may be temporarily removed to eat or drink, but care should be taken to maintain as much space as possible between people, recognizing it is not always feasible to maintain 6 feet of distance from others.
- Face coverings may be temporarily removed when engaging in outdoor physical activity (e.g., during recess, after school sports, etc.) where the level of exertion makes wearing a face covering difficult. People participating in these activities should maintain 6 feet of distance while doing so to the extent feasible.
- Students should wear a mask during physical education when possible. Breaks from wearing masks may be offered with an emphasis on maintaining at least 6 feet of distance. Physical education classes should occur outside when possible.
- Students should wear a mask during any music (general music/band/orchestra/choir) or theater class when not playing an instrument requiring the use of the student's mouth. Music and theater classes should occur outside when possible. If inside, teachers are encouraged to have students maintain 6 feet of distance in a single file line. Tools such as bell covers on instruments will be utilized as students will need to remove their masks when playing certain instruments. Masks should be put back on when not playing these types of instruments.
- For sanctioned district sports/activities, please refer to documents specific to the individual sanctioned sport/activity concerning mask/face covering guidelines.

Additional PPE Guidance

- Any staff directly supporting a student exempt from wearing a mask/face covering should be wearing a mask, face shield, gloves, and clothing cover such as a lab coat or gown when unable to maintain 6 feet of distance.
- Any staff directly supporting a student with symptoms suggestive of COVID should be wearing a disposable surgical mask, face shield, gloves, and clothing cover such as a lab coat or gown when unable to maintain 6 feet of distance.
- If a person with a mask/face covering exemption has symptoms suggestive of COVID, a mask should be placed on this person, and the person should be monitored closely and have the mask removed if the person cannot tolerate the mask. If moving such a person through the school, hallways should be cleared of as many people as possible and keep people not directly attending to the person at least 6 feet away. All staff members should be wearing a disposable surgical mask. For children who are not able to wear a mask as recommended, it is especially important for distancing of at least 6 feet to be done at all times.



2.3 MSD Hygiene Guidelines

2020-2021

The following guidelines were designed to best protect the health and safety of all students, staff, and community members as we work together to provide quality educational opportunities within our schools. Thank you for following these measures to ensure our entire community can have a successful and enriching school year.

Accountability

Participation in MSD 281 public school activities requires adherence to public health best practices as detailed here and in other documents. Details regarding home screening, physical distancing, face coverings, and surface cleaning are provided in separate documents. This hygiene document addresses:

- Hand washing
- Face coverings
- Physical distancing
- Cough and Sneeze etiquette
- Food / eating
- Surface cleaning
- Water bottle
- Supplies (individual, vs. shared)



Hand Washing Requirements

- Ensure the availability of appropriate supplies to support healthy hygiene behaviors (e.g., soap, hand sanitizer, paper towels, disinfectant wipes, and tissues) and strategically place supplies where they may be frequently used.
 - Develop processes to frequently check and refill supplies at the point of use (e.g., hand sanitizer available near shared equipment, near school building entrances, exits, etc.)
- Build routines of hand hygiene into the daily school schedule for all students and staff, including handwashing and sanitation breaks during or between classroom activities. Teach and reinforce handwashing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and/or the safe use of hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol by staff and older students.
 - Supervise the use of hand sanitizer by students.
 - Ensure that students and staff with sensitivity or skin reactions to hand sanitizer can use soap and water.
 - Reinforce handwashing/hand sanitizing during key times including, but not limited to: arrival and dismissal, before, during and after preparing or eating food; after using the bathroom; after blowing one's nose, coughing or sneezing; after touching objects with bare hands that have been handled by other people.
- **Face coverings** (see MSD guidelines)
 - Wear your mask as specified in the MSD guidelines
- **Physical Distance**
 - Be mindful of avoiding close contact with others
 - Structure activities to avoid situations for close contact

- **Cough and Sneeze Etiquette**
 - Cover your cough or sneeze by using a tissue, or the bend in your elbow
 - If your mask is soiled or wet, get a fresh mask
 - Wash or sanitize your hands

- **Food and Eating**
 - Wash hands before and after eating
 - Maintain allergy awareness
 - Maintain 6 foot distance while eating
 - Do not share your food with others
 - Eating is restricted to designated lunch and snack times
 - Eating is restricted to specified locations

- **Surface Cleaning**
 - Buildings are cleaned regularly per MSD operations guidelines
 - Classroom and workplace cleaning will also occur during the day
 - Cleaning materials are provided per building operations
 - See classroom teacher recommendations
 - Clean and sanitize shared objects between use

- **Water Bottles**
 - Drinking fountains are closed during the pandemic
 - Use a water bottle
 - Drink water and stay hydrated
 - Refill your bottle at a water bottle station, or designated sink
 - Do not share water bottles

- **Supplies**
 - Each student should use their own materials
 - Clean and sanitize shared objects between use

Recommendations

- Use media, posters, and other tactics to promote health etiquette expectations in highly visible locations.



2.4 MSD Social Distancing Guidelines 2020-2021

The following guidelines were designed to best protect the health and safety of all students, staff, and community members as we work together to provide quality educational opportunities within our schools. Thank you for following these measures to ensure our entire community can have a successful and enriching school year



Important Note: All physical distancing guidelines include the requirement that masks are worn except in those cases outlined in the MSD mask protocol. Social distancing, mask wearing and effective hygiene practices, taken together, provide the greatest protection against the spread of Covid-19.

Overall Guidelines

The purpose of social distancing is to reduce or eliminate the possibility of students and staff members being within a 6 foot distance for 15 minutes or more, without extra protections such as screens or barriers.

- **Modified Layouts**
 - Space seating/desks with a minimum of 6 feet on the sides and in front of students to the greatest extent possible.

- Create distance between children on school buses (e.g., seat children one child per row, skip rows) when possible. Siblings will be seated together to allow for more vacant room on the bus.

- **Physical Barriers and Guides**
 - Install physical barriers, such as sneeze guards and partitions, particularly in areas where it is difficult for individuals to remain at least 6 feet apart (e.g., reception desks).
 - Provide physical guides, such as tape on floors or sidewalks and signs on walls, to remind staff and children to remain at least 6 feet apart in lines and at other times (e.g. guides for creating “one way routes” in hallways).
 - Monitor hallway, classroom, and facility traffic to ensure physical distancing guidelines are followed.

- **Communal Spaces**
 - Stagger use of shared spaces such as lunchrooms, libraries, weight rooms, etc. when possible.
 - Clean and disinfect equipment between use, wash hands when leaving communal areas.
 - If necessary, restrict the use of communal areas as needed.
 - Establish one-way circulation in hallways, classrooms, and school facilities, when possible.

- **Cohorts, Assigned Seating**
 - Maintain cohorts of students when possible.
 - Create assigned seating in classrooms and other spaces whenever possible to best support proper distancing as well as allow for necessary contact tracing.

- **Recess**
 - Maintain cohorts when possible.
 - Maintain social distance as well as possible when out at recess.
 - Avoid games/activities that require or encourage physical contact between students.
 - Stagger use of shared recess toys and equipment as best as possible.
 - Clean high-touch hard surface areas between staggered use when possible.
 - Students will always wash/sanitize hands after outdoor playtime.

2.6 COVID-19 Screening for Parents

Every morning before you send your child to school, please check the following:

1. That your child **DOES NOT** have a fever 100° F or higher.
2. Other signs of illness such as:



Your child should stay at home (do not come to school) if:

1. Your child has been in close contact (within 6 feet for more than 15 minutes) with anyone confirmed with Covid-19 within the past two weeks **or if awaiting the results of a Covid-19 test.**
2. Your child has a **fever of 100° or higher, any respiratory symptom or any other symptoms listed above not attributable to another cause or condition.** Contact your medical provider to determine if a test for Covid-19 is indicated and when it is safe to return to school (see additional guidance, next page.)

When in doubt, please keep your child at home, notify the school office, and check in with Canvas.

School Phone Number: _____ **School Contact Person:** _____

Return to school

“Fever-free” in this document always means without use of fever-reducing medication

Student has one low risk symptom and no other symptom:

- Stay home for observation for other symptoms
- May return to school if more than 24 hours fever-free AND no new symptoms develop, OR it is determined symptom is attributable to other cause/condition.

Student has one high risk symptom or two low risk symptoms (High risk: cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, unexplained loss of, or decrease in, sense of smell or taste. Low risk: Elevated temperature, sore throat, runny nose, body aches unexplained, vomiting, diarrhea, headache, fatigue):

- Student must stay home
- Student may return:
 - Generally 10 days after symptom onset and more than 24 hours fever-free and symptoms resolved
 - Medical provider may provide statement determining it is safe to return to school at earlier date if: an alternative diagnosis is responsible for symptoms and more than 24 hours fever-free
 - A negative COVID-19 test may be accepted, per Public Health

Student had a close contact with a person with COVID-19, remains asymptomatic

- Close contact as defined above
- Student should stay home, cooperate with public health
- Generally, a student may return 14 days after most recent exposure to the close contact
- A medical provider note, or a negative test, does not necessarily allow for earlier return
- **if a student develops symptoms during 14 day quarantine:**
 - They should contact their medical provider and Health Department
 - A COVID-19 test may be recommended
 - Student must now remain out of school until 10 days after symptoms began
 - Generally, a student may return after 10 days have passed since symptoms developed AND more than 24 hours fever-free, provided symptoms have resolved

Student tests positive for COVID-19

- Student with symptoms:
 - May return to school after 10 days from positive test AND symptoms improving AND more than 24 hours fever-free
- Student without symptoms
 - May return to school after 14 days from positive test
- A negative test or medical provider note are not required for return if following Public Health guidance

Student who develops symptoms during school or activity

If a student presents with any of the conditions listed above during school or activity, the student will be sent home, per the guidelines described above.

2.8 Notification process regarding COVID-positive person within MSD #281

IMPORTANT

- **If your student was potentially exposed, the district will contact you as soon as possible through email and/or phone to quarantine/isolate.**
- **After investigating, you will be notified by Public Health if your student needs to continue to quarantine/isolate due to direct exposure.**
- **If it is determined your student was not directly exposed, once the Public Health has contacted the district, then the district will contact you to let you know you will no longer need to quarantine/isolate.**
- **All families within the specific school/team/club will be notified of the potential exposure incident once the investigation has been completed by Public Health and the case is closed.**

Further Information:

- MSD #281 works closely with Public Health and the local medical community regarding cases in our area.
- **Families or staff with any confirmed or possible cases need to report to the district Superintendent as soon as possible, who will confirm the case with Public Health.**
- Once cases are confirmed, Public Health will verify the cases with the district Superintendent.
- Pending cases are confirmed with Public Health prior to notifying MSD 281 stakeholders.

COVID Response Team support for Contact Tracing and Notification

For each case, a COVID response team is led by building administration and includes office staff (e.g., attendance), counselor, instructional staff, other staff (coaches, activity leaders), as indicated. The response team will focus on identifying **close contacts** for school activities, and facilities that may be impacted and require cleaning.

For a pending or confirmed case, MSD 281 personnel will assist Public Health in determining:

- role of individual (student, staff, other)
- onset of symptoms and/or positive test result
- range of dates when individual was contagious
 - (Often 2 days before, and up to 10 days after symptoms developed or individual tested positive).

- school(s) and activities attended
- transportation (bus)
- class assignments
- class cohort
- seating assignments
- dates / times of attendance / participation while contagious
- dates / times when others may have been exposed
- “close contacts” per class and/or activity
- family / household members and participation in MSD 281 activities
- MSD 281 facilities that may be impacted

If not already at home and isolating, persons who are positive **and** family/household members will be excluded from school and activities until it is safe for them to return (per when to stay home/ when to return policy and Public Health guidance).

It is unlikely that persons who have had limited, indirect contact, or who were “exposed to the exposed”, will be notified by Public Health or be required to quarantine.

Unless otherwise directed by Public Health or a Medical Provider, those who have had indirect contact or who were “**exposed to the exposed**” are not required to **quarantine**. **Isolation** separates sick people with a contagious disease from those who are not sick. **Quarantine** separates and restricts the movement of people who were exposed to a contagious disease.

The CDC defines “**close contact**” as any individual who was within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes starting from 2 days before illness onset (or, for asymptomatic patients, 2 days prior to positive specimen collection) until the time the patient is **isolated***. Public Health officials may also consider the proximity, duration, and circumstances of a possible exposure when evaluating “**close contact**”.

Notification of “**close contacts**”, as indicated by participation in MSD 281 activities:

- Privacy and confidentiality will be maintained.
- Potentially impacted individuals (e.g., those having **close contact**) will be notified by MSD 281 (School Messenger, email, or phone)
- As of August 2020, Idaho Public Health is tracing contacts and will notify people who were identified as **close contacts** of the individual case.
- Generally, those who had minimal, or indirect contact with the individual case will not be contacted or receive notification.

Return to MSD 281 activities is dependent upon COVID-19 test results, and the presence or absence of symptoms specific to COVID 19 (per when to stay home/ when to return policy).

Building Operations:

Upon learning of a case of COVID 19 within the MSD community, the COVID response team will identify areas that will be assessed for cleaning (protocols per building operations).

MSD 281 maintains the goal of safely providing in person instruction with minimal disruption.

Sample, District-wide, school messenger statement:

A positive case of COVID 19 has been identified within [specify affected area]. MSD is working with Public Health and the medical community to guide our response to this case. At this time, _____(school or area)_____, is closed for cleaning and will re-open on _____(date)_____. You will be notified and receive further instruction if you or your student is identified as a close contact. We regret the disruption in operations but are highly motivated to maintain the health and safety of our community.

MSD 281 processes that support contact tracing:

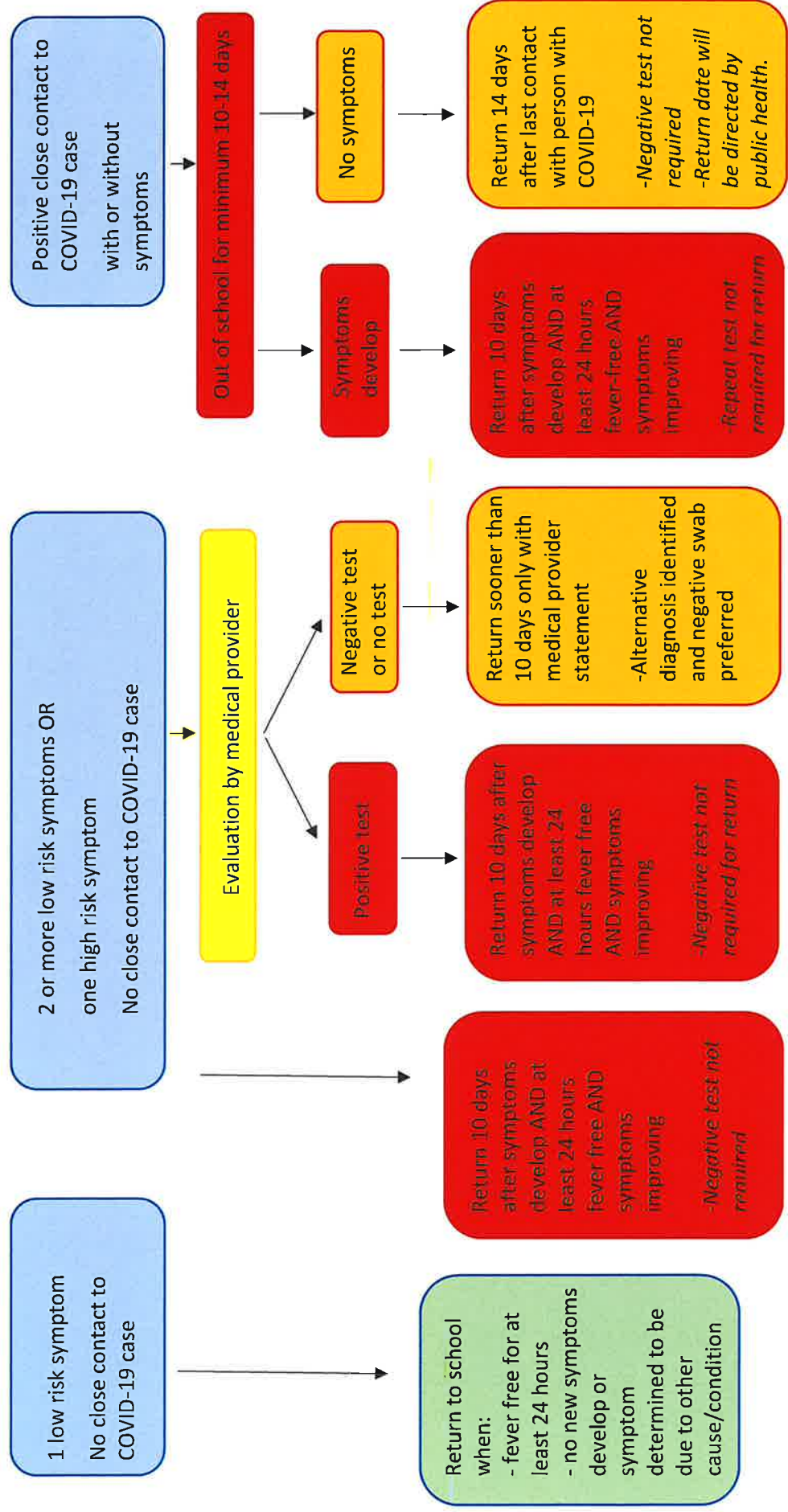
- Scheduling and activity rosters
- Attendance tracking
- Cohort assignment
- Seating assignments
- Building processes for non-classroom locations
- Arrival time / location (minimize students gathering)
- Structured passing periods
- Staggered lunch

MSD 281 processes that minimize infection transmission:

- Outdoor activities
- Building ventilation
- Physical distancing
- Hygiene practices
- Face coverings
- Screening for symptoms and risk factors
- Limited gathering / group size

***A trained staff member using precautions and wearing appropriate PPE (e.g., surgical mask, face shield, gloves and gown) may not be required to quarantine, even if within 6 feet for greater than 15 minutes.**

Student sick/exclusion/return algorithm: student develops NEW symptom NOT attributable to another cause/condition or identified as close contact
High-risk symptom: cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, unexplained loss of, or decrease in, sense of smell or taste
Low-risk symptom: fever, or temperature 100° F or higher, sore throat, muscle aches/pains, fatigue, headache, nasal congestion/runny nose, gastrointestinal symptoms such as nausea/vomiting/abdominal pain/diarrhea



Other possible scenarios:

- Student tests positive for COVID-19, for any reason not falling under algorithm above: exclude from school 10 days with return per the algorithm
- Nursing/designated staff may consider general complaints on a case-by-case basis (abdominal pain, fatigue, headache with no other symptoms).
- Nursing/designated staff may consider chronic or recurring medical conditions that present with symptoms above on a case-by-case basis

3.1 Frequently Asked Questions

- **Will K-12 teachers and staff wear face coverings?**

Yes. Teachers will wear masks during the day. For certain lessons/content areas a teacher may switch to a face shield. In addition, some teachers will have plexiglass workstations.

- **Will K-12 students be required to wear face coverings?**

Yes. Students will be required to wear a cloth face covering. Face coverings can be removed when eating and on a case by case basis when the child needs a break. Teachers will make sure that is done safely. Teachers will work with younger children to teach and encourage them to use their masks appropriately.

For a small number of children with special needs, wearing a mask might not be possible. School leaders, teachers and families will discuss the issue of masks before the child comes to school.

You can learn more about masks here:

https://www.msd281.org/UserFiles/Servers/Server_200037/File/COVID%2019%20Info%202020-21/Health%20and%20Safety/MSD%20Mask_Face%20Covering%20Guidelines%202020_2021.pdf

- **Will the school have face coverings available if needed?**

Yes. The school will have a supply of disposable masks, reusable masks, and face shields (for approved conditions). Students are encouraged to bring their own face masks from home. We encourage families to help children find face masks that are comfortable, colorful, and creative. The school will happily accept donations of child-sized cloth masks and/or disposable face masks.

- **Will added sanitary and cleaning practices be implemented?**

Yes. Additional cleaning protocols have been put in place. Classrooms will be cleaned multiple times a day, and on Wednesdays and Fridays an even more thorough cleaning will take place.

Most classrooms have sinks, where regular hand washing will take place, and all classrooms will have supplies of hand sanitizer.

New sanitary practices will be implemented on the busses as well.

Other safety measures are also being implemented such as using the Hybrid model to reduce the number of students in classrooms and other areas to allow for social distancing.

- **Will students need to be screened before entering the building?**

Yes. Families will screen students before they come to school. Staff will self-screen. If students present with symptoms at school parents will be notified and asked to come pick up their child.

More information can be found here:

https://www.msd281.org/UserFiles/Servers/Server_200037/File/COVID%2019%20Info%202020-21/Health%20and%20Safety/HS_screening_exclusion_return.pdf

https://www.msd281.org/UserFiles/Servers/Server_200037/File/COVID%2019%20Info%202020-21/Health%20and%20Safety/HSC_exclusion_return%20algorithm.pdf

- **Will students be spaced apart to lower the risk of transmission?**

Yes. Students will be spaced apart in classrooms, hallways, and other places in the school.

Will the school limit gatherings of large groups?

Yes. School wide assemblies will be eliminated until deemed safe again. Precautions are put in place to minimize students gathering in the hallways and other congested areas.

- **How many students will be in each class?**

The exact number will vary from school to school and class to class. You could expect anywhere from 8 - 13 students per classroom.

- **Will movement be limited throughout the school building?**

Yes. Necessary movements for academic need will still take place. However, students will be limited on entering other classrooms, hallways, office spaces unless deemed vital.

- **Will classes be held outside or in alternative spaces to allow for more distancing?**

Maybe. This is more feasible for some classes than others. The HS, for example, does not have enough outside space to hold all their classes outside. PE classes, though, in all schools, will try to be outside as much as possible, weather permitting.

- **How will the schools facilitate fresh air circulation or air filtration?**

The existing ventilation systems in each school will be adjusted so that they are continually circulating fresh air from outside into classrooms

- **Will bus transportation services be provided?**

Yes. All bus routes are being changed to allow for social distancing on the bus. There will be one child per seat on the busses unless a sibling rides the same bus. Siblings will share a seat. There will be assigned seating on every bus.

If your child is going to ride the bus, please call the bus garage at 208-882-3933 and let them know to add you to a route.

Extra cleaning and sanitizing protocols have been put in place for busses.

- **Will school lunch services be available?**

Yes. Schools will serve school lunches. These lunches will be individually packaged so that students can simply grab and go.

We hope to be able to provide lunch to students on their remote learning days. This is our goal and are still working out the details of how to make that possible.

- **Where will hybrid students eat lunch?**

They will eat in the cafeteria. Lunch schedules have been modified so that the number of students in the cafeteria at one time is greatly reduced, allowing us to seat students six feet apart.

- **Will MHS have an open campus for lunch?**

Yes.

- **Will students still be allowed to participate in music, art, and physical education courses?**

Hybrid Model: Yes.

Elementary: Students will follow a close to typical daily schedule that includes time with specialists including music and P.E.

Secondary: Students attending in-building classes will have a full schedule that includes electives and P.E. Music classes will follow specific health and safety protocols.

Online-only: Maybe

Elementary: Yes, specialists such as Music and P.E. will be part of the student's online schedule.

Secondary: Middle School online-only students will only take 5 core classes: Math, English Language Arts, Science, Social Studies, and P.E. "Clubs" will allow online only students to participate and stay in touch with elective activities without the worry of earning a grade for the class.

High school students might need credits from elective classes to graduate. Those students will work with school counselors to make sure they are registered for the classes they need.

- **What will happen if state or local health officials' close school again?**

We will go into another soft closure. Last spring, it was an unprecedented and unexpected event. We are now much better prepared for that possibility.

- **If schools switch to fully online, will they switch back to hybrid if the threat level goes down?**

We will consider our options if and when that time comes, working closely with local health professionals and city and state officials.

- **What will happen if a student or staff member tests positive?**

Students and Staff members that test positive will convalesce and quarantine at home. Contact tracing will be done, and appropriate people will be contacted. The MSD Positive Case Plan can be found here:

https://msd281.org/UserFiles/Servers/Server_200037/File/COVID%2019%20Info%2020-21/Health%20and%20Safety/Updated%20MSD%20Positive%20Case%20Plan.pdf

https://www.msd281.org/UserFiles/Servers/Server_200037/File/COVID%2019%20Info%202020-21/Health%20and%20Safety/HSC_exclusion_return%20algorithm.pdf

- **What can families do to prepare students for school reopening September 14th?**

Make sure your child has at least one mask or face covering. They will also need a water bottle with their name on it.

All students and staff will be required to wear masks. Drinking fountains are being converted to water-bottle fillers wherever possible, and other water fountains will be closed. Your child needs to bring a full bottle of water with them to school each day.

- **Will there be back-to-school night? Or an opportunity to meet the teachers?**

Yes, but they will look different than they have in the past. School principals are creating plans for their specific schools and will be letting parents know about those plans soon.

- **Will school supply lists be made available for Hybrid Learning and Full-Online Learning?**

Yes. These will be made available as soon as they are ready. Check your email and your school's website or Facebook page for updates.

- **When and how do I register my student for Full Online learning?**

Call or email your child's school(s) ASAP to register them for the online-only option. The deadline was August 17th but building administrators might be able to accommodate your request.

- **When will families find out about teacher assignments (for online and hybrid)?**

Classroom assignments for elementary students will be announced on Friday, August 28th at the end of the day. Secondary students: Building leaders and counselors are working on this project now and will let you know when schedules are complete. You can expect to get an update about class schedules by September 9th.

- **What are attendance expectations for full-online students? For hybrid students on their remote days?**

Attendance will be taken every day for online-only students. Attendance will be taken on both the in-person days and on remote learning days for students on the Hybrid schedule. Students are expected to be engaged in learning activities on their remote learning days.

The school board is meeting on August 26th to review a revised attendance policy. The scheduling/calendar/attendance subcommittee has provided recommendations regarding attendance policy to the board.

- **When and how can full-online students choose to return for in-person options?**

Online-only students can choose to rejoin in-person classes at the start of second semester, which is in January. They should contact their child's school as that date approaches.

- **Can students who want to switch to full-online after school starts do so?**

Maybe. It will depend on the grade level and class. If the class is already full, then it will not be possible to switch. In some cases, there might be room in online-only sections. Contact your child's school to get more information.

- **How will ISAT and other standardized tests work for online students?**

Some beginning of the school year assessments might need to be done, especially at the elementary level. Schools will contact families with more information. ISATs are administered in the spring. Last year, the State of Idaho did not administer the ISAT. We

don't know yet what they will decide about this upcoming school year. The ISAT testing window for this school year is March 15 – May 14, 2021.

- **Can parent volunteers help at the schools?**

Maybe. We are limiting the number of people in our schools, in an effort to keep kids and staff as safe as possible. Contact your child's school to find out how you can help during this challenging time. We appreciate your willingness to volunteer your time.

- **Special Education students - how will it work for my special needs' child?**

Students with Individual Education Plans can choose either option. Staff and school leaders will be contacting every family with a student with an IEP to discuss updates to the child's IEP that relate to COVID and, in the true spirit of individualized instruction, create a plan to fit the unique and individual needs of the student.

- **What type of structural changes have been implemented – physical distancing of desks, sneeze guards, HVAC system, etc.?**

We have grouped the students into two smaller cohorts to reduce the number of students in the building. Classroom spaces are being reworked to allow for social distancing. Sneeze guards have been made for every classroom and are being installed in high traffic areas, such as the office. New safety protocols have been created for other shared spaces such as hallways and lunchrooms to ensure physical distancing. Hand sanitizer will be distributed to classrooms as well as disinfecting cleaners and supplies. The HVAC system will now continuously circulate fresh air from outside into classrooms. Details can be found on the MSD website.

More information can be found here:

https://msd281.org/reopening_our_schools/health_and_safety

- **Will classrooms be disinfected before and after class? Will desks be wiped down?**

Yes. Classrooms will be cleaned and sanitized every day. Teachers will clean surfaces between classes and throughout the day. The maintenance crews will thoroughly clean every building between the A and B groups on Wednesdays and Fridays.

- **How will distancing be achieved during transition class to class?**

This will vary by age. Transitions between school spaces will look different than it has in the past, these protocols will be modified to allow for social distancing.

- **Are all classes going to be taught? Including electives or only core classes?**

Students choosing the Hybrid option will have a full schedule, including electives. Online-only elementary students will have specialists, such as music and P.E. in their

online-only schedule. Middle school students will take 5 core classes with electives offered as “clubs.” High school students that need elective credits to graduate will work out a schedule with school counselors.

- **Will kids have temperature checks at school?**

Students will not have their temperature checked at school unless they are exhibiting symptoms. Parents are expected to screen their children, and check their temperatures, before sending them to school.

