

**Mountain View School District
COVID-19 Mitigation Protocols
School Year 2021-2022**

***Revised February 14, 2022**

***School Board Approved, Monday, February 14, 2022**

This information is to provide faculty, staff, and students in the Mountain View School District face covering/mask protocols and other important safety information for the 2021-2022 school year in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. These protocols may be revised by the District's Health and Safety Plan team or Superintendent at any time based on PA Department of Education (PDE) and the PA Department of Health (DOH) guidelines/recommendations/mandates, as well as local conditions within the county and school buildings.

MASKS/FACE COVERINGS

- The District will ensure that every employee and student has access to district provided masks and/or shields if the staff member and/or students do not have access to masks.
- The District recommends that all students and staff to wear masks until the CDC revises or eliminates its guidelines for masking in school. Additionally, the district recommends that all district employees and students wear a mask if the county transmission is in the high range or the school buildings have a large number of reported COVID-19 positive cases. However, the wearing of masks are optional and at the discretion of each individual faculty member and/or student since the ending of the masking mandate on Friday, December 10, 2021.
- The Superintendent may temporarily mandate masks to be worn by all, vaccinated and unvaccinated, students, staff, and visitors during the school day and at extracurricular events if COVID-19 conditions within the County and/or school buildings warrant until such conditions permit the mandate to be lifted.
- The Superintendent may require **mandatory** face masking if Susquehanna County enters the "**High**" Level of transmission and/or if a school building has a rolling 14 day case number of 25 or more cases. District closure may be considered depending on core group outbreaks.
- Masks are not required when students and staff **are outdoors** regardless of transmission level unless physical distancing cannot be maintained. If proper physical distancing (6 ft. or more) cannot be maintained, masks are recommended.
- As per the federal mandate, issued in January 2021, masks must be worn by all individuals while on public transportation regardless of vaccination status. This includes school buses and other school vehicles and includes transportation to any school sponsored event. Drivers are permitted to remove their mask when there are no passengers on the bus or in the vehicle.
- The District has purchased masks/face shields to ensure that every student and staff member will have access to one on an as needed basis. Employees and students will receive a review

on the proper wearing of masks. Staff members will also monitor students to ensure proper mask wearing and physical distancing.

PHYSICAL DISTANCING: The District uses 6 feet physical distancing to the greatest extent feasible in classrooms. The building principals will utilize many common areas as extra instructional teaching spaces to maximize physical distancing. The cafeteria, gymnasium, library and auditorium will be considered as additional space as needed. Extra furniture and supplies will be removed to maximize distancing opportunities. In large groups, the district will use 6 ft. to the greatest extent feasible.

HAND SANITIZING/WASHING: The District provides hand sanitizer for all classrooms, in hallways, and the common areas (main office and main lobby areas). Students will be taught handwashing and respiratory etiquette at certain points of the school year.

QUARANTINING/CONTACT TRACING: As recommended by the Department of Health and the CDC, employees or students who are fully vaccinated or have tested positive for COVID-19 within the timeline that has been established by the PA Department of Health do not have to be quarantined if they are exposed to someone who has COVID-19. If a person has COVID-19 like symptoms after exposure, it is recommended that he/she get tested immediately.

The district will consult directly as needed with the Department of Health in reference to quarantines, contact tracing, and possible school closures. The LEA will require isolation for 5 days for positive COVID-19 cases before a student returns back to school. If a student/employee has no symptoms or symptoms are resolving after 5 days, a student/employee may return back to school, but is **required** to wear a mask for an additional 5 days. However, if a student is symptomatic after the 10 days of isolation, a clearance from a primary care provider is required for a return to school.

If an employee or student is a close contact (within 6 feet continuously for 15 minutes or longer) of a positive COVID-19 case, they should be quarantined for 10 days. All close contact persons will be identified and contacted as per the PA Department of Health guidelines. The district strongly recommends that close contacts quarantine and test 5-7 days after exposure. If not symptomatic, a close contact may attend school. In such a case, the district **requires** wearing a mask indoors for 10 days.

However, all close contacts should monitor their health for any symptoms for the full 14 days after exposure. If a close contact becomes symptomatic during any of these 14 days after exposure, he/she must produce a negative COVID-19 test (PCR/Home test) before returning to school.

If a student maintains 6 ft. of distance or more from an infected student in the classroom or on the bus, he/she is not considered a close contact and does not need to be quarantined.

The District is continuing to request proof of COVID-19 vaccination from all vaccinated employees for possible future contact tracing purposes. Students are encouraged to share proof of vaccination with administration if exposed as a possible close contact.

Any student/staff that leaves the school nurse's office with COVID-19 like symptoms will work directly with the school nurse to determine a return date based on symptoms and if a test or consultation with a health care provider is necessary.

FACILITY CLEANING AND SANITIZING: Our high traffic areas (counters, tables, door knobs and water foundations) will continue to be sanitized throughout the day. Teachers will open windows during the day to help with ventilation when weather permits. High grade air filters are currently being used and are changed quarterly. All cleaning supplies and disinfectants meet the CDC guidelines. All classroom and high traffic areas are byglobed every day. All buses are sanitized before and after each bus run.

***COVID-19 Testing Program:** The District, if provided with the opportunity to do so by the PA DOH, will evaluate the opportunity to conduct diagnostic and screening testing on the school district campus for students and staff.

TRANSITIONING TO VIRTUAL LEARNING: The District will closely monitor the weekly total number of COVID-19 positive cases and will transition to virtual learning if these positive cases and quarantines significantly impact the overall educational process and the ability to maintain all safety protocols and procedures. The district will follow the DOH recommendation of 5% of the total population (Students/Staff) of confirmed students/staff positive cases in a 14-day window before considering virtual learning.

Mountain View School Board
President

Date:

Mountain View School District
Superintendent

Date: