

Upper West Shore School District

Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services

Date of Adoption: June 21, 2021 at regularly scheduled Board Meeting; Reconfirmed: Aug. 9, 2021;

Sept. 20, 2021

Revision Dates:

SAFETY MEASURES

The District is taking the following measures to safely provide in-person instruction, including consideration of guidance by the CDC and state and local health officials as follows:

Universal and correct wearing of masks

District-wide:

Students, staff and visitors will not be required to wear a mask or face covering; however, they may choose to wear one if they feel comfortable doing so. We will have face masks and shields available for those wanting them. We will continue providing guidance on proper use of face coverings for any that choose to do so.

Dayton Elementary:

Physical Distancing

We have altered schedules to accommodate smaller groups within the building during lunch time as well as recess time. The schedule will keep a minimal number of students in close proximity to one another, preventing crowded situations.

Classroom teachers have used a combination of seating arrangements and classroom furniture to provide students with adequate spacing and distance from others.

Students will continue classroom cohorts for contact tracing purposes, which will provide the information needed in the event of Covid exposure.

The Multi-Purpose/Cafeteria room will be utilized for lunch rather than classrooms, but scheduling will prevent overcrowding.

The playground will continue the approved policy of multi-groups playing together out in the open air.

- Follow local decision policies while addressing CDC recommendations
- Maintain smaller class sizes/groupings
- Staggered transition times
- Seating charts and various seating arrangements to accommodate social distancing.
- Organized traffic-flow throughout hallways
- Seating charts and various seating arrangements to accommodate social distancing.

Handwashing and Respiratory Etiquette

- Specific Teach To's for handwashing and respiratory etiquette are taught to students, and resources such as wipes, sanitizer and disinfectant spray are available in each classroom.
- Students have always been encouraged to wash hands, and will continue to be organized multiple times throughout the day.
- Students will be given the option to wear a shield or mask.
- Sanitizing wipes and sanitizer will continue to be available, including for cleanliness of surfaces.
- Use of Outdoor classroom spaces is encouraged
- Air purifiers in all rooms
- Duct cleaning of heating and return air system

Cleaning and Maintaining Healthy Facilities (including improving ventilation)

Our custodian will remain in place and be in charge of cleaning and sanitizing all school areas. This person will continue to disinfect rooms when children and staff are absent from the area. Hydro Static Electric sanitizer will be used daily. Purifiers and their filters will be regularly maintained.

- Water bottle filling stations are being investigated to modify water fountains. Culligan water, meanwhile, has been continued to be supplied
- Cleaning solution will continue to be provided for use by teachers and students
- Duct cleaning of heating and return air system

Contact Tracing

Teachers will maintain a seating chart to be used in their classrooms. Activity teachers will work within their content areas to maintain a similar seating arrangement to track student activity during this time.

- Seating Charts
- School Nurse
- Follow local decision policies while addressing CDC recommendations

The school will continue to maintain a Log-In for Visitors at the front desk in order to aid in contact tracing.

Diagnostic and Screening Testing

The district will continue to maintain a nurse presence. She will follow the recommended and adopted guidelines set forth by the Board of Trustees to maintain a healthy student environment.

The school nurse has always helped families and the school to promote healthy attendance and keep everyone informed of needed care because of symptoms a student may present.

Vaccinations

District-wide:

The District will not refuse, withhold from, or deny a person any services, goods, facilities, advantages, privileges, licensing, educational opportunities, health care access, or employment opportunities based on the person's vaccination status.

The District will act in accordance with state and federal law with respect to vaccinations for its staff and eligible students.

The school will work closely with staff to help facilitate the types of employee leave afforded by the CBA in order to obtain/acquire vaccinations and other medical related appointments.

The District will help advertise vaccination resources via social media, not as a recommendation, but as a public service to those in our community who may be looking for access.

Accommodating Students with Disabilities

The District will provide accommodations to its policies for students with disabilities as determined appropriate based upon the individual student needs and in accordance with an individual accommodation plan or individualized education plan. Students requiring accommodations should contact the school Principal, Dr. Darlene Hartman, to request information on plans for students with disabilities.

CONTINUITY OF SERVICES

The District will provide for continuity of services as follows:

Student Academic Needs

Dayton Elementary:

We've offered summer school for the first time in many years with special attention given to struggling students as identified through benchmark testing measures.

We have also increased the small group intervention support.

We are actively advertising for additional Paraprofessionals to increase the 1:1 opportunities for students throughout the year.

Students will be assigned individual Chromebooks and be allowed to use them in the event they are at home with prolonged illness or quarantine. If students are quarantined they will be allowed to take these home for educational continuity. Lessons will be provided for students to prevent learning loss.

- Online educational support materials, as programs are adopted
- Summer School
- After School tutoring sessions can be arranged
- Additional paraprofessional support

Student Social, Emotional, and Mental Health Needs

- Student counseling lesson groups supported by staff trained by MSSA
- Handle With Care program supported by Indian Ed. Coordinator and Tribal Education partnership
- Added counseling lessons focused as needed and appropriate

Other Student Needs (which may include student health and food services)

The “Backpack Program” is a resource managed by the school to help students who are in need of food assistance. This may be initiated for the coming year, as it has been in the past.

The district continues to explore avenues to provide lunches for students. With a Volunteer program, they can initiate a lunch program under the Polson School District Food Program. The District would need to schedule drivers to go to Polson to pick-up meals at a scheduled time each day.

Healthy Snacks: the PTO in partnership with the school provides a “healthy snack” throughout the year.

Staff Social, Emotional, and Mental Health Needs

The district provides a health insurance plan or insurance stipend in lieu of insurance to be used at the discretion of the employee.

The district also has 7 PIR days built into the schedule to provide training for staff in a variety of areas to include social, emotional and mental health needs. For at least two of those days, staff is free to choose the training and support services they find most necessary and valuable to them.

We have increased coverage for staff even after the federally mandated financial coverage of Covid-related absences expired, in an effort to give teachers flexibility and to accommodate their personal safety/medical needs.

PUBLIC INPUT

District-wide:

The Plan for Safe Return will be on the monthly school board agenda until at least September 30, 2024. Input from our community and staff would be appreciated.

The District will review this Plan at least once every six months and will provide an opportunity for public input in association with any review of the Plan.