

COVID Procedures for 2022-23

Information for Parents and Staff Members

Aug. 9, 2022

This plan is subject to change, especially because of the changing circumstances related to the pandemic.

Learning Options for Students in K-12

Students have the following learning options:

- In-person learning for up to five days per week.
- Online-only learning through 5RiversOnline, a state-approved K-12 online school affiliated with Red Wing Public Schools.
- Some secondary classes in-person at RWHS and others through 5RiversOnline.

Learning Options for Preschool

Preschool students will be learning in-person with several options available. Contact Brittni Kuehl at bakuehl@rwps.org for more information.

Stay Home if Sick

If staff, students and visitors are exhibiting any of the following symptoms, they should stay home until these symptoms have greatly improved ("Improved symptoms" means that a person no longer feels ill; they can do their daily routine just as they did before they were ill, and any remaining symptoms, such as a cough or runny nose, are very mild, or infrequent.) They should also contact their school attendance line, supervisor, or building contact.

- Cough
- Runny nose
- Sore throat
- Fatigue
- Headache
- Muscle pains
- Congestion

Sending Sick People Home

People with COVID-related symptoms while at school will be sent home regardless of vaccination status or prior history of disease. They are expected to wear a face covering until they leave school grounds. Anyone sent home from school with COVID-related symptoms should stay home until these symptoms have greatly improved.

Student Isolation, Close Contacts, and Quarantines

Isolation

The COVID Response Team recommends that students who test positive for COVID should:

- Notify the building nurse of a positive result.
- Stay home for the first 5 days of their isolation period (day 0 is the first day of symptoms or if no symptoms, day 0 is the day they test positive).
- If symptoms have greatly improved by day 6 of isolation, students can come to school wearing a well-fitted mask for days 6-10 of their isolation period.

Quarantining for All Grades

Students who were in close contact with an infected person **do not need to quarantine** because of the ability for students ages 6 months and older to be vaccinated.

- Parents may choose to quarantine their children.
- If the student develops symptoms, see “Stay Home if Sick” above.

Staff Isolation, Close Contacts, and Quarantines

Isolation

The COVID Response Team recommends that staff who test positive for COVID should:

- Notify the building nurse of a positive result.
- Stay home for the first 5 days of their isolation period (day 0 is the first day of symptoms or if no symptoms, day 0 is the day they test positive).
- If symptoms have greatly improved by day 6 of isolation, staff can come to school wearing a well-fitted mask for days 6-10 of their isolation period.

Quarantining

Staff who were in close contact with an infected person **do not need to quarantine** because of the ability for students and staff aged 6 months and older to be vaccinated.

- If a staff member develops symptoms, see “Stay Home if Sick” above.

Mitigation Strategies

To prioritize the health and safety of students, employees, and community members, the following COVID-19 mitigation strategies are being implemented:

Vaccinations

Individuals aged 6 months and older should be vaccinated for COVID-19 as soon as possible. Higher vaccination rates will result in lower transmission rates, more in-person learning, and reduced need for other mitigation strategies. Vaccinations are given at most pharmacies and the Mayo Clinic/Red Wing.

Physical Distancing

Students and adults are strongly encouraged to be at least three feet apart when feasible. Physical distancing practices (such as keeping cohorts of elementary students together) will be implemented.

Testing

Testing kits are available in all school nursing offices.

Maintenance Practices

Custodians will clean/disinfect surfaces/areas above and beyond normal procedures if there is an outbreak or known COVID positive in any area. They will monitor ventilation systems for proper air flow and continue to use high end filters in all systems.

Handwashing

Students and adults are required to regularly wash their hands. Hand sanitizer will be available.

Technology Services

The district provides a Chromebook for each student. More information, including possible options for low cost Internet services to qualifying families, will be shared later this summer. If your child has problems with technology, first contact their teacher and then techsupport@rwps.org.

Food Services

Students must pay for meals this year, unless they qualify for free and/or reduced-price breakfasts and lunches. However, breakfast will be free for all kindergartners. Note: The USDA has ended its COVID meal program that provided free meals for all students.

Breakfast will be grab and go for grades K-7 who may take the meal to their classrooms. K-7 students will eat lunch in the cafeterias.

RWHS students will purchase breakfast at the cafe. Lunch will be in the cafeteria.

Contact Director Jess Pena at japena@rwps.org for information.

Transportation Services

Bus transportation will be offered to K-4 students who live at least 1 mile from school, grade 5-7 students who live at least 1.5 miles and grades 8-12 students who live at least 2 miles from school.

Kids Junction (Childcare)

Fee-based childcare is available to students 33 months-grade 6 based on space availability and staffing. Contact jjplein@rwps.org to register or obtain information about additional eligibility requirements, costs, locations, and times for Kids Junction.

Athletics and Activities

Athletic teams and activities will operate in traditional ways, but the district will continue to monitor guidance from the Minnesota State High School League and Minnesota Department of Education. Contact Paul Hartmann at pmhartmann@rwps.org for more information.

Student and Family Resources

Contact your child's principal for student and family resources. The Red Wing Community Resource Network Guide provides information about support through Red Wing Schools.

Requests for ADA Accommodations for Students and Employees

Requests for ADA accommodations can be emailed to Cherie Johnson, Executive Director of GCED, at cjohnson@gced.k12.mn.us. If a staff member is at risk and feels he/she been denied a reasonable accommodation, they can call the Minnesota Department of Human Rights' Discrimination Helpline at 833- 454-0148.