

Recommendations for Approval

Consistent with MDH and MDE recommendations, cloth face coverings or masks are recommended but not required for all persons including students and staff indoors during the school day until further notice.

Cloth face coverings or masks are required on student transportation following federal guidelines. This is a federal requirement and not a rule under the authority of the school district.

Face coverings/masks are not recommended when outdoors, with exceptions for larger group settings.

Mask wearing during activities are under the direction of Minnesota State High School League rules (MSHSL). Details will be shared directly from coaches and advisors and the MSHSL.

Fall 2021 COVID Precaution Recommendations

MDH Releases Recommendations, Decisions Still Made at District Level

The Minnesota Department of Health announced hours ago the updated recommendations for COVID-19 prevention in schools for the upcoming 2021-2022 school year.

At this time, these are *recommendations*, not mandates. Districts are able to make COVID prevention decisions at a local level.

Recommendations for COVID-19 prevention in schools for the 2021-22 school year

- Vaccination of students 12 years old and older.
- Universal indoor masking for all people in the school setting (ages 2 years and older), including teachers, staff, students and visitors to schools, regardless of vaccination status.
- Physical distancing to the extent possible when indoors, with a minimum of 3 feet between students and 6 feet between students and staff.
- Screening testing to help identify and isolate cases.
- Evaluation of the operational capacity of the districts ventilation system.
- Regular handwashing and respiratory etiquette.
- Staying home when sick and getting tested if experiencing symptoms of COVID-19.
- Immediately sending home students and staff who show symptoms of COVID-19.

- Requiring students and staff to isolate if they test positive until their symptoms subside, they've quarantined for 10 days AND they have not had a fever for at least 24 hours without medication.
- Positive case contact tracing, looking back 2 days for those within 6 feet of infected person for a cumulative total of 15 min or more over a 24 hour period. (Fully vaccinated people or those who have had COVID-19 in the last 90 days are not recommended to quarantine after close contact).
- Regular testing for those who are not vaccinated.
- Daily cleaning routine of surfaces.

As a reminder, districts are still required by federal government and Minnesota rules to:

- Require masks on federal forms of transportation, including school busses.
- Report all positive cases of COVID-19 to the Minnesota Department of Health.