

**BEMIDJI AREA SCHOOLS
BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA**

DATE: FEBRUARY 28, 2022

TO: BOARD OF EDUCATION

FROM: TIM LUTZ, SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION FOR HEALTH AND SAFETY MEASURES - REVISED

ACTION:

___ introduced the following resolution and urged its adoption:

RESOLUTION FOR HEALTH AND SAFETY MEASURES – REVISED

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes Section 123B.09 vests the care, management, and control of independent districts in the school board; and

WHEREAS, the Superintendent of Independent School District No. 31, Bemidji Area Schools, [hereinafter the “Superintendent”] is responsible for the management of the schools, the administration of all School District policies, and is directly accountable to the School Board; and

WHEREAS, when responsibilities are not specifically prescribed nor School District policy applicable, the Superintendent shall use personal and professional judgment, subject to review by the School Board, pursuant to School Board Policy 100-20-1; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) and the Minnesota Department of Health (“MDH”) have determined that the COVID-19 pandemic is currently ongoing and may remain ongoing for an unknown time; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Department of Education (“MDE”) has issued and may continue to issue written guidance for Minnesota schools on educational issues related to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the MDH has issued and may continue to issue written guidance for Minnesota schools on public health issues related to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Superintendent and the administration of the School District have conferred with the School Board regarding COVID-19 health and safety measures, the current CDC, MDE, and MDH requirements for each, and other relevant information; and

WHEREAS, based upon the collective consideration of these factors, the Superintendent has recommended to the School Board that the following be implemented effective February 22, 2022.

Prevention Strategies: All staff, students, and visitors within Independent School District No. 31 buildings, regardless of vaccination status, are recommended to follow the strategies of physical distancing, handwashing and respiratory etiquette, cleaning and disinfection, screening testing, and staying home when sick as defined in the “CDC Guidance for COVID-19 Prevention in K-12 Schools”

Masking: All staff, students, and visitors within Independent School District No. 31 buildings are recommended to wear a mask, regardless of vaccination status.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the School Board of Independent School District No. 31 as follows:

Section 1: The Superintendent is hereby directed to implement the following health and safety measures effective February 22, 2022.

Prevention Strategies: All staff, students, and visitors within Independent School District No. 31 buildings, regardless of vaccination status, are recommended to follow the strategies of physical distancing, handwashing and respiratory etiquette, cleaning and disinfection, screening testing, and staying home when sick as defined in the “CDC Guidance for COVID-19 Prevention in K-12 Schools” and implementing the shortened quarantine period as outlined by MDE Quarantine Guidance.

Masking: All staff, students, and visitors within Independent School District No. 31 buildings are recommended to wear a mask, regardless of vaccination status.

Section 2: The Superintendent is hereby authorized, after consultation with the School Board Chair and notification to the School Board, to select and implement different health and safety measures for the School District or any specific school buildings without School Board action if the Superintendent reasonably believes that prompt implementation of different health and safety measures is necessary, and that constraints of time and public health considerations render it impractical to hold a School Board meeting to approve the implementation. The health and safety measures selected and implemented by the Superintendent shall continue in effect unless and until the School Board, in consultation with the Superintendent and appropriate school district staff and public health officials, deems it in the best interest of the School District and its students to implement different health and safety measures.

Section 3: The Superintendent will provide regular updates to the School Board regarding the School District’s efforts to implement COVID-19 related educational and public health guidance issued by the MDE and the MDH, respectively.

The motion for the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by _____, and a tabulation of votes is as follows:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

WHEREUPON, the foregoing resolution was duly passed and adopted.