



MAHTOMEDI PUBLIC SCHOOLS ISD 832
2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR PLAN
STARTING RECOMMENDATION AUGUST 26, 2021

Overview

2021-22 School Year Opening Recommendations

- Our Priorities
- Plan Process
- Data and Public Health Recommendations
- Health & Safety Protocols
- Reviews & Updates to School Board



Our Priorities



As a community, we have the shared priorities of keeping our students safe and learning in person.

We are looking forward to welcoming our students back for the 2021-22 school year, full time, five days a week, in person!

School Building	Start Time	End Time
Wildwood Elementary School	9:15 AM	3:35 PM
O.H. Anderson Elementary School	9:05 AM	3:25 PM
Mahtomedi Middle School	8:00 AM	2:30 PM
Mahtomedi High School	8:00 AM	2:30 PM
Passages Transition Program	8:00 AM	2:30 PM

School Schedule

During the 2021-22 school year, students will attend school in person five days a week with the daily schedules noted. A full-time distance learning option will not be offered during the 2021-22 school year.

Plan Process Overview

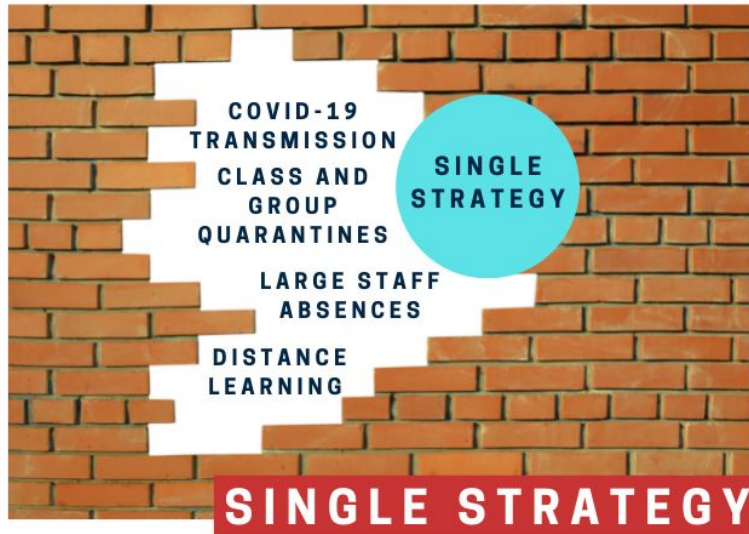
Throughout the pandemic, we have relied on data and guidance provided by Washington County Public Health, the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to make decisions regarding health and safety protocols in our schools.

We announced our health and safety protocols for the 2021-22 school year on July 29, 2021. In consultation with public health officials, our district leadership team revised our 2021-22 health and safety protocols on August 18, 2021.



Layered Mitigation Strategies

In order to slow or stop COVID-19 transmission in our schools, we use layered mitigation strategies. Using these layered mitigation strategies keeps our students safe and learning in person.



Physical Distancing

- A minimum of three feet of physical distancing in learning spaces will be used whenever possible.
- Outdoor spaces for learning and activities will be used whenever possible.
- Cohorts of students will be used whenever possible.
- We will utilize alternative entrances and exits in order to minimize large-scale interactions.
- We will limit visitors and volunteers.



Important to Know

- 2021-22 class sizes allow for continued physical distancing.
- Classroom furniture is organized for at least 3 feet of physical distancing.
- Lunches will maximize physical distancing.

Cleaning, Sanitizing and Respiratory Etiquette



We will continue to encourage hand washing and respiratory etiquette practices.

Our buildings and school buses will follow a regular sanitizing and cleaning schedule based on activities.

Important to Know

- The district continues to contract for additional cleaning personnel.
- Cleaning personnel sanitize sinks, door handles, hallway rails, and bathrooms during and after school.
- Cleaning personnel assist custodial staff with deep cleaning of all rooms after school.
- Hand sanitizer is provided throughout all of the buildings.
- Individuals are instructed to cover their mouth and nose with their sleeve or a tissue when coughing or sneezing and to avoid touching their face, in particular their mouth, nose and eyes, with their hands.

- Mahtomedi Public Schools follows the EPA's Indoor Air Quality Tools for Schools program.
- At the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, Mahtomedi Public Schools began working with Yale Mechanical to provide semi-annual testing of all building automation systems to ensure all are checked and calibrated for critical air sensors, cycles all HVAC in heating and cooling modes and verifies correct operations.



Important to Know

- By maintaining HVAC systems, changing filters every 4 months, following a regular cleaning schedule and identifying and abating any problems that pop up, we are able to provide a safe, clean environment for all staff and students.
- HVAC systems are set to ensure we have constant fresh air going through our buildings.

Washington County Data

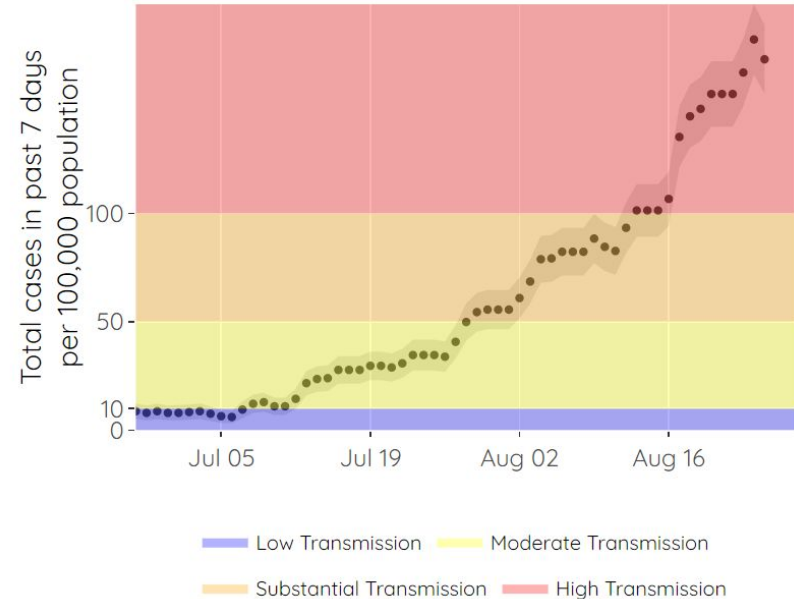
- As we have done throughout the pandemic, we continue to monitor local COVID-19 data. We watch our local data for transmission levels and trends over time.
- Washington county case rates have increased, impacting both vaccinated and unvaccinated persons.
- We are currently experiencing a [high level of community transmission](#) in Washington County as defined by MDH and the CDC.

Washington County Information

Transmission Rate Level	7 day case rate per 100k as of August 23, 2021	Percent Positivity
High	165	6.7%

Washington County Data (continued)

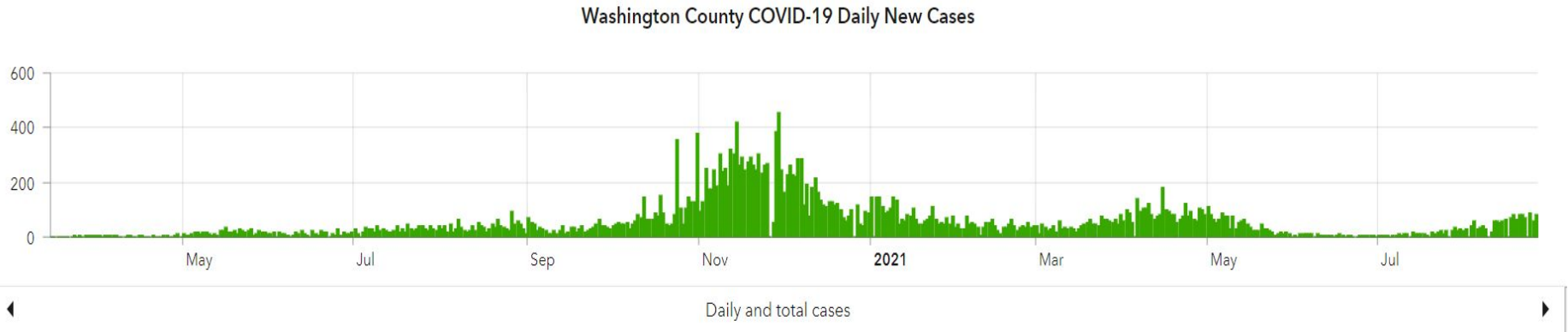
- When transmission rates go down, we remove mitigation measures (for example: Commencement 2021 and in the early summer when our transmission was low). When transmission rates go up, we need to add layered or multiple mitigation measures.
- When our initial safety protocols were announced in late July, our local data showed a yellow or moderate transmission level in Washington County. Since our original announcement, the transmission levels in Washington County have reached a red or high transmission, requiring layered or multiple mitigation measures.



Source: https://jwolfson.shinyapps.io/school_openings/

Washington County Data (continued)

Washington County case rates over time also show us the current upward trend, highlighting the need for adding mitigative measures, not removing them.



Source: <https://bit.ly/3yIBWvM>

Face Covering Recommendations

	MDH and CDC
Schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Due to the circulating and highly contagious Delta variant, CDC recommends universal indoor masking by all students (age 2 and older), staff, teachers, and visitors to K-12 schools, regardless of vaccination status.
Indoor Public Spaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• If you are not fully vaccinated and aged 2 or older, you should wear a mask in indoor public places.• If you are fully vaccinated, to maximize protection from the Delta variant and prevent possibly spreading it to others, wear a mask indoors in public if you are in an area <u>of substantial or high transmission</u>.

Vaccination Rates as of 8/18/21

According to the MDH and CDC getting vaccinated against COVID -19 is one of the most important steps you can take to protect yourself and your community.

Vaccination Rates By Grade and Age (As of August 18, 2021)		
At least one dose	Washington County	Mahtomedi Schools
Ages 12-15 (county) 7th-10th grade (district)	61%	58%
Ages 16-17 (county) 11th-12th grade (district)	69%	67%
Total	64%	61%

Washington County population eligible for a vaccine with at least one dose was approximately 77% as of 8/18/21.

Face Coverings

- Face coverings are **REQUIRED** for all people (students, staff, and visitors) while inside our school and district buildings regardless of vaccination status.
- Face coverings are **REQUIRED** for all persons while on school buses. All people are required by the [CDC order](#) to wear face coverings on all public transportation conveyances (airports, public buses, etc.), including school buses.

Important to Know

- Correct and consistent [mask use](#) is a critical step everyone can take to prevent getting and spreading COVID-19.
- Required masking for all staff, students, and visitors helps us avoid class or large group quarantines.
- Vaccinated staff may remove masks when in instructional settings where seeing a person's lips is necessary.
- Students may remove masks indoors when actively engaged in MSHSL practices and competitions.
- Masks are not required in outdoor settings.

Reporting Positive Cases & Quarantines

- Students and staff should stay home when ill or showing COVID-19 symptoms as outlined in the [MDH Decision Tree](#).
- We ask that families and staff continue to report COVID-19 positive cases in their families.
- Students and staff who test positive for COVID-19 will be quarantined following the MDH Decision Tree.
- Families will receive notification of positive cases in their child's classroom(s).

Important to Know

COVID-19 symptoms fall into two groups:

- **More common symptoms** are one or more of these: fever of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher; new cough or a cough that gets worse; difficulty/hard time breathing; and new loss of taste or smell.
- **Less common symptoms** are two or more of these: sore throat; nausea; vomiting; diarrhea; chills; muscle pain; extreme fatigue/feeling very tired; new severe/very bad headache; and new nasal congestion/stuffy or runny nose.

Source: MDH Decision Tree

Reporting Positive Cases & Quarantines (cont.)

- Students who are deemed close contacts within the school setting will not be quarantined if all involved students were wearing masks during the close contact period.
- Students and staff who are deemed close contacts and are fully vaccinated or have had lab confirmed COVID-19 within the last 90 days do not need to quarantine but should monitor for symptoms.
- Students who are under health office-directed quarantine (positive COVID-19 test, close contact or symptomatic) will be provided instructional materials during the quarantine.

Important to Know

- Required masking for all staff, students, and visitors helps us avoid class or large group quarantines.



COVID-19 Data and Vaccinations

- We will resume the use of our district COVID-19 dashboard to report positive cases during the 2021-22 school year.
- Vaccination Clinics continue to be open and free to the public and according to the CDC, vaccination is currently the leading public health prevention strategy to end the COVID-19 pandemic. Washington County Public Health & Environment is currently holding COVID-19 vaccine clinics for individuals 12 years and older. Pfizer clinics are open to anyone 12 years and older. [Click here for a list of upcoming walk-in clinics held in Washington County.](#)

Important to Know

- Washington County will hold a vaccination event at Mahtomedi Middle School on Tuesday, August 31 from 2-5PM.



Quick Links

Welcome
2021-22 Health & Safety Protocols Overview
Vaccinations
Public Input
Food Support
Washington County Support
2020-21 Learning Model Updates
2020-21 School Year Plan Overview

About > School Year Plan

2021-22 School Year Plan

Plan Updated: August 18, 2021

Website Updated: August 18, 2021 (2021-22 School Year Health & Safety Protocols)



Quicklinks

Wildwood Back-to-School Information

District Back-to-School Information

2021-22 School Year Plan

Student & Family Handbook

Device Support

Attendance

Ask a Question

District Calendars

Wildwood Newsletters

Mahtomedi ePay

Web page:

www.mahtomedi.k12.mn.us/schoolyearplan

Our Health & Safety Protocols document is listed as a subpage on the School Year Plan web page.

A link to the 2021-22 School Year Plan is available under Quicklinks on our district website and all school web pages.

Public Input: Health & Safety Protocols

Families, staff, and students at Mahtomedi Public Schools may share any questions or additional considerations about our 2021-22 health and safety protocols via our Health & Safety Feedback Form. The comments are shared with our district leadership team and the information helps us understand our school community's thoughts about our 2021-22 health and safety protocols and help us clarify any questions.

July 29-August 13 Health & Safety Feedback Form

- We asked families about the themes of face coverings, physical distancing/mitigation strategies, cleaning and sanitizing, reporting positive cases and quarantine, vaccinations, and COVID-19 dashboard and notifications. 82% of the comments related to the theme of face coverings, specifically related to recommending or requiring face coverings.
- Over 100 community members completed the survey. The survey allowed respondents to leave up to two comments.

Current Health & Safety Feedback Form

- Opened on August 18 and will remain open
- Available at www.surveymonkey.com/r/832HealthSafetyProtocols
- Listed under Public Input on our School Year Plan web page at www.mahtomedi.k12.mn.us/schoolyearplan

Reviews & Updates to the School Board

- **Protocols will be reviewed again during the week of October 18, 2021**, and revisions will be based on community transmission, school-level case rates, vaccine rates for students 12 and up, and vaccine availability for children under 12.
- Our leadership team will continue to update the School Board about health & safety protocols and operations during the COVID-19 pandemic.