

Red Wing Public Schools
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Red Wing
Public Schools
ISD # 256



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School Board Meeting Agenda Item

Topic: Learning Plan for 2021-22 (Updated)
Contact(s):
Presenter(s): Karsten Anderson, Superintendent

Nature of Action Requested

Board Action

X
X

Board Information or Report

Background Information

The district has been preparing its learning plan for the 2021-22 school year. The COVID Response Team shared its recommendations for mitigation strategies after meeting on Thursday, July 28th. Due to scheduling conflicts, building and district leaders have not yet fully discussed all components of the plan, including face coverings, contact tracing, and quarantining. In addition, the changing circumstances of COVID, especially with regard to the Delta Variant, justifies delaying some decisions until August 16th.

Face Coverings

Until a few days ago, my general thinking was that no students should be required to wear face coverings, especially because COVID rates for children in Red Wing and Goodhue County are extremely low. This thinking is reflected in the attached draft of the learning plan. However, increased risks caused by the Delta Variant, coupled with the lack of a vaccine available to children under 12, may shift my thinking. One option being considered is the following:

Elementary students are required to wear face coverings indoors as per Policy 808.

High school students are not required to wear face coverings except when:

- Students are on school or contracted vehicles as per federal requirements.
- Students with symptoms of COVID are being sent home and have not yet left school grounds.
- Other circumstances as determined by the department or building leader.

Close Contacts and Quarantining

Quarantining is another critical issue. The COVID Response Team recommends continued contact tracing and quarantining with some modifications compared to practices last year, but I need time to meet with building and district leaders for their input. Based on recommendations made by the COVID Response Team, the following is being considered:

People who test positive for COVID are expected to stay away from school until:

- They feel better. Their cough, shortness of breath, or other systems are better;
- It has been at least ten days since they first felt sick or tested positive; and
- They had had no fever for at least 24 hours without using medication that lowers fever.

Close contacts include anyone who was within 6 feet of an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period. However, the definition excludes students who were within 3-6 feet of an infected person if masks were correctly worn by the infected person and close contact and other mitigation strategies followed.

Quarantine due to close contact **is not required** if individuals do not have symptoms and:

- are fully vaccinated; or
- have tested positive in the last 90 days..

Quarantining due to close contact **is required** if individuals:

- test positive for COVID; or
- have symptoms of COVID; or
- live with someone who tests positive or has symptoms of COVID unless they are fully vaccinated and do not have symptoms or they tested positive for COVID in the last 90 days and do not have symptoms.

Quarantined individuals may return on:

- day 7 if there is a negative PCR result (not a rapid antigen test) taken on day 5 or later; or
- day 14 if no test is taken or he/she is a household member of a positive case and is not vaccinated.

Recommendation

I move to table the learning plan for 2021-22 until the August 16th regular meeting.