

# 2022-2023

# Safe Return to School

Safety of ISD 2534 students is and always will be a top priority of the school district. Therefore, as we enter the 2022-2023 school year it is important to continue to address how infectious diseases are handled within the school and what measures are taken in a preventative manner. This plan addresses overall procedures the district continues to implement in order to keep children as healthy as possible and also specifically addresses COVID 19 as required by federal guidelines.

As the school district transitions back to pre-pandemic operations, this plan acknowledges that COVID 19 and its variants have not gone away. At the same time, this plan reflects that the best place for students is in the classroom, learning in person from their teachers and with their fellow students.

In discerning the details of the district's Safe School Learning Plan we have moved forward with the following basic underlying principles:

We will:

1. Provide an environment in which students and staff are safe.
2. Provide a learning environment that is most effective for the most students; in-person school.
3. Provide a leadership model that allows for current information to be accessed, assessed, and utilized in making district wide decisions, is flexible enough to address change needs quickly, and is rooted in a "Student-First" thought process.
4. Apply a layered approach to virus protection that is effective while the least restrictive as possible.
5. Align our practices with the requirements and recommendations of the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) and Minnesota Department of Health (MDH).
6. Allow for as much parental decision making as possible in regards to their children's health and education.

While no plan is perfect, we believe that the following plan addresses the current state of our schools and utilizes public feedback, in order to provide the best possible education for our students while adhering to the above planning principles. Therefore the plan for 2022-2023 will:

- Be regular five day per week school days
- Utilize "normal" daily start and end times as well as transition times
- Follow the school board approved academic calendar
- All classes will be held in their regular assigned classrooms/spaces
- Breakfast and lunch will take place in the cafeteria
- Extra-curricular activities will operate in a pre-pandemic manner
- Pre-pandemic procedures will be followed when riding the school bus

## 2022-2023 Safe School Learning Plan

The Learning Model:

BOLD Public Schools will be returning to school in 2022-2023 with full-time in-person

instruction for all students. This model does not provide for an online learning option with BOLD Public School staff; however families that are in need of an “online learning” option due to health concerns/needs should contact their child’s building principal regarding the option of utilizing a district approved online provider.

**District Strategies, Procedures, and Communication:**

The district’s layered approach to providing a safe school learning environment includes:

- Minnesota Department of Health ventilation recommendations for classrooms and buildings
- Utilizing proper handwashing and/or hand sanitizer
- Teaching and utilizing proper sneeze/cough etiquette
- Utilizing outdoor spaces when reasonable
- Communication to keep students, families, and staff informed will be accomplished through utilizing School Messenger, Email, Phone Calls, Social Media, and the BOLD Public Schools’ website.

A Closer Look At:

**Accommodations for Special Populations:**

Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies and procedures will continue to be provided. To learn more about accommodations, parents/guardians should contact his/her child’s case manager.

**Child Nutrition-Meals:**

Meals will be available at school. Students may also bring their lunches. Meal services will be provided daily for students in the building cafeteria.

**Cleaning and Maintaining Healthy Facilities and Effective Use of HVAC:**

The school district will use strategies suggested by the Minnesota Department of Health to ensure proper indoor air quality. Strategies such as high air flow in classrooms to ensure high air quality through running HVAC systems at the maximum settings feasible. Daily cleaning procedures, that allow for safe facilities, will be implemented. The following is a link to the MDH recommendations.

**Isolation Instruction:**

Students who are in quarantine due to testing positive for COVID 19 will have their educational program altered during the quarantine period. The alternative delivery method will vary based upon learning level and teacher. Once a student has been identified to enter into quarantine they and/or their parents will be contacted to be made aware of the delivery system. This type of instruction is only available to students who are in quarantine processes.

**Face Coverings:**

All students, staff and visitors will be given the choice to wear a face covering, but are not required to wear a face covering, regardless of vaccination status. Anyone may voluntarily wear a face covering if they so choose. The CDC and MDH recommend masking regardless of vaccination status when a community is at a high community level.

The BOLD Public School District will make reasonable modifications for all students at risk for getting very sick with COVID-19.

The face covering recommendation does not apply to children under 2 years of age or people of any age who are unable to tolerate wearing a face covering because of a medical condition, mental health condition, or disability.

**Field Trips:**

Field trips may be scheduled throughout the school year where applicable.

**Health Screening:**

Self-Screening is strongly recommended for all students and staff. The District is required to report any COVID-19 cases to the MDH.

**Quarantine, and Isolation:**

[This link](#) provides exposure quarantine and isolation recommendations from the Minnesota Department of Health as well as recommendations for when testing positive.

**Transportation:**

Regular transportation routes will be used. Seating charts may be implemented. Students and staff will not be required to wear masks on public transportation.

**Vaccines:**

While the determination on whether or not to get vaccinated for COVID 19 completely rests with the individual, the CDC and MDH strongly recommend all eligible people be fully vaccinated.

**Visitors/Volunteers:**

Visitors and volunteers must complete a health screening upon entrance of a school facility and should not come to a school facility or event if they are ill.

**Review of Plan**

The BOLD Public School District will continue to work with local public health to monitor our school health data and to make Safe School Learning Plan adjustments as necessary. In closing, BOLD Public School staff and administration are committed to providing a safe learning environment for all students. COVID 19 and issues surrounding the virus have been exceptionally polarizing, therefore we are working hard to keep political and activist perspectives out of our decision making process. We believe that it is important to acknowledge each individual's right to hold a belief or perception and we ask everyone to respect the decisions and actions of others while together we strive to provide a safe environment in school for our students and staff.