



SCHOOL DISTRICT OF SHIOCTON

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RETURN TO SCHOOL PLAN FOR THE 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR

Per the CDC on July 9, 2021, vaccination is the leading prevention strategy to end the COVID-19 pandemic. People age 12 and older are encouraged to become fully vaccinated prior to the start of the school year. Persons seeking a vaccination for themselves or another are encouraged to reach out to their medical professional or visit <https://www.vaccines.gov/> to find a vaccination location near you.

General Operations:

- Ill children stay home from school until 24 hours fever free.
 - Parents are responsible to monitor their child(ren) each morning: do not send ill children to school
- Symptomatic close contacts will be quarantined for 10 days
 - Contact the school nurse (x714) before returning on Day 11
 - Symptomatic individuals in health offices should mask while parents are contacted for pickup
- Asymptomatic close contacts will not need to quarantine from school *unless* in the same household (exception: if close contact is vaccinated).
 - Quarantine time: positive case – 10 days; close contact – 7 days w/negative test result.
 - The District will continue to contact trace and inform parents or guardians of close contact status.
- Maintain student-only entry into building at 7:40AM each morning
 - Parents and visitors who have business in the school must report to the school office
- Masks are optional on school property and school sponsored transportation
 - Parents and students will make the choice on wearing face coverings
 - Students will sit in assigned seats (max three to a seat)
 - Pick-up and drop-off on Park Avenue and at Lake Park will resume
- Allow field trips, including those with overnight and out-of-state/country travel, in keeping with practices used prior to COVID-19 and Board Policies
 - Volunteer chaperones may be allowed; teachers should discuss with building principal and school nurse beforehand
- Volunteers and speakers directly related to instructional lessons and learning activities may be allowed; teachers should discuss with building principal and school nurse beforehand
 - Access to the building by parents and visitors not related to instruction will remain restricted; parents and visitors with school business must report to the school office
- Continue to follow all WIAA rules
- Provide continued decision making for the District Administrator to institute additional mitigation strategies in the case of school transmissions

Operational Management:

- Water bubbler stations will reopen
 - Parents are encouraged to continue sending a water bottle to school with their child
- Ensure hand washing and cleaning practices remain for and in all classrooms

"Where Excellence is Expected"

The Shiocton School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, color, age, religion, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, or physical, mental, emotional or learning disability.

- Wipe down shared surfaces prior to lunch and prior to leaving for the day
- Assigned seating for contact tracing notification: classrooms, learning environments, and lunch room.
 - Seating charts will still be used for notifications on close contacts after contact
- Continue virtual instructional option for students during 2021-2022. Families must commit to virtual instruction for a semester.
 - Synchronous learning by way of ZOOM or similar medium will be used for students experiencing short-term absences related to COVID; attendance is required.
- Remove capacity limits for indoor events
- Host in-person Open House on Wednesday, August 25, 2021 from 4:30 – 6:00PM
- Additional operations at building level will be communicated to parents by building principals. (EX: conferences, synchronous learning schedules, etc.)

Supporting Data/Guidance:

- May through June attendance data shows marked decrease in absences related to COVID-19
 - No absences related to COVID-19 were experienced during summer school when situational masking was implemented without cohorting nor seating chart at meal time
- Outagamie County has decreased to a 'moderate' risk category on the DHS metric.
- There is no mask mandate at the state or county level.
- Most businesses are making masking optional.
- Outagamie County and the District boundaries per DHS continue to see a 7-day average decline in cases with minimal case counts over the last several weeks (1-3) per day. *Wisconsin DHS website*
- Children between 1-18 years of age have lower rates of hospitalization, severe hospitalization and deaths than do other age groups. *American Academy of Pediatrics-COVID-19 Guidance for Safe Schools*
 - Severe/critical illness and death are rare and occur most commonly in children with underlying health conditions.
- CDC recommendation for fully vaccinated individuals: resume activities without wearing a mask
- SARS-CoV-2 appears to act differently in children and adolescents than other common respiratory viruses such as influenza. *American Academy of Pediatrics-COVID-19 Guidance for Safe Schools*
- Children and adolescents play a major role in amplifying influenza outbreaks, to date, this does not appear to be the case with SARS-CoV-2. *American Academy of Pediatrics-COVID-19 Guidance for Safe Schools*
- Evidence indicates that children and adolescents can become infected and are less likely to be symptomatic and less likely to have severe disease results from SARS-CoV-2. *American Academy of Pediatrics-COVID-19 Guidance for Safe Schools*
- COVID-19 procedures are intended to mitigate, not eliminate, risk.
 - Implementation of several coordinated interventions can greatly reduce that risk.