

Yaak School District

COVID-19 Emergency Measures

1905

Student, Staff, and Community Health and Safety

Page 1 of 6

The School District has adopted the protocols outlined in this policy during the term of the declared public health emergency to ensure the safe and healthy delivery of education services provided to students on school property in accordance with Policy 1906, and a safe workplace when staff are present on school property in accordance with Policy 1909, and the safety, health and well-being of parents and community members. The supervising teacher, principal, superintendent or designated personnel are authorized to implement the protocols in coordination with state and local health officials.

Symptoms of Illness

Students and staff who are ill, feeling ill, diagnosed as ill, or otherwise demonstrating symptoms of illness must not come to school or work. Students who have a fever or are exhibiting other signs of illness must be isolated in a designated area until such time as parents or caregiver may arrive at the school to retrieve the ill student. All surfaces and areas should be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected once the student has vacated the area by staff utilizing safety measures in accordance with state and/or local health standards as applicable. Students may engage in alternative delivery of education services during the period of illness or be permitted to make up work in accordance with District Policy 1906. Staff members will be provided access to leave in accordance with District Policy 1911 or the applicable Master Contract or Memorandum of Understanding.

Parents, guardians, or caregivers of students who are ill, feeling ill, diagnosed as ill, or otherwise demonstrating symptoms of illness must not be present at the school for any reason including but not limited to events or gatherings or to drop off or pick up students excepted as provided by this policy. To avoid exposing others to illness, parents or caregivers who are ill must make arrangements with others to transport students to school or events, if at all practicable. If not practicable, parents, guardians or caregivers must not leave their vehicle during pickup or drop off and must arrange with District staff to supervise students in accordance with physical distancing guidelines in this Policy.

Physical Distancing

Unless a waiver is signed by the parent, opting out of the distancing requirement, the following will apply:

Students, staff, volunteers, and visitors will maintain a six-foot distance between themselves and their colleagues and peers throughout the school day inside any school building, on school provided transportation and on school property before and after school. Staff members will

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3 arrange classrooms and restructure courses, transportation services, and food service to meet this
4 standard.

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6 Recess will continue as scheduled in accordance with physical distancing guidance. Any other
7 use of school playgrounds is strictly prohibited.

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9 Drop off and pick up of students will be completed in a manner that limits direct contact between
10 parents and staff members and adheres to social distancing expectations around the exterior of
11 the school building while on school property.

12 13 Required Face Coverings

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15 This provision is required due to the COVID-19 state of emergency declared by the Board of
16 Trustees or other local, state or federal agency, official, or legislative body. This policy is
17 adopted, implemented, and enforced in accordance with the supervisory authority vested with the
18 Board of Trustees in accordance with Article 10, section 8 of the Montana Constitution and
19 related statutes and regulations. The Board of Trustees authorizes the Superintendent to develop
20 and implement procedures to enforce this policy.

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22 The School District requires all staff, volunteers, visitors, and school-aged students to wear
23 a face covering, mask, or face shield while present in any school building, regardless of
24 vaccination status. The School District also requires all staff, volunteers, visitors, and school-
25 aged students to wear a face covering, mask, or face shield while present at any outdoor school
26 activity with fifty (50) or more people where physical distancing is not possible or is not
27 observed. Face covering, mask, or face shield means disposable or reusable covering that cover
28 the nose and mouth. The School District will provide masks to students, volunteers, and staff, if
29 needed. If a student or staff member wears a reusable mask, the School District expects that
30 the masks be will washed on a regular basis to ensure maximum protection.

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32 Students, staff, volunteers, and visitors are not required to wear a face covering, mask, or face
33 shield under this provision when:

- 34 1. consuming food or drink;
35 2. maintaining the required six (6) feet distancing protocol;
36 3. engaged in strenuous physical activity;
37 4. communicating with someone who is hearing impaired;
38 5. identifying themselves;
39 6. receiving medical attention; or
40 7. precluded from safely using a face covering, mask, or face shield due to a medical or
41 developmental condition. The superintendent, building principal, or their designee shall
42 request documentation from a care provider when considering an exception to this
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provision for medical or developmental reasons. The School District will comply with all applicable disability and discrimination laws when implementing this provision.

When students and members of the public are not present, staff may remove their face covering, mask, or face shield if they are at their individual workstation and six feet of distance is strictly maintained between individuals. Students and teacher may remove masks if at desks and maintaining six-foot distance. If students are working in small groups, the students must be wearing face covering, mask, or face shield.

All points of entry to any school building or facility open to the public shall have a clearly visible sign posted stating the face covering, mask, or face shield requirement.

Allegations of harassment of any person wearing or not wearing a face covering, mask, or face shield requirement will be promptly investigated in accordance with District policy. Failure or refusal to wear a face covering, mask, or face shield by a staff member or student not subject to an exception noted above may result in redirection or discipline in accordance with District policy and codes of conduct, as applicable.

This provision does not apply to District employee's or visitors in District-owned housing that serves as the employee's residence.

Cleaning and Disinfecting

School district personnel will routinely both clean by removing germs, dirt and impurities and disinfect by using chemicals to kill germs on all surfaces and objects in any school building and on school property that are frequently touched. This process shall include cleaning objects/surfaces not ordinarily cleaned daily.

Personnel will clean with the cleaners typically used and will use all cleaning products according to the directions on the label. Personnel will disinfect with common EPA-registered household disinfectants. A list of products that are EPA-approved for use against the virus that causes COVID-19 is available from the supervising teacher or administrator. Personnel will follow the manufacturer's instructions for all cleaning and disinfection products.

The District will provide EPA-registered disposable wipes to teachers, staff, and secondary students so that commonly used surfaces (e.g., keyboards, desks, remote controls) can be wiped down before use. Supervising teacher or administrators are required to ensure adequate supplies to support cleaning and disinfection practices.

Student Arrival

Hand hygiene stations will be available at the entrance of any school building, so that children

can clean their hands before they enter. If a sink with soap and water is not available, the School District will provide hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Hand sanitizer will be kept out of elementary students' reach and student use will be supervised by staff. A District employee will greet children outside the school as they arrive to ensure orderly compliance with the provisions of this policy.

Temperature Screening

Designated School District staff are authorized to test the temperature of students with an approved non-contact or touchless temperature reader. Students who have a fever or are exhibiting other signs of illness must be isolated in a designated area until such time as parents or caregiver may arrive at the school to retrieve the ill student. All surfaces and areas should be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected once the student has vacated the area.

When administering a temperature check on a possibly ill student, designated staff members will utilize available physical barriers and personal protective equipment to eliminate or minimize exposures due to close contact to a child who has symptoms during screening.

Healthy Hand Hygiene Behavior

All students, staff, and others present in the any school building will engage in hand hygiene at the following times, which include but are not limited to:

- Arrival to the facility and after breaks
- Before and after preparing, eating, or handling food or drinks
- Before and after administering medication or screening temperature
- After coming in contact with bodily fluid
- After recess
- After handling garbage
- After assisting students with handwashing
- After use of the restroom
- After touching face

Hand hygiene includes but is not limited to washing hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If hands are not visibly dirty, alcohol-based hand sanitizers with at least 60% alcohol can be used if soap and water are not readily available.

Staff members will supervise children when they use hand sanitizer and soap to prevent ingestion. Staff members will place grade level appropriate posters describing handwashing steps near sinks.

Vulnerable Individuals

© 2020 MTSBA[2/21 revised to continue mask mandate after Governor lifted mandate][8/21 Changed to optional Face coverings and social distancing to correspond with 21-22 reopening][9/11/2021 changed face covering to option 1 requiring face coverings with the provision for no masks in teacherage.][policy was put on monthly meeting agenda for review permanently starting Oct 2021]11/221 Face covering section changed, also social distancing was changes to six feet through the document]

Vulnerable individuals (defined by the Centers for Disease Control at the time of this policy's adoption as those age 65 or older or those with serious underlying health conditions, including high blood pressure, chronic lung disease, diabetes, obesity, asthma, and those whose immune system is compromised such as by chemotherapy for cancer and other conditions requiring such

therapy) are authorized to talk to their healthcare provider to assess their risk and to determine if they should telework during the period of declared public health emergency.

Employees who have documented high risk designation from a medical provider are entitled to reasonable accommodation within the meaning of that term in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 as outlined in District Policy 5002. These accommodations may include but are not limited to teleworking in accordance with a work plan developed in coordination with and authorized by the supervising teacher, administrator, or other designated supervisor. Such employees may also be eligible for available leave in accordance with the applicable policy or master agreement provision.

Food Preparation and Meal Service

Facilities must comply with all applicable federal, state, and local regulations and guidance related to safe preparation of food.

Sinks used for food preparation must not be used for any other purposes.

Staff and students will wash their hands in accordance with this policy.

Transportation Services

The Board of Trustees authorizes the transportation of eligible transportees to and from the school facility in a manner consistent with the protocols established in this policy. The transportation director and school bus drivers will clean and disinfect each seat on each bus after each use.

Public Awareness

The School District will communicate with parents, citizens, and other necessary stakeholders about the protocols established in this policy and the steps taken to implement the protocols through all available and reasonable means.

Confidentiality

This policy in no way limits or adjusts the School District's obligations to honor staff and student privacy rights. All applicable district policies and handbook provision governing confidentiality of student and staff medical information remain in full effect.

Transfer of Funds for Safety Purposes

The Board of Trustees may transfer state or local revenue from any budgeted or non-budgeted fund, other than the debt service fund or retirement fund, to its building reserve fund in an amount not to exceed the school district's estimated costs of improvements to school and student safety and security to implement this policy in accordance with District Policy 1006FE.

Cross Reference:

Policy 1901 – School District Policy and Procedures
Policy 1906 - Student Services and Instructional Delivery
Policy 1907 – Transportation Services
Policy 3410 – Student examination and screenings
Policy 3417 – Communicable Diseases
Policy 3431 – Emergency Treatment
Policy 1911 - Personnel Use of Leave
Policy 1910 – Human Resources and Personnel
Policy 5002 – Accommodating Individuals with Disabilities
Policy 6122 - Delegation of Authority

Policy History:

Adopted on: 4/27/2020

Reviewed on: 11/17/2021

Revised on: 11/17/2021

Terminated on: