

Freshwater Education District COVID Safe Learning Plan - 2021-22 School Year

Safe Learning Plan

Freshwater Education District (FED) - ISD #6004 is committed to providing a safe and healthy workplace for all our staff, students, guests, and visitors. To ensure we have a safe and healthy workplace, FED COVID Advisory Team has developed the following Plan in response to the COVID pandemic. All FED employees are all responsible for implementing this plan. Our goal is to mitigate the potential for transmission of COVID in our workplaces and communities, and that requires full cooperation among our employees.

Our students and employees are the District's most important assets. We have involved stakeholders in the development and implementation of our plan, and continue to solicit and welcome public input. FED COVID Plan follows the industry guidance developed by the state of Minnesota, which aligns with guidance and information provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) guidelines for COVID, Minnesota Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MNOSHA) statutes, rules and standards, and Minnesota's relevant and current executive orders.

Ensure sick employees and students stay home and prompt identification and isolation of sick persons.

Employees and students have been informed of and encouraged to **self-monitor** for signs and symptoms of COVID. Visual reminders will be put up at each of our sites.

Employees

- A **self-assessment** is encouraged to be used by each employee before entering school grounds.
- Employees who are experiencing COVID symptoms as described in the self-assessment must contact the Superintendent and/or SpEd Director immediately, and should not report to work until cleared to do so.
- Staff notifications of confirmed COVID case will be reported to MDH and MDH guidance will be followed.

Students

- A **self-assessment** is encouraged to be used for each student before entering school grounds or school transportation by the student, parent, or caregiver.
- Students exhibiting symptoms as described in the self-assessment must be absent from school until symptoms meet the return to school standards.
- Parents must contact their school immediately to report absences for students who are experiencing symptoms as described in the self-assessment.
- Parents of students who test positive for COVID must contact the school immediately upon learning of the test results.
- Student notifications of confirmed COVID case will be reported to MDH and MDH guidance will be followed.

Visitors

- A **self-assessment** is encouraged to be used for each visitor entering school grounds.
- Visitors who are experiencing symptoms as described in the self-assessment are not to enter a building.

Face Coverings

- Face masks/face shields are recommended. They will be available within all FED sites for anyone who wants one. They will not be required.
- Face masks WILL need to be worn at all times on our school transportation.
- Employees will follow the face covering rules for whichever school district they are in.

Social Distancing

Social distancing will be encouraged between employees, students, and visitors in the workplace through administrative controls noted below:

Classrooms

- Classroom seating will be configured with maximum allowable space between students.
- Instructional plans will be created to limit the sharing of digital materials, limit shared equipment, and maintain appropriate social distancing as possible.

Hallways

- Drinking fountain access may be limited based on guidelines. Bottle-filling stations will be accessible and students will be encouraged to bring refillable bottles to school. Limit the amount of traffic in the hallway.

Common Spaces

- Visual cues to encourage traffic flow and spacing will be implemented throughout the building. Also, appropriate hygiene signage will be used.

Outdoor Recess

- Students will be encouraged to wash or sanitize their hands before and after using playground equipment.

Quarantine

- The employee or student who has tested positive **MUST** quarantine/isolate for at least 5-days from the time the symptoms started. If asymptomatic, can count 2-days prior to the positive test date. Can return to school after 5-days if symptoms have improved. You must wear a mask for 5-days when you return.

Whole Class/Site Quarantine

- The number of people displaying symptoms or testing positive will be monitored. Quarantine will be determined based on a variety of factors: classroom size, number of students, mitigation efforts, etc...

Close Contact/Exposure

- Employees and students (students parent/guardian) will be notified. Employees/students will self-monitor for any COVID symptoms.

- If someone in the **household** has tested positive:
 - The **unvaccinated** employee/student cannot come to work/school for 5-days. Must wear a mask for 5-days upon return.
 - The **vaccinated** employee/student (who has been fully vaccinated) and not showing symptoms, may continue to come to work/school BUT needs to **wear a mask for 10-days**.

Workplace cleaning and disinfection protocol

Regular practices of cleaning and disinfecting will continue to be implemented, including a schedule for routine cleaning and disinfecting of work surfaces, equipment, tools and machinery, vehicles and areas in the work environment, including restrooms, offices, breakrooms, lunch rooms, meeting rooms classrooms, and drop-off and pick-up locations. Frequent cleaning and disinfecting is being conducted of high touch areas, including phones, keyboards, touch screens, controls, door handles, railings, and copy machines.

Materials/Meals

Meals will be provided and served in the cafeteria/kitchen area. If a student is quarantined, a meal can be picked up, as arranged by the parent/guardian, from the student's home school district.

Vaccinations

Vaccination information provided by the Minnesota Department of Health and local public health officials will be communicated (emails, post at school, website, note home, etc...) to families and employees. Vaccinations are not required.

Communications and training practices and protocol

The COVID Plan, as well as changes to the plan, have been and remain posted www.fed.k12.mn.us. Training related to COVID is continuous and delivered by individual departments based on guidance from the CDC, MDH, and MDE. Additional communication and training will be ongoing by utilizing the District email system and website to all employees and students.

Created by FED COVID Advisory Team
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