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## **UNIVERSAL MITIGATION STRATEGIES**

The best way to ensure staff and students remain healthy and are able to teach and learn in an in-person format, is to layer several mitigation strategies. The following are the mitigation strategies the District will be using to start the 2021-22 school year:

### **VACCINATIONS**

Students ages 12 and above are currently eligible for the COVID vaccine. Individuals who are eligible and are not yet vaccinated are highly encouraged to receive the vaccine. ***Vaccinated individuals DO NOT need to quarantine after exposure to a positive case as long as they are symptom free.*** The Greenfield Health Department continues to stress that vaccination is the most important strategy for defeating the pandemic.

Children ages 5 to 11 years are currently ineligible for the vaccine. The CDC anticipates that this age group will likely be eligible in the month of October or November.

### **FACE COVERINGS**

At the August 23, 2021 School Board Meeting, the Greenfield School Board voted to reinstate the requirement that all individuals must wear a face covering/mask in all indoor spaces in the District, except for when eating or drinking and for Student-Athletes when actively practicing or competing in a WIAA athletic activity.

***All staff and students are required to wear face coverings indoors.***

### **HAND HYGIENE**

The District will provide students and staff with hand sanitizer in classrooms, offices, and various other locations throughout the buildings, as well as provide handwashing breaks.

### **ISOLATION ORDERS DUE TO BEING COVID POSITIVE**

Isolation orders require an individual who is COVID positive to remain at home until at least 10- days have passed since their symptoms started. Keeping students and staff who are ill can help to stop the spread of the virus. The Greenfield Health Department issues the isolation order and will indicate the date when it is appropriate for the individual to return to school.

### **STEPS TO TAKE WHEN HAVING COVID-LIKE SYMPTOMS**

Individuals with COVID-LIKE SYMPTOMS - Either cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, new loss of taste or smell **OR** at least two of the following; congestion or a runny nose, fever/chills, nausea/vomiting, diarrhea, headache, unusual fatigue, body aches, or sore throat should remain at home until they test negative for COVID\* (PCR test only) and be symptom free, or obtain an alternative diagnosis from a physician. If an individual does not test or receive an alternative diagnosis from a physician, they will have to isolate at home for 10 days.

*\*The School District of Greenfield is partnering with Summit Laboratories to provide on-site testing daily during the school day at NO COST. Parent authorization form is necessary for testing students under age 18.*

## **PHYSICAL DISTANCING AND QUARANTINE ORDERS**

The CDC has indicated that in a school setting a close contact is defined as being less than 3 feet apart for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or longer in a 24-hour period of time. A quarantine order is issued by the Greenfield Health Department. The duration of a quarantine order will be 10-days OR 7-days with a negative COVID test on day 6 or 7 (Antigen (rapid) or PCR) from the time of the last exposure to the positive case. This year the School District of Greenfield will be partnering with Summit Laboratories to provide FREE Covid testing on-site for staff and students to make the 7-day quarantine period more accessible.

## ***STUDENTS AND STAFF MEMBERS WHO ARE FULLY VACCINATED DO NOT NEED TO QUARANTINE IF THEY ARE SYMPTOM FREE.***

If a student is isolated due to illness or quarantined as the result of being a positive case, they will continue to be able to access their education. Each school building will communicate with families about continuing their child's education if out due to illness or being a close contact.

## **INDOOR AIR QUALITY**

Indoor air quality throughout each of our buildings will be optimized in the following manner:

- Air dilution- a significant increase in the amount of outside air is being pulled into the buildings
- Air turnover- indoor air is turned over between 4-6 times per hour
- Air filtration- the OSHA recommended air filters are present on all building systems
- All HVAC systems are digitally controlled and monitored by our Buildings and Grounds department

## **WATER FOUNTAINS**

The ability for students and staff to drink from building water fountains has been turned off, however all bottle filling stations are available to staff and students. Staff and students are encouraged to bring a refillable water bottle to school.

## **TRANSPORTATION**

Per Federal requirements, all riders MUST wear a face covering while riding the School Bus.

## **COHORTING ELEMENTARY STUDENTS**

Placing elementary students in cohorts indoors will be utilized only when it does not compromise our educational priorities. For example, elementary students will be cohorted during lunch times in the cafeteria, however they will not be cohorted during small group reading instruction.

## **DISEASE COMMUNICATION TO FAMILIES AND THE PUBLIC**

The District will continue to post a dashboard on the DISTRICT webpage under "Stay Informed about Learning in 2021-22". This dashboard is updated daily with the number of positive staff and student cases as well as the number of staff and students quarantined. Additionally, the dashboard is updated weekly with COVID trend lines as well as monitoring: substitute availability, burden rate in the city of Greenfield and Milwaukee County, the percent positivity rate in the city and the county, our ability to maintain our mitigation strategies, and the ability to contact trace in a timely manner.

## **KEEPING INDIVIDUALS WITH SYMPTOMS HOME**

Students should stay home if any of the following apply:

- Experiencing any one of the following; cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, new loss of taste or smell **OR** two or more of the following; congestion or a runny nose, fever/chills, nausea/vomiting, diarrhea, headache, fatigue, body aches, sore throat.
- Awaiting results of a COVID test
- Someone in the household is COVID positive and the student has not yet been vaccinated

### **POTENTIAL FOR TRANSITIONING TO VIRTUAL LEARNING**

Every effort will be made to keep our schools open for in-person instruction, and given the fluid nature of the pandemic, it may be necessary to transition an entire classroom, grade level, school or even the entire District to virtual learning for a period of time. The circumstances that could signal the need to transition to virtual learning would be:

- Staff and/or student attendance is significantly impacted due to the number of positive cases and/or quarantine orders in a specific classroom, grade level, school, or the district.
- A significant community outbreak is occurring or has recently occurred, and is impacting multiple staff, students, and families served by the community.
- Staff absences reach a level that has the potential to compromise the safety of our students or the continuity of the learning environment
- Contact tracing and notification of close contacts in the school setting cannot be completed within 24-36 hours of notification of a positive case.

Things change very quickly as a result of the disease, and it is important to note that notification of being quarantined, or transitions from in-person learning to virtual learning will need to occur in a timely manner. Please be sure to develop a plan for your household if/when your child's classroom or school, or the entire District must transition to virtual learning for a period of time.

### **A FAMILY-SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP**

Remaining open for in-person learning is a partnership. The ability for our schools to remain open is a collaborative effort on the part of schools, the District, and families. Each school, in partnership with the Greenfield Health Department, has updated their school specific plans to mitigate the spread of the virus. As a Learning Community we are committed to following and updating our mitigation strategies, communicating regularly with parents and updating the dashboard, as well as continuing to work side-by-side with the Greenfield Health Department. As families, you can contribute to ensuring the safety of all students by:

- Ensuring your Infinite Campus contact information is up to date
- Sending positive messages to your child about the importance of following the School Board requirement regarding face coverings (Currently, as of 8/23, required for all staff and students 4K-12<sup>th</sup> grade indoors)
- Keeping your child home if they are sick
- Complying with all isolation and quarantine orders from the Greenfield Health Department
- Picking up your child in a timely manner if they are sick at school
- Communicating your concerns or illnesses in your household to your child's school in a timely manner.