

2021-22 Safe & Healthy Schools

What Families Need to Know

District Health Authority & COVID-19 Response Team

Did you know SKPS has its own District Health Authority?

The district health authority includes RN's and LPN's who investigate communicable disease, assesses student health needs, create individualized health plans for students, evaluates overall student health, obtains medical orders, and provides staff training and education. The DHA is the consistent liaison between SKPS and the Local Public Health Authority for all health and medical needs.

The district also has an established COVID-19 Response Team to consistently monitor and track presumptive and positive cases of COVID-19 in the district, and oversees all processes and protocols for responding to cases of COVID-19.



Vaccination

For students, the COVID-19 vaccination is not required, but it is encouraged for those who are eligible. Per state mandate, the COVID-19 vaccination is required for staff and volunteers.

School Buses

Bus transportation is an important part of ensuring our students are able to get to and from school safely. SKPS school buses will have a number of layers of protection to reduce the spread of COVID-19 including face coverings for all individuals, increased airflow with windows, hand sanitation, and physical distancing to the extent possible.



Ventilation/HVAC

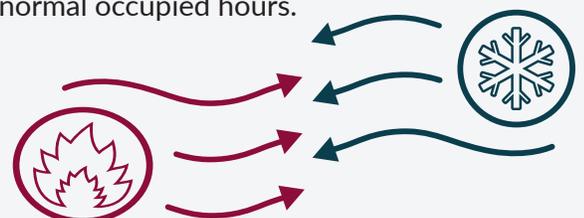
The district's approach is to optimize HVAC system performance at each building. System optimization entails fresh air intake, air handling (mixing fresh with recirculated air), filtration, air changing (number of times per hour that air is changed in a room) and temperature control. Optimizing system performance reduces build up in the air of smaller particles such as COVID-19, particularly in an aerosolized state. Our systems provide a baseline of three to five air changes per hour.

What adjustments for COVID-19 have been made?

The district has adjusted the HVAC systems to maximize fresh air intake, use higher MERV rated filters, extend the hours of operation and provide a minimum of two hours of purging before and after normal occupied hours.

More information about HVAC is available online:

saalemkeizer.org/safe-return-in-person/



School Lunches

Breakfast and lunch will be provided for free to all SKPS students or students may bring lunch from home for the 2021-22 school year. Face coverings will be worn until students are sitting with food and ready to eat. All students and staff must wash hands or use hand sanitizer upon entering and exiting cafeteria spaces.

Schools plan to use cafeterias, classrooms and outside areas to the extent possible to maximize spaces. In all situations, physical distancing of three feet will be maintained to the greatest extent possible.

EDGE students may pick up breakfast and lunch at their resident school.

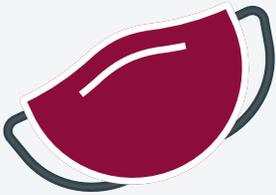


Face Coverings & Physical Distancing

Face coverings are required for all staff, students and visitors while indoors in all school facilities and on school buses. Face coverings are not required outdoors during school-day activities such as recess. In all situations, physical distancing of three feet will be maintained to the greatest extent possible.

Enforcement

Students may not enter a school and/or classroom without a face covering or having an exception or accommodation on file. Schools will provide face coverings for any student who needs one. Face coverings must cover the nose and mouth. If a student isn't wearing a face covering correctly, school staff will give the student a gentle hand gesture or verbal reminder.

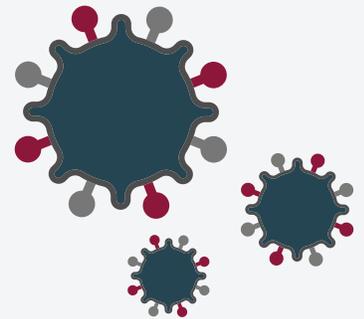


If a student needs to remove the face covering, the student should communicate this to the teacher who will manage this on an as-needed basis. There is no designated time to remove face coverings during class.

COVID-19 Testing & Quarantining

Should a student or staff member develop symptoms while at school, a nasal swab self-test will be available with consent from a guardian in collaboration with the district's COVID-19 response team.

If a student is ever identified as a close contact of a positive case of COVID-19, families will be contacted personally by a member of the district's COVID-19 Response Team. Families will work with the school health nurse to determine any quarantining requirements for their student.



According to the Oregon Health Authority and ODE, close contacts, who do not have symptoms, have been fully immunized with a COVID-19 vaccine and at least 14 days beyond completion of the vaccine series at the time of their exposure are not required to quarantine. Fully immunized close contacts should still monitor themselves for symptoms of COVID-19 during the 14 days after exposure.

COVID-19 impacts us all daily and it's important that we follow all recommended health and safety protocols such as vaccination, wearing a face covering, hand washing and maintaining physical distance. Our kids are counting on us all to work together to keep them in school, safely!