



Horseshoe Bend School District #73

COVID Operating Plan (2023-24)

Reviewed by Board of Trustees on 2/21/24

Learning Model

Traditional school operations with buildings open, students and teachers in classrooms, and in-person instruction with measures to ensure effective hygiene, sanitation, and physical distancing, when feasible, are practiced.

General Preventative Measures

- Daily health screenings of students for COVID symptoms
 - Parents to screen students for symptoms each morning prior to attending school
 - Students are to be kept home if experiencing symptoms
 - See *Self-Assessment Screening Tool – COVID 19* in appendix
 - See *Illness Decision Tree for Schools* in appendix
 - See *Guidance on COVID-19 Exposure for Schools* in appendix
 - No-touch thermometer reading of students indicating/exhibiting symptoms
 - Students and staff who indicate/exhibit symptoms will be isolated and sent home
- Use of face coverings
 - Face coverings are encouraged but optional for all students, staff, and visitors at all times when in school buildings and on school buses
 - Disposable masks will be provided free of charge to students who request one
 - Information on correct wearing of masks can be found here:
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/about-face-coverings.html>
- Vaccinations
 - It is encouraged but optional that all eligible individuals receive a COVID vaccine
- Limited campus visitors
 - Visitors are encouraged to call in advance before visiting the campus
 - Face coverings for visitors are encouraged but optional while inside school buildings
 - Only students and staff will be allowed to eat lunch in the cafeteria; this includes breakfast
- Field trips, school assemblies and other large gatherings will be limited
- Appropriate accommodations will be made for children with disabilities

Physical Distancing Measures

- Spacing of desks in classrooms to maximize physical distancing
- Limited physical interaction through partner or group work
- Appropriate accommodations will be made for children with disabilities

Sanitation/Hygiene Measures

- Hand hygiene stations in all classrooms and high traffic areas (hallways, cafeteria, gymnasium, etc...)
- Teaching and demonstrating proper hygiene techniques to students (particularly in elementary)
 - Proper handwashing and respiratory etiquette can be found here:
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/when-how-handwashing.html>
- Frequent cleaning of high traffic surfaces during school day (keyboards, doorknobs, etc...)

- Efforts to improve classroom ventilation will be practiced, such as windows remaining open, weather permitting, and HVAC units working at optimal levels (repairing/replacing units when necessary)
- Only bottle filling water fountains to be used
- Limited use of shared materials
- Appropriate accommodations will be made for children with disabilities

Lunch / Cafeteria Preventative Measures

- Require student hand washing/sanitizing before meal service
- Spacing students as feasible while in the serving line and while seated
 - Students encouraged to eat outside, weather permitting
- No sharing of food between students
- Thorough cleaning and sanitizing of cafeteria high-touch surfaces prior to and after each lunch period
- Only students and staff will be allowed to eat lunch in the cafeteria; this includes breakfast
- Appropriate accommodations will be made for children with disabilities

Transportation Preventative Measures

- Face coverings for bus riders are encouraged but optional while riding the school bus
- Students within reasonable and safe walking distance from school encouraged to walk/bike to school
- Parents to encourage students to physical distance at bus stops
- Require student riders to use hand sanitizer upon entering bus
- School buses disinfected daily
- Depending on bus load, bus routes may need to be adjusted, or additional bus routes added
- Appropriate accommodations will be made for children with disabilities

Confirmed Case in School Building

If a student, staff member, or visitor is confirmed to have the COVID-19 virus, we will notify parents, students, and staff of their possible exposure, and we will work with Central District Health on next steps which may include:

- Identifying anyone who may have been in close contact with the confirmed case (close contact is defined by the Central District Health as being within 6 feet for more than 15 minutes)
 - Fully vaccinated individuals deemed close contacts will not need to quarantine unless experiencing symptoms
 - Individuals who have had a confirmed case of COVID within 90 days of exposure will not need to quarantine unless experiencing symptoms
- Excluding positive, suspected, and close contacts from school as they follow isolation or self-quarantine instructions from Central District Health
- Short-term dismissal of students and most staff for 1-2 days to allow for deep cleaning and disinfecting
- See *Illness Decision Tree for Schools* in appendix
- See *Guidance on COVID-19 Exposure for Schools* in appendix

Athletics

Middle/high school sports are currently scheduled to take place as planned, but will be paused or cancelled if ordered to do so by our school board, the Governor, the Idaho State Board of Education, or the Idaho High School Activities Association. While we will take as many preventative measure as feasible (disinfecting equipment, not sharing water bottles, etc...), participating in athletics, or attending athletic events, will likely increase your risk and your child(ren)'s risk of contracting the COVID virus.

Student/Staff Needs

COVID continues to present many unique challenges for students and staff, and we will continue to make every effort to address the academic needs of our students, as well as the social, emotional, and mental health needs of our students and staff. Contact the school with any questions/concerns or for specific information.

Review/Revision of COVID Operating Plan

This COVID Operating Plan will be reviewed monthly by administration and school board trustees, and may be revised at any time. Stakeholder input is encouraged, and you may contact the following individuals with questions or concerns:

- Superintendent / 6-12 Principal – Dennis Chesnut, chesnutd@hsbschools.org
- Elementary Principal – Cora Larson, larsonc@hsbschools.org
- Zone 1 Trustee – Acacia Fisher, doubetroublebailbondsido@gmail.com
- Zone 2 Trustee – VACANT
- Zone 3 Trustee – VACANT
- Zone 4 Trustee – Dustin Moore, moored@hsbschools.org
- Zone 5 Trustee – Chelsea Karling, karlingc@hsbschools.org