

Taskforce Corona

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Mission: Bowdle School District 22-1 reentry plan for student instructional learning during COVID19.

Board Original Approved Document 1.0: 29 July 2020

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The COVID-19 situation may be subject to change based on factual, research-based information. Information in this document is current as of June 13, 2022

INTRODUCTION

In consultation with the South Dakota Department of Education (SD DOE), the South Dakota Department of Health (SD DOH), and numerous stakeholders (parents, community, business partners, and staff volunteers) of the Bowdle School District has developed A Return to School Plan, in response to the COVID-19 public health crisis. The purpose of this document is to articulate plans and strategies for reopening and maintaining school openings starting in the 2020-21 school year and its continuation into the 2022-2023 school year. As the school district works to implement these recommendations, it is critical to be intentional and prepared for change as the year unfolds in light of public health needs.

CDC recommendations for Operational Guidance for COVID-19 Prevention in K-12 Schools (5/27/22):

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/k-12-childcare-guidance.html>

CDC recommendations for Guidance for COVID-19 for individuals (4/7/22):

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/recommendations/children-teens.html?s_cid=11368:age%20limit%20for%20covid%20vaccine:sem.ga:p:RG:GM:gen:PTN:FY21

Frequently Asked Questions for K-12 and Early Care and Education (ECE) Settings: Information for School and ECE Administrators, Teachers, Staff, and Parents (5/27/22):

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/parent-faqs.html>

- Students benefit from in-person learning, and safely returning to in-person instruction is the upmost priority.
- Vaccinations are currently the leading public health prevention strategy to end the COVID-19 pandemic. Promoting vaccination can help schools safely return to in-person learning as well as extracurricular activities and sports.
- Masks should be worn indoors by all individuals (age 2 and older) who are not fully vaccinated. Consistent and correct mask use by people who are not fully vaccinated is especially important indoors and in crowded settings, when physical distancing cannot be maintained.
- CDC recommends schools maintain at least feet of physical distance between students within classrooms, combined with indoor mask-wearing by people who are not fully vaccinated, to reduce transmission risk. When it is not possible to maintain a physical distance of at least 6 feet, such as

when schools cannot fully re-open while maintaining these distances, it is especially important to layer multiple other prevention strategies, such as indoor masking.

- Screening testing, ventilation, handwashing, and respiratory etiquette staying home when sick and getting tested, contact tracing in combination with quarantine and isolation, and cleaning and disinfection are also important layers of prevention to keep schools safe.
- Students, teachers, and staff should stay home when they have signs of any infectious illness and be referred to their healthcare provider for testing and care.
- COVID-19 prevention strategies remain critical to protecting people, including students, teachers, and staff, who are not fully vaccinated, especially in areas of moderate-to-high community transmission levels.
- Localities should monitor community transmission, vaccination coverage, screening testing, and occurrence of outbreaks to guide decisions on the level of layered prevention strategies (e.g., physical distancing, screening testing).

SD DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR REOPENING SCHOOLS SD DOE MAINTAINS THE BELOW ASSUMPTIONS:

- Schools provided in-person instruction in the 2020-21, “2021-22” school years and will continue into the 2022-2023 school years, and so on.
- COVID-19 will continue to spread through various variants, with or without a vaccine, through the next school year.
- Schools can take practical steps to mitigate the spread of the virus while continuing to focus on student learning.
- Each school/district will make decisions based on scientific information at the time, the current status of the virus spread in and around the school community, and the best interests of staff, students, and families.
- This document does not constitute a legal guide. Decision-making should be based on what we know to be factual about COVID-19, knowing that our understanding of the virus will continue to evolve:
 - The rate of infection and the mortality rate of COVID-19 is higher than that of influenza.
 - These two factors combine to necessitate mitigation strategies beyond what a school would put in place for seasonal influenza.
 - Asymptomatic individuals are infectious, though not to the same degree as those displaying symptoms.
 - Children are carriers and are susceptible to the virus. Yet there are different levels of susceptibility throughout the population.
 - Measures such as social distancing and masks in confined spaces help reduce transmission.
 - There are various vaccines, boosters, and monoclonal antibodies to help minimize COVID19 and its variants on the human body.
 - You may get COVID19 and its variants regardless of vaccination status, and you can be reinfected as well.

SD DOE expectations for schools:

- Schools will continue to be a safe environment for students, focusing on both social-emotional and physical health. Local decisions will be rooted in what is best for students.
- Schools will take reasonable steps within the context of COVID-19 spread in the community to protect the school community. National guidelines, while helpful and provides context, are only a guide. SD DOE expects school leaders to make reasoned judgments to limit the spread but still provide a continuity of learning.
- Every student will have the opportunity to engage in a full year of learning, irrespective of the spread of COVID-19 in a community.

- School leaders will work transparently with their school boards, staff, and community to communicate decisions and the underlying assumptions guiding those decisions.
- School leaders will need to make difficult decisions to ensure the health – both mental and physical – of their entire school community.

This document is built upon the guidance and recommendations of public health officials; it is aligned to the South Dakota Department of Education Starting Well 2020 guidance published on June 10, 2020, and recommendations from the South Dakota Department of Health that has been updated since January 10, 2022. It is designed to prioritize the health and safety of students and staff as school buildings are reopened and deliver instruction for the 2020-21 school year and so on.

Bowdle will follow primarily South Dakota Department of Health (SD-DOH) guidelines only and its changes. CDC isolation and quarantine guidelines and requests that medical providers reinforce the following is only for providing patient education, but it will not change guidelines until it is accepted by the South Dakota Department of Health

METHODOLOGY

Question: Isolation or Quarantine: What's the difference?

Quarantine keeps someone who might have been exposed to the virus away from others.

Isolation keeps someone who is infected with the virus away from others, even in their home. Isolation is used to separate people infected with SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19 and its variants, from people who are not infected. People who are in isolation should stay home until it's safe for them to be around others. In the home, anyone sick or infected should separate themselves from others by staying in a specific "sick room" or area and using a separate bathroom (if available). You will need to stay home for 10 days that have passed since your date of a positive test or symptoms.

- CDC and SD-DOH recommend staying at home and contacting your medical provider if you might have COVID-19 or have tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 infection. Persons being tested for SARS-CoV-2 infection are recommended to isolate at home awaiting test results.
 - A positive SARS-CoV-2 test result initiates the investigation by SD-DOH staff. If you are awaiting test results for COVID-19 then stay home until a negative test result is produced.
 - CDC and SD-DOH recommend SARS-CoV-2 testing of all close contacts to a COVID-19 case, whether symptomatic or asymptomatic. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/testing-overview.html>

SD-DOH will contact all positive cases to collect information about their illness and provide guidance. SD-DOH recommends that SARS-CoV-2 testing priority be given to close contacts in the household setting due to the prolonged exposure time and subsequent risk of infection.

- Patients testing positive for SARS-CoV-2 infection should be counseled to start a list of their close contacts (with phone number, email address, and mailing address) to speed the process when contacted by SD-DOH.
- Persons who test positive for SARS-CoV-2 are encouraged to notify their close contact to aid in prompt testing and identification of COVID-19.

Isolation

Calculating Isolation

Day 0 is the first day of a positive viral test. Day 1 is the first full day (24-hour period) after your test specimen was collected. The hour requirement starts when the school district gets a photo confirmation of a test or test positive within the school district central office.

If You Test Positive for COVID-19 (Isolate)	
Everyone, regardless of vaccination status. →	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you cannot mask or refuse to be tested, then you need to stay home until the 11th day or a minimum of 240 hours have passed. • If you can wear a mask and be tested then stay home for 5 days or a minimum of 120 hours have passed after you tested positive. • If you have a fever, continue to stay home until your fever resolves. If you have no symptoms or your symptoms resolve after 5 days or a minimum of 120 hours have passed, then you can come to school. • You will need to test negative on Day 5 or a minimum of 120 hours have passed at the school district for reentry. If not, you will not be allowed in school until you test negative • Continue to wear a tightly fitted mask around others for 5 additional days at all times at the school.
Additional Requirements for Student-Athletes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student-Athletes will need to fill out the Return to Play form and can return to practice and competition after testing negative at Day 5 or a minimum of 120 hours have passed. If the form is not completed then they will return to practice on Day 11 or a minimum of 120 hours have passed.

Quarantine - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/quarantine.html>

Calculating Quarantine

Day 0 is your first day of exposure. Day 1 is the first full day (24-hour period) after your last contact with a person who has had COVID19.

If You Were Exposed to someone within your family that tested positive for COVID-19 (Quarantine)	
Have been boosted OR Completed the primary series of Pfizer or Moderna vaccine within the last 6 months of COVID-19 exposure OR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you cannot mask or refuse to be tested, then you need to stay home until the 11th day or a minimum of 240 hours have passed. • Wear a mask around others for 10 days or a minimum of 240 hours have passed after you have been exposed. • Test on day 5 or a minimum of 120 hours have passed after you have been exposed

<p>Completed the primary series of J&J vaccine within the last 2 months COVID-19 of exposure</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Had a confirmed COVID-19 case within the last 90 days.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you develop any symptoms, get a test and stay home.
<p>Completed the primary series of Pfizer or Moderna vaccine over 6 months ago of COVID-19 exposure and are not boosted.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Completed the primary series of J&J vaccine over 2 months ago of COVID-19 of exposure and are not boosted.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Are unvaccinated</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you cannot mask or refuse to be tested, then you need to stay home until the 11th day or a minimum of 240 hours have passed. • Stay home for 5 days or a minimum of 120 hours have passed. After that continue to wear a mask around others for 5 additional days or a minimum of 120 hours have passed. • Test on day 5 or a minimum of 120 hours have passed after you have been exposed for school reentry. • If you can't quarantine, you must wear a mask for 10 days or a minimum of 240 hours have passed, and continuously test until day 5 or a minimum of 120 hours have passed. • If you develop symptoms, get a test and stay home. If you develop symptoms get a test and stay home.

If a person was isolated and tested positive are exempted from quarantine for 90 days of their first positive test for SARS-CoV-2. No quarantine is recommended due to the low risk for reinfection.

School districts cannot ask parents or students for vaccine proof in a form of a passport stated under South Dakota executive order 2021-08. A parent or student may have a written attestation note saying that they have been vaccinated on their own accord, which will allow them not to follow quarantine rules. However, the school district may use the South Dakota Immunization Information System (SDIIS) to check for transparency.

~~Volunteers who receive the vaccine dosages will be allowed to come back and help at the school.~~

Whether a person tests positive or negative for COVID-19, the preventive measure should still be used to protect yourself and others. Preventive measures include the following:

- Wash your hands often
- Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue
- Avoid close physical contact (within 6 feet) with others, especially people who are sick
- Wear a cloth face mask when physical distancing is not possible
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth
- Clean and disinfect frequently touches surfaces daily

BOWDLE SCHOOL DISTRICT

As a school district community, we can agree to the guidelines of opening:

- PK-12 education is critically essential to the national security of our nation.
- The goal is to have students at the Bowdle School District have normalized instructional services.
- The decision to open up the school districts will fall upon the Bowdle's Board of Education and the Superintendent.
- Parents and students would prefer traditional face-to-face learning and social interaction with their peers.
- Bowdle students still interact with their peers both inside or outside of the school building.
- The school district is a community support system for all stakeholders.
- Everybody kids are somebody kids.

Facts:

- COVID19 is airborne and has several variants. COVID19 is attached to variable proteins in the cell membrane.
- The State of South Dakota Department of Education or Department of Health has left its playbook for reopening open-ended for each school district on how a school should be open. This can look very different comparing various school district, regional, and county-level areas, but provide only recommendations, but won't make items mandatory or required.

Bowdle School District 22-1 Daily Operation:

The school district reentry process will be broken down into phases. The school day will begin at 8:20 AM and end at 3:20 PM.

(Online Phase): Immediate lockdown of the school building and entering the alternative instruction phase online through Google Meet & Google Classroom and/or paper packets. No parent or visitor entry into the school. All junior high and high school computers will go home. All elementary student computers will be delivered through contactless delivery.

(Standard Phase): All students will return to normal operations in carrying on class.

To move from Standard Phase to Online Phase then there will need to be 20 active cases with students and staff with COVID19. To return back to the Standard Phase there must be 10% reduction weekly with students re-entering school.

Academic School Transportation Services Re-entry - Bus Routes:

All Phases

- No households attending Bowdle Schools will be allowed to claim mileage to take their students to and from school at any phase.
- The bus driver will be responsible for cleaning seats where students sat on the bus.
- Parents will need to do their screenings at home for any COVID19 symptoms.
 - A student who has any COVID19 symptoms will need to stay home.
 - Parents, **DO NOT** provide students any fever-reducer medication
- All students must **NOT** have any COVID 19 symptoms including a spike in temperature.
- Students will need to go see a medical professional (Doctor of Medicine, Doctor of Osteopathy, Doctor of Chiropractic, Physician Assistants, or Nurse Practitioners) if they cannot explain their symptoms.
- If a student goes home from school with any symptoms, they will need to visit a see a medical professional (Doctor of Medicine, Doctor of Osteopathy, Doctor of Chiropractic, Physician Assistant or Nurse Practitioners), and explain those symptoms to determine to be cleared back to school.
- Social distancing.

Standard Phase

- Normal Configuration. All bus drop-offs will be done at the north end of the school. Parental drop-offs will be conducted at the south end of the Bowdle Schools.

General Entry into the school:

(Online Phases):

- Parents will need to do their screenings at home for any COVID19 symptoms.
 - The student who has any COVID19 symptoms will need to stay home.
 - Parents, **DO NOT** provide students any fever-reducer medication
- All students must **NOT** have any COVID 19 symptoms including a spike in temperature.
- Students will need to go see a medical professional (Doctor of Medicine, Doctor of Osteopathy, Doctor of Chiropractic, Physician Assistants, or Nurse Practitioners) to be cleared re-entry into any school district building if they cannot explain their symptoms.
- If a student goes home from school for any symptoms, they will need to visit a medical professional (Doctor of Medicine, Doctor of Osteopathy, Doctor of Chiropractic, Physician Assistants or Nurse Practitioners) and explain those symptoms to determine to be cleared back to school.
- Social distancing.
- Parents/Guardians, Visitors, and Vendors will not be allowed entry into the Bowdle School District for drop-off or pick-up.
 - Parents/Guardians will need to stay until the student clears the screening station
 - Parents/Guardians will only be in the building under situations approved by the administration (e.g. a 504 or a medical emergency).
 - Subjected to screening if entry occurs
 - Vendors will not be allowed access to the building during instructional time.
 - Alternative meeting times and location with staff.
 - All packages will need to be dropped at the doorway for the employee to pick them up.
- All students will report to their classrooms first thing after checking in.
 - PK-6 will be in their classrooms.
 - Grades 7-12 will report to their advisors.
 - Students walking to designated areas need to form a line and stay to the right.
- Hand sanitizer, face masks, and shields will be available at Doorway A and I.
- Hand sanitizer and wipes will be available to all classrooms.
- Face masks or shields are recommended but not required by students, employees.

(Standard Phase)

- Normal operation configuration.

Classroom Environment & Instruction:

Standard Phase

- Specials will still be conducted as normal with appropriate social distancing
- Recess will be normal outside.
- Handwashing at the PK-6th level:
 - Teachers will put handwashing every time after lunch or recess.
 - Teachers will put handwashing times into their lesson plans before lunch and advisory time.

Alternative Instruction:

- District support of students/families that may decide to opt-out of in-person instruction due to a documented pre-existing health issue and/or personal risk management of potential exposure to Covid-19.
 - a. If a family chooses this portion, then all family members attending taking this option must go to an alternative or virtual school.
 - b. The family will bear the cost of alternative instruction.
 - c. Students who have failed coursework at Bowdle Schools would be ineligible for this service.
 - d. In addition, students must get a medical note documenting on this student cannot physically go back to an in-person, face-face-to-face auction due to a valid medical reason.

Meal Services:

Online Phase

Meals services will not be provided. ~~unless it is Summer Seamless Option.~~

Standard Phase

- Normal operation configuration. Leftover, extra milk, and seconds serve as normal.

WARNING: Positive Case found in the physical building of Bowdle School District

If a student tests positive for COVID19 or is designated by the Department of Health as close contact, they will not be allowed re-entry into any school district until we have a copy of the letter that they have been quarantined or isolated which the parent will have it on hand and be responsible to provide these letters to the school.

If a student or employee has symptoms or a positive case of COVID19 then they will be subjected to the ICE protocol for the safety of the school district stakeholders.

- The ICE protocol will be as followed:
 - Isolated and mask them immediately
 - Contact the parent or emergency contact
 - Exit them from your facilities near you as quickly and as soon as possible.

Staff or students who are potentially exposed or have a positive case for COVID19:

- A person who tests positive for COVID19 will not be allowed re-entry into any school district building until we have a DOH letter confirming that they have been cleared.
 - The school district would provide them with absent exemption and will allow the school district to start emergency sanitation protocols immediately by determining affected areas.
 - We would provide no-contact assignments to the student's family and laptops.
 - DOH will contact the staff of students (guardian if they are a minor) if they are positive.
 - Positive Case Staff or Student
 - Be asked to self-isolate for 10 days or isolate for 5 days and return to school symptom-free for 5 days.
 - Use separate bedroom or bathroom from their household
 - Must be fever-free without any medication for 24 hours before the release from isolation.
- A person who comes to close contact with exposure
 - Any person who is a family member of a positive case.
 - DOH will contact all staff of students (guardian if they are a minor) identified as a close contact.

School District will in them or using school messenger to inform them to be redirected to the school website for any of the following:

School Closures other than due to weather for students and employees.

Exposure Letter

Distance Learning Plans

Any process to the above on the following level.

Employees:

- If you need a substitute, it will be the same as normal.

Public comment. This plan will be re-reviewed during the second and fourth quarters of the school year. This LEA plan will be reviewed by the school board and posted to the school district website for the availability to all stakeholders and the federal government to meet with compliance for ARP ESSER III Plans. There will be a ten-day public comment window using SurveyMonkey to gain feedback. This plan will be updated with valid, peer-reviewed, scientific information on hand.

SDHSAA guidelines

SDHSAA Protocol for Confirmed COVID-19 Infections

1. a) Athletes with infections that are 90 days or more in the past who were asymptomatic or who had a mild or moderate illness **and** have returned to full activity without symptoms do not need additional cardiac testing unless indicated by their physician.

b) Athletes with infections that are 10-89 days in the past who have undergone an annual Preparticipation Physical Evaluation (PPE) during that time frame **and** indicated on the Preparticipation History that they tested positive for COVID 19 do not need additional cardiac testing unless indicated by their physician during the PPE. Upon confirmation of COVID-19 infection, follow SDDOH guidelines. As of July 2021, this includes 10 days of isolation and if symptomatic 24 hours without fever along with other symptom resolution.
1. **If you are asymptomatic or have a mild illness**, such as common cold-like symptoms without a fever, GI symptoms, or loss of taste/smell:
 - a. Consult with your clinician (physician, physician's assistant, nurse practitioner, or athletic trainer)
 - b. Any cardiac testing or additional evaluation should be based on clinical concern and symptom presentation.
 - c. No exercise should be performed until 3-5 days from symptom onset or positive test if asymptomatic.
 - d. Progression to return to play should be individualized, with monitoring for new symptoms triggered by exercise
2. **If you have a moderate illness or initial cardiopulmonary symptoms**, include fever greater than 100.4°F, chills, flu-like symptoms for 2 days or more, chest pain, palpitations, and/or dyspnea:
 1. Complete a medical evaluation, with ECG, Echo, or Troponin as determined by your physician.
 2. If any testing (ECG, etc) is abnormal, complete a cardiology consultation, with physician determined Cardiac MRI before completing an individualized return to exercise progression.
 3. If the medical evaluation is normal, no exercise should be performed until 5-7 days from symptom onset AND resolution of all moderate symptoms.
 4. Progression to return to play should be individualized, with monitoring for new symptoms triggered by exercise. **The SDHSAA Return to Play form must be complete before returning to activities if you have a moderate illness or any cardiopulmonary symptoms.**
3. **If you have severe illness or are hospitalized:**

1. Complete a comprehensive medical evaluation. It is recommended to also complete a cardiology consultation.
2. An ECG, Echo, or Troponin should be considered by the physician team. The ECG should be compared to previous results if available. Troponin testing should be performed after 48 hours without exercise.
3. If there is confirmed myocarditis, pulmonary embolism, or other cardiopulmonary disorders, medical guidelines should dictate treatment.
4. Return to play should be individualized based upon physicians' recommendations, with monitoring for new symptoms triggered by exercise. No exercise should be attempted until the evaluation is complete. The physician **must write a note clearing the student to return to activities.**
5. **All athletes with COVID-19 infections should be monitored for cardiopulmonary symptoms as they return to exercise.** These symptoms include exertional chest pain, excessive dyspnea, unexplained exercise intolerance, palpitation, n,s, and syncope. If these symptoms occur with exercise, additional cardiac testing should be performed and evaluated by a cardiologist. No additional exercise should be attempted until the evaluation is complete. An individualized return to play progression should be developed based upon baseline fitness, severity and duration of COVID-19 symptoms, and tolerance to progressive levels of exertion. **The SDHSAA Return to Play form must be completed before returning to activities with any cardiopulmonary symptoms.**

All schools should have a well-developed and well-rehearsed Emergency Action Plan for every sport/activity and at every venue with clear access to an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) and individuals trained in the use of an AED.

This Bowdle School District 22-1 plan may be accessible in other languages. Such requests must be made to the central office by reaching Skylar Frederick, Superintendent. Please contact him by email at Skylar.Fredericks@k12.sd.us or call 605.285.6272.

This Bowdle School District 22-1 plan may be accessible in other special education modifications and accommodations. Such requests must be made to the central office by reaching Skylar Frederick, Superintendent. Please contact him by email at Skylar.Fredericks@k12.sd.us or call 605.285.6272.

The Bowdle School District will ensure continuity of services, for in-person, remote, and/or hybrid students as applicable, including:

Students' social, emotional, and mental health needs by providing students access to mental health counseling available and student resource to help students be able to discuss with staff members. We allow students to talk about their emotional and social well-being and find adequate resources to be successful for both in-person and virtual learning. During times of strictly online learning, students will have virtual and in-person checks to make sure students are feeling well.

Staff members' social, emotional, and mental health needs by providing them a mental health counselor to visit and deal with their needs. We will their social and emotional needs by offering them cards and also services via professional development in mediation and breathing techniques such as Wm Hoff. We also continue to discuss updates on mental health signs of burnout and creating boundaries. We also emphasize the benefit of our insurance benefit that allows teachers to have confidential help. If a teacher needs time off, they are affording that time to work on their mental health and to visit professionals.