

Tri-County Schools

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Safe Return to In-Person Learning for 2021-2022 School Year

Tri-County Schools will continue to offer In-Person Learning Model to all students as it did during the previous 2020-2021 school year. We will continue our efforts to maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff for the 2021-2022 school year by continuing to follow MN Department of Education (MDE), MN Department of Health (MDH) and Center for Disease Control (CDC) requirements. As these organizations evaluate on-going pandemic data and adjust requirements, Tri-County's plan will be adjusted to align with any new requirements.

The Tri-County Schools will continue efforts to keep a high standard of safety and cleanliness to ensure we are able to stay in person for the foreseeable future.

These standards currently include:

- ✓ **FACE COVERINGS** - The current requirements make the wearing of masks optional, and that option will be allowed and supported for students and staff choosing to do so.
The ONE EXCEPTION is Mask-Wearing is a current mandate on buses for all students and staff.
- ✓ **SOCIAL DISTANCING** is no longer required. Tri-County School does not plan on implementing any restrictions that are not mandated by the federal or state governments.
- ✓ **HEALTH SCREENING** - All students and staff are to conduct a daily health self-screen and stay home if necessary (when sick). This is a good general health practice and is instrumental in slowing and preventing the spread of colds, flu, and COVID.
- ✓ **VACCINATIONS** are not required for students to attend school. The current State of Minnesota COVID requirements do not require vaccinations for the upcoming school year.
- ✓ **STATUS OF CLOSE CONTACT** guidelines have not been released on whether schools need to implement exclusion practices following a COVID exposure. (Last year, students that were exposed to COVID had to quarantine to watch for symptoms.) We will work with public health as needed.
- ✓ **REPORTING** of positive COVID test cases to local public health continue to be required – The Tri-County School designee will continue with required reporting processes.

* ALL of these current guidelines and expectations are subject to change as MDH and the CDC change expectations. We will continue to work with public health to monitor the local conditions and adjust our safety guidelines as needed or required. The HEALTH and SAFETY of our entire Learning Community is a PRIORITY.

We are asking any community members who would like to see changes to this work-in-progress plan to contact the superintendent to share ideas and/or concerns.



Small School. Big Opportunities.