

Douglas County School District | Road to Return: 2020-2021

In-Person Learning

Beginning **Monday**, **August 17**, DCSD will welcome students and staff back for 100% in-person learning, five days a week for grades Kindergarten through 12. A <u>DCSD eLearning option</u> will also be offered at each of our schools as an alternative to in-person learning for families who prefer their student(s) continue learning remotely.

The health and safety of our students and staff is our top priority. DCSD worked in collaboration with our Restart and Recovery Task Force to create a restart plan which will guide us in welcoming students back to an "as close to normal as possible" classroom experience in August, while taking necessary precautionary measures to keep students safe. Our plan will focus on the following main health and safety guidelines.



PHYSICAL DISTANCING

- At all times, when possible, six feet of social distancing between all individuals will be encouraged.
- Potential one-way hallways in schools where possible.
- Designated specific building entry/exits.
- Primary School: Staggered Recess Times.
- Secondary School: Limited or Discontinued Use of Lockers; Limited time in-between classes.
- No assemblies/performances or other all-school gatherings.



FACE COVERINGS

- Elementary Students: Currently face coverings are strongly recommended for elementary students unless physical distancing can be maintained, or mitigating circumstances preclude use, however, this could become required after DCSD receives further guidance from local health officials and the Colorado Department of Education (CDE).
- Secondary Students (middle and high schools): Face coverings required unless physical distancing can be maintained, or mitigating circumstances preclude use. DCSD is awaiting further guidance from health officials and CDE.
- All Teachers and Staff: Face coverings or face shields are required, unless proper physical distancing can be maintained, or mitigating circumstances preclude use. DCSD is awaiting further guidance from health officials and CDE. DCSD will provide face shields to staff members upon request.

- On Buses: All students are required to wear face coverings while on DCSD school buses. Face coverings or face shields are required, unless proper physical distancing can be maintained, or mitigating circumstances preclude use.
- DCSD will provide face coverings to students or staff who need them.



DAILY SYMPTOM CHECKS

- Students and staff will be required to complete a daily symptom check, preferably at home before arriving at work or school. Each day they are at a DCSD building, staff and students will enter their current temperature and answer a few symptom questions (such as cough, sore throat, etc.) into a form each day. Those with a temperature of 100 degrees or higher will be asked to return home.
- Should a student or staff member begin to feel ill during the school day, they will be asked to return home.



HANDWASHING AND SANITIZING

- Classroom teachers, school nurses and school counselors will continue to educate students on the importance of handwashing to prevent the spread of viruses
- Students will have dedicated time to wash their hands before eating and when returning inside from recess.
- Bathroom soap dispensers will be checked frequently and refilled as needed.
- Posters will be displayed in and around bathrooms and wash areas reminding students of the importance of handwashing.
- Hand sanitizer stations will be located in a variety of areas around each school and will be checked frequently and refilled as needed.
- Students and staff will be encouraged and reminded to wash hands regularly; use hand sanitizer; avoid touching eyes, nose, and mouth; and properly cover coughs and sneezes.



CLEANING AND DISINFECTING

- Increased circulation of outdoor air via mechanical systems.
- Daily disinfection of touch points throughout all buildings.
- Twice daily disinfection of buses.
- Disinfectant supplies available in each room for staff to use, if desired.
- Limit sharing of all student and staff supplies, utensils, devices, toys, learning aids, etc.
- Teachers will be provided sanitizing spray to clean high touch areas.

Other Health and Safety Protocols

Exact health and safety protocols may vary by school depending on school type and size.

Limited Class Sizes/Cohorts

Schools will group students into cohorts in order to limit class sizes to enable physical distancing.

Meals

Students will eat all meals in the cafeteria following health and safety guidelines outlined above. Lunch times may be staggered to limit the number of students inside the cafeteria at any given time.

Passing Periods

DCSD will limit time between classes and schools may limit or discontinue the use of lockers in order to avoid students congregating at lockers and in hallways. One way hallways will be implemented where possible.

Recess

For elementary schools, recess times will be staggered to limit the number of students on play areas.

Transportation

- Bus capacity will be restricted depending on the school bus size.
- All students are required to wear face coverings while on a DCSD bus.
 Parents/guardians are expected to take their child's temperature before leaving the house and to withhold an ill student from riding the bus.
 Students must sit one per seat on the school bus starting with the second row of the bus.
 Students who live in the same household will be required to sit together (up to three per seat).

- Students are not permitted to change seats while riding on the bus.

School bus service generally will be provided for students who attend their assigned neighborhood school, and for elementary students who live more than one mile from school and for secondary students who live more than two miles from school. Busing is not provided for students who are Open Enrolled. The ability to provide busing will also be limited due to COVID-19 health/safety guidelines. Current guidelines for distancing on buses limits the number of students allowed per bus which in turn results in less students being bused.

Visitors

Outside visitors to school buildings will be limited.

If a virus outbreak requires the closure of the district, individual schools, or affects specific groups of students, we will be ready to serve students in a remote environment as outlined in our Remote Learning Plan.

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