

WANETTE PUBLIC SCHOOL

COVID-19 Pandemic Procedures

Effective August 16, 2021

These simplified procedures reflect what we have learned from science and our district experiences as we transition from acute to chronic management of COVID-19. These procedures are designed to minimize the impact of the pandemic on in-person instruction while prioritizing the safety of students, their families, and district staff.

Protective Measures

The most important ways to protect students and staff in our schools are to get vaccinated when possible and to continuously self-monitor for symptoms, with isolation and testing if symptoms develop.

Masks may only be mandated by the school district after the Oklahoma Governor declares an emergency in compliance with Senate Bill 658.

Our experience throughout the 2020-2021 academic year was that quarantine of positive cases and close contact exposure to positive cases reduces community spread. People exposed must isolate for 10 days after a positive test or symptom onset, and family members who live with a positive case and cannot isolate from that person must quarantine throughout the person's infection and then for an additional 7-10 days. We also advise quarantine for a dating partner who was in close contact during the infectious period of a positive case.

If the district were in an elevated Alert Level, various additional protections would begin, as shown on page 4. The district would begin performing in-school contact tracing to notify parents if students were close or proximate contacts to a positive case. That would allow parents to more closely monitor their children for symptoms for two weeks and to optionally have them tested for COVID-19.

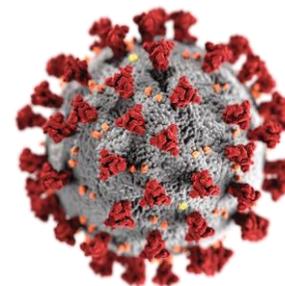
Vaccinations

Vaccines are available to anyone 12 years of age or older (parental/guardian consent is required for those who are below age 18). They are highly effective in preventing severe illness or death and significantly reduce the likelihood of becoming infected or spreading the virus. See [vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov).

Monitoring for Symptoms

Coronavirus can cause these **symptoms**; symptoms in **bold** are predominant for the Delta variant:

- **headache**
- **sore throat** or cough
- **runny nose** or congestion
- **fever** or chills
- fast breathing, shortness of breath
- fatigue, muscle pain or body aches
- new loss of taste or smell
- nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea



Symptoms seen in children include:

- **headache**
- **sore throat** or cough
- **runny nose** or congestion
- **fever** that lasts several days or chills
- shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- fatigue
- muscle aches or body aches
- nausea or vomiting
- diarrhea
- poor feeding or poor appetite
- new loss of taste or smell
- belly pain

What should I do for symptoms?

- Talk to a healthcare provider and get tested.
- Help affected children get plenty of rest and drink lots of liquids.
- Watch for signs that indicate a need for more medical help. **Take a child to the Emergency Room if the child:**
 - looks very sick to you
 - has significant breathing problems; look for muscles pulling in between the ribs or the nostrils puffing out with each breath
 - is confused or very sleepy
 - has chest pain
 - has cold, sweaty, pale, or blotchy skin
 - is dizzy

Call 911 if your child is struggling to breathe, is too out of breath to talk or walk, turns blue, or has fainted.

Testing

Stay home and get tested if you display ANY of the "A" symptoms below:	Stay home and get tested if you display 3 OR MORE of these "B" symptoms:
Fever >= 100.4°F	Nasal congestion/stuffy nose
Sore throat	Runny nose
Cough	Muscle/body aches
Difficulty breathing	Fatigue
Diarrhea or vomiting	Chills
New loss of taste or smell	Nausea
	Loss of appetite
	Elevated temperature < 100.4°F
	New onset of severe headache

Testing is important if someone displays symptoms. It can also help screen those who had close contact (within 6' for over 15 min.) with a positive case. There are three types of testing for COVID-19. False positives, where a test result shows infection when there is actually none, are quite rare.

Molecular/PCR	Antigen/Rapid	Antibody/Blood
<p>Most accurate, but can take 3-5 days for results. Produce a false negative result 100% of the time on the day you are exposed to the virus, about 40% of the time if you are tested 4 days after exposure, and about</p>	<p>Usually available in 15 minutes. Most effective 4-7 days after exposure; useful to screen someone with symptoms or who had close contact with a case 4-7 days earlier.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not detect active infections; you will test positive if you had COVID-19 in the past or a vaccination for it and still have

20% of the time 3 days after developing symptoms.		sufficient antibodies.
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Getting Tested - also see [CDC Testing Guidance](#)

Contact your family doctor; no-cost testing may be available.

Close, Proximate, and Direct Contacts

Close Contact is when you are within 6 feet of an infected person for over 15 minutes starting from 2 days before the positive case developed symptoms (or 2 days before a positive test sample was taken if there were no symptoms). The exposure time is cumulative over 24 hours.

Proximate Contact is when we cannot be sure someone was a close contact, but they might have been. For example, students in elementary classrooms typically mix throughout the school day, unlike middle and high school classes using seating charts. So when there is a positive case in an elementary classroom, all of the students who were in the room would be *proximate* contacts.

Direct Contact that includes hugging, kissing, and sharing food is high-risk, although COVID-19 is almost never transmitted via surfaces. Our experience is that students who are dating are at significant risk of being infected by each other, so voluntary quarantines for them are advised if they were in close contact during the infectious period starting from 2 days before the positive case developed symptoms (or 2 days before a positive test sample was taken if there were no symptoms).

Quarantine is required for family members living with a positive case who cannot be isolated from that person, and of course if ordered by the state or county health departments. **However, persons who had COVID-19 within the previous 90 days and persons who are fully vaccinated do NOT need to quarantine.*** The district will NOT require close or proximate contacts to quarantine.

If the district is in an elevated Alert Level, it will perform in-school contact tracing to notify parents if students are close or proximate contacts to a positive case. That will allow the parents to more closely monitor their children for symptoms for two weeks and to optionally have them tested for COVID-19

Isolation for positive cases

If you are positive, you or a parent must contact the school to inform a contact tracer. You must stay home for a minimum of 10 calendar days after symptoms appear or, if no symptoms ever appear, for 10 calendar days after a positive PCR/molecular test sample is taken indicating an active infection.

Your isolation can only end after the 10-day period IF you have 24 hours with no fever (and no fever-reducing medicine) AND improvement in any symptoms. You CANNOT test out of isolation early.

Check and log your temperature twice per day and log daily any COVID-19 symptoms: fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea; click here for the CDC self-checker and here is a CDC temperature/symptom log.

Students or staff designated by the district as needing to self-isolate will NOT be allowed back on campus until the above requirements are met.

Please review the CDC guidance for people who are sick or caring for someone who is sick, including a 7-10-day extended quarantine which the OSDH mandates for anyone living with you and begins once your own isolation ends. Only an OSDH contact tracer can modify that 7-10 day extended quarantine for household members.

Quarantines for family members, etc.

While quarantines will no longer be routine for classmates of a positive case, they could still be ordered by the health dept. and will be required for anyone living with a positive case who cannot be isolated from that person. So if a parent is positive, their live-in children would likely need to quarantine. If a student is positive, any siblings and parents who live with the student and cannot isolate from the student would need to quarantine.

If you need to quarantine, you must contact the school to inform a contact tracer. Those who are quarantined must stay off campus for 10 calendar days after their close contact with the positive case unless a negative test sample is taken on day 6 or 7 of quarantine and thus ends it after day 7.

* **RECOVERED POSITIVE CASES do NOT need to self-quarantine if they have close contact with an infected person within 90 days of their infection.**

District COVID-19 Alert Levels

LEVEL	FACE COVERINGS	DISTANCING & GROUPS	CONTACT TRACING	VISITORS
GREEN < 1.43 per 100,000	Face coverings are optional	Physical distancing is optional while accommodating, when feasible, individual requests for up to 6' distancing	NO IN-SCHOOL TRACING At ALL alert levels, positive cases must be reported, tracked, and isolated for 10 days	LobbyGuard kiosk screenings are required, but no other pandemic-related restrictions on visitors and volunteers unless they are symptomatic
YELLOW 1.43 to 14.29 per 100,000	Approved face coverings are recommended , but not required, for unvaccinated persons when indoors with others <i>There is never a need to share your vaccination status unless you are voluntarily seeking an exemption from a quarantine</i>	Recommend, but not require, that unvaccinated adults who are not masked maintain 6' distancing from others when feasible School assemblies unrestricted, but allow, when feasible, individual students and staff to maintain 6' distancing upon request No spectator venue capacity limits or restricted seating, but advise spectators of any marked rows to facilitate voluntary distancing	The district tracks positives & self-reported quarantines, but only requires quarantine for household members who cannot isolate from a positive case, while advising, but not requiring, quarantine for dating partners in contact during the infectious period When in session, staff may request a work-related free rapid test 4 days after a suspected or known close contact or if symptomatic	The district will not inquire about a visitor's vaccination status, but does recommend that all unvaccinated visitors voluntarily wear masks and maintain 6' distancing whenever feasible
ORANGE 1 14.29 to 25 per 100,000	Approved masks, gaiters, or bandannas are STRONGLY recommended* for all unvaccinated students above 3rd Grade and for all unvaccinated adults when indoors in the presence of others regardless of distance or time 	Adults maintain 6' indoors distancing when feasible; 3' classroom spacing when feasible; at this & higher levels, suspend in-person indoor assemblies & require 6' spacing in conference rooms Indoor spectator venues at 50% capacity for extracurriculars with 6' spacing; no capacity limit on outdoor venues but advise observing marked-off rows and 6' spacing between groups	CLOSE CONTACT NOTIFICATIONS BUT NOT QUARANTINES The district will conduct in-school contact tracing to notify close or proximate contacts so that they can monitor for symptoms, but it will NOT quarantine most close contacts (household member & dating partner quarantines still apply)	Visitors restricted to front office and outdoors except for trained, masked, and authorized community partners and volunteers
ORANGE 2 25 to 50 per 100,000	<i>*Per SB 658, if the Governor declared a state of emergency for Pottawatomie County, the district could consult with the county health department to consider mask requirements that avoid distinguishing the vaccination status of individuals</i>	Maintain 6' spacing indoors & outdoors whenever feasible; no in-person indoor student assemblies; staff meetings in venues at 50% capacity	<i>No quarantine is required for someone who had COVID-19 in the prior 90 days or is confirmed as fully vaccinated; close contact quarantines could be revisited if classroom spread were observed or if the Governor declared a state of emergency for Pottawatomie County</i>	Only district staff & authorized people
RED > 50 per 100,000		Indoor & outdoor venues at 50% capacity for extracurriculars with 6' spacing; indoor athletic events could be limited to four spectators per participant		

District COVID-19 Alert Levels

LERT LEVEL	HOW THIRD-PARTY USE IS GOVERNED	THIRD-PARTY USE OF INTERIORS	THIRD-PARTY USE OF EXTERIORS	INTERNAL METRICS	SCREEN & GO for staff
GREEN < 1.43 per 100,000	<p>All approved third-party exterior and interior uses of district facilities and campuses are allowed or suspended for one week beginning the Sunday after the District Alert Level is updated each Wednesday.</p> <p><i>Example:</i> If the district alert level changed on Wednesday, June 2 from Yellow to Orange 1, all approved third-party use of interiors would be suspended from Sunday, June 6 through Saturday, June 12. But if the alert level changed back to Yellow on Wednesday, June 9, then approved third-party use of interiors would resume for Sunday, June 13 through Saturday, June 19.</p>	<p>Requires the explicit approval of the appropriate Superintendent of Elementary or Secondary Schools AND all of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Third-party participants must isolate from areas used by school programs except for pass-through ● We recommend, but not require, that all third-party guests and participants wear an <u>approved face covering</u> when indoors and less than 6' from another person for over 15 minutes ● The sponsoring entity must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Isolate any positive cases per <u>CDC guidelines</u> ○ Promptly report to the Director of Health & Safety or her designee when a positive case is known to have been present to help ensure that isolation procedures are followed 	<p>Requires the explicit approval of the Superintendent. Unvaccinated participants who are outside in close contact are encouraged, but not required, to be masked</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Recommend, but not require, all third-party guests and participants wear an <u>approved face covering</u> when indoors and less than 6' from another person for over 15 minutes 	<p>Contact tracing logs of reported positive cases and self-reported voluntary quarantines (no other in-district contact tracing)</p>	OPTIONAL
YELLOW 1.43 to 14.29 per 100,000					
ORANGE 1 14.29 to 25 per 100,000		NOT ALLOWED	Not allowed except for limited team/spectator events explicitly approved by Superintendent	<p>Contact tracing logs of reported positive cases and close contacts must self-monitor for 14 days, but quarantines beyond unvaccinated family members & unvaccinated dating partners are voluntary)</p>	RECOMMEND that unvaccinated staff check their temperature on weekday mornings
ORANGE 2 25 to 50 per 100,000					
RED > 50 per 100,000	NOT ALLOWED		NOT ALLOWED	<p>Add weekday tracking of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Substitute Fill Rate ● Staff Absenteeism ● Student Absenteeism 	REQUIRE ALL staff to complete the screening each weekday morning

Approved Face Coverings

All face coverings must completely cover from the bridge of the nose to under the chin; [CDC Guidance](#)

TYPE	DETAILS	REQUIREMENTS	ACCEPTABLE EXAMPLES	UNACCEPTABLE EXAMPLES
N95, KN95, KF94, FFP2 Respirators 95% aerosol filtering; 99.9% reduction in expelled droplets	Most effective* but least comfortable <i>*other than elastomeric or powered air respirators</i>	No exhalation valve Efficacy greatly reduced without a tight fit, including no facial hair under the seals		 Valves prohibited
Surgical Masks 90% aerosol filtering; 99% reduction in expelled droplets	3-ply with an inner layer of nonwoven melt-blown polypropylene	Dispose of when moist or soiled; use nose wire to stop fogging		
Fabric Masks 50-94% aerosol filtering; 50-96% reduction in expelled droplets	Combine two layers of 600-thread-count cotton with another material like silk, chiffon, or flannel or insert a filter with nonwoven melt-blown polypropylene	No exhalation valve; nose wire recommended for those wearing glasses; ones with clear windows need surrounding fabric that filters air		 Valves prohibited
Neck gaiters with cotton liner, doubled up (<i>not as effective as masks</i>)	A tested "neck fleece" made things worse, so always wear a non-fleece gaiter with it doubled up	Must wear doubled up in two layers		Thin neck fleeces are NOT to be worn; they can <i>increase</i> droplets
Bandannas 49% aerosol filtering; 30-50% reduction in expelled droplets	NOT recommended ; if worn, at least fold into multiple layers	No patterns or colors that disrupt instruction		
Face shields alone do not offer adequate protection, but may be used with one of the above They allow aerosolized expelled particles to spread 3 feet or more		Should seal around the forehead or attach to the bill of a cap, wrap around the sides, and extend below the chin		

Contact Tracers

The following district staff members have completed training:

District	

Transportation

If the district were in the Orange 1, Orange 2, or Red Alert Levels, face coverings for unvaccinated persons would strongly recommend and windows should be down when feasible.

Ventilation

The district will continue to maximize room air changes beginning at least one hour before classes begin, and strongly encourage that group activity be conducted outdoors whenever feasible.

Pandemic Statistics & Metrics

Assemblies

Assemblies and other large-group gatherings are now governed by the *Distancing & Groups* part of the Alert Levels chart.

Extracurricular Activities

See Alert Levels chart

Field Trips

Field trips would be allowed so long as the district were in the Green or Yellow Alert Levels, but would be suspended if the district were in the Orange 1, Orange 2, or Red Alert Levels.

Meals

Food is not a significant transmission vector, so there are no longer requirements that food be commercially prepackaged. Individual servings are no longer required and self-serve is allowed. Staff potlucks are allowed EXCEPT that if the district were in the Orange 1, Orange 2, or Red Alert Levels, then staff members would not be allowed to eat within 6' of each other.

Students will maintain distance levels if the district were in the Orange 1, Orange 2, or Red Alert Levels.

Site-Based Distance Learning

Prioritized factors in site-based Distance Learning

1. Ability to staff in-person classrooms
2. Number and frequency of site-level positive cases and quarantines
3. Overall site absenteeism

A site might transition to Distance Learning if its total load of quarantines and isolations were to exceed 30%, or if a super-spreader event were identified. A district-wide shift might be triggered if multiple sites had to shift to Distance Learning.

Length of Site-Based Distance Learning

The length of a shift to Distance Learning will most likely be determined by the amount of time to clear most isolations and quarantines, which could range up to 10 calendar days.

Staffing during Site-Based Distance Learning periods

We do not plan to completely close down district buildings unless that is recommended by the Health Department. During Distance Learning periods, teachers and other staff members would likely still be expected to report for work at their assigned site unless directed otherwise, such as teachers and other staff members in job roles suitable for telecommuting requesting and receiving permission to do so from their supervisor.

Special Education during Site-Based Distance Learning periods

Students with disabilities who are unable to receive a Free Appropriate Public Education solely through a distance learning environment (as determined by the IEP team) may receive certain services at a school site or at an alternate school site or other location.

Extracurricular activities during Site-Based Distance Learning periods

Extracurricular activities, including related spectator sports, assemblies, and performances, will continue during site-based Distance Learning periods so long as there is not a concern about super-spreader containment.

District-wide Distance Learning

If multiple sites had to transition to Distance Learning, a district-wide transition would be considered.

Due to the impacts on available medical care for students and staff, the district would transition to district-wide Distance Learning if BOTH of the following criteria were met simultaneously:

- the District Alert Level were Red
- **AND** hospital reports 80% or more of its ICU beds were occupied by COVID-19 patients

Such Distance Learning periods would begin on a date announced by the district via Remind, selected to ensure most students have the opportunity to take home a Chromebook and thus minimize the need for drive-through or other school-based pick-ups. Such periods would typically continue for at least five school days, barring intervening scheduled school breaks such as Winter Break.

All district **extracurricular activities**, including spectator sports, assemblies, and performances, would continue during ANY Distance Learning periods so long as there were no concern about super-spreader containment.

District teachers and other staff members would still be expected to report for work at their assigned sites unless directed otherwise, such as a teacher or other staff member in a job role suitable for telecommuting who both requests and receives permission to do so from his or her supervisor.

Students with disabilities who were unable to receive a Free Appropriate Public Education solely through a Distance Learning environment (**as determined by the IEP team**) could receive certain services at a school site or at an alternate school site or other location during such periods.

The district's Pandemic Response Committee would consider a return to in-person instruction sometime after EITHER of these conditions were met:

- Area hospital had less than 80% of its ICU beds occupied by COVID-19 patients
- **OR** the District Alert Level were below Red

The district would announce the date when in-person instruction would resume via Remind.

A recycling back to district-wide Distance Learning would be scheduled if the original criteria were again met.

School Personnel Policies

Staff who become ill, must provide care for a family member, etc. should work with Erica Owen regarding appropriate leave.

The district will continue to grant administrative leave if a staff member needs it to get vaccinated. Staff members who are fully vaccinated need not quarantine. Staff who are quarantined or miss work to care for a family member must use their sick leave if they cannot work remotely. Staff who are isolated as a positive case or who are quarantined, etc. yet feel well enough to work should consult with their supervisor to determine if remote work is feasible and thus sick leave would not be needed.

School Attendance

COVID-19 related absences due to a child's medical needs will be considered a significant medical condition eligible for a waiver of the district's Chronic Absenteeism policy.

Attendance for Distance Learning & Virtual Programs

1. Students will not be considered absent from school in a Virtual Program Imposed Period if they are online at the time of their class.
 2. Students will not be considered absent from school if they have a medical condition that incapacitates them and precludes them from participating in instruction in a traditional school setting and the student is able to progress in instruction via alternative education delivery methods approved by the Board.
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