

Westville School District #2
Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan
2023-2024

Maintaining the Health and Safety of Students, Educators, and Other Staff

- Westville School District will be open fully for in-person learning for all student attendance days for the 2023-2024 school year. Schools will run on a regular dismissal schedule, unless otherwise noted on the district calendar. Schools will use guidance provided by the CDC, IDPH, and ISBE for the operation of its schools.

Mask Use

- The wearing of masks is at the discretion of students and their parents/guardians.
- The CDC recommends the wearing of masks indoors in communities with high COVID levels.

Physical Distancing

- Effort will be made to social distance students at six feet or to the extent possible.
- Students should make an effort to social distance from other students to the greatest extent possible.

Handwashing and Respiratory Etiquette

- School staff will monitor and reinforce frequent handwashing and respiratory etiquette.
- Students are encouraged to frequently wash their hands. Hand sanitizer will be made available throughout the schools.

Cleaning, Disinfection, and Ventilation

- School staff will continue to clean surfaces on a regular basis.
- The district will change HVAC filters when appropriate in efforts to maintain proper ventilation and improved indoor air quality.

Isolation and Quarantine

- Students and staff who have symptoms of infectious illness must remain at home until symptoms have improved. COVID testing is recommended, and they are encouraged to seek medical advice as needed.
 - Symptoms include fever (100.4 or higher), moderate to severe headache, shortness of breath, new cough, sore throat, vomiting, diarrhea, loss of taste or smell, fatigue from unknown causes, muscle or body aches from unknown causes.
 - Students with a fever must remain out of school until they have been 24-hour fever free without fever-reducing medication.
 - Students with vomiting and/or diarrhea must remain out of school until 24-hours after vomiting and/or diarrhea have ceased.
- Students and staff who test positive for COVID-19 must remain out of school until they meet ALL of the following criteria:
 - Symptoms have improved
 - 24-hour fever free without fever-reducing medication
 - 24-hours after vomiting and/or diarrhea have ceased
 - A minimum of 5-days must pass after symptoms first appeared
- Close contacts of individuals who are COVID-positive should socially distance from the positive individual and monitor for symptoms. Close contacts must remain out of school if symptoms become present.
- The district will follow the lead of the Vermilion County Health Department in regards to individuals needing to quarantine due to exposure.

- Students who are excluded from school for COVID-related reasons will be given an excused absence. They will be provided with all school work and will be allowed to submit it for full credit. Teachers will be available to assist students as needed.

Screening Testing

- The district is not participating in a mandatory school-wide screening program.
- The district may continue to provide access to voluntary free COVID tests, if access to such tests remains.

Vaccinations

- The district will continue to share information on vaccine clinics for parents/guardians who are interested.
- Individuals who would like to receive a COVID-19 vaccine can visit [vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov) to find out more about local opportunities to register for vaccination.
- Vaccinations are not mandatory and are at the discretion of parents/guardians.

Appropriate Accommodations for Children with Disabilities

- Parents of students who need accommodations, modifications, or assistance related to COVID-19 safety protocols, disabilities, underlying medical conditions, or weakened immune systems should contact their building principal to discuss the need(s).

Collaboration with Public Health Officials

- District officials will continue to collaborate and consult with Vermilion County Health Department officials throughout a pandemic on various logistics and decision-making including, but not limited to school health and safety protocols, quarantine, and emergency school closings.

Continuity of Services

- The district will continue to provide the necessary services to meet the needs of students, including academic, social, emotional, mental, health, and nutritional needs.
- Students will be supported academically through each school's RtI process. Parents/guardians who feel their child needs assistance should contact their building principals.
- Social workers and counselors are available in every school to meet students' social, emotional, and mental health needs.
- District nurse is available to help meet students' physical health needs.
- All students will be provided with access to breakfast and lunch on a daily basis. Students who are excluded from school due to being placed in quarantine or isolation may have meals picked up for them or meals sent home. Parents should contact building secretaries to make arrangements.

Plan Review

- This plan will be reviewed no less frequently than every six months.
- The district reserves the right to make changes to the plan as needed.