USD116
Return to Learn Plan
2022-2023
Presented to the Board of Education
August 2, 2022
Key Take-Aways from the CDC “Strategies for Everyday Operations”

The updated **CDC guidance** recommends “strategies for everyday operations” or actions schools can take every day to prevent the spread of infectious disease, including the virus that causes COVID-19. The following strategies should be in place at all Community Levels:

- Promote staying up to date with all routine vaccinations and getting vaccinated whenever possible
- Implement policies that encourage students and staff to stay home when sick
- Optimized ventilation systems
- Reinforce proper hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette
- Utilize proper cleaning and disinfection procedures
The CDC looks at the combination of three metrics:

- New COVID admissions per 100,000 population in the past 7 days
- The percent of staffed inpatient beds occupied by COVID patients
- Total new COVID cases per 100,000 population in the past 7 days

New COVID-19 admissions and the percent of staffed inpatient beds occupied represent the current potential for strain on the health system.

The COVID-19 Community Level is classified as low, medium, or high using these data.
## CDC Community Levels

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>New COVID-19 Cases</th>
<th>Indicators</th>
<th>Low</th>
<th>Medium</th>
<th>High</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Per 100,000 people in the past 7 days</td>
<td>New COVID-19 admissions per 100,000 population (7-day total)</td>
<td>&lt;10.0</td>
<td>10.0-19.9</td>
<td>≥20.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fewer than 200</td>
<td>Percent of staffed inpatient beds occupied by COVID-19 patients (7-day average)</td>
<td>&lt;10.0%</td>
<td>10.0-14.9%</td>
<td>≥15.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>200 or more</td>
<td>New COVID-19 admissions per 100,000 population (7-day total)</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>&lt;10.0</td>
<td>≥10.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Percent of staffed inpatient beds occupied by COVID-19 patients (7-day average)</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>&lt;10.0%</td>
<td>≥10.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CDC Community Levels

Under the COVID-19 Community Levels, recommendations for prevention strategies in schools are as follows:

- **LOW** - Focus on practical, everyday precautions such as staying up to date on vaccines, boosters, ventilation, staying home when sick, washing hands, and testing for those who are exposed or symptomatic.

- **MEDIUM** - Focus on protecting people who are at increased risk for severe illness and implement surveillance testing.

- **HIGH** - Implement universal masking and other layered prevention strategies.
CDC General Recommendation:
The CDC recommends, but does not mandate, universal indoor masking in communities with HIGH transmission levels.

Currently, there is no federal or state mask mandate in place; however, the District still recommends mask wearing, especially during HIGH transmission.

At all levels, people can wear a mask based on personal preference, informed by personal level of risk. People with symptoms, a positive test, or exposure to someone with COVID-19 should wear a mask. Anyone who chooses to wear a mask will be supported in their decision to do so at any COVID-19 Community Level, including low.
Recommended Prevention Strategies

Physical Distancing

CDC General Recommendation:
Currently, there are no federal or state mandates for social distancing in place.

The CDC recommends using cohorting in areas of HIGH levels of transmission.

We will continue to cohort or provide additional physical distancing in areas of increased positivity or transmission within specific schools.
Recommended Prevention Strategies

Diagnostic Testing

CDC General Recommendation:

The CDC recommends schools offer diagnostic testing for symptomatic students and staff and those who came into close contact with an individual with COVID-19.

The CDC and the District encourage the continued use of at-home tests.
Recommended Prevention Strategies

Diagnostic Testing

The District will offer Diagnostic Testing at each school via the school nurse.

Nurses will consistently test students (with consent) and staff based on a specific symptom list defined by the nursing team. This will alleviate unnecessary testing.

Parents and staff who experience frequent symptoms due to allergies will be encouraged to provide a doctor’s note to avoid unnecessary testing.
1. **Ask if anyone in the household:**
   - is positive for Covid
   - been in close contact with a positive Covid case

2. **FEVER/CHILLS:** 100°F or greater as the threshold for fever

3. **NEW COUGH:** Of unknown origin

4. **NEW LOSS OF TASTE OR SMELL**
Recommended Prevention Strategies

Diagnostic Testing

Screening testing will be offered in-district:
• Mondays (tentative), 7:00-8:00 a.m., UMS, Michigan St., Door #6
• Tuesdays, 3:30-4:30 p.m., Yankee Ridge
• Thursdays, 3:30-4:30 p.m., Yankee Ridge

The District will evaluate the need for additional testing for indoor sports, extracurricular activities, returns from breaks, or in the event of an outbreak.
Recommended Prevention Strategies
Contact Tracing, Close Contacts, and Quarantine

CDC General Recommendations:

Schools are not required to conduct contact tracing; however, the CDC recommends notifying individuals identified as close contacts. We will do so for positive case exposures.

State law requires schools to notify the local public health authorities of any known or suspected cases of COVID-19.
Recommended Prevention Strategies

Contact Tracing, Close Contacts, and Quarantine

CDC General Recommendations:

Individuals who test positive for COVID-19 will be excluded from school for five (5) calendar days.

Our District health policies related to student illnesses allow the district to require students and staff displaying specific symptoms of illness to remain home. The length of time will depend on the symptoms and illness.
Recommended Prevention Strategies
Contact Tracing, Close Contacts, and Quarantine

CDC General Recommendations:

Symptomatic students and staff should stay home until they are symptom-free for 24 hours with no fever, vomiting, or diarrhea and without fever-reducing meds.

We are not excluding asymptomatic close contacts at this time.
Recommended Prevention Strategies

Vaccinate or Test (staff)

The Governor extended the Executive Order. Until the order is lifted, we are still requiring staff to be fully vaccinated, and if not fully vaccinated, to test weekly.

We will continue to offer in-district drive through options for staff to test before or after school.
Recommended Prevention Strategies

Accessing work when in quarantine

Districts are still required to provide assignments and schoolwork for students excluded due to COVID.

Students in quarantine or isolation for five (5) days should access their assignments asynchronously.

We will work with staff on the following remote work options:

• Sending assignments home or packets
• Utilizing Google Classroom
• Sharing video recordings of lectures
Recommended Prevention Strategies

Data Dashboard

With the decrease of staff participating in internal testing, the focus on symptomatic testing, and the prevalence of home testing for District students and staff, we will be transitioning our data reporting and monitoring to IDPH and CU-PHD.

- With the smaller number of total tests the District data for positivity and shifts in cases is not accurately representative of the District population
- We do not have a way to capture data from unreported home tests
- Many staff are required to test with USD following a positive home test
- Existing data will be archived on the District website
Recommended Prevention Strategies

**Vaccination Clinic for 5+**

We will continue to focus on vaccination rates for students and staff for this school year. To meet that goal we will offer two additional vaccine clinics in the fall semester.

- We will hold a Vaccine / Booster clinic for all students and staff on **Friday August 12th from 1-3 at (location TBD)**.
- We will work with C-UPHD to offer a clinic for the new bivalent Omicron-adapted vaccine as soon as it becomes available.
We will remain in contact with CUPHD regarding their efforts around Monkeypox and maintain our stringent cleaning protocols.

- The monkeypox virus is spreading mostly through close, intimate contact with someone who has monkeypox.
- You can take steps to prevent getting monkeypox and lower your risk.
- If you have any symptoms of monkeypox, talk to your healthcare provider, even if you don’t think you had contact with someone who has monkeypox.
Recommended Prevention Strategies

Additional Resources

Starting **August 15**, CUPHD will no longer reach out to persons who test positive for COVID. Information on how to safely isolate at home to prevent the spread of COVID-19 can be found on C-UPHD’s website, [www.c-uphd.org](http://www.c-uphd.org).

C-UPHD will continue to monitor COVID-19 trends and outbreaks and provide support to their partners.

A list of community resources can be found through the UIUC’s School of Social Work’s [C-U Community Resource Guide](http://c-u-commресурсguide.org).
Questions
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