

SCHOOL UNION #122

RETURN TO SCHOOL PLAN

2021-2022

Introduction

In response to COVID-19, School Union #122 will comply with the guidelines set forth by the Maine Centers for Disease Control (CDC), as well as the State of Maine (MDOE), which are incorporated herein. These School Union #122 Guidelines will be in effect on the first day of school 2021 and will be updated with the latest CDC and State of Maine guidelines, as necessary. Our goal is to continue to minimize the risk of possible transmission of COVID-19 and safely bring back as many students as possible to an in-person school setting to maximize learning. Therefore, these School Union #122 COVID GUIDELINES are mandatory for all students and their families.

The purpose of this document is to provide guidelines for a safe and educationally sound learning environment at Woodland Consolidated School. Many of the protocols established in this guide were generated during administrative team meetings as our district worked to establish a safe return to school due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This document will continue to evolve as new information becomes available and additional protocols are needed to safely and effectively guide our work with all members of the School Union #122 learning environment.

MID-YEAR PLAN – JANUARY 2022

1. Continue to maximize physical distancing when feasible (3' between individuals) so long as it does not limit our ability to provide in-person learning to all students each school day.
2. Continue to focus on personal hygiene (frequent hand-washing, minimal sharing of supplies, proper sneeze and cough etiquette).
3. Maintain the expectation of daily self-checks for symptoms or possible exposure to positive cases by staff members and families of students.
4. Ongoing use of improved air filtration systems to remove particles and contaminants from indoor air.
5. Continue contact tracing and quarantining as directed by the CDC for individuals who are close contacts of positive cases.

6. Continue to promote vaccines for students in approved age groups, with potential for vaccination clinics throughout the year.
7. Require face coverings (masks) in all indoor settings and on all school transportation for all students and staff, K-8, regardless of vaccination status as mandated by CDC.
 - a. This will include a mask requirement for all participants and spectators at indoor athletic and after school activities.
 - b. Allowance will be made for medically-documented cases that require accommodations under Section 504 of the Americans with Disabilities Act.
 - c. Masks may be removed when actively eating or drinking (if eating indoors, individuals are required to put their masks back on when not actually eating or drinking)
 - d. Staff may remove masks when alone in classroom, office, or other space within the school.
 - e. Masks will not be required in outdoor settings.

As COVID-19 data is updated, this plan will be reviewed, and the Superintendent may ask the School Union #122 Board of Education to reconsider any portion of the plan on an ongoing basis.