SCHOOL UNION #122 COVID-19 Guidelines 2022-2023

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 2022 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

- 1. Continue to maximize physical distancing when feasible (3' between individuals) whenever possible, 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.

Symptomatic Person with negative test results

If a person tests negative for COVID-19 and is symptomatic, send them home. A home test may be used 48 hours later if symptoms persist. Student/staff should stay home until symptoms are resolving AND they are fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications.

Isolation Guidelines for a positive test result

When a person tests positive for COVID-19, they must self-isolate at home, regardless of vaccination status.

- Individuals who test positive should go home
- Maine CDC does not recommend requiring a negative to return to school (for staff or students who test positive and have completed 5 days of isolation).
- Returning to school after isolation, the person should wear a well-fitting mask for an additional 5 days.

Close Contacts

A school is not required to do contact tracing

Testing

Maine CDC suggests that schools accept the results of home tests. These tests are not reported in RedCap and will not be investigated by the CDC. For information visit https://www.maine.gov/covid19/testing.

COVID-19 within 90 days

If someone has had COVID-19 in the past 90 days, and recovered, they do not need to test unless new symptoms develop. If new symptoms develop, they should isolate immediately, get tested with an antigen test, continue to stay home until they know the results, and wear a well-fitting mask around others for 10 full days.

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