



2022-2023 Safe Return to In-Person Learning

Updated Jan 3, 2023

Introduction

Staples-Motley School District, along with the Centers for Disease Control and Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) recognize the importance of in-person instruction. This lines up with our Cardinal Commitment on Climate & Culture to provide an optimal teaching and learning environment. This plan is based on the limited requirements from the state at this time, and in consideration of our district priorities and commitments.

Staples-Motley Schools will continue typical, in-person academic and extracurricular operations this school year.

Day-to-Day Operations

- Sites will continue their typical days and hours of operation.
- All students will follow regular school schedules including:
 - In-person instruction five days/week.
 - Normal start and end times will be in place.
 - Students will have lunch in the lunchroom.
 - Students will transition from class to class with typical passing times.
- Special area classes (music, art, PE, science in elem, etc) will be held in the special area classrooms. (gym, art room, music room, science room, etc)
- The 2022-2023 calendar posted on the district's website here will be followed.

Face Coverings

- Face coverings are not required, but are optional for families, staff, and students who would prefer to wear them. S-M Schools will have a limited supply of masks available for students and staff who request them.
- Due to the court order on April 18, 2022, face coverings are **not** required on school buses.

Physical Distancing

- There are no physical distancing requirements at this time.

Vaccines

- S-M School District does not require the COVID-19 vaccine for any students, staff or visitors.

Cleaning & Maintaining Healthy Facilities

- Facilities staff will prioritize air flow and air quality in operating HVAC systems.
- Routine cleaning while the building is not occupied, and frequent cleaning of high-touch surfaces during occupation.
- Drinking fountains and water refill stations will be available for use without restriction.

Health Screening, Quarantine & Isolation

- S-M Schools continues to encourage families and staff to self-screen for symptoms of illness, and stay home when symptomatic. This practice keeps us all safe.
- As required by MDH, the district must report weekly the number of positive COVID-19 cases to the state.

Handwashing & Respiratory Etiquette

- Handwashing will be encouraged during bathrooming, before meals and anytime facial tissues are used.

Meals

- S-M School District Nutrition Services has established food procedures that meet the requirements of MDH, Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Minnesota Department of Education (MDE).

Accommodations for Special Populations

- Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities or special circumstances will be provided with respect to health and safety policies and procedures. To learn more about accommodations, parents/guardians should contact his/her child's case manager or building principal.

Coordination with State/Local Health Officials

- S-M Schools will continue to work closely with state and local public health officials as needed.
- We will continue to monitor our local COVID-19 data and adjust our plan as necessary.

Visitors/Volunteers

- Visitors and volunteers should self-screen for symptoms of illness and remain home if ill.
- Visitors and volunteers will follow regular protocols when checking in at each school building during the day.

Conclusion

Staples-Motley School District maintains our commitment to provide an optimal teaching and learning environment. We encourage all students, staff and families to embody our Cardinal Priority of Respect when they consider the decisions and actions of others - we are all working to empower our students to learn and grow this year.