



Bold. Boundless. Engaged.

To: BBE Schools Community
From: Patrick Walsh, Superintendent
Re: 2021-2022 Safe Learning Plan -- BBE Schools (revised)
Date: August 31, 2021

The purpose of this memo is to provide information to families as we begin school at BBE on Tuesday, September 7. Keep in mind that this is our best knowledge today. As questions emerge, these elements will get more and more accurate. **Primary to this whole plan, if you are sick or having flu symptoms, please stay home until you are symptom-free for 24 hours.**

- 1. Instructional Models** - We are fully planning for an in-person for the 2021-2022 school year. We will be offering support to students who are absent for COVID-related reasons. Distance learning and hybrid models will not be utilized unless required by the Minnesota Department of Education. We are offering online instruction to students through [STARSS Academy](#). The benefit of choosing this online option is that you remain a student with the BBE School District. If choosing this option, please contact administration immediately so we can get you connected to them. rgossen@bbejaguars.org (Elem), pwalsh@bbejaguars.org (HS)
- 2. Face Coverings/Masks** - Federal regulations state that face coverings continue to be required for students and staff while riding in school vehicles, including buses.
 - a. Face coverings are encouraged, but not required, while on school property for any student, staff member, or visitor, regardless of whether or not they have been vaccinated.
 - b. The face covering recommendation does not apply to children under 2 years of age or people of any age who are unable to tolerate wearing a face covering because of a medical condition, mental health conditions, or disability.
- 3. Positive COVID Results** - Please notify the school immediately if a student/staff member or household member has a positive Covid test result. **A positive student/staff will need to stay home from school and isolate until all 3 of the following are true: 1) Ten days after symptoms first started (or ten days after a lab test was taken if the positive case does not have any symptoms) and 2) until 24 hours after fever is gone (without the use of a fever reducing medicine) and 3) symptoms are improving.**



Bold. Boundless. Engaged.

4. **COVID Testing** - Frequent COVID testing is *encouraged* for staff and students who are not vaccinated. This is particularly important for students and staff exhibiting COVID symptoms. We will have a testing plan developed sometime next week.
5. **Quarantine** - Close contacts within a household/family that have **not previously been infected or vaccinated** will be quarantined for:
 - a. **7 Days** if you exhibit no symptoms and no followup COVID testing is undergone. This begins as soon as your last contact with the positive COVID test household member. You may return to school on Day 8.
 - b. **48 Hours Test**: Once your household member tests positive, isolate from them immediately and wait at least 48 hours to get a COVID test after your last contact with the positive Covid test family member. If your COVID result is negative, you can return to school immediately after you provide the school proof of that result.
 - c. **Fully infected or vaccinated students or staff will not be subject to quarantine unless they are exhibiting COVID symptoms. Proof of a vaccine, positive COVID test or with antigen/antibody immunity must be presented for you to claim this exemption.**
 - i. **If you have contracted COVID in the past 12 months, you will be exempted from quarantine. Please provide dated proof of a positive COVID test from your healthcare provider.**
 - ii. **If you are willing to get an antigen/antibody test to confirm your immunity, provide proof of immunity. These tests are available for \$40-\$50 at healthcare institutions. This test also lasts for 12 months.**
 - d. Our recommendation is to wait for at least 24 hours after COVID symptoms have cleared.
6. **Physical Distancing** - Attempts will be made to provide as much space between students as possible. Because maintaining space is difficult, if not impossible in many of our settings, it will be critical for staff and students to self-monitor for potential COVID-19 symptoms, and stay home when they aren't feeling well.



Bold. Boundless. Engaged.

7. **Vaccinations-** Vaccinations for eligible students and staff will not be required, but are strongly encouraged. Fully vaccinated students or staff will not be subject to any contact tracing or quarantining unless they re-contract COVID. COVID-19 vaccinations are currently available to those 12 years of age and older. Our COVID team will need proof of vaccination if you are claiming exemptions from certain provisions. This information will be confidential within that team.
8. **Hand Hygiene** - BBE Public Schools will continue its commitment to providing safe, clean, and attractive learning environments. Appropriate hand washing will be encouraged for all staff and students. Hand sanitizer will be readily available.
9. **School Nurse Support** - Once school begins, Ms. Halvorson, School Nurse, will be available to address COVID-related concerns.
10. **Child Nutrition/ Meals** -- Meals will be available at all schools. Students may also bring their lunches as in the past. There will be no cost for student breakfast and lunches in 2021-22. It is still VERY IMPORTANT that you continue to fill out the Free/Reduced lunch applications for the next year despite free meals. The District depends on the funds generated from these applications. This past year, those criteria helped our district with \$1M of additional funding.
11. **Extracurricular Activities** -- Each activity / sport will provide parents/ guardians with guidelines and regulations necessary for their activity / sport if changes occur from normal procedures. Season length and number of competitions may be reduced. Travel may be reduced or eliminated without our control.
12. **Safe Learning Plan Review** -- The BBE District will continue to work with local health officials to monitor our school health data that includes Covid-19 issues or any other health issue by reviewing policies, practices and procedures in place to ensure a safe and healthy learning environment exists for all. The school will also utilize the COVID committee when necessary, to review our safe learning plan and current school safety status.

Thank you! ~Mr. Walsh, BBE Superintendent