WSD COVID Protocols

Mask Use	Per the OCHD Mask order, masks are required for all students and staff pre-k through post-secondary education indoors. Visitors must also wear masks. Exceptions include while students and staff members are eating or drinking. Students will not be required to wear face masks outdoors on WSD property, including during recess and participating in athletic contests. Mask use is also required by the CDC on public transportation, including school buses, per Federal Order (set to expire January 2022).
Vaccinations	Vaccinations are not required for staff or students. The CDC, MDHHS, and OCHD recommends all eligible students and staff. COVID-19 vaccination is encouraged for all eligible individuals. Visit the OCHD Vaccination Hub for more information.
Screening & Testing	WSD is not requiring COVID-19 screening or testing. It is recommended that symptomatic individuals voluntarily test.
Physical Distancing	Maintain at least 3 feet between students and staff whenever possible.
Ventilation	Ventilation systems in our buildings will continue to operate to original design specifications using MRV-13 filters. On school buses, windows may be opened slightly when safe and practicable.
Staying home when sick	Staff and families are expected to use good judgment, stay home when they are sick, and report absences according to our attendance policies.
Identifying Close Contacts & Contact Tracing	WSD will identify close contacts following the new OCHD guidance. The OCHD will perform all contact tracing. (Monitoring symptoms of those that have tested positive or are identified as close contacts.) Close contacts are identified as individuals within 6 feet of a COVID-positive person for 15 minutes or more.
Symptomatic individuals	OCHD strongly recommends individuals with symptoms of COVID-19 take a PCR test. An individual can return to school with a clear alternative diagnosis (positive strep, ear infection) and after 24 hours fever-free. If an individual does not get tested for COVID-19, they must exclude from school and quarantine for 10 days.

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	If an individual does test positive, they need to isolate for 10 days and can return after being fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication. A negative test result is not required to return. An individual can return to school with a clear alternative diagnosis (positive strep, ear infection) and after 24 hours fever-free. If an individual does not get tested for COVID-19, they must exclude from school and quarantine for 10 days. If an individual does test positive, they need to isolate for 10 days and can return after being fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication. A negative test result is not required once all criteria are met.
Quarantine	Quarantine from classroom/lunchroom/bus exposure: Individuals within 3 feet of the COVID-positive case, regardless of mask use Individuals between 3 and 6 feet where both are not properly masked. Quarantined individuals must quarantine for 10 days from the last date of exposure as long as they do not develop symptoms. Quarantine time may be shortened if a PCR test on the 7th day from exposure has a negative result. Individuals who are fully vaccinated (14 days past second dose) or those who have tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 90 days and are not showing symptoms are exempt from quarantine. Those quarantined due to exposure in the home may have a longer quarantine period. If the individual cannot isolate from the COVID-positive person, they must quarantine for that person's 10 contagious days and then their 10 quarantine days. OCHD Quarantine Guidance
Isolation	Students and staff that test positive for COVID-19 must isolate for at least 10 days after symptoms began and 24 hours after no fever without fever-reducing medications and symptoms have improved.
Notification	At this time, the MDHHS requires school districts to continue to report school-associated cases of COVID-19 within 24 hours after being notified by the local health department. Please visit the 2021-2022 WSD COVID-19 Dashboard for regularly updated information. Notification will be similar to last year. WSD will directly notify close contacts that they must quarantine due to close contact. A letter will be sent building-wide after quarantined close contacts have been notified.
Cleaning & Disinfection	Standard daily cleaning protocols will be followed using products approved by the CDC to be effective against the COVID-19 virus.

School Day	Desks and other students working areas will be at least 3 feet apart when possible. WSD will allow normal flow of traffic between classes, use of lockers, and unrestricted recesses.
Building Visitors	At this time, visitors will not be allowed in classrooms. It is encouraged that those visiting our offices schedule an appointment when possible. All visitors will need to wear a mask per the 8.24.21 OCHD Mask Order.
Large Indoor Gatherings	Assemblies and large gatherings will be decided on a case-by-case basis.
Seating Charts	Lunchrooms (elementary & middle school) and all buses will maintain seating charts.