



Mountain Lake Public Schools

450 12th Street, P.O. Box 400

Mountain Lake, MN 56159

Mountain Lake High School Phone: 507-427-2325 Option 4

Mountain Lake Elementary School Phone: 507-427-2325 Option 2

mountainlake.k12.mn.us

To: Students, Parents, Staff, and Community Members

From: Bill Strom, Superintendent MLPS

Date: August 17, 2021

Thank you for your understanding and patience as we work through the ever-changing COVID-19 situation.

We made it through last school year. With your continued support, we can make it through the upcoming 2021-2022 School Year.

Listed below are the basics of the COVID Preparedness Plan adopted by the School Board on June 23, 2021.

Our COVID Learning Plan

- Mountain Lake Public Schools plans to be In-Person Learning for the 2021-2022 School Year.
- Distance learning, hybrid learning, or Educere will not be offered as educational options.
- Stakeholders will be notified of any changes in the COVID learning plan.

Face Covering / Masks

- Face coverings / masks are recommended, but not required, for students, staff, and visitors while in the school buildings.
- Face coverings / masks are required for all school transportation (i.e. to and from school, athletic events, field trips).
- If you wish to wear a face covering, please do so.
- Students and staff will not be segregated based on who does or does not wear a face covering.
- If governing officials mandate face coverings, our COVID Preparedness Plan will adjust accordingly.

COVID Vaccination

- A COVID vaccination for students 12 and over is recommended by the Center for Disease Control & the Minnesota Department of Health, but it is not required to attend the Mountain Lake Public Schools.
- The COVID vaccination has shown to lessen transmission and serious illness from COVID.
- Contact your healthcare provider, local pharmacies, and Des Moines Valley Health / Human Services for vaccination information.

Symptoms, Quarantining & Contact Tracing

- We recognize that the common cold, the seasonal flu, allergies, and other medical issues resemble the symptoms of COVID.
- If COVID symptoms develop at school, the individual will be sent home and it will be recommended they have a COVID test.
- If the COVID test is positive, the individual will stay home (isolate) for 10 days.
- “Close contacts”, or individuals who have had contact with one who tests positive for COVID, will be informed and recommended, but not required, to quarantine (not attend school).
- Let’s work together! We ask parents to partner with school staff as we monitor the health of your child.

Ventilation, Cleaning & Building Space

- We will operate our HVAC systems at full capacity for more frequent air exchange in each building.
- We will disinfect daily.
- Hand sanitizer will remain available.
- We will work to maximize spaces in classrooms and common areas.
- We will strive to maintain a 3 to 6 foot separation between students and/or staff.

“What if” Contingency Plans

- If we experience a COVID outbreak, we may need to move from In-Person Learning to Hybrid or Distance Learning for a period of time.

Let's Review! COVID-19 Symptoms

- Below is a review of the More/Less Common COVID-19 Symptoms.
- More Common Symptoms
 - Fever of 100.4 Degrees or Higher
 - Loss of Taste or Smell
 - New Cough That Gets Worse
 - Difficulty/Hard Time Breathing
- Less Common Symptoms
 - Sore Throat
 - Nausea
 - Vomiting
 - Diarrhea
 - Chills
 - Muscle Pain
 - Extreme Fatigue/Feeling Very Tired
 - New Severe/Very Bad Headache
 - New Nasal Congestion/Stuffy or Runny Nose

Finally, we've made tremendous progress since the Spring of 2020. Let's keep working together to keep students safe and reduce COVID transmission in our school, community and county.