

School Year 2021-22 Operations in Recovery Stage of Pandemic

Dear Mancos Families,

In the Recovery Stage of the Pandemic, the Mancos School District will operate in the 2021-22 school year with in-person learning. The previous year required an emergency response to the pandemic that resulted in periodic disrupted in-person learning. With the information and experience from the previous year, the availability of a vaccination, consultation from our local public health and medical providers, and the purpose of prioritizing academic learning and thinking skills of our students, in-person learning is not only possible, but essential to the overall well-being of our students, staff, and community. The registration process for all in-person students starts on Friday, July 30 via the PowerSchool parent portal. Instructions on how to re-register can be found on our [website](#). Out of respect for all parents, the district will also provide an exceptional online option for students. If families prefer online education for the 2021-22 school year, please sign up for this option with this [link](#). Mancos School District staff will provide online academic schedules by August 12, 2021 for an August 17, 2021 start date.

In-Person Learning Protocol:

Mancos School District will follow a layered approach to reduce risk, meaning we will use a combination of practices appropriate for each environment. Practices include:

- Optional masking for all staff and students
- Vaccination availability on campus for students, staff, and community (August 13, 2021 and future dates to be announced)

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- Test kits on campus
- Take home test kits for families
- Require volunteers and visitors to be screened and symptom free
- Students and staff required to stay home when sick until symptoms resolve
- Routine disinfecting through wiping of high touch areas
- Using the outdoors for instruction and distancing when possible
- Daily symptom checking at home by the family
- Students (in-person or online), staff, and families will have access to school/work activities regardless of vaccination status unless the state or federal government mandates otherwise
- Masks are required when riding a school bus (Department of Transportation order) or in other situations as determined by the school district nurse and superintendent
- If a person in the school is diagnosed with COVID, those who have *significant* exposure will be notified by the school nurse - *Significant exposure means within 3-6 feet for 30 consecutive minutes. The notification allows the family to closely monitor for symptoms. Those who have significant exposure will not be restricted from attendance or participation in activities so long as they remain symptom free. Testing will be available to confirm negative status.*
- If a person in the school is diagnosed with COVID, the person will isolate for 5 days and return to school only after 24 hours of being symptom free. The student is encouraged to mask for the next five days.

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- If a person in a household is diagnosed with COVID where an unvaccinated student resides and that student has had a *significant exposure*, the student must quarantine for 5 days. If the student is vaccinated then the 5 day quarantine is optional.
- If the school nurse and superintendent determine 4% of a school is diagnosed with COVID, the Response Team will meet to determine next steps, which will likely result in additional mitigation procedures leading up to remote learning for up to five days
- If local public health determines transmission and/or hospitalization rate in the local community is rising significantly, the Response Team will meet to determine next steps, which will likely result in a return to additional mitigation practices like masking, social distancing, and remote learning for groups for short periods of time

The Mancos School District is determined to meet the academic, social, and emotional needs of all Blue Jays in an environment that supports the physical and mental health of the school community. If you would like more information on this matter or if you would like to share your thoughts, please call or email me at the contact information below.

Respectfully,

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