



2021-22 Safety Protocols

GENERAL OVERVIEW

- The Windham School District school year will begin for staff on Monday, August 30th and Tuesday, August 31st. The official start date for students will be Wednesday, September 1, 2021, with the following required protocols and guidelines in place to protect the safety and welfare of all personnel and students while in the school or in use of school facilities:
 - Schools and school buses will be cleaned and disinfected daily and/or between use, specifically targeting frequently touched surfaces.
 - Students will continue to have the option to wear a mask during transit if they choose.
 - HVAC ventilation filters will be changed regularly in all school facilities.
 - All students in grades K-12 will have the option to wear face coverings while in school or in school facilities. Changes to mask requirements will be at the discretion of the Windham School Board.
 - The Windham School District will continue to monitor the total number and percent of active cases in conjunction with the growth rate and/or frequency of growth in cases within a school, grade, or core group (class, extra-curricular, etc.). Based on the monitoring of activity, the district will make the decision if additional mitigation tactics are needed such as enhanced cleaning, social distancing, temperature checks, increased testing, or targeted indoor masking.
 - Students and staff will be encouraged to socially distance themselves in the school building where possible.
 - Hand-sanitizing and hand-washing will be encouraged throughout the school day.
 - Per the Department of Environmental Services (DES) guidelines, bottled water will be available in designated areas for all students as needed in our schools.
 - HEPA filters have been installed in each of the classrooms and throughout the schools and will run continuously.

DAILY SELF-CHECK

- Parents are asked to assess their children before leaving home and to contact their schools if symptoms develop.
- Each and every day prior to coming to work, employees will self-assess whether they have possible COVID-19 symptoms – this includes taking temperatures daily before coming to work. Thermometers will be available in each nurse's office if needed.
- When an individual enters the facility, they are certifying that they have performed the daily self-check to assure that they are not experiencing COVID-19 symptoms.



2021-22 Safety Protocols

- Any employee who is exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 must stay home, immediately notify the Director of Human Resources, and enter absence into AESOP to secure a substitute. The employee is encouraged to consult with a healthcare provider to determine if COVID-19 testing is recommended.
- Stay at home if:
 - You have **any** of the following **new** or **unexplained** symptoms:
 - Fever of 100.4°F or greater
 - Persistent cough
 - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - Chills
 - Fatigue
 - Muscle or body aches
 - Headache
 - Sore throat
 - Runny nose/congestion
 - New loss of taste or smell
 - Nausea or vomiting
 - Diarrhea
- **Unvaccinated Contact Tracing and Close Contact Definition:**

DHHS recommendations for contact tracing, isolation, and/or quarantine have changed significantly. Positive cases within the school will not require any additional student and/or staff to be excluded from school unless they are living within the same household of a positive case. The Windham School District will continue to reference NH DHHS guidance as needed. The Windham School District will continue to reference the [Windham School District's Reopening Plan Addendum](#) to make the appropriate recommendations and changes as well as continue to participate in the state's education partner calls for updated guidance.

GOOD HYGIENE

- All employees and students should clean their hands frequently with soap and water and/or with alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Wash hands for at least 20 seconds and dry thoroughly.
- Wall-mounted and other hand sanitizer dispensers containing at least 60% ethanol or 70% isopropanol are installed in each classroom and in high traffic thoroughfares.



2021-22 Safety Protocols

PRACTICE RESPIRATORY ETIQUETTE

- All individuals should practice respiratory etiquette, including covering coughs and sneezes.
- Tissues and touchless trash receptacles are available throughout the school.
- Promptly dispose of any used tissues and immediately wash or sanitize your hands.
- Employees should avoid using other employees' phones, desks, or other work tools and equipment when possible, unless the equipment has been sanitized.

COMMONLY-USED ITEMS

- Commonly-used items (such as coffee machines, water coolers, refrigerators, microwave ovens, copy machines, conference room telephones, etc.) are recommended to be cleaned by the individual employee after each use.
- Approved disinfectants effective against SARS-CoV-2 and disposable towels will be available as needed throughout the facility for employees to clean work surfaces that they use.
- The custodial staff will clean high-touch surfaces in certain common areas (e.g. door handles, faucets/toilets, handrails, elevator buttons, etc.), but staff are responsible for cleaning their own desk and work area each day.

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