

Milroy COVID Protocols 2021-2022

Health and Safety

Milroy Public School is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for all our students and staff. To ensure we have a safe and healthy workplace, Milroy has developed the following COVID-19 Preparedness Plan in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. We are following the guidance from the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH), Center for Disease Control (CDC), and Minnesota Department of Education (MDE).

Flexibility

Semblance of a return to normalcy, including social interaction and building relationships

Equity

Planning addresses the need for equitable approaches that meet the needs of all learners.

- ❖ All students will be returning to school for in-person learning
- ❖ Students will be expected to attend school according to the school calendar
- ❖ Requirements and Recommendations from the Minnesota Department of Education will be followed
- ❖ Masks will not be Required, but it is optional for students and staff to wear.
CDC is strongly recommending all individuals wear masks

Shared Objects

All students PK-6 will have access to their own individual school issued device

Face Coverings

Based on the Center for Disease Control (CDC), face coverings are highly recommended for all people within all school buildings. Masks are available upon request.

Visitors

Visitors are asked to follow all requirements and recommendations.

Positive COVID-19 Cases

People who test positive for COVID-19 must stay home until all three of these things are true:

1. They feel better and their symptoms have resolved.
2. It has been 10 days since they first felt sick or tested positive.
3. They have no fever for at least 24 hours without medications.

Each positive COVID case will be isolated and evaluated using the following recommendations as reference from MDH and CDC. If your student has been exposed and identified as a concern of a direct contact you will get a phone call. Emails will go out to alert families if there are positive COVID cases reported in the students classroom, using all privacy rights.

Close contacts include anyone who was within 3-6 feet of an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes over a 24 hour period.

Exceptions: Exception for K-12 indoor classroom settings only: In the K-12 indoor classroom setting, the close contact definition excludes students who were within 3 to 6 feet of an infected student (laboratory confirmed or a clinically compatible illness) where: both students were correctly wearing well-fitting masks; and other K-12 school prevention strategies (e.g., ventilation, cleaning and disinfection, respiratory etiquette and hygiene) were in place in the K-12 school setting.

Quarantine guidelines will be followed as needed. People who have had COVID-19 in the past 90 days and fully vaccinated people are not recommended to quarantine in most situations. Quarantines after an exposure to COVID-19 will be 10 day-14 days.

Do not come to school if you are feeling ill. Do not send your student to school for a half a day, keep them home the entire day to assure they are feeling better prior to returning. Students can return once they are feeling better for 24 hours. If your child has a fever, please keep them home until they are fever free for 24 hours without any OTC medications.

If your student has been diagnosed with COVID-19 or has been identified as a direct contact please call and let the office know 507-336-2563.

Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. People with these symptoms may have COVID-19:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

Students who become ill during the school day, will be evaluated by the office and parents will be called to pick their child up if they appear to be ill.

Transportation

Face Coverings

The Federal Government requires face coverings to be worn on all public and private school buses. Certain exclusions as defined by the Federal Government apply.

Families are to provide their students with a mask. The District will provide face covering for students if necessary.

Face Coverings applies to shuttles between buildings / Activities

Health and Safety

Additional ventilation may be provided from partially opening windows and / or roof hatches as conditions permit.

The Department of Education in partnership with the Department of Health have provided guidance for the return to schools for the 2021-2022 school year. The guidance is based on recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC).

The CDC guidance is data driven and prioritizes the health and safety of our students and staff. It includes reviewing metrics at the county level on an ongoing basis. The vaccination rate of the community is taken into consideration. The number and rate of new COVID cases in the community are also considered.

This data is available and searchable at the CDC website: <https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#>

Your child's health and safety is very important to Milroy Schools. Milroy Schools will partner with local public health and regional health professionals to stay up to date on our regional impact from COVID-19. During times of higher rates of transmission, the requirements or recommendations for mitigation strategies may increase.

Physical distancing Schools will create as much physical space between students and teachers as is feasible during the day. However, schools cannot guarantee six feet of physical distance at school.

Face Coverings Based on the Center for Disease Control (CDC), face coverings are highly recommended for all people within all school buildings. Masks are available upon request.

Transportation The Federal Government requires that face coverings be worn at all times on all public and private school busses.

Return to the classroom

Students and staff will practice safety procedures such as regular hand washing, cough etiquette, and distancing to reduce the spread of COVID-19. School staff will be doing additional cleaning throughout the day along with the routine cleaning from the custodial staff. Water fountains and water bottle filling stations will be available for use.

Devices and access Students will use an assigned district device.

Schedules

Students will attend five days a week with a regular schedule following the school calendar. Distance learning will not be available as an option.

Communication

We will provide ongoing and systematic communication from school to staff and families.

COVID-19 Close Contacts

Close contacts include anyone who was within 6 feet of an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes over a 24 hour period. Fully vaccinated people are not considered close contacts. Situations where both individuals were properly wearing face coverings are also exempt. The school will notify families when a student has been considered a close contact.

Quarantine

People who have had COVID-19 in the past 90 days and fully vaccinated people are not recommended to quarantine in most situations. Quarantines after an exposure to COVID-19 will be 10 days. A shortened quarantine is possible with a negative COVID test after the 7th symptom free day.

Frequently Asked Questions

Are Vaccines required for staff or students?

No, vaccines are not required, but are highly recommended.

Are face masks required?

Face masks or face coverings are highly recommended, but not required in school buildings. There is a Federal mandate that face masks are required to be worn on all school busses.

Will students attend 5 days a week?

Yes, all students will attend all day, 5 days a week.

Is Distance Learning still an option?

No. With changes in state guidance, distance learning is no longer an option.

If I'm vaccinated will I still have to quarantine if I'm exposed to COVID-19?

In most cases it is not necessary to quarantine if you are fully vaccinated. CDC recommends those vaccinated and exposed be tested 3-5 days after exposure and wear a mask for 14 days after exposure.

Will the district still notify us if our student is exposed to COVID-19?

Yes, we will be doing contact tracing and providing notification when a student has been exposed at school.

Are you still doing regular cleaning and disinfecting?

Yes, there will be daily cleaning and disinfecting practices in place.

If I test positive for COVID-19, how long do I need to stay out of school?

People who test positive for COVID-19 must stay home until all three of these things are true:

1. They feel better and their symptoms have resolved.
2. It has been 10 days since they first felt sick or tested positive.
3. They have no fever for at least 24 hours without medications.