

WEST BOLIVAR CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT
COVID-19 PROTOCOLS FOR
BACK TO SCHOOL 2021-2022



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WBCSD COVID-19 PROCESSES AND PROTOCOLS

Vaccination



WBCSD supports all eligible students, faculty, and staff **12 years and older** receiving the COVID-19 vaccine.

WBCSD will offer convenient opportunities for COVID-19 vaccinations through trusted community health providers.

WBCSD will provide the vaccines with parental consent and regardless of socioeconomic status.

Advantages to fully vaccinated students, teachers, & staff include: Decreased COVID-19 transmission risk and illness severity if infected; No required quarantine if exposed and there are little to milder symptoms; and Return to extracurricular activities (i.e., sports) without frequent COVID-19 testing.

Mask Use



WBCSD will require all individuals to correctly and consistently wear masks in our facilities unless there is a documented underlying health condition that hinders breathing.

The same mask requirement will be practiced when in crowded outdoor settings.

WBCSD will require at least three (3) feet of physical distancing where feasible between students and staff to lower the risk of COVID-19 transmission.

Social Distancing



Students or staff who **test positive** for COVID-19 will be excluded from the school setting and **isolate for 5 days and if they are asymptomatic or their symptoms are resolving (without fever for 24 hours), follow that by 5 days of wearing a mask when around others to minimize the risk of infecting people they encounter.**

Students and staff may return to school at the end of their 5-day isolation unless they develop persistent fever or new symptoms.

If the student or staff experiences persistent fever or new symptoms, they will require a medical evaluation and release from their healthcare provider.

WBCSD COVID-19 PROCESSES AND PROTOCOLS

Positive Cases and Isolation



All students, teachers, and staff who have symptoms of any infectious illness, regardless of vaccination status, should stay home from school AND be evaluated by their healthcare provider.

WBCSD schools will continue practicing and promoting good hand hygiene with frequent handwashing and the use of 70% alcohol-based hand sanitizers.

Because of the current rise in the COVID-19 infections, WBCSD will use barriers in front offices, limit visitors, and provide temperature checks to lower the risk of transmission.

Contact Tracing and Quarantining



WBCSD will continue vigilant contact tracing to identify all individuals who are in close contact with COVID-19 within the school setting or extracurricular activities through the use of class schedules and attendance reports.

. For people who are unvaccinated or are more than six months out from their second mRNA dose (or more than 2 months after the J&J vaccine) and not yet boosted, CDC now recommends quarantine for 5 days followed by strict mask use for an additional 5 days. Alternatively, if a 5-day quarantine is not feasible, it is imperative that an exposed person wear a well-fitting mask at all times when around others for 10 days after exposure.

Individuals who have received their booster shot do not need to quarantine following an exposure, but should wear a mask for 10 days after the exposure.

For all those exposed, best practice would also include a test for SARS-CoV-2 at day 5 after exposure.

If symptoms occur, individuals should immediately quarantine until a negative test confirms symptoms are not attributable to COVID-19.

Covid 19 Testing/Screening



WBCSD will partner with trusted community health providers and offer voluntary screening testing of **asymptomatic, unvaccinated** students and staff as follows:

Parental consent is required for student testing and screenings.

Daily screenings of students participating in school-sponsored extracurricular activities of any type, including sports.

Daily screenings of asymptomatic teachers and employees.

Vaccinated students or staff who are in close contact with an infected person will not require quarantine unless they develop new symptoms.

WBCSD COVID-19 PROCESSES AND PROTOCOLS

Parent Responsibility



All parents/guardians are expected to comply fully with the policies, protocols, and guidelines of WBCSD.

All children are expected to wear face masks, so parents should ensure students wear them to school and on the bus.

Wash the students' face masks / face coverings daily to further ensure cleanliness. If disposable masks are available, please change them after each school day.

It is advised that parents take their children's temperature before leaving home. School staff will conduct temperature checks before allowing students to enter the classrooms.

Avoid close contact with people who are sick.

Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash. If no tissue is available, cough or sneeze into your elbow to minimize the flow of particles into the air.

Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.

Keep your child at home if sick with any illness.

Employee Responsibility



All staff are expected to comply fully with the policies, protocols, and guidelines of WBCSD.

Employees must attest, confidentially and securely, that they are not experiencing COVID-related symptoms. Employees will affirm their understanding of the responsibility to self-monitor for any symptoms each day before reporting to work, and to adhere to current district's-established protocols and procedures based upon public health guidance.

Wear a face mask at all times while on school district property.

Observe occupancy limits and avoid crowding of breakrooms, classrooms, and all areas.

Stay abreast of district policies and communications regarding COVID-19 and public health recommendations.

If symptoms develop, stay home (or leave the workplace) and notify the supervisor and report any safety and health concerns to your supervisors and/or appropriate representatives on campus.

The legal requirement for COVID-19 leave pay ended March 31, 2021. As a result, any WBCSD staff requiring days off work for quarantining or isolating due to COVID-19 will have to use accrued sick or personal leave.

Supervisor Responsibility



All supervisors are expected to comply fully with the policies, protocols, and guidelines of WBCSD.

Review and discuss department-specific policies and protocols, including resources available to the person to contact for any questions or concerns.

Communicate often keeping in mind employee's well-being/state of mind and being flexible within reason.

Provide PPE, as called for by the work, to support increased environmental cleaning, and promote employee health care.

Post and promote District provided prevention posters and literature.

Take the necessary actions should an employee or student disclose they either tested positive for COVID-19, resides with someone who tested positive, or has been within 6 feet or less of someone who tested positive for longer than 15 minutes, where feasible.

WBCSD COVID-19 PROCESSES AND PROTOCOLS

Communication



School Visitation



Food Services



The district will communicate regularly with families to promote healthy behaviors to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

The district will also communicate health and safety issues or necessary changes to the district's regular operating schedule.

Communications will be sent/posted using the most appropriate avenues which include but are not limited to the district's website (www.wbcSDK12.org), WBCSD's Facebook page, WBCSD's YouTube page, district robocall, WBCSD email accounts, word-of-mouth, and local media outlets.

School visitation will be limited.

Visitors will be encouraged to contact the school/district by phone as much as possible.

The preferred method for required conferences such as IEP's and MTSS meetings will be handled primarily through Zoom or other virtual tools.

WBCSD requires food service staff to have their temperature checked and complete a health screening each day.

Require food services staff to wear masks and gloves during all food preparation and service.

Implement hand washing with soap and water for 20 seconds by students and staff before and after meal service (hand sanitizer may be used when soap and water is not available).

Sanitize the food serving table prior to, during, and after each meal service.

Maintain social distance between staff and students during meal service

Do not allow sharing of food.

Do not allow saving of perishable food items for consumption at a later time.

WBCSD COVID-19 PROCESSES AND PROTOCOLS

Operations: Transportation and Safety



Transportation will be provided, **but we encourage parents to use private transportation if possible.**

Bus drivers will wear a face mask/covering while driving the bus.

Face masks will be mandatory when students enter and during transport.

Upon returning to their homes, students are encouraged to wash their hands or use hand sanitizer with at least 70% alcohol as soon as possible and before removing their face mask/covering.

Hand sanitizer will be provided on the buses.

Bus drivers will use disinfectant to wipe down handrails, bars, seats, and other frequently touched surfaces after each transport.

Students will be seated starting at the rear of the bus and will exit starting from the front of the bus, when possible.

Windows will always be open/cracked where warranted.

Physical Environment Safety Protocol



WBCSD is working to ensure that we maintain the health, wellness, and safety of the entire school community. Our operations team is working with campus and district leaders to make certain that compliance with social distancing recommendations, PPE, campus safety are aligned, and we are prepared to respond to local, state and federal orders.

Each campus will:

- Provide each classroom with hand sanitizer and disinfectant cleansers
- Ensure all campuses have an allotment of PPE and cleaning material on site each week
- Train all WBCSD employees to follow health safety protocols
- Provide all campuses with thermometers
- Implement daily health screenings for all students and teachers prior to entering campus
- Implement a system to signify students who have had their daily health screening
- Modify daily cleaning schedules to ensure each space is sanitized and disinfected multiple times a day