



COVID-19 MITIGATION & SAFETY PROTOCOLS FOR 2021-2022

MASKS	Students and staff are required to wear masks to help mitigate the spread of COVID-19, as recommended by public health officials. Masks must be worn inside schools and administrative buildings and on school buses.
SOCIAL DISTANCING	At least 3 feet of social distancing will be maintained in classrooms and other areas where possible and to the greatest extent possible. Plexiglass desk shields will continue to be used in classrooms.
VISITORS	Visitors will be allowed inside schools only to handle urgent/critical matters. In those instances, visitors (including parents and vendors making deliveries) will be required to wear masks and practice social distancing. Conferences with parents (including IEP meetings) that do not need to be held in person will be held virtually. Any in-person parent conferences will be held in designated locations where social distancing and other safety protocols can be followed.
CLEANING & DISINFECTION	Classrooms have been supplied with hands-free towel dispensers, touchless hand sanitizer stations and disinfectant wipes. Cleaning and disinfection procedures will continue to be based on CDC guidelines with emphasis on sanitizing frequently touched surfaces. Electrostatic disinfection also will be utilized to supplement the disinfection process, as needed.
HVAC/ AIR QUALITY	All HVAC units are being serviced to maximize air quality, including appropriate filter upgrades. Nursing stations and isolation rooms have been equipped with HEPA-rated air purification units to improve filtration and air quality for occupants.
MEALS	The district's Nutrition Services team will work with schools to determine the best plan for student meal service, including whether students will eat meals in the cafeteria or in their classrooms. Outside food delivery to students is not allowed.
AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS	Afterschool programs, including child care programs, will operate and follow established safety protocols. External (non-district) staff will be required to wear masks.
VACCINATIONS	The district encourages students, staff and everyone else who is eligible to be vaccinated (ages 5 and up) to get vaccinated to help mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in our schools and in our community. Those who meet the criteria for the booster shot (ages 16 and up) are encouraged to receive the booster. [*Booster eligibility: Pfizer – persons ages 16 and up are eligible 6 months after completing the initial vaccination series; Moderna – persons ages 18 and up are eligible 6 months after completing the initial vaccination series; Johnson & Johnson – persons ages 18 and up are eligible 2 months after receiving the initial single-dose shot.]
QUARANTINES	Students and staff who are not maximally vaccinated and are identified as close contacts of positive COVID-19 cases will be required to quarantine for 7 days. Maximally vaccinated students and staff who are identified as close contacts and have received the required vaccination series will not be required to quarantine unless they have COVID-19 symptoms. In order to be exempted from quarantining, parents will be asked to provide proof that students have been maximally vaccinated and staff will be asked to provide proof that they have been maximally vaccinated. There may be other scenarios in which students and staff may or may not have to quarantine, unless they have COVID-19 symptoms. Go to www.richlandone.org/RestartStrong for more details.

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NOTE: Parents who have questions not addressed above should refer to the FAQ (frequently asked questions) at www.richlandone.org/RestartStrong or contact their child's school.