

Hoven School District 53-2



Safe Return to School Plan 2021-2022

APPROVED

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Updated September 13, 2021

*Changes to this plan may occur based on updated guidelines from national, state, and local health officials. Direct questions to: Superintendent James Kayl, Hoven School District (james.kayl@k12.sd.us) (605) 948-2252 Ext. 1001

➤ General District Guidance and Practices

- The Hoven School District will have a “return to normal” educational program to the greatest extent possible for the 2021-2022 school year. This plan and all practices within are subject to change due to additional information and recommendations by the SD Department of Health.
- The three “color levels” of school protocol remain in place in the event that infection rates increase in the community.
- The Hoven School District will follow guidelines by the South Dakota Department of Health in regard to school operations due the COVID pandemic.
- The district is committed and will adhere to routines and policies that encourage students to practice good hygiene, including: proper hand washing, cleaning of surfaces, covering coughs and sneezes with a tissue and proper disposal, avoiding touching of a person’s face, social distancing when possible, and staying home when you are sick. *See Appendix A for Student Symptom Screening Checklist
- Anyone on district property will be permitted, but not required, to wear a mask or face shield until the time as the pandemic is deemed to be over. However, should conditions change and be deemed to warrant such, mask requirements could be reinstated. Parents who wish their child to wear a mask in school shall provide the mask for their use.
- The district will continue the increased cleaning of high touch surfaces and provide guidelines for custodians and staff for what surfaces should be cleaned on a daily basis to prevent the spread of COVID.
- Hand sanitizer will be available in all classrooms and near all entrances.
- Social distancing of 3 feet will be expected throughout the school day when possible.
- Visitors to the school will be allowed on a limited basis. Prior arrangements to visit the school are required and subject to administration’s approval depending on current COVID-19 restrictions.
- Extracurricular activities, events, games and practices will be held as regularly scheduled, though cancellations may occur should circumstances warrant them. At this time, masks will not be required on school & activity transportation.
- Persons who speak a language other than English or persons with disabilities that need assistance with options to access this plan should contact Superintendent Jim Kayl at james.kayl@k12.sd.us or 605-948-2252.

- The Hoven School District is committed to the health and safety of all students, educators, and staff members. The provisions and procedures outlined in this plan are guaranteed for all students and staff. Appropriate accommodations and/or modifications with respect to health and safety policies and procedures will be provided for students with disabilities as needed.

- **Food Service**

Nutritious meals at school are part of a critical safety net to support the physical, mental, social, and emotional health and well-being for students. All students should have access to school meals and adequate time to consume them. The School District provides meal options that best meet the nutritional needs of students in an environment that promotes social distancing and personal hygiene practices as a means of supporting optimal academic success. Overall safety procedures include disinfecting of tables and chairs or other contact surfaces before, during (as needed), and after meal services.

- **Student and Staff Health/Safety**

National, state, and local guidance should always be consulted for the most up-to-date requirements and recommendations. Staff and families are encouraged to practice good hygiene, physical distancing, recognizing symptoms of Covid-19, and when to stay home due to illness.

Before sending their children to school parents should use the checklist in Appendix A.

If staff or students believe they have been exposed to the COVID 19 virus they should use the checklist in Appendix A before returning to school.

Students or staff displaying symptoms of illness are encouraged to stay home. If a student becomes ill during the school day, the student or staff member will go to the designated isolation area in the building until they go home. The parents of ill students will be contacted to pick up their students from school as soon as possible.

- **Student Learning Loss**

An emphasis will be placed on the identification of students in need of remediation due to learning loss associated with lost instructional time due to the pandemic. Teachers and/or staff members will notify administration in a timely fashion when a concern is noted in the classroom. Strategies for student remediation will be discussed and implemented on an individual student basis.

Study halls each day will be focused on assignment completion and student assistance. After school remedial sessions, ICU, early out days, and other strategies to meet the needs of all students are to be discussed with administration. The superintendent will bring recommendations to the board prior to implementation of such programs.

- **Student's and Staff Social, Emotional, and Mental Health Needs**

Counseling services are contracted to assist with individual student and group counseling needs. Any student or staff needs or concerns should be reported to school administration immediately.

➤ Contact Tracing

School administration will collaborate with state and local officials concerning contact tracing.

➤ **COVID Vaccination**

Student vaccination is not required for school attendance. All students will receive the same quality educational program regardless of COVID vaccination status.

If you have a child who is 12 years old or older and you're interested in having them receive the Covid-19 vaccine, please contact your family healthcare provider. Additional information about student vaccinations and recommendations can be found on the SD Department of Health website.

Support of students and staff required to self-isolate and/or quarantine due to positive test or close contact with a positive case while school is actively in Phase 1 or 2 (close contact is currently considered 15 consecutive minutes of contact within 3' of a Covid-19 positive individual). If students/staff are masked, and/or vaccinated for Covid-19, they may not be considered a close contact.

Student Positive Case

- Any student who receives a laboratory confirmed test of COVID-19 must remain in isolation for 10 days as per the CDC and SDDOH guidelines. The school district is bound by SDCL 13-28-7.3 in regard to the exclusion of a student for risk of infectious disease or communicable parasite for readmission. If student participates in extra-curricular activities, the student must complete the Return to Activities Protocol.
- If untested, student must isolate at least 10 days since symptom onset (and 24 hours without fever AND all symptoms improved). If student participates in extra-curricular activities, the student must complete the Return to Activities Protocol.
- Any student who is positive for COVID-19 cannot be identified as a positive case, nor will they be considered a close contact for 90 days from the time they received a positive diagnosis
- Students/staff will need documentation from the Department of Health stating when they are able to return to school.

Household or Community Identified Close Contacts

- Any student who permanently lives or resides with a parent/guardian in a household that is the student's primary caregiver is expected to follow all isolation or quarantine guidance from the CDC and SDDOH. If during a close contact investigation, the SDDOH determines that a student is not considered a close contact, that student may return to school.
- If a student is considered a family close contact, the student must complete the 14-day quarantine period before returning to school. If after a Department of Health investigation concluded that a student can quarantine from positive household cases within the home. If students cannot isolate from positive household cases, then the students will begin their 14 day quarantine period following the last day of contact with the positive case.

- CDC has provided two alternatives that have been adopted by SD DOH:
 - Release from quarantine after 7 days
 - Assumes the person in quarantine:
 - Has remained asymptomatic (has no symptoms)
 - Has a negative molecular or rapid antigen test that was collected on Day 5 or later, after their last contact with a person with COVID-19 (i.e., Day 5 of their quarantine or later)
 - Continues to monitor their symptoms for the remainder of the 14 day period and will stay at home and seek testing if they become sick
 - Release from quarantine after 10 days
 - Assumes the person in quarantine:
 - Has remained asymptomatic (has no symptoms)
 - Is not tested on Day 5 or later of quarantine
 - Continues to monitor their symptoms for the remainder of the 14 day period and will stay at home and seek testing if they become sick

- Parents may choose to have their children when considered close contacts occurring outside of the school may continue to follow Department of Health directives to quarantine. Parents may choose to have their asymptomatic students return early as indicated above and monitor for symptoms in lieu of quarantine at home.

School District Close Contacts

Individuals identified as close contacts in a school setting will quarantine for 14 days since last exposure or may return to school and monitor for symptoms using the following guidelines:

- **If students/staff are masked, and/or fully vaccinated for Covid-19, they may not be considered a close contact.**
- Parents may choose to have their children when considered close contacts occurring outside of the school may continue to follow Department of Health directives to quarantine. Parents may choose to have their asymptomatic students return following above protocol.
- Students returning to school must wear a mask at all times in school for the duration of the quarantine period.
- Parents will continue to receive notification of any close contact and may choose to have students return to school following the guidelines above, or follow quarantine recommendations. Students who quarantine will have absences excused.

If symptoms develop within the 14-day quarantine period, the student will be excluded and must isolate at home. Student will follow isolation instructions, including notifying their healthcare provider and school.

Students/Families that decide to opt out of the in person instruction for child/children are required to complete a homeschool application. Please contact the school or the South Dakota Department of Education for additional information and home school application.

➤ Extracurricular Activities Plan 2021-22

Introduction: The Hoven School District and the Gettysburg School District have a cooperative agreement for sports and agree that consistency in policies is necessary for the success of its regular extracurricular programming.

South Dakota High School Activities Association Board Document on Fall Sports/ Activities:

The South Dakota High School Activities Association will be implementing a new plan for Fall Sports/Activities this upcoming 2021-22 school year. The SDHSAA is waiting for information from the American Medical Association before the SDHSAA can roll out their plan. When the SDHSAA's plan is made public, the Hoven School District and Gettysburg School District will make the necessary adjustments to practice and game protocols, as well as the student's Return to Participation protocol.

Extracurricular Events, Performances, and Competitions:

- Screening Protocols: Determined with the new SDHSAA recommendations that will follow soon.

TIER Fan Attendance Conditions

Tier 1 Open Attendance

- Masking is highly recommended for all individuals in attendance at indoor events.
- Potter County has 0-50 active cases of COVID-19 on average in the last seven (7) days
- Hoven School has no or minimal active cases among students or staff
- Data analyzed when determining protocols will be done on Wednesday of the week prior to the contest

Tier 2 Six (6) Adult Tickets Per Athlete/Four (4) Adult tickets for Doubleheaders and Wrestling tournaments with Student Body (Grades 9-12) Attendance.

- Potter County has fifty (51) to one hundred (100) active cases of COVID-19 on average in the last seven (7) days
- Hoven School has minimal to moderate active cases amongst staff/students
- All students in Grades 9-12 from either the home or visiting school may attend games without a ticket
- Masking is recommended for all individuals in attendance at indoor games
- Each athlete from either team will be provided Six (6) or Four (4) Adult Tickets to distribute to whomever they would like, depending on the event
- Data analyzed when determining protocols will be done on Wednesday of the week prior to the contest

Tier 3 Games and Activities are postponed or cancelled

- Potter County has more than one hundred and one (101) active cases of COVID-19 on average in the last seven (7) days
- Hoven School has a substantial number of active cases amongst staff/students

After-Contest Protocol: Once a contest or event is concluded, event officials shall take steps to quickly remove participants from the venue and expedite, within reason, the departure of all fans from the area. After-contest 'mingling' shall be actively discouraged.

Following the conclusion of the game or event, student-athletes will leave the court immediately to their respective locker rooms, and after meeting with coaches, visiting players as a team will load their bus, and home athletes will directly leave the school.

Scheduling/Rescheduling Events: Guidelines established by the SDHSAA recommendations shall be observed. Gettysburg and Hoven School District officials shall not seek 'forfeits' from other schools when events are cancelled by those other schools for reasons related to COVID-19.

Individual Sports/Activities: All mandatory modifications, as set forth in the SDHSAA document shall be observed. Activities Directors Vern Smith and Jonie Abler, in consultation with building administrators as well as coaches/sponsors, shall implement such optional modification as they deem appropriate.

LEVEL 1 GREEN—No Community Transmission

Level 1—GREEN-- No laboratory-confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the last 7 days, and no reported increase in the number of cases over the last 7 days.

SCHOOL DISTRICT PROTOCOLS	CLASSROOM LEVEL PROTOCOLS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eases most restrictions, but still encourages good hygiene, social distancing and following recommended protocols in school to allow education to continue for students. Continue to monitor school and public health indicators and adjust strategies to mitigate community spread. School in this phase will look very normal and activities at school will follow known preventative measures to stop the spread of COVID-19. Accommodate needs of children and families at high risk, including supports for at-home learning. Follow cleaning and disinfection plans. Lunch held in the cafeteria and students dismissed one table at a time. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classroom routines and procedures will be very normal, with some prevention and mitigation. Teachers and students will engaged in good hygiene practices by washing hands and use hand sanitizer to keep hands as germ free as possible. Social distancing will be encouraged where and when possible following recommended protocols in school to allow education to continue for students. Students and staff should take preventative measures to not share items with others whenever possible. Teachers should encourage students to carry their own school supplies and should be discouraged from sharing laptops, books, or supplies unless properly sanitized. Students and staff should bring their own water bottles to refill during the day. Communal use of water fountains will not be allowed.

South Dakota Department of Health

The South Dakota Department of Health (SDDOH) will work with school districts to provide data at a level to inform decision making, in line with appropriate privacy protections. Staff, students, parents and community should use the SDDOH website <https://doh.sd.gov/news/Coronavirus.aspx> to stay informed on trends in data of COVID-19 as well as pertinent information for all families to use for maintaining good health and hygiene as necessary.

LEVEL 2 YELLOW—Minimal to Moderate Community Transmission

Level 2—YELLOW-- Minimal to moderate level of community transmission: Minimal amount of laboratory confirmed cases of COVID-19 as determined by community.

SCHOOL DISTRICT PROTOCOLS	CLASSROOM LEVEL PROTOCOLS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This level increases restrictions from Level 1. While students and staff are encouraged to practice good hygiene, social distancing and following recommended protocols in school, additional measures may be needed to continue school. • Additional measures the school district may take include the wearing of masks by students and staff, daily temperature screenings, student partitions at desks and other increased measures to monitor additional spread of the virus in the Community. • The district will continue to monitor school and public health indicators and adjust strategies to mitigate community spread. • School in this phase will be slightly more restrictive and preventative and activities at school will follow known preventative measures to stop the spread of COVID-19. • Intensify cleaning and disinfection plans. • Lunch held in classrooms and disposable trays and utensils will be used to greatest extent possible. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This level increases restrictions from Level 1. While students and staff are encouraged to practice good hygiene, social distancing and following recommended protocols in school, additional measures may be needed to continue school. • Teachers and students will engaged in good hygiene practices by washing hands and use hand sanitizer to keep hands as germ free as possible. • Students and staff should use hand sanitizer at the beginning and end of every class and used during class as necessary without restriction. • Classroom routines and procedures will require to the greatest degree possible social distancing placement of desks up to 6 feet apart, or to the greatest spacing available. • Additional measures the school district may take include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ wearing of masks by students and staff ○ daily temperature screenings ○ student partitions at desks ○ other increased measures to monitor additional spread of the virus in the community • Students and staff should bring their own water bottles to refill during the day. Communal use of water fountains will not be allowed.

LEVEL 3 RED—Substantial Community Transmission

Level 3—RED—Substantial level of community transmission: Outbreaks or increases in cases and recent laboratory-confirmed cases of COVID-19.

SCHOOL DISTRICT PROTOCOLS	CLASSROOM LEVEL PROTOCOLS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The level has the sole purpose of minimizing the spread of COVID-19 through stay-at-home orders, strict social distancing, and closures of school and in-person instruction. • Remote learning opportunities will be the method of providing any instruction to students. It is expected that any school closure will be temporary and last for approximately 14 days. • School will remain closed for in-person instruction and all instruction must be provided via remote learning, whether using digital or non-digital platforms. • Cancel all field trips, inter-group events, sports events, extracurricular activities and large social gatherings. • Provisions for student services such as school meal programs will continue. • Follow guidelines from local and state health authorities on school re-opening. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The level has the sole purpose of minimizing the spread of COVID-19 through stay-at-home orders, strict social distancing, and closures of school and in-person instruction. • Remote learning opportunities will be the method of providing any instruction to students. It is expected that any school closure will be temporary and last for approximately 14 days. • School will remain closed for in-person instruction and all instruction must be provided via remote learning, whether using digital or non-digital platforms. • Cancel all field trips, inter-group events, sports events, extracurricular activities and large social gatherings.

APPENDIX A

STUDENT SYMPTOM SCREENING CHECKLIST

Parents must complete a daily symptom screening check by answering these questions before sending their child to school.

Has your child had close contact (within 6 feet for at least 15 minutes) with a confirmed case of COVID-19?	_____ YES	_____ NO
Does your child have chills or a fever of 100.4 or greater?	_____ YES	_____ NO
Does your child have new or worsening cough?	_____ YES	_____ NO
Does your child have shortness of breath or difficulty breathing?	_____ YES	_____ NO
Is your child experiencing fatigue?	_____ YES	_____ NO
Does your child have unexplained muscle or body aches?	_____ YES	_____ NO
Does your child have a headache (not related to a known health condition i.e. migraines)?	_____ YES	_____ NO
Does your child have a new loss of taste or smell?	_____ YES	_____ NO
Does your child have a sore throat?	_____ YES	_____ NO
Has your child been experiencing nausea or vomiting?	_____ YES	_____ NO
Does your child have diarrhea?	_____ YES	_____ NO

	<p>If YES to <u>ANY</u> of the questions DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL. Please seek guidance from your medical provider. Contact your school to inform them of your child’s symptoms. You may also contact the South Dakota Department of Health at 1-800-592-1861 with questions.</p>
	<p>If NO to <u>ALL</u> questions go to school.</p>