

Seymour Schools



SRCSP

2023-2024 Plan

***BOE approved June 13, 2023**

Overview

Seymour has taken steps to prepare for the health, wellness, and safety for students and staff as we start school on August 24, 2021. This guide is a living document and will be updated with new information as it becomes available. Please see the information below for a set of general guidelines and expectations. As we plan for a school year, we will strive to meet the needs of all students whether by seated instruction or virtual when and if needed. We are going to do seated instruction. We are taking precautions to help provide a safe and clean environment throughout the district. We will also have virtual options available.

- Providing environments that are as safe as possible for students and staff;
- Providing equitable, guaranteed, and viable education.

Decisions will continue to be made in coordination with local and state guidelines. In order for Seymour School employees, students and community to best understand access rules, the school district will use a level indicator:

Level Indicator Definitions

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Level 1: Seated School with Health Precautions: All classes will take place in school buildings. Extra cleaning and safety protocols for staff and students will be followed. There are restrictions on parents, visitors, and volunteers in the building.

Level 2: Blended Instruction: Courses will be taught with a combination of seated and remote instruction. Staff will be in buildings, with students alternating days of in-person attendance and remote instruction. Protocols for staff and students will be followed according to building COVID-19 Re-entry Guidelines. All entrances to schools will be locked and restricted to staff and students. Other visitors and volunteers must receive pre-approval.

Level 3: Remote Instruction: All staff will be on campus (unless directed otherwise). All students will be off campus and receive instruction online using Canvas. Teachers will use tools such as email, Zoom, Class Dojo and Remind to communicate with students and families. Accommodations and arrangements will be made for students without internet access. All buildings will be closed to students.

Student Services

Maintaining the health and safety of our students continues to be of paramount importance as we plan for our return to school. With that in mind, it is crucial we ensure student information remains up to date. In the event that a student becomes ill, we must be able to get in contact with the parent/legal guardian or their designated alternate contact.

General Sanitation Procedures

- The Seymour School District will maintain adequate supplies of personal protective equipment, soap, paper towels, hand sanitizer, and other cleaning materials throughout each school.
- The Seymour School District will clean frequently-touched surfaces and objects (e.g., tables, water fountains, and doorknobs) with district-supplied cleaning and disinfectant products. Computer safe disinfectant methods will be used for computers and keyboards.

General Health and Safety Guidelines

- The district will encourage “wash-in/wash-out” with both students and staff. They will be encouraged to wash hands immediately upon arrival at school and again at the conclusion of the day. In addition to wash-in/wash-out, breaks will be provided during the day to both wash and sanitize hands.
- Health Service staff will continue to keep a record of all persons seen in the nurse’s office. Due to student privacy, these records are not public, however, information may be shared with the Webster County Health Department, as appropriate.
- The Webster County Health Department will provide the district guidance on students and staff who have had contact with people who are suspected COVID-19 positive.
- We will strive to follow safe social distancing practices by class.
- Temperatures may be checked if feasible.
- For health and safety concerns, outside visitors, volunteers and parents may have restricted access to the school grounds. This includes visits during breakfast and lunch.
- Water fountains may be restricted, but water bottle stations will be available. Students are encouraged to bring their own water bottle/containers.
- Nurses will be available to all students and staff in each building.
- Students/staff that are running a fever >100 (and do not exhibit COVID-19

symptoms) will be dismissed from campus and should not return to school until they are fever free for 72 hours without taking fever reduction medication.

- Students with symptoms should not attend school and parents should consult their healthcare provider and follow CDC considerations regarding their return to school. For students who are diagnosed with COVID-19, either by a laboratory test or based on their symptoms, return to school is permissible when the student is at least 10 days from symptom onset, has had three days with no fever and has improved symptoms. Return to school for children with an alternate diagnosis is at the discretion of their healthcare provider and/or the school nurse. Please refer to current CDC guidelines.

Home Screening

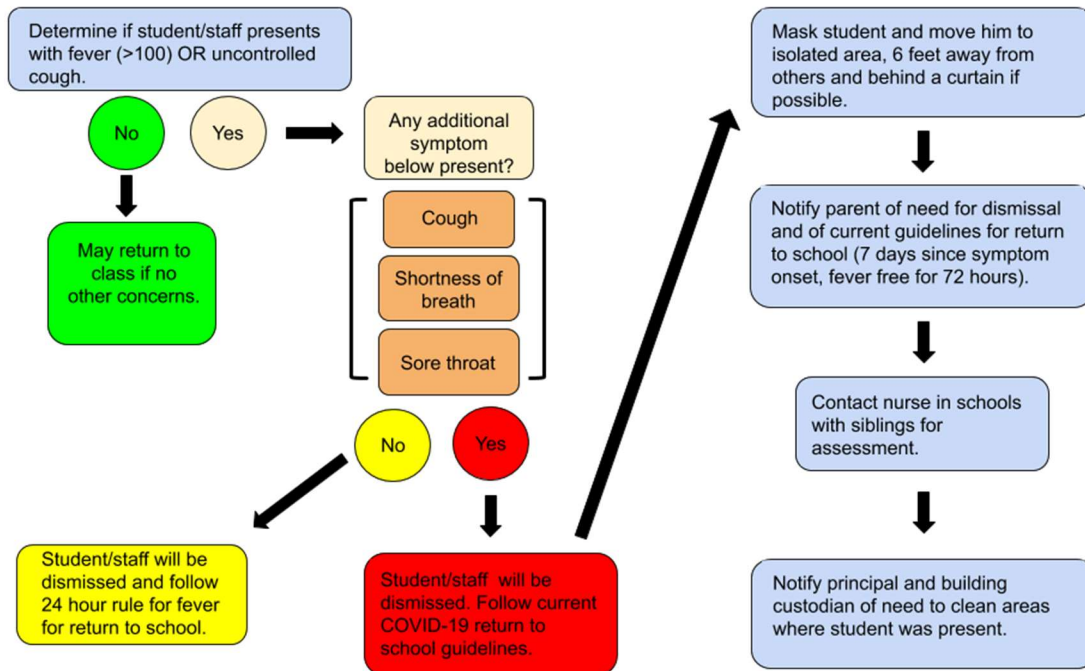
- Families are recommended to monitor temperatures daily before leaving their home.
- Anyone with a fever of greater than 100 degrees should not come on campus. Students should be fever-free for 72 hours without fever-reducing medication(s).
- It is recommended to also screen for additional symptoms including: shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, coughing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, nausea or vomiting and diarrhea. Students and staff experiencing any of these symptoms should stay at home and consult their healthcare provider.

Transportation

- Drivers will assign seats for all riders.
- Load back to front
- Each bus's list of assigned seating will be maintained so it can be provided to the Webster County Health Department for contact tracing, if needed.
- Students within the same household (or students who are considered in each other's stable group) may be assigned seats together or in seats across from, in front of, or behind each other.
- Drivers will limit the number of students per row to 4 students, when possible.
- Buses will be appropriately disinfected after each use
- Bus drivers have been properly trained in COVID safety measures

Surveillance, Screening, and Triage

- In the event that a student or staff member is feeling unwell, they will visit the nurse's office on campus and the following protocols will be followed:



Health Services

- School nurses will provide COVID safety training/materials to faculty and staff
- If you have medication for your child, please schedule a time with the school nurse to drop it off
- Encourage staff self screening
- Encourage parents to screen students at home prior to sending to school
- Students or staff demonstrating symptoms will be referred to physician or virtual clinic ~ Prior to returning to school, consult school nurse or provide documentation from physician
- Exclusion procedures will follow best practices

Action Plan if Confirmed Case

- 72 hours if you have one of the symptoms
 - Students and employees will be excluded from school if they test positive for COVID-19 or exhibit one or more of the symptoms of COVID-19 based on CDC Guidance that is not otherwise explained: a) A fever of 100° F or greater b) Cough c) Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing d) Chills e) Repeated shaking with chills f) Muscle pain g) Headache h) Sore throat i) New loss of taste or smell
- Contact Health Department and communicate with public based on Health Department's recommendations
- Identify student exposure in relation to direct contact with others and facility exposure
- Address possible student/adult exclusions using best practices (
- Address the infected space using proven practices for designated time
- Perform targeted cleaning and disinfection of frequently touched hard, non-porous surfaces, such as counters, appliance surfaces, tabletops, doorknobs, bathroom fixtures, toilets, drinking fountains, phones, technology, and any other surfaces that are visibly necessary
- Inspect areas to determine readiness for re-entry
- Consult with Health Department prior to re-entry

Arrival

- Parent drop off will be car lane only to reduce the number of people entering the building.
- Students will use hand sanitizer or hand washing upon arrival into classrooms
- Common areas will be restricted where feasible

Dismissal

- Use of the car line for student pick-up or bus only. No in-person parent pick-up to avoid parent gatherings in school lobby or in front of school
- Hand washing/hand sanitizing will be available at dismissal
- Elementary pick up will be different from previous years. More information soon

Breakfast and Lunch

- For K-5th, breakfast and lunch will be eaten in classrooms or in cafeteria at reduced capacities
- Hand washing/hand sanitizer will be available before and after lunch
- 2 extra lunch periods added for grades 6-12

How should physical distancing take place during meal times?

Keep students in cohorts during meal times and, when possible, have students eat in their classrooms rather than moving through the school building. Schools may consider bringing meals directly to classrooms but should make efforts to ensure nutritional value and appealing menu choices are not sacrificed. For older students, multiple separate lunch periods may be created and alternate locations, such as an outdoor environment or large indoor spaces (e.g. gymnasium), may be used for lunches with proper supervision.

Classrooms

- Multiple social distancing strategies will be implemented based on feasibility of the unique space and needs of each school
- Students should be spaced as far apart as possible. Six feet apart is best; when that's not possible, schools should make efforts to ensure a minimum of three feet of space between students.
- Students will be encouraged to maintain distance from each other in the school and taught appropriate hygiene/COVID practices:
- Personal water bottle will be encouraged as drinking fountains will have limited availability
- Built in time during the day for frequent handwashing
- Appropriate measures will be taken for cleaning Chromebooks
- Observe students for illness prior to starting class and refer students to nurse
- There will be limits to mixing of cohorts of students to the extent possible
- K-5th students will keep their own supplies for use in the classroom

Passing Periods

- Passing Periods will be limited by schedule and students will be monitored while walking in hallways
- Movement throughout buildings will be limited
- Hand washing/hand sanitizer will be available

Visitors/Volunteers

- Nonessential visitors will be limited
- Nonessential visitors must check into the office, be screened by the nurse, and wear a facemask to enter the buildings
- No lunch guests or volunteers at any level.

Playgrounds

How should physical distancing take place during recess and physical education?

Physical activity during recess and physical education class is important for a child's physical, mental and emotional health. Students should engage in these activities with their primary cohorts (to the extent possible) to reduce the number of contacts. Multiple cohorts could have recess at the same time, as long as they are playing in separate areas of the playground. If possible, individual equipment used during recess and physical education (e.g. balls, jump ropes) could be separated by cohort to reduce the need for disinfecting between uses. If that is not possible, individual equipment should be cleaned between uses. Stationary playground equipment does not need to be cleaned, with the exception of handrails and other high touch surfaces, which should be cleaned in accordance with CDC guidelines.

- Students will be monitored for social distancing while on playgrounds
- Handwashing/sanitizer upon re-entry to building
- Frequently used playground hard surfaces will be cleaned routinely

Cleaning/ Hygiene

- Cleaning with COVID and EPA approved products will target cleaning and disinfection of frequently touched hard, non-porous surfaces, such as counters, tabletops, stair rails, doorknobs, bathroom fixtures, toilets, drinking fountains, and any other surfaces that are visibly necessary
- Hand sanitizer dispensers will be installed at most exterior doors and in classrooms
- Students and families will be provided with best practices for hygiene during the school day and upon arriving at home

PPE

- Use of personal masks will be allowed for students
- Students will receive 2 washable face mask from Webster County
- The district will provide 2 face mask to each employee
- A water bottle will be provided to each student as water fountains will be limited to filling bottles up.

Special Education and Section 504

Level 1: Traditional School/Seated School with Health Precautions Students identified in need of special education services or accommodations (Section 504) will be provided accommodations and services according to their current plan.

Level 2: Blended Instruction: Students will be provided services and accommodations according to their plan with appropriate safety measures in place. Social distancing will be managed by grade level and area of service.

Level 3: Remote Instruction: Learning through virtual programming or distance services not located on campus. Services and accommodations will be provided in accordance with the students IEP or Section 504. Special Education Teachers and/or Case Managers will be the contact person for provision of services. Related service providers will work in conjunction with teachers and parents to provide services

Pandemic Period and District Response to Activities (School Closing)

The decision to close schools may be made as a means to prevent further spread of an epidemic, or in response to high student and/or staff absenteeism. The Superintendent will make school closure decisions in consultation with the Webster County Health Department, local officials and neighboring school district superintendents. Current CDC recommendations will help guide closure decisions.

Possible School Closure Trigger Points:

- Student absenteeism
- Teacher/Staff absenteeism
- Confirmed case(s) of COVID-19.
- To protect public health and safety
- When advised to close by the Governor or state and local health authorities.

The Superintendent may cancel all activities on district property by outside groups, even if some schools in the district remain open. When a school is closed, activities scheduled at that school, including use by community groups, may be canceled.

Activities held at another location that involve students and staff from a closed school may cancel at the discretion of the building principal, in consultation with local health authorities.

Schools may be closed to all staff and students, or just students. If schools are closed only to students, staff members are expected to work regular schedules or use appropriate leave unless otherwise directed.

Student Services

Maintaining the health and safety of our students continues to be of paramount importance as we plan for our return to school. With that in mind, it is crucial we ensure student information remains up to date. In the event that a student becomes ill, we must be able to get in contact with the parent/legal guardian or their designated alternate contact.

Diagnostic and Screening Testing/Vaccinations

The Seymour R-II District has made testing available to any employee that wishes to utilize this service. Employees are also made aware of local vaccinations conducted by the Webster County Health Department.

The Seymour R-II District will review and revise, if necessary, the SRCSP every six months. The district will consider input from students, families, administrators (including special education administration), and the Board of Education to ensure the safety of students and staff.