



# 2021-22 School Reopening Plan

- I. **Executive Summary:** The Windham School District has the intent to return to pre-COVID-19 protocols and procedures for the 2021-22 school year. Our students and staff will return to full in-person learning with some of the continued safety mitigation tactics which are outlined below.

If state and/or federal officials (NH DHHS, NH DOE, CDC) decide that a full, in-person learning model is deemed unsafe for our students and staff, we will reference our 2020-21 guidelines and learning models as needed.

## II. **Safety and Mitigation Tactics**

- A. Vaccination:** All eligible students and staff are encouraged to get the COVID-19 vaccine and booster shot as a self mitigation tactic. Individuals who are not vaccinated and would like to, please contact your health provider or pharmacy directly for more information. Full vaccination status takes effect two weeks after your last shot is received. According to the CDC, you are considered up-to-date with your vaccines\* if you are:
1. ages 18 or older and have received all recommended vaccine doses, including boosters and additional primary shots for some immunocompromised people.
  2. ages 5-17 years and completed the primary series of COVID-19 vaccines.
- B. Masks:** Masks will be optional for staff and students. Staff and students may continue to wear a mask if they choose to do so. If our state and federal officials (NH DHHS, NH DOE, and the CDC) mandate that this safety tactic is required, we will adjust our student and staff safety protocols.
1. The Windham School District will continue to monitor the total number and percent of active cases in conjunction with the growth rate and/or frequency of growth in cases within a school, grade, or core group (class, extra-curricular, etc.). Based on the monitoring of activity, the district will make the decision if additional mitigation tactics are needed such as enhanced cleaning, social distancing, temperature checks, increased testing, or targeted indoor masking.
- C. Physical Distancing:** Students and staff will no longer be required to socially distance themselves in the school building. If our state and federal officials (NH DHHS, NH DOE, and the CDC) mandate that this safety tactic is required, we will adjust our student and staff safety protocols.
- D. Handwashing and Respiratory Etiquette:** Staff and students will continue to implement good hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette. Hand-sanitizing and hand-washing will be encouraged throughout the school day.
- E. Facilities Maintenance and Cleaning:**
1. HEPA filters have been installed in each of the classrooms and throughout the schools and will run continuously.

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2. HVAC ventilation filters will be changed regularly in all school facilities.
3. Commonly-used items (such as coffee machines, water coolers, refrigerators, microwave ovens, copy machines, conference room telephones, etc.) are recommended to be cleaned by the individual employee after each use.
4. Approved disinfectants effective against SARS-CoV-2 and disposable towels will be available as needed throughout the facility for employees to clean the work surfaces that they use.
5. The custodial staff will clean high-touch surfaces in certain common areas (e.g. door handles, faucets/toilets, handrails, elevator buttons, etc.), but the staff is responsible for cleaning their own desk and work area each day.
6. Professional development will be provided to our staff on appropriate cleaning and sanitization techniques and strategies.

## **F. Unvaccinated Contact Tracing and Close Contact Definition:**

1. DHHS recommendations for contact tracing, isolation, or quarantine have changed significantly. Positive cases within the school will not require any additional student and/or staff to be excluded from school unless they are living within the same household of a positive case and are unvaccinated. The Windham School District will continue to reference the [Windham School District's Reopening Plan Addendum](#) to make the appropriate recommendations and changes as well as continue to participate in the state's education partner calls for updated guidance.

## **G. Extracurricular Activities and Athletics:**

1. If a cluster is identified within an extracurricular group or sports team, targeted indoor masking will be put into effect per the WSD indoor mask matrix.

## **H. Diagnostic and Screening:**

1. Safer at Schools Screening (SASS): The Windham School District is partnering with ConvenientMD to screen our student and staff population to help eliminate potential COVID-19 infection. Parents will need to sign a consent form for their child prior to any testing.
  - a) Sports and extracurricular activities: students, coaches, and advisors are encouraged to participate in regular screening programs.
2. Parents are asked to assess their children before leaving home and to contact their schools if symptoms develop.
3. Each and every day prior to coming to work, employees will self-assess whether they have possible COVID-19 symptoms – this includes taking temperature daily before you come to work. Thermometers will be available in each nurse's office if needed.
4. When an individual enters the facility, they are certifying that they have performed the daily self-check to assure that they are not experiencing COVID-19 symptoms.
5. Any employee who is exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 must stay home, immediately notify the Director of Human Resources, and enter an absence

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into AESOP to secure a substitute. The employee is encouraged to consult with a healthcare provider to determine if COVID-19 testing is recommended.

6. Who should be excluded from school?

- a) Anyone who has tested positive for COVID-19.
- b) Any unvaccinated individual who lives within the same household of a positive COVID-19 test.
- c) Any unvaccinated individual who reports an international or cruise ship travel-related risk.

**I. Reopening Plan Addendum:** Please reference additional information and updated sick policies in the [Reopening Plan Addendum](#) in order to maintain healthy classrooms, healthy buildings, and healthy schedules.

**J. Transportation:** Students will be required to wear masks while on district-provided transportation (STA and Durham Transportation Services) per state and federal guidelines.

**III. Funds Allocation Priority for ESSER Funds:** A portion of the ESSER funds that we receive from the state will be applied to the district's 2021 summer remediation program, 2021 summer social/emotional camp, sanitation, and cleanliness of facilities, and student and staff mental health safety. This is a fluid list and the allocation of these funds may shift if different priorities arise.

**IV. Student Services:** The Windham School District will continue to provide a continuity of services while returning to the in-person learning model used prior to the pandemic. Specialized instruction will be provided for students requiring special modifications and/or accommodations. Students will be provided with a variety of options for accessing curriculum materials. Accommodations and modifications will be provided when necessary to ensure students with differing academic needs are able to access their education.

**V. Student Academic Needs:** The Windham School District employs a robust Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS). As part of the MTSS process, the WSD implements a tier-one universal screening process that measures the academic and social/emotional competencies of all students. Through the Student Support Team (SST) weekly meetings, we analyze at-risk students and review their academic and social/emotional needs. As a result, individual action plans are developed, implemented, and progress monitored to meet the needs of the students based on the team's assessment.

The Windham School District offered a Summer Success Program in the summer of 2021. The Windham Summer Success Program was an opportunity for students to receive content instruction in the areas of ELA/Reading and Mathematics. The Summer Success Program provided additional support to assist in closing learning gaps that may have occurred during the 2020-21 school year and prepare students for the Fall.

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- VI. Social/Emotional Support for Students:** Guidance will continue to provide social and emotional support services as part of the district's standard protocols. The impact of COVID-19 may require an increase in these services. These services may include but are not limited to: meeting students in-person, Classroom Guidance lessons, individual and group counseling, discussing schedules, college preparation, and supporting our student's social and emotional needs. We will also provide students with opportunities for Extended Learning, internships, and community service at the high school. In addition, we will offer student support in school re-engagement, resilience after a pandemic, anxiety management, and social and coping skills.
- VII. Social/Emotional Support for Staff:** Leadership training and district improvement planning will address goals, actions, and benchmark assessments. Social-emotional support will be included as part of these actions throughout the district. Professional development will reinforce our efforts to help staff provide support in the classroom. Counselors will continuously plan to meet the needs of staff after the pandemic, responding to potential ongoing residual effects.
- VIII. Nutrition Services:** The district will continue to follow State of NH, Dept. of Health and Human Services recommendations for district food service providers.