

NASD Health and Safety Plan 2023-2024

(per CDC/PADOH Guidelines-- updated 6/30/23)

Strategies for everyday operations:

The district will take a variety of actions to provide a healthy school environment and prevent the spread of infectious diseases (including the virus that causes COVID-19).

1) Staying Up to Date on Vaccinations

The district supports immunization compliance for required vaccinations for school entry. Should there be a need and school community interest, hosting on-site vaccination clinics may occur if this opportunity becomes available for school age individuals.

2) Staying Home When Sick

Individuals who have symptoms of respiratory or gastrointestinal infections, such as cough, runny nose, sore throat, headache, muscle aches, fever, vomiting, or diarrhea, should stay home. Contact your child's health care provider as necessary. If your child displays symptoms of COVID-19 or any potentially infectious disease at school, health room protocols will be followed including isolation from other individuals. **Testing is recommended for people with symptoms of COVID-19.** Please notify your child's nurse if your child tests positive for any infectious disease such as Influenza, RSV, Hand Foot & Mouth Disease, COVID-19, etc. for further direction and guidance. **Quarantine is no longer recommended for people who are exposed to COVID-19.**

3) Ventilation

The district has made recent updates to optimize ventilation and improve indoor air quality in our buildings to reduce the risk of germs and contaminants spreading through the air.

4) Hand Hygiene and Respiratory Etiquette

The district will continue to reinforce frequent and proper handwashing to lower the risk of spreading viruses and bacteria. Hand sanitizers are also available throughout the schools. Covering coughs and sneezes will also be reinforced to help keep individuals from getting and spreading infectious diseases. Anyone who chooses to wear a mask will be supported in their decision to do so at any COVID-19 Community Level, including low.

5) Cleaning

Buildings are cleaned at least once a day, specifically frequently touched services, to reduce the risk of spreading germs.

6) Reporting Requirements for Schools

COVID-19 is no longer a reportable condition in PA since the public health emergency ended on May 11, 2023. In alignment with the requirements in the Pa. School Code relating to communicable and noncommunicable diseases, the district will continue to report positive cases of those communicable diseases as required by the PADOH as well as clusters and outbreaks of any concerning illnesses. Our Northwest school community will be made aware of the same. Outbreaks will be reported via 1-877-PA HEALTH per PADOH requirements.