

USD 272 - Waconda Schools 2022-2023 Safe Return to In-Person Instruction & Continuity of Services Plan (Update)

BOE Amended on: September 12th, 2022

Preface: It is the ultimate goal of USD 272 to keep children and staff in school and daycare and to do so safely. It has been very difficult on parents when they have children that must be quarantined at home due to a close contact with a family member or other person who is positive with Covid. Additionally, it is very difficult for students to stay caught up when they are at home vs in the classroom. Due to the hardships that these quarantines have had on everyone, USD 272 will implement the following new Covid Protocols.

Covid Positive Cases & Close Contacts Protocols

Child or Staff Member Testing Positive for Covid-19

- A child or staff member should quarantine at home for 5 days after testing positive for Covid.
- They can return to school or daycare on days 6-10 wearing a well-fitted 3-ply or KN95 disposable mask if they are fever free for the last 24 hours and have minimal or no symptoms. Children who are unable to do this would need to remain at home during this time.
- If desired, a child or staff member who is exhibiting little or no symptoms can request to be tested on day 3. If the test is negative, they can return to school or daycare after day 3 and will not be required to mask unless symptoms arise or worsen.
- If desired, a child or staff member can request to be tested on day 5 (not required if negative test on day 3). If the day 5 test is negative, they will not be required to mask for days 6-10 at school or daycare unless symptoms arise or worsen.
- *Note: If a child or staff member does not want to mask or test for the 5 days after returning from quarantine, they will need to quarantine at home during that time.*

Child or Staff Member Close Contact with Anyone Testing Positive for Covid-19

- Close contacts should monitor symptoms for the next 10 calendar days. It is recommended for them to wear a well-fitted mask for the next 10 calendar days, but it is not required by USD 272.
- If fever or symptoms arise, the close contact will need to go home. They can return to school or daycare when they are fever free for at least 24 hours and symptom free, or they can request to be tested. If negative, the child or staff member can remain in school or daycare unless they have a fever (follow 24 hour fever-free protocol before returning to school or daycare).
- If a close contact tests positive for Covid, they will follow the protocols for **Child or Staff Member Testing Positive for Covid-19** listed above.

Covid Testing Options

- Covid rapid testing is available free of charge at USD 272 schools and daycare. Please call your child's school or daycare to schedule a rapid test if it is needed for the child or a member of the household.
- Free at-home rapid Covid-19 test kits will be available from the District Nurse if a parent would like to test their child or household member at home instead of bringing them to the school or daycare.

School Activities, Athletic Practices & Games

- A sponsor, coach, student athlete, or student activity participant who tests positive for Covid will not be able to attend student activities, practices or games for 5 calendar days after testing positive for Covid. They must mask for 5 additional days after the 5 day quarantine.
- If they are exhibiting little or no symptoms, they can request to be tested on day 3. If the test is negative, they can participate in school activities, practices, and games after day 3 and will not be required to mask unless symptoms arise or worsen.
- If desired, they can request to be tested on day 5 (not required if negative test on day 3). If the day 5 test is negative, they will not be required to mask for days 6-10 at school activities, practices, and games unless symptoms arise or worsen.
- *Note: If a sponsor, coach, student athlete, or student activity participant does not want to mask or test for the 5 days after returning from quarantine, they will not be allowed to participate in any school activities, practices, or games.*
- A sponsor, coach, student athlete, or student activity participant who is considered a close contact should monitor symptoms for the next 10 calendar days.