

Superintendent Report

Tri-County Health Department Update

August 24, 2021



The information in this presentation
contains the most recent information
available on August 20, 2021.

DCSD and Tri County Health Public Health Update

- Tri-County Health Department (TCHD) Executive Director Dr. Douglas, issued a [public health order](#) requiring facial coverings to be worn by children aged 2 to 11.
- Douglas County Board of County Commissioners passed [a resolution to opt-out of that health order](#).
- Under state law, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) and TCHD are the entities to investigate and control the causes of communicable diseases and conditions affecting public health.
- Douglas County School District is a separate entity and operates within BoE Policies.

DCSD and Tri County Health Public Health Update

- DCSD Board Policy JLCC, management of common communicable diseases is done in accordance with the CDPHE or TCHD guidelines.
- I am acting in accordance with my understanding of BoE Policy; with your confirmation, continuing to implement Policy JLCC and the TCHD Public Health Order.
- Douglas County School District requires all students in preschool through sixth grade to wear face coverings in all indoor school settings. This requirement also applies to all staff who work with this age group.

Face Covering

- Masks are required indoors for before and after school activities (including BASE) and athletics (for students in preschool through sixth grade).
- Students and staff should bring their own face covering.
- Any visitors to DCSD buildings (regardless of grade level) will be required to wear a face covering.
 - This includes DCSD staff and contractors who are inside school buildings when students are present.
- All students and staff continue to be required to wear masks on school buses regardless of vaccination status.

Layered Mitigation Strategies

- Requiring masks inside school buildings for all students in preschool through sixth grade, as well as for the staff who work with this age group and for all building visitors (regardless of grade level).
 - Including staff and contractors accessing buildings while students are present.
 - Including before and after school activities (including BASE) and athletics.
- We will honor mask-wearing exemptions for students who cannot tolerate a face covering due to medical or mental health reasons as provided by a qualified healthcare provider.
- Encouraging frequent hand washing and providing access to hand sanitation stations.

Layered Mitigation strategies

- Continuing with increased ventilation in buildings and disinfecting frequently.
- Encouraging outdoor learning and activities where possible.
- Implementing physical distancing where possible.
 - Using space and working with individuals.
- Providing families and staff with [information about COVID vaccination and testing opportunities](#).
- Notifying families when their student may have been exposed to COVID so they may screen for symptoms and access COVID testing if desired.
- Notifying staff members when they may have been exposed to COVID so they may screen for symptoms and access COVID testing if desired.

Mental Health and Social Emotional Support

- How can we be part of the solution?
 - We need kids in school. Keeping students healthy and in school we have fewer kids out of school because of isolation, moved to remote like quarantines.
- We will continue to support all students with additional mental health and social emotional resources.
- Counselors and mental health providers are at each of our schools to support individuals and provide information about community resources.
 - Wrap Around & Second Step
 - Health, Wellness, and Mindfulness Resources
 - Suicide Prevention Resources

Information from Health Agencies and Resources

Tri-County Health Department Information

- Reasons for the Public Health Order
- Ability to stay in school and in person
- Tri-County Health Department and other medical experts emphasize that [mask wearing is an important and effective prevention strategy to keep students and staff safe.](#)

QUESTIONS?