

Health and Safety Plan Summary: **Freeport Area School District**

Revised: **August 9, 2023**

FASD will adhere to a mask optional policy for the 2023-2024 school year for all students and staff. Any student or staff member may utilize a mask for their own individual health need. Students and staff that feel ill should remain home and seek medical attention.

The School Nurse will notify parents when their student presents themselves as being ill while in school. It will be the responsibility of the family to pick-up the student from school as soon as possible.

FASD will ensure continuity of educational services, including but not limited to services to address the students' academic needs, and students' and staff members' social, emotional, mental health, and other needs, during the 2023-2024 school year. The 2023-2024 schedules provide for the continuation of instruction through in person or remote learning if required, during a period of school closure.

Safety Plan Guidelines	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
a. Student and Staff Masking.	An individual option for the 2023-2024 school year.
b. Facilities and Scheduling.	If required due to substantial evidence of illness, remote learning may be utilized in specific and limited emergency situations to maintain the continuity of student education.
c. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette.	FASD is always a strong proponent of handwashing. This includes signage and hand sanitizer in all classroom and common spaces.
d. Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improved ventilation.	Upgraded MERV filters will continue to be utilized in heating/cooling units. Continued sanitation methods will be used throughout the day, along with evening custodial services.
e. Daily Self-Health Checklist.	FASD encourages students and staff members to engage in daily self-checks prior to coming to school. For any illness, anyone with symptoms including temperatures of 100.0 degrees or more should remain home. To return to school, students should be fever-free for 24 hours WITHOUT the use of fever reducing medications and no remaining symptoms before being sent back to school.

Safety Plan Guidelines	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
f. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies.	FASD will not use individual, synchronous remote instruction in 2023-2024; however, other accommodations in IEPs and 504s will be provided.
g. Coordination with state and local health officials.	FASD remains in contact with the DOH and the Butler and Armstrong County Nurse contacts for guidance.

Expectations for Positive Cases

The best approach is to use an antigen test at the end of the 5-day isolation period. Collect the test sample only if you are fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication and your other symptoms have improved (loss of taste and smell may persist for weeks or months after recovery and need not delay the end of isolation). If your test result is positive, you should continue to isolate until day 10. If your test result is negative, you can end isolation, but continue to wear a well-fitting mask at school/school activities until day 10.

You can end isolation after 5 full days if you are fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication and your other symptoms have improved (Loss of taste and smell may persist for weeks or months after recovery and need not delay the end of isolation).

You should continue to wear a well-fitting mask at school/school activities 5 additional days (day 6 through day 10) after the end of your 5-day isolation period. If you are unable to wear a mask when around others, you should continue to isolate for a full 10 days.

If you continue to have fever or your other symptoms have not improved after 5 days of isolation, you should wait to end your isolation until you are fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication and your other symptoms have improved. Continue to wear a well-fitting mask. Contact your healthcare provider if you have questions.

For your absence to be coded as a medical excuse, a doctor's note must be submitted to the school nurse/school office.

**As knowledge regarding COVID-19 is constantly changing, Freeport Area School District reserves the right to adjust and implement precautionary methods as necessary to decrease the risk of exposure for our staff, students, and school community.*