

Hoven School District 53-2



Safe Return to School Plan 2021-2022

APPROVED
School Board Approval August 9, 2021

*Changes to this plan may occur based on updated guidelines from national, state, and local health officials. Direct questions to: Superintendent James Kayl, Hoven School District (james.kayl@k12.sd.us) (605) 948-2252 Ext. 1001

➤ General District Guidance and Practices

- The Hoven School District will have a “return to normal” educational program to the greatest extent possible for the 2021-2022 school year. This plan and all practices within are subject to change due to additional information and recommendations by the SD Department of Health.
- The three “color levels” of school protocol remain in place in the event that infection rates increase in the community.
- The Hoven School District will follow guidelines by the South Dakota Department of Health in regard to school operations due the COVID pandemic.
- The district is committed and will adhere to routines and policies that encourage students to practice good hygiene, including: proper hand washing, cleaning of surfaces, covering coughs and sneezes with a tissue and proper disposal, avoiding touching of a person’s face, social distancing when possible, and staying home when you are sick. *See Appendix A for Student Symptom Screening Checklist
- Anyone on district property will be permitted, but not required, to wear a mask or face shield until the time as the pandemic is deemed to be over. However, should conditions change and be deemed to warrant such, mask requirements could be reinstated. Parents who wish their child to wear a mask in school shall provide the mask for their use.
- The district will continue the increased cleaning of high touch surfaces and provide guidelines for custodians and staff for what surfaces should be cleaned on a daily basis to prevent the spread of COVID-19.
- Hand sanitizer will be available in all classrooms and near all entrances.
- Social distancing of 3 feet will be expected throughout the school day when possible.
- Visitors to the school will be allowed on a limited basis. Prior arrangements to visit the school are required and subject to administration’s approval depending on current COVID-19 restrictions.
- Extracurricular activities, events, games and practices will be held as regularly scheduled, though cancellations may occur should circumstances warrant them. At this time, masks will not be required on school & activity transportation.

➤ **Food Service**

Nutritious meals at school are part of a critical safety net to support the physical, mental, social, and emotional health and well-being for students. All students should have access to school meals and adequate time to consume them. The School District provides meal options that best meet the nutritional needs of students in an environment that promotes social distancing and personal hygiene practices as a means of supporting optimal academic success. Overall safety procedures include disinfecting of tables and chairs or other contact surfaces before, during (as needed), and after meal services.

➤ **Student and Staff Health/Safety**

National, state, and local guidance should always be consulted for the most up-to-date requirements and recommendations. Staff and families are encouraged to practice good hygiene, physical distancing, recognizing symptoms of Covid-19, and when to stay home due to illness.

Before sending their children to school parents should use the checklist in Appendix A.

If staff or students believe they have been exposed to the COVID 19 virus they should use the checklist in Appendix A before returning to school.

Students or staff displaying symptoms of illness are encouraged to stay home. If a student becomes ill during the school day, the student or staff member will go to the designated isolation area in the building until they go home. The parents of ill students will be contacted to pick up their students from school as soon as possible.

➤ **Student Learning Loss**

An emphasis will be placed on the identification of students in need of remediation due to learning loss associated with lost instructional time due to the pandemic. Teachers and/or staff members will notify administration in a timely fashion when a concern is noted in the classroom. Strategies for student remediation will be discussed and implemented on an individual student basis.

Study halls each day will be focused on assignment completion and student assistance. After school remedial sessions, ICU, early out days, and other strategies to meet the needs of all students are to be discussed with administration. The superintendent will bring recommendations to the board prior to implementation of such programs.

➤ **Student's and Staff Social, Emotional, and Mental Health Needs**

Counseling services are contracted to assist with individual student and group counseling needs. Any student or staff needs or concerns should be reported to school administration immediately.

➤ **Contact Tracing**

School administration will collaborate with state and local officials concerning contact tracing.

LEVEL 1 GREEN—No Community Transmission

Level 1—GREEN-- No laboratory-confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the last 7 days, and no reported increase in the number of cases over the last 7 days.

SCHOOL DISTRICT PROTOCOLS	CLASSROOM LEVEL PROTOCOLS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eases most restrictions, but still encourages good hygiene, social distancing and following recommended protocols in school to allow education to continue for students. • Continue to monitor school and public health indicators and adjust strategies to mitigate community spread. • School in this phase will look very normal and activities at school will follow known preventative measures to stop the spread of COVID-19. • Accommodate needs of children and families at high risk, including supports for at-home learning. • Follow cleaning and disinfection plans. • Lunch held in the cafeteria and students dismissed one table at a time. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classroom routines and procedures will be very normal, with some prevention and mitigation. • Teachers and students will engaged in good hygiene practices by washing hands and use hand sanitizer to keep hands as germ free as possible. • Social distancing will be encouraged where and when possible following recommended protocols in school to allow education to continue for students. • Students and staff should take preventative measures to not share items with others whenever possible. Teachers should encourage students to carry their own school supplies and should be discouraged from sharing laptops, books, or supplies unless properly sanitized. • Students and staff should bring their own water bottles to refill during the day. Communal use of water fountains will not be allowed.

South Dakota Department of Health

The South Dakota Department of Health (SDDOH) will work with school districts to provide data at a level to inform decision making, in line with appropriate privacy protections. Staff, students, parents and community should use the SDDOH website <https://doh.sd.gov/news/Coronavirus.aspx> to stay informed on trends in data of COVID-19 as well as pertinent information for all families to use for maintaining good health and hygiene as necessary.

LEVEL 2 YELLOW—Minimal to Moderate Community Transmission

Level 2—YELLOW-- Minimal to moderate level of community transmission: Minimal amount of laboratory confirmed cases of COVID-19 as determined by community.

SCHOOL DISTRICT PROTOCOLS	CLASSROOM LEVEL PROTOCOLS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This level increases restrictions from Level 1. While students and staff are encouraged to practice good hygiene, social distancing and following recommended protocols in school, additional measures may be needed to continue school. • Additional measures the school district may take include the wearing of masks by students and staff, daily temperature screenings, student partitions at desks and other increased measures to monitor additional spread of the virus in the Community. • The district will continue to monitor school and public health indicators and adjust strategies to mitigate community spread. • School in this phase will be slightly more restrictive and preventative and activities at school will follow known preventative measures to stop the spread of COVID-19. • Intensify cleaning and disinfection plans. • Lunch held in classrooms and disposable trays and utensils will be used to greatest extent possible. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This level increases restrictions from Level 1. While students and staff are encouraged to practice good hygiene, social distancing and following recommended protocols in school, additional measures may be needed to continue school. • Teachers and students will engaged in good hygiene practices by washing hands and use hand sanitizer to keep hands as germ free as possible. • Students and staff should use hand sanitizer at the beginning and end of every class and used during class as necessary without restriction. • Classroom routines and procedures will require to the greatest degree possible social distancing placement of desks up to 6 feet apart, or to the greatest spacing available. • Additional measures the school district may take include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ wearing of masks by students and staff ○ daily temperature screenings ○ student partitions at desks ○ other increased measures to monitor additional spread of the virus in the community • Students and staff should bring their own water bottles to refill during the day. Communal use of water fountains will not be allowed.

LEVEL 3 RED—Substantial Community Transmission

Level 3—RED—Substantial level of community transmission: Outbreaks or increases in cases and recent laboratory-confirmed cases of COVID-19.

SCHOOL DISTRICT PROTOCOLS	CLASSROOM LEVEL PROTOCOLS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The level has the sole purpose of minimizing the spread of COVID-19 through stay-at-home orders, strict social distancing, and closures of school and in-person instruction. • Remote learning opportunities will be the method of providing any instruction to students. It is expected that any school closure will be temporary and last for approximately 14 days. • School will remain closed for in-person instruction and all instruction must be provided via remote learning, whether using digital or non-digital platforms. • Cancel all field trips, inter-group events, sports events, extracurricular activities and large social gatherings. • Provisions for student services such as school meal programs will continue. • Follow guidelines from local and state health authorities on school re-opening. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The level has the sole purpose of minimizing the spread of COVID-19 through stay-at-home orders, strict social distancing, and closures of school and in-person instruction. • Remote learning opportunities will be the method of providing any instruction to students. It is expected that any school closure will be temporary and last for approximately 14 days. • School will remain closed for in-person instruction and all instruction must be provided via remote learning, whether using digital or non-digital platforms. • Cancel all field trips, inter-group events, sports events, extracurricular activities and large social gatherings.

APPENDIX A

STUDENT SYMPTOM SCREENING CHECKLIST

Parents must complete a daily symptom screening check by answering these questions before sending their child to school.

Has your child had close contact (within 6 feet for at least 15 minutes) with a confirmed case of COVID-19?	_____ YES	_____ NO
Does your child have chills or a fever of 100.4 or greater?	_____ YES	_____ NO
Does your child have new or worsening cough?	_____ YES	_____ NO
Does your child have shortness of breath or difficulty breathing?	_____ YES	_____ NO
Is your child experiencing fatigue?	_____ YES	_____ NO
Does your child have unexplained muscle or body aches?	_____ YES	_____ NO
Does your child have a headache (not related to a known health condition i.e. migraines)?	_____ YES	_____ NO
Does your child have a new loss of taste or smell?	_____ YES	_____ NO
Does your child have a sore throat?	_____ YES	_____ NO
Has your child been experiencing nausea or vomiting?	_____ YES	_____ NO
Does your child have diarrhea?	_____ YES	_____ NO

	<p>If YES to <u>ANY</u> of the questions DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL. Please seek guidance from your medical provider. Contact your school to inform them of your child’s symptoms. You may also contact the South Dakota Department of Health at 1-800-592-1861 with questions.</p>
	<p>If NO to <u>ALL</u> questions go to school.</p>