The following is our approach for starting the 2021-2022 school year in the Centennial School District. These guidelines are subject to change with any possible updates in state or local public health guidance. As we wanted to share this information with staff first, there are some updates to health and safety guidelines that have not been shared with the broader Centennial community yet.

We plan to provide an update to parents/families early next week.

The link to the Centennial School District Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan can be found at: https://www.csd28j.org/Page/988

We recognize you may have additional questions that are not addressed here. Should you have questions or concerns about district safety practices, please notify your administrator/supervisor. We plan to provide more FAQs at a later date.

1. **How will buildings be cleaned and disinfected? Will surfaces (desks, tables, countertops, doorknobs, light switches) be sanitized each day?**

Yes, we will be following the same protocols as last year. We will be cleaning and sanitizing daily, and performing frequent cleaning of high-touch surfaces. This is an all-hands-on-deck approach as we did during hybrid instruction utilizing the daily Centennial cleaning and sanitizing assignments and checklist. Principals/supervisors will be ensuring this is being followed in each building.

2. **What are the mask requirements for schools/district facilities?**

All Centennial staff (including any onsite community partners) and students ages 5 and up will be required to wear masks, regardless of vaccination status. Masks should not have exhalation valves or vents, be single layer, or made of thin fabric that doesn’t block light (no gators and no face shields alone).

There are a few exceptions to wearing a mask. Masks are not required when an individual is:

- Unable to wear a mask due to a medical condition or how they experience a disability;
- Actively eating or drinking;
- Engaged in an activity that makes wearing a mask, face covering or face shield not feasible; or
- Required to have their identity confirmed upon entry into schools/district sites.

Masks will be required on school buses and while students are waiting at the bus stop.

Families, students, and staff will be provided visuals and videos around expectations for masks prior to the beginning of school. These visuals will be provided in multiple languages.

**Indoor Mask Requirements:** As required by Oregon Administrative Rule: 333-019-1025 Masking Requirements for Indoor Spaces.

“Masks are required at all times unless alone in a private individual workspace, meaning an indoor space within a public or private workplace used for work by one individual at a time that is enclosed on all sides with walls from floor to ceiling and with a closed door.”
This means unless you are working alone in an office or classroom, you are required to wear a mask.

**Outdoor Mask Requirements:**
Anyone on school grounds is required to wear a mask, unless alone. This includes essential visitors, parents, and spectators for sports.

Students are expected to wear masks at recess unless taking a quick mask break.

**3. Will there be cohorts and how will contact tracing work?**
“Stable cohorts” entail students and/or staff spending 15 minutes or longer together (within 3 feet in a classroom and 6 feet everywhere else) and include buses, classrooms, after school activities, small group instruction, etc.

Cohorts will be documented through attendance for contact tracing. This allows the district to collaborate with the Multnomah Education Service Department (MESD) and the Multnomah County Health Department to determine who might have been exposed in order to confirm quarantine requirements.

Each building will have a process for signing in and out of classrooms and office spaces, when individuals will be there for more than 15 minutes.

When entering a school or work site, employees must fob in and use hand sanitizer (or walk directly to a sink to wash their hands). Employees must fob out when exiting the facility.

**4. What is being done to ensure the best possible airflow and ventilation at every building? What is the HEPA air filter replacement schedule?**
To improve ventilation, the district purchased HEPA air filters for classrooms and areas where students congregate. The air filters are rated for 3,000 hours which should last throughout the school year. We have extra HEPA air filters on hand if they need to be replaced at any time.

Also, we are upgrading HVAC air filters and maximizing air flow in spaces by increasing outside air through building ventilation units and opening windows.

**5. Will staff meetings and training be in-person or virtual?**
At this point, with the return to full-day, 5-day, in person student instruction, we are expecting staff to work on-site for their work shift. The format for a meeting will be dependent on the size of the group, meeting space, purpose of the meeting, and the degree to which social distancing and other safety measures can be maintained. Staff meeting in a common space will need to adhere to 6-feet distancing and mask wearing.

**6. Will staff who are exposed to COVID at work and become symptomatic/sick have to use their personal sick leave or is there another source of leave for this?**
Centennial School District will provide leaves according to the collective bargaining agreement and state and federal laws.

Until further notice, a staff member will be paid, but not required, to use their accrued sick leave for an absence due to quarantine or self-isolation, to a maximum of 10 work days, as directed by a public official due to a COVID-19 exposure that is determined by health authorities or the District to have occurred while the staff member was at work on district-premises in their capacity as an employee. Staff who are not ill as a result of COVID-19 infection may be required to perform work remotely during work hours.

Please understand that every employee has unique situations, therefore not all circumstances and solutions will be the same. Our Human Resources department is committed to serving each employee around their individual needs.

7. If an employee has a health condition that puts them at an increased risk to contract COVID-19, will accommodations be made?

The health and safety of our staff is a priority in the Centennial School District.

If you are at high-risk and believe you need workplace accommodations beyond the safety measures the District provides, please notify your supervisor and/or Human Resources. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Human Resources will engage in a timely, good-faith interactive process to discuss potential workplace accommodations to identify potential ways in which the district can support staff efforts to successfully perform the essential functions of their jobs and meet district performance expectations.

It is important to understand that not all staff who are in a higher risk category are automatically eligible for workplace accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Regardless, non-disability related requests for workplace accommodations and/or flexibilities will be considered on a case by case basis during this pandemic. Please note you may be required to produce documentation from your healthcare provider.

Please also note that the process previously described pertains to the employee and does not include high-risk family or household members.

8. What is the protocol for visitors/volunteers in classrooms?

To begin the year, we will not be allowing visitors and volunteers into our buildings on a regular basis during the instructional day. As the year progresses, we will reevaluate this. Community partners providing direct services will be allowed onsite.