



Verndale Public School

Safe Learning Plan

2020-2021



School Year Learning Models

In Person Learning

In person learning with safety protocols in place

Hybrid Learning

Mixture of in-person and distance learning

Distance Learning

Virtual Learning for all students.



Communication.....

- Families will be notified of any changes using our school wide JMC Student Messenger. Please make sure your phone number and email address are updated with the school.
- The school website and Facebook page will also be updated with any changes.
- Families are encouraged to call the school if they have any questions.



- Only students and staff should be present inside the school building.
- Visitors will be limited to only accessing common areas and the main entrance/office area.
- While indoors, face coverings are required. All persons entering the building will be required to verify they are free of COVID-19 symptoms.
- Any communication/engagement that can be conducted outside (weather permitting), through electronic communication (email) or phone, should be done so, to limit the number of individuals inside the school building.



Transportation....

Bus Capacity

- Buses will run at a maximum capacity of 50%
- Due to limited capacity, parents/guardians are encouraged to provide private transportation when possible to reduce the number of students transported on buses.

Driver Requirements

- Drivers will be required to complete a pre-work health screening which includes a health questionnaire, temperature check, and use of hand sanitizer.
- Drivers will be required to wear a mask throughout the duration of the route.
- Drivers will clean and sanitize all high-touch areas after each route.

Student Procedures

- Parents/guardians will be provided with a symptom-screening checklist for their child/children to be completed at home prior to leaving the house.
- If possible, they will check their child(ren)'s temperature (100.4 degrees) and answer YES or NO to the following questions:
 - New Cough?
 - Shortness of Breath?
 - Chills?
 - Body Aches?
 - Sore Throat?
 - Headache?
 - New loss of smell or taste?
- Students running a temp or with symptoms must stay home.
- Students will be given hand sanitizer upon entry on the bus.
- Maximum physical distancing will be used when possible on the bus.
- Cloth masks or face coverings will be required throughout the duration of the trip.
- Seating will be assigned by family, filling the bus from back to front.
- Buses will be unloaded from the front to back.
- Passengers that become sick during the day will not be allowed to return home on school transportation.

Food Service....



Cafeteria Capacity

- Seating will be limited to 50% capacity.
- Weather permitting, outdoor seating will be available.
- Seating assignments will be used to encourage social distancing.

Staff Requirements

- Food Service workers will be required to complete a pre-work health screening which includes a health questionnaire, temperature check, and use of hand sanitizer.
- Food Service workers will be required to wear a mask throughout the duration of their shift.
- The serving area will be sanitized between each group of students.

Student Procedures

Breakfast

1. Students in PK-6 will go directly to their assigned classrooms at 8:00 am.
2. A unitized breakfast will be delivered to the elementary classrooms and available to those students choosing to eat breakfast.
3. Students in 7-12 will pick up a unitized breakfast upon arrival to the school in the morning before classes start. Six feet of distance will be required for students waiting in line. There will be no options except for milk.
4. Students in 7-12 will remain in the cafeteria to eat breakfast. (This may be revised to meet social distancing requirements).
5. Students will be required to wear a mask until they sit down to eat in the cafeteria and must use the provided hand sanitizer station at the cafeteria entrance.
6. Students will go to the point of sale and staff will enter their number into the system.

Lunch

1. Students will be required to wear a mask until they sit down to eat in the cafeteria and use the provided hand sanitizer station at the cafeteria entrance. Students will eat in the cafeteria, classrooms, or outside depending on the 50% capacity limits.
2. Students will pick up a disposable container that will hold their complete meal. (There will be no main entrée options). There will be no options other than milk for efficiency and safety reasons. Six feet of distance will be required for students waiting in line.
3. Students will go to the point of sale and staff will enter their number into the system.
4. A la carte items will not be provided to start the school year. Limited items will be available starting in October. No cash sales. Students must have funds in their accounts to purchase.
5. Utensils, condiments and napkins will be provided in the meal containers. No extra condiments will be given.
6. Students will go directly to their assigned table, classroom, or dining space to eat lunch.
7. Students are required to wear masks once they are finished eating.



Learning Models....

Scenario 1: In-Person Learning

- Students report to school, following additional safety precautions, including face coverings as mandated by state officials.
- Student learning will happen at school with normal classroom settings while giving considerations to the health and safety of students and staff.
- Students will continue to have the option of distance learning for the academic school year.

Scenario 2: Hybrid Learning

- Students will report to school, following additional safety precautions, including face coverings as mandated by state officials. Hybrid Learning means students need to be socially distanced and there is a maximum number of students allowed in each classroom.
- Students will have a limited amount of movement throughout the school.
- It is the goal of the District to have all students in person while in the Hybrid Learning model.
- Students will continue to have the option of distance learning for the academic school year.

Scenario 3: Distance Learning

- Students will complete academic work from home.
- Students will receive instruction from a Verndale Public School teacher through virtual connections. Class sessions will be live and students will be expected to attend live teaching sessions to the best of their ability. Teachers will record the sessions and post the link to their classroom platform.
- Students will have direct daily contact with their teachers. This includes instruction, learning activities, and assessments. This will count towards an overall grade.
- Students will be required to check-in daily with each teacher for attendance.

Face Coverings....

- Face coverings are required for students, staff and visitors in Verndale School buildings and buses, unless a certified medical exemption form is completed by a and provided to the district.
- Face coverings can be removed only at meal times, while exercising or while outdoors when social distancing can be practiced. We will also find appropriate times and ways to provide breaks for students to remove masks.
- For those with a certified medical exemption, additional precautions may be used, including the use of an alternative shield or barrier.
- A medical exemption form is required for all face covering exemptions requests, and must include certification by a physician or physician assistant holding a current license from the Minnesota Board of Medical Practice or an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse/Nurse Practitioner holding a current license from the Minnesota Board of Nursing.
- Face coverings will be provided for each student and staff member.
- Students and staff may choose to supply their own face covering meeting the guidelines below.

Face coverings should comply with the Minnesota Department of Health guidelines, covering the nose and mouth and fitting snugly against the sides of the face.

Cloth face coverings should be washed frequently, and disposable coverings should be used only once.

Disposable masks will be available to any student or staff member who forgets to bring their mask.

All visitors are required to wear a mask once they enter the building. Disposable masks are available at the front entrance.





Reporting of Symptoms....

Staff/Student Entrances

- Staff will enter designated entrances in each building. Staff will complete the required screening before reporting to work.
 - New Cough?
 - Shortness of Breath?
 - Chills?
 - Body Aches?
 - Sore Throat?
 - Headache?
 - New loss of smell or taste?
- Staff must report any symptoms to their supervisor.
- Parents/guardians will be provided with a symptom-screening checklist for their child/children to be completed at home prior to leaving the house.
- Students in PK-6 will be screened in their classroom at the start of the school day and after lunch/recess.
- Students in 7-12 will be screened during their first hour class.
- Students dropped off in the morning by parents/guardians will do so at a designated entrance. The student(s) will have their temperature checked and answer YES or NO to the following questions:
 - New Cough?
 - Shortness of Breath?
 - Chills?
 - Body Aches?
 - Sore Throat?
 - Headache?
 - New loss of smell or taste?
- Students with a temp (100.4 degrees or higher) or symptoms will go to a designated area for students with COVID-19 symptoms and they will be sent home.



Building & Classroom Usage....

- Hallways will be divided to keep traffic on one side or the other. Passing time will be staggered by grade.
- Lockers will be staggered by grades.
- Gym lockers will be used to store clothes.
- All non-essential furniture will be removed from classrooms to allow for greater social distancing. Student seating will face the same direction.
- We encourage students to bring their own labeled water bottle as drinking fountains will only be used to refill water bottles or cups.



Cleaning & Sanitizing....

- Cleaning and sanitizing will follow CDC guidelines, including frequent cleaning of high touch-touch surfaces. Thorough cleaning will take place each evening.
- Cleaning kits will be provided for each classroom.
- Hand sanitizer will be available in all classrooms and common areas of the building.
- Verndale School will reinforce frequent handwashing by students and staff.
- Reminders for proper handwashing, social distancing and the use of face coverings will be posted throughout the building.