Bay-Arenac ISD Covid-19 Emergency Operations Plan

**This Plan is a working document that may be modified as the situation with the virus changes.

The BAISD Covid-19 Emergency Operation Plan (The Plan) was developed by a team of educators working in BAISD programs, classrooms, and buildings. The Plan was guided by the following documents and recommendations:

MDHHS
CDC
American Academy of Pediatrics

How should The Plan be used?
The Plan should be used to understand what safety protocols must be implemented, and to develop detailed district and building-level plans for how to implement the required safety protocols. Families, students, and community stakeholders should use The Plan to understand what safety protocols will be in place when students return to school for in-person instruction for the 2021 - 2022 school year.

Interim Recommendations guide us to understand the following:
"Schools provide safe, supportive learning environments for students and employ teachers and other staff. Schools also provide critical services including school meal programs and social, physical, behavioral, and mental health services.

Vaccination has proven incredibly effective and, as of June 22, COVID-19 transmission in Michigan is at the lowest point in a year. However, the school environment brings together large groups of individuals who may not yet be fully vaccinated. Schools should consider mitigation measures now to serve children in summer programming and be prepared for the return of people to indoor settings in the fall. The main goal of mitigation measures is to protect students, teachers, and staff, and maintain in-person learning.

While these recommendations are specific to schools, they are relevant for other sites that serve children—including child care and after school providers.

Schools can layer multiple prevention strategies developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to prevent transmission within school buildings, reduce disruptions to in-person learning, and help protect the people who are not fully vaccinated, which currently includes all children under the age of 12 years. All prevention strategies provide some level of protection, and layered strategies implemented at the same time provide the greatest level of protection."

Representatives

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Prevention Strategies

Promoting vaccination
Consistent and correct mask use
Physical distancing
Screening testing to promptly identify cases, clusters, and outbreaks
Ventilation
Handwashing and respiratory etiquette
Staying home when sick and getting tested
Contact tracing, in combination with isolation and quarantine
Cleaning and disinfection

Promote Vaccination

- COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective.
- Millions of people in the U.S have received COVID-19 vaccines under the most intense safety monitoring in history.
- CDC recommends COVID-19 vaccination as soon as possible.

Personal Protective Equipment (Subject to change based on the CDC and local health department recommendations)
Effective August 2, 2021; Updated August 24, 2021:

- Students aged 5 - 26, staff, and visitors may wear masks if they choose to wear them.
- The Living and Learning Center (LLC) - Bay Campus and Hughes - Students, staff, and visitors in classrooms with students ages 3-4 will wear masks throughout the day except while eating, during outdoor activities, or for those who are mask exempt.
- Children age 2 and up who attend playgroups and the caregivers who bring them to playgroups at LLC Bay Campus will need to be masked except while eating, during outdoor activities, or for those who are mask exempt.
- Children who attend playgroups and the caregivers who bring them to playgroups at our community locations will follow the community locations' mask mandates,
- Home visiting staff must wear masks when working inside buildings with families and children. Masks are not required when services are being provided outside.
- Staff and students who participate in work-based learning (for all BAISD sites) will be required to follow the processes and procedures of the establishment in which students are working.
- All BAISD staff working in local districts will follow the process and procedures established by the local district.
- Staff members will be provided as needed hand sanitizer, disinfecting wipes, diluted bleach, plastic masks, disposable masks, gloves, classroom desks dividers, gowns, room air purifiers, and any other identified PPE related to Covid-19.

Spacing, Movement, Access, and Ventilation

- In classrooms where tables are utilized, space students as far apart as feasible.
- Teachers should try to maintain three - six feet of spacing between themselves and students as much as possible.
- Post signs on the doors of restrooms to indicate proper hand hygiene techniques.
- If a classroom has windows that can open, they should be open as much as possible, weather permitting. Considerations should be made for students with allergy-induced asthma.
- Efforts should be made to keep three - six feet of distance between people in the hallways. Staggered movements at incremental intervals should be used if feasible to minimize the number of persons in the hallways as able.
- Have staff monitor arrival and dismissal to discourage congregating and ensure students go straight from a vehicle to their classrooms and vice-versa.

Hand Washing

- Provide adequate supplies to support healthy hygiene behaviors (including soap, hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol for safe use by staff and students, paper towels, tissues, and signs reinforcing proper handwashing techniques).
- Teach and reinforce handwashing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and/or the safe use of hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.
- Educate staff and students to cough and sneeze into their elbows, or to cover with a tissue. Used tissues should be thrown in the trash and hands washed immediately using proper hand hygiene techniques.
- Students should wash their hands or use hand sanitizer after changing any classroom; teachers in the classroom should wash their

hands or use sanitizer every time a new group of students enters their room.
- ❏ Systematically and frequently check and refill soap and hand sanitizers.
- ❏ Limit sharing of personal items.
- ❏ Keep students' personal items separate and in individually labeled cubbies, containers, or lockers.

Screening Students, Staff, and Guests (Including Outside Agencies)
Testing Protocols for Students, Staff, and Visitors - Responding to Positive Cases
Responding to Positive Tests Among Staff and Students

- ❏ Please reference our Updated Isolation and Quarantine Protocols

Cleaning

- ❏ Frequently touched surfaces including lights, doors, benches, and bathrooms should undergo cleaning at a minimum of once per day.
- ❏ Student desks should be wiped down with either an EPA-approved disinfectant or diluted bleach solution periodically throughout the day.
- ❏ Ensure safe and correct use and storage of cleaning and disinfection products, including storing products securely away from children, and with adequate ventilation when staff uses such products.
- ❏ Provide school-level guidance for cleaning and disinfecting all core assets including buildings and playgrounds.
- ❏ Alert school-based custodial and infection control staff of any changes in recommended cleaning guidelines issued by OSHA and CDC. It is expected that this guidance will be updated in real-time based on the status of community spread local geographies.
- ❏ Encourage schools to convene custodial and facilities staff to review and make actionable district guidance regarding cleaning and disinfection.
- ❏ Custodial staff should continue deep cleaning
- ❏ Air filters will be changed regularly.

Medically Vulnerable Students and Staff

- ❏ Systematically review all current plans (e.g. Individual Healthcare Plans, Individualized Education Programs, Individualized Family Service Plans, or 504 plans) for accommodating students with special healthcare needs and update their care plans as needed to decrease their risk for exposure to COVID-19.

Food Service, Gathering, and Extracurricular Activities

- ❏ Serving and cafeteria staff should use barrier protection including gloves, face shields, and surgical masks.
- ❏ Students, teachers, and cafeteria staff wash hands before and after every meal.
- ❏ When field trips occur, they should comply with transportation guidelines within this document, including mandatory facial covering.
- ❏ Family-style meals in classrooms should be avoided.
- ❏ If communal eating areas are used, meal/snack times should be staggered to create seating arrangements with three - six feet of distance between students.

Transportation (Including ISD owned Vehicles)

- ❏ Strongly encourage the use of hand sanitizer before entering the bus. Hand sanitizer should be supplied on the bus.
- ❏ The bus driver, staff, and all students ages 3-26, if medically feasible, will wear facial coverings while on the bus.
- ❏ Clean and disinfect transportation vehicles regularly. Children should not be present when a vehicle is being cleaned.
- ❏ Create a plan for getting students home safely if they are not allowed to board the vehicle.
- ❏ The use of district vans to transport students or more than one staff member will be treated as public transportation. All individuals in an ISD-owned vehicle, when more than one person is present, must wear a face covering.
- ❏ COVID-19 Training: Dean will continue with training to educate employees regarding COVID-19. The training will focus on signs and symptoms of infection, personal protective equipment (PPE), hand hygiene practices, and vaccination.
- ❏ Health Screening: Employees should be aware of and check themselves regularly for symptoms of COVID-19. Please be aware that Dean will continue to work with local health departments to implement contact tracing and quarantine as necessary.
- ❏ Off-bus Masking and Physical Distancing: It is recommended that unvaccinated individuals continue to wear a mask that covers the nose and mouth, while also practicing physical distancing. Dean will continue to make PPE available for all employees.
- ❏ On-bus Protocols;

Cleaning and Disinfecting: A "Level One" cleaning and disinfection should be completed once daily. This will be part of the weekly cleaning time allotted to drivers.
Hand Sanitizer: Dean will continue to make hand sanitizer available for use as passengers board.
Masks and Physical Distancing: Dean employees will follow the mask and physical distancing policy set by each individual school district. Please check with your supervisor to determine if masks are required by the school district you are servicing. Even if masks are not required by the school district, it is recommended that unvaccinated individuals continue to wear one while passengers are present.

Mental Health

- ❏ Provide Mental Health Screening: All teachers are strongly encouraged to implement a "Mental Health check-in" procedure. Example here. This form will be distributed to students weekly in an effort to assess their mental health. The screener should consist of 4-5 age-appropriate questions that provide feedback on the status of their mental health.
- ❏ Establish staff guidelines for the identification and referral of at-risk students to appropriate building-level support teams. Communicate with your staff the steps they need to take when a mental health concern is identified.
    - ❏ When the signs of concern are present.
    - ❏ Building reporting protocols.
    - ❏ Notify appropriate staff.

    Example: Establishing Response Team
    Example: Flowchart Example

Instruction

- ❏ Set an instructional vision that ensures that:
    - ❏ Every student will start the year with access to grade-level instruction and high-quality, standards-aligned instructional materials in every subject.
    - ❏ Every student will be assessed on their understanding of prerequisite skills and grade-level proficiencies using formative assessments, screeners, or diagnostics.
    - ❏ Every student's academic and social-emotional needs will be addressed with the integration of Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) and strengthening connections with students.
- ❏ After reopening and current data is collected, revise students' IEPs, IFSPs, and 504 plans in coordination with general and special education teachers to reflect the child's evolving needs based on assessment data and parent feedback, and design accommodations and match services accordingly.
    - ❏ Commence intervention and support services. Plans must include all programs and learning environments, especially special education, birth-to-five services, and CTE.
    - ❏ Establish structures for general and special education teachers to collaborate on delivery methods for assessments and instruction as outlined in IEPs. Consider students' needs around accessibility and provide assistive technologies, where possible.
- ❏ Inventory all intervention programs and services available to students on the district and school level and identify any gaps.
- ❏ Remain connected with MDE about policies and guidance.
- ❏ Develop a continuation of services plan for students needing either occupational, physical, and/or speech and language therapy, including evaluations by school psychologists and social workers.
- ❏ Conduct checkpoints with school leaders around curriculum pacing and ongoing monitoring of student progress, specifically honing in on the growth of students who need acceleration.
- ❏ Review student data to identify overall trends and gaps in student learning to design systemic supports and interventions.
- ❏ Procure any additional standards-aligned tools or materials to support differentiation, intervention, based on students' needs.
- ❏ Support schools to communicate regularly with families in their home language about their child's progress and the targeted plans for students in need of additional support.

Updates:
08/24/2021 - Mask mandate clarification for playgroups
09/27/2021
10/8/2021 - Update health screening for all staff vaccinated or not, update requirements for rapid tests for vaccinated and unvaccinated staff.
01/10.22 - Updated Isolation and Quarantine Orders for Staff and STudents
01/20/22 - Significant updates due to the Bay County Health Department updated guidance.

This document was approved by the Bay-Arenac Board of Education on 08/02/2021 and developed in coordination with BAISD union leadership from AFT, BAEA, MESPS, SEA and USW. Changes made after 08/02/21 were established by health department guidelines.