

# **Doland School District**

## **Start Well Committee - COVID-19 School Re-entry Plan 2021-22 School Year**

Board Adopted on August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

Revised: November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

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# Overview/School Contacts

This document is the result of continued review from the school board, administrative team, Department of Health, and the Department of Education. The Doland School District has been working closely with DOH, DOE, and other area schools to create a plan that works well for our district. We love our students, and believe that children need to be in school! We know that students thrive in safe, structured and nurturing environments. We will strive to teach students “in the building” through a shared commitment from students, teachers, families, and staff to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

The COVID-19 virus required a school closure from March 16, 2020, for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year. Doland School was successfully able to maintain both in-person and online learning for the entire 2020-2021 school year.

This plan is for the 2021-2022 academic school year. Changes to this plan **may have to be made** in very short notice. The administration reserves the right to change (both more stringent or more relaxed procedures) the plan and procedures outlined in the plan.

The following contact numbers may be referenced for any individuals with questions about the 2021-2022 Opening Plan:

- Jim Hulscher, Superintendent 605-635-6302 ext. 1
- Jeremy Wieseler, Principal 605-635-6302 ext. 2
- Cindy LaBrie, Food Service Director 605-635-6302
- Jim Wagner, Head Custodian 605-635-6302
- Sarah Lambert, Board Member 605-635-6302
- Julie Schneider, Board Member 605-635-6302

## **STARTWELL COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

- Jackie Ragatz, Sarah Lambert and Mollie LaBrie – Parents
- Amanda Johnson (Elementary), Bailey Coats (High School), Madison Claymore (Colony) – Teachers
- Julie Schneider and Natasha Noethlich – Board Members
- Jim Wagner and Candace Mason – staff
- Jim Hulscher and Jeremy Wieseler – administration

## **Self-Screening:**

The success of the Doland School running as close to normal as possible will rely heavily on parents and students self-screening for symptoms and illness before ever getting on a bus or coming to school. We know that there will be times when students become ill at school and we will have procedures in place for that but we must ensure that students or staff do not come to school sick. The recommendation released by Department of Health is that if any student or staff has a temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher without Tylenol or Ibuprofen then they should not be in school. They may return to school once they are fever free for 24 hours without the use of Tylenol or Ibuprofen.

## **Isolations/Quarantine Procedures:**

- “Close Contacts” if **your child** is considered a “close contact” from a school related function or the school is informed your child is a close contact.
  - The school will attempt to notify the parent of the child being a close contact, monitor the child for symptoms, and check the child’s temperature (considered a close contact) twice a day for 5 days after last contact with COVID positive person. The child may remain in school symptom free during this time.
- “Close Contacts” if a **Doland School STAFF member** is considered “close contact:”
  - If Vaccinated, they may return to work right away and the school will monitor their symptoms and check their temp twice per day for 5 days after last contact with COVID positive person.
  - If not vaccinated, they may return to work right away as long as they take a COVID test and the school will monitor their symptoms and check their temp twice per day for 5 days after last contact with COVID positive person
- **COVID Positive** – a person who has tested positive for COVID will remain quarantined for 10 days or the current CDC guidelines.

## **REPORTING PROTOCOLS**

In an effort to better track spread and possible cases in our district, we are asking all employees and students/families to follow these reporting protocols when someone is sick or absent

### **Staff:**

- Report absence to building administrator as soon as possible and be prepared to share symptoms if you are not feeling well.
- Report any changes to building supervisor if symptoms worsen or medical attention is needed.
- Return to school only when symptoms have subsided and it is safe to do so.

### **Students:**

- Parents need to contact their respective school office as soon as possible when a student is absent.
- Be prepared to share symptoms if you are reporting an absence due to illness.
- Report any changes if symptoms worsen or medical attention is needed.
- Return to school only when symptoms have subsided or it is determined by health officials to be safe.

## **What the School will do?**

- All employees were provided with the knowledge and resources to be vaccinated. The Doland School provided the vaccine and the 2<sup>nd</sup> dose on campus in the spring of 2021
- Monitor positive COVID-19 cases and its spread in our communities and schools, and follow the recommendations of health department officials regarding school closures, modified school schedules or in-school adjustments.
- Improve our digital curriculum to meet the needs of distance learning as it arises.
- Modify our method of delivery, however necessary, to ensure the health and well-being of students and staff.
- The attendance policy along with semester tests will return for the 21-22 school year.
  - ⊖ In the past students in grades 7-12 would be allowed to miss a cumulative of 2 days, this will be increased to 4 days in accordance with the semester test guidelines
  - ⊖ In the past with “2 days” it was considered “14 hours” with it moving to 4 days it would now be considered “28 hours.” However a student may NOT miss the same period more than 6 times within the guidelines unless the period is a study hall. For example: a student may not miss first hour Algebra I class 20 times and still be under the semester test guidelines.
  - ⊖ Students will be “exempt” for attendance if it is COVID related either COVID positive or a “close contact” with medical proof or parental proof.
- Chromebooks will be available to take home if needed due to quarantine or remote learning for students in grades 1-8 and high school students will still have their laptops
- Google Classroom will be used as the primary platform for the Doland School.

## **What families can do:**

- Understand that these guidelines are determined by health, educational and school professionals in an effort to care for you child, considering the physical environment, time spent in school, and the potential risk to the health of our students, staff, and families.
- Monitor family members’ temperatures daily. If temperature reaches 100.4 follow recommended health protocol.
- Keep your child home if they have a fever, cough, cold or flu symptoms, and have them return only when these symptoms have subsided.
- Follow district defined reporting protocol when your child is gone from school.
- Create a family plan in case your child is sent home from school/bus due to high temperature or is required to be quarantined or isolated.
- Prepare to adapt to change. From March 13, 2020 to today, we know that things evolve and change quickly, and schedule modifications and/or closures may be unavoidable in the future.
- Understand we are here to assist you with your child’s educational needs.
- Know that you as a guardian and parent have the right to keep your child home at any time as you assess risk as it relates to your family.

## **Transportation/Entrance into the School Building:**

- Parents/Visitors will have limited access to school facilities during school hours. Check in at office require – official school business only.
- Drop-off or Pick-up of Student: Parent/Guardian will bring student to vestibule or pick-up at vestibule.
- Face coverings are optional but NOT required at this tier on school transportation.
- When possible social distancing will be practiced on the bus.

## **Disinfecting/Cleaning Plan:**

- Bathrooms will be sanitized on a regular basis.
- Classrooms and common areas will be disinfected daily by non-janitorial staff.
- Common areas and classrooms will be disinfected each night once students have left the building by the janitorial staff.

## **Facility Use Agreements:**

- Non-essential individuals will be permitted inside the building only with administrative approval.
- These decisions will be based upon up-to-date information on community levels of transmission of Covid-19 and on a case by case basis.

## **School Meals/School lunch:**

- The school will provide lunch for any student out of school related to COVID. The family must notify the school by 8:30 AM that the child plans to take lunch, otherwise the school will assume the child is NOT getting school lunch. The lunch may be picked up in the vestibule by the main school door at 11:15.
- Lunchroom staff will wear masks OR shields while serving.
- Spread out tables, classes/grades will sit together and lunch times may be modified
- Silverware will be pre-wrapped.

## **Precautions in the Classroom:**

- Doland School is open and operating as normal under strict hygiene and cleaning regimens.
  - Hand Sanitizer available in all classrooms, hallways, and entrances.
  - Sanitization wipes available in each classroom or at each table.
  - Hand washing will be built into the elementary schedule.
- Classroom arrangements giving as much distance as possible between desks and social distancing practiced as much as possible
- Close proximity no longer than 15 minutes between staff and student practiced.

- Mitigate risk/spread by encouraging physical distancing when possible, proper hand hygiene, sanitization, hallway flow adjustments, adjusting lunch times and seating, recess modification and spacing of students in common areas.
- Be aware of illness/symptoms in the student body and contact a student's family immediately if a student exhibits symptoms.

### **Water Fountains/Water Bottles:**

- Drinking fountains are closed but bottle filler stations will be available and students will need to bring their own water bottle from home.
- Drinking fountains and restrooms will be separated for each group. High School students will only be able to use a certain water bottle filling station and bathrooms

### **Face masks:**

- Face coverings are optional but NOT required at this time.
- The school district has face masks available for those that request one.

### **Green Tier, Orange Tier and Red Tier:**

The Doland School District will address the COVID-19 virus with three different tiers, which will depend on the spread of the disease in our district at a particular time during the school term. Tier Green will be the new normal for the 2020-2021 school term and will be followed based off the numbers in the area affected by COVID 19 with guidance from DOH and local medical professionals. Tier Orange will be followed when the number known cases and close contact in the area with guidance from the DOH and local medical professionals. Tier Red will be followed when there are significant positive cases among staff or students within the school or area. **The tiers will not necessarily be followed by all schools in the district if it can be determined that there is no exposure within other buildings. This means that the seven schools (Pre-School, Elementary, Doland Junior High, Doland High School within our district may be at different tiers during the same time period throughout the year.**

## **GREEN Tier**

**New Normal – Based on COVID 19 numbers in area and guidance from DOH and local health professionals**

- **Student (with help of Parents) and Staff should self-screen daily prior to loading the bus or arriving at school.**
- Students/Staff will stay home when sick and will follow designated reporting protocols.
- Temperature checks by school personnel when symptoms are observed.
- Temperatures of 100.4 or higher, and students who are constantly coughing or showing flu like symptoms will be sent home. Students will be isolated for parent pick-up.

- **SPORTS/EXTRA-CURRICULAR**

- Activities in full session.
- Regular spectator attendance
- Streamed services will be provided where applicable.
- Pre-participation self -screening before AM practices or events.
- Sports Equipment and Locker Rooms will be disinfected after each practice and during drills/activities when applicable.

## **YELLOW Tier**

### **Active Cases in Communities or District (All of GREEN, Plus...)**

- Temperatures will be checked when students enter the school facilities.
- Face coverings **required** for one-to-one interaction.
- Face coverings **required** during movement.
- Parents/Visitors will have no access to school facilities during school hours without a prior appointment with the building administrator.
- **FOOD SERVICE:**
  - No moving around during lunchtime or switching tables.
  - Students will either eat in their classrooms, the gym or in the lunchroom on one side of the table depending on available space
  - Grab & Go meals may be used
- **TRANSPORTATION/BUS ROUTES:**
  - Face covering **required** on school buses.
  - Buses will be loaded and unloaded by sections or rows.
  - Seating arrangements in bus routes before and after school
    - Siblings will sit together
    - First on towards the back
- **SPORTS/EXTRA-CURRICULAR**
  - Modified participation utilizing CDC/SDDOH/SDHSAA and local guidelines.
  - Temperatures will be checked before each practice.
  - Face coverings recommended for all coaches and managers.
  - Face coverings recommended for all spectators.

## **RED Tier**

### **Active Cases and Exposure within a School Building (All of GREEN & ORANGE, Plus...)**

- A school or all schools in the district are closed. Notification from DOH level of virus spread within the district and determine the school buildings, students, and staff affected by exposure.
  - Degree of exposure within different buildings
  - Grade levels impacted.
  - Staff impacted.
  - Families impacted.
- Doland School 2021-2022 Distance Learning Plan will be enacted for a specified amount of time, which will be determined case by case.
- **FOOD SERVICE:**
  - Grab and Go lunches will be available for those who want lunch.
  - Pick-up will be available in Doland School.
  - To receive lunch you must sign up the day before so we know how many to prepare.
  - Lunches will be billed according to current CANS procedures and policies.
- **SPORTS/EXTRA-CURRICULAR:**
  - Activities suspended until further notice.

## **DISTANCE LEARNING**

- Virtual Learning School – the child does NOT attend any school activities and rarely comes on school campus. They choose this option out of avoiding COVID 19
  - The Doland School is NOT offering any Virtual Learning School options at this time.
- Remote Learning or Distance Learning – you would like your child IN school but circumstances such as close contact, COVID positive or an outbreak of COVID don't allow your child to be in school at the time. This is a temporary (hopefully) situation for maybe a week or two.
  - The Doland School will handle this on a case by case basis. We will do the best to include your child in a daily routine which may include email, zoom, packets, etc.

## **SCHOOL COMMUNICATION & STAKEHOLDER INPUT**

- The Doland School will communicate with parents via email, school Facebook page and the school website on changes.