



2021-2022

## District Continuity of Services Plan

Reviewed 09/20/2021

### **Maintaining the Health and Safety of All**

The District will continue to follow all required mandates related to COVID-19 in order to maintain the health and safety of all students, faculty, staff, and stakeholders of the District.

#### **Masks**

The Midland School Board of Directors **strongly recommends** the wearing of masks by students, faculty, and staff.

#### **Social Distancing**

When possible, social distancing of 6' is recommended.

#### **Handwashing**

Students, faculty, and staff will wash hands or use hand sanitizer frequently throughout the day. Hand sanitizer stations will be located throughout all Midland facilities.

#### **Cleaning/Disinfecting**

Midland facilities will be regularly disinfected and sanitized to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Surface cleaners and foggers will be used in classrooms, cafeterias, gyms, and busses.

## Contract Tracing and Quarantines

The CDC defines a close contact as an individual confirmed to have been within six feet for 15 cumulative minutes or longer within a 24-hour period during the infectious period of a person who has tested positive for COVID-19; however, additional factors like case/contact masking (i.e., both the infectious individual and the potential close contact have been consistently and properly masked), vaccination status, and prior infection status may affect this determination.

1. Under this updated guidance, proper mask wearing may now prevent individuals from being identified as close contacts in K-12 schools that continue to implement a mask requirement. This means that if both individuals involved in an exposure that occurs at school – the person diagnosed with COVID-19 and the person exposed to the positive case – were wearing masks correctly at the time of exposure, the individual exposed does not need to quarantine.
2. Exposed individuals should self-monitor for symptoms and stay home at the first sign of illness. They also should continue to wear a mask at all times to further reduce the likelihood of transmitting the virus. The person who tests positive for COVID-19 is still required to isolate at home.

A 14-day stay-at-home period for close contacts was previously advised by the CDC based on the incubation period of the virus. As of December 2, 2020, the CDC amended its guidance to allow two shorter options for the stay-at-home period. Based on current CDC guidance, the stay-at-home period can end for individuals experiencing no symptoms according to the following guidelines:

1. After 10 full 24-hour periods since close contact exposure without testing, or
2. After seven full 24-hour periods since close contact exposure and after receiving a negative test result (sample taken no earlier than five 24-hour periods after exposure).

If individuals return to school from these shorter stay-at-home windows, they should regularly monitor themselves for symptoms to ensure they remain symptom-free and take appropriate precautions (e.g., consistent mask usage) for the duration of the 14-day incubation period. Additionally, the CDC updated guidance on March 8, 2021, to indicate that a fully vaccinated individual does not need to stay at home following close contact exposure to a test-confirmed individual if the following conditions are true:

1. The exposed individual is fully vaccinated (at least two weeks have passed since receiving the second dose of a two-dose vaccine or the first dose of a single-dose vaccine),  
AND
2. The individual has not experienced any COVID-19 symptoms following the close contact exposure to a test-confirmed individual.

Individuals who have previously tested positive for COVID-19 and recovered who are subsequently exposed to someone with COVID-19 within three months of their original diagnosis do not have to stay at home or get tested again, as long as they do not develop new symptoms. Individuals who develop symptoms again within three months of their first instance of COVID-19 may need to be tested again if there is no other cause identified for their symptoms.

## **Screening**

Midland Elementary will continue to screen students, faculty, staff, and visitors (when allowed).

## **Vaccinations**

The District has no official position on vaccines. The District has offered an incentive to employees who have taken the vaccine. Additionally, the District has advertised various clinics on its website and Facebook page.

## **Accommodations**

Students with IEPs or other plans that allow for modifications or accommodations will be served in the way prescribed by those documents.

## **Coordination with State and Local Officials**

The District will continue to work with the Arkansas Department of Health to report required information and for guidance in case of an emergent situation within our District.