

BON HOMME SCHOOL DISTRICT SAFE RETURN TO IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION PLAN 2021-22

To achieve continued success with a return to in-person instruction, the Bon Homme School District will continue practices of transparency with stakeholders around: (1) mitigation efforts to prevent the spread of COVID-19, and (2) strategies to ensure students have access to needed services for academic success. **The Bon Homme School District's goal is to conduct all educational activities in a normal fashion throughout the school year.** However, Covid-19 conditions may require periodic alterations to the "[Safe Return to In-Person Instruction Plan](#)". Administration reserves the right to adjust future protocols, when deemed necessary. Any potential changes will center on student and staff safety, as well as the efficient delivery of education. The Bon Homme School Board will review the Safe Return Plan at the following school board meetings: February 14, 2022, August 15, 2022, February 13, 2023, and July 10, 2023.

The Bon Homme School District will post English and Spanish versions of this document online. Individuals with issues accessing information due to language or disability should contact Brad Peters via email at (brad.peters@k12.sd.us) or phone (1-605-589-3388).
Plan location: <https://www.bonhomme.k12.sd.us>

Questions regarding the contents of this plan may be referred to Superintendent Brad Peters at 605-589-3388 or Elementary Principal Dan Aaker at 605-589-3389.

**Date of last review: 8-9-21
Adopted: 8-9-21**

Students who exhibit COVID symptoms at school

- Student will be placed in an isolation area and be required to wear a mask. **Proper wearing of masks will be required by placing it over your nose and mouth.**
- Parent/guardian will be contacted for arrangements to send the child home.
- The event will be recorded and information provided to building administration.
- The student's desk, chair, locker or other used spaces will be sanitized.
- Confidentiality of all student/staff health information will be maintained.
- Bon Homme School will follow-up with the parent/guardian on student's status.
- In the event of a "confirmed case," individuals within "direct contact" will be informed. A confirmed case is defined as having documentation from a health care provider or the SD Department of Health.

Quarantine Policy & Contact Tracing

- The District will follow CDC and South Dakota Department of Health guidance regarding contact tracing. The District will conduct contact tracing for students who test positive for COVID-19 and who also have been in attendance at school or extracurricular activities. The District will collaborate with all state and local health officials as necessary.
- The District will follow the quarantine policy established by the CDC for positive cases.

What Counts as a Close Contact?

- You were within three feet of someone who has COVID-19 for a total of 15 minutes or more per day
- You provided care at home to someone who is sick with COVID-19
- You had direct physical contact with the person (hugged or kissed them)
- You shared eating or drinking utensils
- They sneezed, coughed, or somehow got respiratory droplets on you

Who needs to isolate?

- Individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19 will be required to isolate for 10 days.
- Individuals who develop reoccurring symptoms after their first bout of COVID-19, may need to be re-tested if there is no other cause identified for their symptoms.

Bon Homme School District Close Contact Protocol

1. When staff, parents and/or the DOH notify the school of a positive COVID case, designated personnel will conduct contact tracing.
2. The district will use social distancing, use of masks, as well as the length of the close contact to be taken into consideration in determining whether an individual is considered a potential close contact. Students and/or staff members will not be deemed in close contact if they were able to social distance (3 feet away and/or less than 15 minutes).
3. Individuals having close contact with someone who has COVID-19, but remains asymptomatic, will continue to attend school through the quarantine period. Individuals who have not been vaccinated will be required to wear a mask and get temperature checked twice per day, during the quarantine period.
4. Individuals who have had **COVID-19 within the past 3 months or who are fully vaccinated and remain asymptomatic** will not be required to participate in close contact protocols.
5. Parents will be notified by the school that their student is a close contact and will be subject to monitoring procedures.

Close Contact Procedure for Staff and Students per “Essential” Designation

1. Students and parents will be notified by the school when a student is identified as a close contact. Once designated, the close contact will remain in school under the following conditions:
 - Individuals will be required to wear a mask during school. **Proper wearing of masks will be required by placing it over your nose and mouth.**
 - Individuals will have their temperature taken twice per day and before any extra-curricular activities.
 - When and where possible, individuals will socially distance themselves from others during class and at lunch
 - Individuals must remain symptom free during the 10 day assigned quarantine period. Should they become symptomatic, they will be required to stay home until such time they are symptom free for 24 hours without medication.

Daily Protocols

Daily Mitigation Procedures

Facility and Maintenance

- Summer month cleaning involved thorough cleaning and sanitizing of all furniture, fixtures, walls, carpets and floors, etc.
- Air filters were replaced prior to the start of school. Periodic replacement of air filters will occur in the fall, winter, and spring.
- HVAC systems will be operated during all scheduled student/staff activities to ensure air exchanges have occurred in occupied areas.
- Hand sanitizer dispensers will be available in all classrooms, lunchrooms, and entries.
- Handwashing signage will be visible in all restrooms.
- EPA approved products will be used for all cleaning.
- All staff will be responsible for routinely wiping down frequently touched surfaces in their work area.
- Custodians will disinfect frequently on touched surfaces within the building.

Pre Screening

At Home:

- Parents will screen their children for fever, shortness of breath, headache, loss of taste or smell, fatigue, muscle or body aches, nausea or vomiting or diarrhea.
- Parents will contact their primary medical care provider, if symptomatic.
- Students do NOT report to school if any of the above symptoms are present.
- Parents should keep their child at home if they are not feeling well or have symptoms.
- See policy in Bon Homme School handbook pertaining to communicable diseases.

At School:

- Handwashing/hand sanitizing and proper hygiene practices will be emphasized to students. Proper handwashing protocol includes washing your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol after touching or removing your mask.

Pick Up/Drop Off of Students

- The entrance doors will be locked until 7:30 AM. Students waiting outside are encouraged to exercise appropriate social distancing. Once doors are opened, students may enter the building. All students are expected to proceed to their normal designated areas.

Classroom

- Hand sanitizer will be available in all classrooms and throughout the building.
- Students will be encouraged to wash hands often.
- Signs will be present in restrooms, showing the correct handwashing etiquette.
- Students will be encouraged to follow appropriate respiratory hygiene/cough etiquette. The following measures to contain respiratory secretions are recommended for all individuals with signs and symptoms of a respiratory infection:
 - Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing.
 - Place in the nearest waste receptacle to dispose of the tissue after use.
- The use of specific cleaning solutions to combat any germs on surfaces will be used by staff throughout the day. Additional cleaning/disinfecting measures will be taken by maintenance staff, as evaluated on a regular basis.
- Water filling stations will be available for students. All PK-12 students are encouraged to bring a water bottle with them on a daily basis.
- To the extent possible, limit student sharing of materials.
- To the extent possible, promote social distancing by limiting opportunities for students to congregate in common area locations within school buildings.
- To the extent possible, allow minimal mixing between groups by establishing seating charts.
- To the extent possible, space seating/desks as much as possible by arranging them no closer than three feet apart.
- To the extent possible, desks will be turned to face the same direction (rather than facing each other) or have students sit on only one side of tables.

Lunchroom

- Dining areas will be disinfected after each use between student groups.
- Meals will be served on sanitized trays by food service staff.
- EPA approved products will be used for all cleaning and sanitizing.
- All food service staff will continue with sanitation and safety training.

Hallways

- Backpacks will be permitted in the classrooms and students will be encouraged to limit locker trips. No food will be allowed in the backpacks.
- Teachers will limit the number of students in the hallway and making restroom trips during class time.

Parents/Visitors

- Visitors during the school day will be allowed in the building and must check into the elementary office.

Transportation

- Bus routes will continue to be offered (**but physical distancing is not attainable**) in school vehicles.
- Seating on buses will be by family and students **MUST** stay in their **assigned seats**.
- **It is RECOMMENDED** that students wear face masks, but is not mandatory.
- Buses will be sanitized after each route.
- Bus windows will be open to circulate air (as weather permits).
- Families choosing not to utilizing the bus service should contact BJ Buses at 583-4596.

Extra-Curricular Activities

- Guidance from the South Dakota High School Activities Association, SD Department of Education, and SD Department of Health will be followed for all extra-curricular activities.
- Buses will be sanitized regularly after trips.
- Bus windows will be open to circulate air (as weather permits).

Should a significant spread of COVID-19 occur at some point in the future, measures used during the 2020-21 school term will be invoked. This would include daily temperature checks upon entering the building, potential mask requirements, limiting the flow of outside traffic within the buildings, etc. If it necessary to make changes in daily protocols, parents will be informed of the changes.

Diagnostic and Screening Testing for COVID-19

- During the 2021-2022 school year, the Bon Homme School District will opt-out of both asymptomatic screening testing offered by the SD DOH and symptomatic on-site Rapid testing (e.g., BinaxNow by Abbott) offered by the SD DOH. Individuals wishing to receive a COVID-19 test will need to contact their primary health care provider for additional information.

Vaccination Efforts to Eligible Members of School Community

During the 2020-2021 school year, Avera Health officials offered COVID-19 vaccines to Bon Homme School District staff members. Anyone interested in getting vaccinated should contact their primary health care provider.

Accessibility

The Bon Homme School District will post English and Spanish versions of this document online. Individuals with issues accessing information due to language or disability should contact Brad Peters via email at (brad.peters@k12.sd.us) or phone (1-605-589-3388).

Plan location: <https://www.bonhomme.k12.sd.us>

Academics

Continuity of Educational Services

- On-Campus Learning - All students return for in-person delivery of instruction by Bon Homme School District teachers. Students and teachers maintain a normal daily schedule.

- Bon Homme staff will deliver a combination of online learning platforms and/or hard copy packets for positive cases who must quarantine. All other students will be required to attend school in person, unless the student has other illnesses or injuries.
- Remote Learning - Should the district be forced to shut down due to a significant resurgence of Covid-19, all instruction will be provided off-campus remotely through technology and/or learning packets provided by the Bon Homme School District teachers.
 - Principals will identify families in need of reliable Wi-Fi/internet connectivity for their children in the event that the Temporary Remote Learning model would need to be utilized.
 - The District will work with local internet providers to bridge the connectivity gap for students/families.

Learning Loss:

- The District has and will continue to address learning loss as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Additional staff members have been hired to focus on learning loss. Summer school opportunities for elementary and secondary students were offered following the 2020-21 school term. During the 2021-22 school term, a “Credit Recovery” program will be offered, which provides additional opportunities for high school students to remain on a path to graduation.

Students’ Social, Emotional, and Mental Health Needs:

- Students will have access to resources offered through the District, such as a full time elementary and secondary guidance counselors, as well as an option to seek counseling services through Lewis & Clark Behavioral Health.

Staff Members’ Social, Emotional, and Mental Health Needs:

Staff members will have the opportunity to attend professional development seminars that focus on the social, emotional, and mental health of educators.

Food Services:

The Bon Homme School District will operate the Seamless Summer Option (SSO) for the food service program during the 2021-2022 school year. This will allow all families to have access to free lunches during the school year.

Bon Homme School Operating Phases

- Phase 1 – No cases in our school
 - School is Open
 - Traditional face-to-face instruction
- Phase 2 – Confirmed case among students or school personnel
 - When aware of a confirmed case, the school will follow recommendations from the SD Department of Health.
 - Potential changes in daily protocols may be made.
 - Pending the amount of spread, individual classrooms, grade levels or school may close.
 - Short Term off site Delivery of Content may be invoked.
 - Parents will be notified by the school of the situation.
 - Mandatory Masks may go into effect, pending the amount of COVID-19 spread.
- Phase 3 – Wide Outbreak of cases in school or community
 - When aware of a confirmed case, the school will follow recommendations from the SD Department of Health.
 - School Building will be closed until deemed safe to return.
 - Short Term Delivery will be implemented.

- Parents will be notified of the situation.

- **Special Education**

The Bon Homme School District Special Education Department is committed to providing free and appropriate educational opportunities for students with disabilities to the greatest extent possible in accordance with the guidance from the US Department of Education, SD Department of Education, SD Department of Health, CDC guidelines, and state of South Dakota.

Collaboration with families will continue to be an integral part of the special education process. To address the individual needs of each student with disabilities, special education staff will continue to work with families to identify essential services that can be provided both directly and indirectly when on the school campus or when in a remote learning environment. Learning environments will be selected by the district and/or state, and may fluctuate throughout the school year. Through collaboration with families, Individual Education Plans (IEP's) may be adjusted, as needed, for the circumstances of the learning environment based on students' needs and services. Staff will continue to work diligently in setting detailed plans for the delivery of special education services. As each student has unique needs, the special education department will continue to create avenues for learning and sharing new approaches.

Section 504

- Students who qualify for Section 504 will continue to be evaluated and receive accommodations in all learning models. Section 504 case managers will review and collaborate with the 504 teams to determine and update accommodations as appropriate. The 504 teams will work collaboratively to identify alternative solutions if the accommodation(s) are not appropriate or successful through a particular learning model.

English Language Learners

- Students will continue to be identified through the Home Language Survey and screened with WIDA according to State Guidelines. The ELL Coordinator will communicate with families and teachers to provide services whether learning is On-Campus/Off-Campus or Virtual Learning, as well as develop and meet the requirements of their Language Acquisition Plan (LAP). The district will continue to follow the guidelines provided by the State and/or ELL Consortium for all assessments and requirements of ELL services. Information in the home language will be essential in helping families navigate the school year.
- General classroom teachers will collaborate with families, the student, and the ELL Coordinator and provide language support in their instruction and assessments following the Language Acquisition Plan (LAP) in all learning environments. Communication home should be provided in both the language and mode of preference of the family.

