



Marquette Area Public Schools COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan 2021-2022 School Year

Last updated November 22, 2021

Effective December, 21, 2021

MAPS 2021-2022 COVID-19 Response Plan has been a collaborative effort of the “Back To School Committee”, district administrators and staff to inform students, parents and district personnel on planning for the upcoming school year. It should be noted that this plan is a working document and likely to change as more relevant or pertinent information becomes available (data) or new strategies for addressing COVID-19 in public education.

Throughout the summer and school year MAPS works closely with the Marquette County Health Department, Upper Peninsula Health System, Marquette Alger RESA and neighboring districts in analyzing data, formulating strategies, and adapting protocols and procedures to best meet the safety and educational needs of all our students.

The MAPS COVID-19 Preparedness and Response plan is a working document and should be reviewed monthly as part of the Marquette Area Public Schools Board of Education’s regularly scheduled meetings.

Online Learning

As currently constructed, MAPS will adhere to the following guidelines for online learning:

- Michigan Virtual School classes will be offered as an option to all students in grades 6-12. If enough students opt for a specific class in a specific grade level, a certified MAPS teacher may be assigned as a virtual instructor
- MAPS K-5 Virtual Academy (MVA), an alternative to face-to-face learning for K-5 students, will be provided through Edmentum, a third party online learning provider. MAPS will provide a MAPS K-5 Virtual Academy Supervisor to serve as a liaison between elementary parents and Edmentum. MAPS K-5 Virtual Academy will require a commitment from families. Once enrolled, students will be required to remain full-time in MVA for a semester at minimum. At the conclusion of the first semester, MVA students may return to in-person learning.

- If circumstances necessitate a classroom, building or district wide move to online learning, preK-12 students enrolled in MVS classes or Edmentum will continue in that format. All other students will receive virtual instruction from their regularly assigned teachers
- If circumstances necessitate a classroom, building or district wide move to online learning, in-person preK-12 students will receive virtual instruction from their regularly assigned teachers

In the event of a classroom, building or district wide closure:

- MAPS will provide a rigorous and robust distance learning program for any student affected in grades preK-12. MAPS will be issuing credit and grade advancement for satisfactory completion of courses over the time of closure. Teachers will track student participation; monitor student wellness; grade assignments, homework and quizzes; provide feedback on student work; differentiate instruction; communicate through zoom, google meets, email, and google classroom.
- MAPS will survey families of affected students to determine internet accessibility and device needs. Chromebooks are set up and ready to be issued to any student who may require one. If the need arises, hotspots will be installed nearest the parking areas in each of our seven buildings to aid families in downloading assignments and videos, If a student does not have internet access at home, or no way of reaching a hotspot, hard copy learning packets will be made available for pickup or will be mailed directly to homes.
- Students with IEP's, 504's and other learning plans will be provided accommodations that fit with virtual learning. Ancillary services will be provided to the extent staff is limited by local, state or CDC guidelines. Services such as OT, PT and speech may happen virtually if appropriate.

Safety Protocols

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)/Facial Coverings

Requirements:

- Facial coverings must be worn by preK-12 students, staff, and bus drivers during school **transportation**. Any staff or student that is unable to medically tolerate a facial covering must not wear one. Any staff or student that is incapacitated or unable to remove the facial covering without assistance, must not wear one. Facial coverings may be homemade or disposable level-one (basic) grade surgical masks. Individuals who claim medical exemption will need to provide rationale and documentation. [Mask Exemption Request](#)
- Per the September 20, 2021 Order from the Marquette County Health Department, facial masks covering both nose and mouth **must** be consistently and properly worn by **preK-6 students and staff** while inside any enclosed building or structure of MAPS except for during meals. Any staff or student that is unable to medically tolerate a facial covering must not wear one. Individuals who claim medical exemption will need to provide rationale and documentation. [Mask Exemption Request](#) Any staff or student that is incapacitated or unable to remove the facial covering without assistance, must not wear one. Facial coverings may be homemade or disposable level-one (basic) grade surgical masks.
 - Homemade facial coverings must be washed daily.
 - Disposable facing coverings must be disposed of at the end of each day.

- Facial coverings are strongly recommended to be worn by **7-12 students** and **staff**, including in hallways and common areas, except for meals. Facial coverings may be homemade or disposable level-one (basic) grade surgical masks. Any student or staff member who cannot medically tolerate a facial covering, if it were required, must not wear one. Any student or staff member that is incapacitated or unable to remove the facial covering without assistance, must not wear a facial covering
 - Homemade facial coverings must be washed daily.
 - Disposable facing coverings must be disposed of at the end of each day.

District and Building Implementation Plan:

- MAPS may be required to transition to this plan on very short notice.
- MAPS students and parents may be required to watch a safety video on the wearing of and expectations for maintenance of face coverings. Students and parents may be asked to sign-off on their awareness of these policies before the students are permitted to enter the classroom or school.
- In the event facial coverings are required, buildings, grounds, and transportation signage will be prominent throughout all school facilities and clearly identify who is required to wear face coverings in each designated area of the building, grounds, or bus.
- Face coverings may be ordered and available to every student and staff member on a daily basis. The supply of masks located on busses and in the classrooms will be checked every evening by the teacher, custodian and bus driver.
- Clear face coverings may be provided to all teachers with the option to wear the clear mask during instruction.
- Individuals (staff or students) who claim medical exemption will need to provide rationale and documentation. [Mask Exemption Request](#)
- Exempted individuals will be recorded in a master database.
- Students who are capable of wearing a face covering and refuse to do so in an area where a face covering is required will be issued a face covering by a school official (teacher, paraprofessional, administrator, school safety staff, playground aid, etc.) and asked to put the face covering on.
- Students showing patterns of non-compliance will be removed from the school building until the student agrees to comply with this safety protocol. Parents will be notified of each instance of non-compliance by the administration or school safety officer.
- Staff who are capable of wearing a face covering and refuse to do so will be addressed by the school administrator and could face progressive disciplinary measures up to and including termination.
- Guests to the school building (presenters, substitute teachers, etc) may be issued a disposable face covering upon signing in at the main office and will be instructed to wear the face covering at all times. Instances of non-compliance will result in the guest being escorted from the building by the school safety officer or building administrator.
- In instances of uncertainty about individuals not wearing face coverings, these matters will be relayed to the building administration for review and decisive action.

Hygiene

Recommendations:

- Adequate supplies of soap, hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol, paper towels, tissues, and signs reinforcing proper handwashing techniques will be provided to support healthy hygiene behaviors
- Staff will 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.
- Staff and students will cough and sneeze into their elbows or cover with a tissue. Used tissues should be thrown in the trash and hands washed immediately using proper hand hygiene techniques.
- Soap and hand sanitizers will be systematically and frequently checked and refilled.
- Students and teachers will have scheduled handwashing with soap and water every 2-3 hours.
- Portable handwashing and/or hand sanitizing stations will be procured and set up throughout school buildings where needed.

District and Building Implementation Plan:

- Every classroom will be supplied with hand sanitizer, wipes, disposable masks, etc.
- Supplies (paper towels, hand sanitizer, tissues, trash receptacles) will be checked daily and restocked in the classroom.
- Teachers will contact the office immediately if supplies run low during the school day.
- Each classroom will have a hygiene protocol which will be communicated via newsletters, web pages, bulletin boards, and the like. It will include
 - Hand-washing schedule
 - Room and materials cleaning schedule
- Teacher or school nurse will teach students the following on the first day of school and reinforce weekly or more often as needed (this may be done via video)
 - Proper handwashing on the first day of school and reinforce weekly or more often if needed
 - How to cough and sneeze into their elbows, or to cover with a tissue and dispose of it in the trash
- Proper mitigation strategies including hand washing and sneezing will be communicated to families via newsletters, web pages, bulletin boards, and the like. Parents and caregivers will be asked to review and reinforce with their students.

Safety Protocol- Spacing, Movement and Access

Recommendations:

- Desks will be spaced three to six feet apart in classrooms, space permitting.
- In classrooms where large tables are utilized, students will be spaced as far apart as feasible.
- As feasible, all desks will be arranged facing the same direction toward the front of the classroom.
- Teachers should maintain spacing between themselves and students as much as possible.
- Family members or other guests are not allowed in the school building during the school day unless they are vaccinated or willing to wear a mask.
- Signage will be posted to indicate proper social distancing where permissible.

- Floor tape or other markers may be used at three to six foot intervals where line formation is anticipated.
- Social distancing floor/seating markings may be placed in waiting and reception areas.
- Signs may be placed on the doors of restrooms to indicate proper social distancing and hand hygiene techniques.

District And Building Implementation Plan:

- Efforts will be made, with no guarantee, to space desks three to six feet apart in classrooms when possible. If stricter spacing guidelines are required, the “Back To School Committee” will meet to reevaluate social distancing recommendations.
- Building/facility leaders will determine what furniture or supplies can be removed from the building or what alternate furniture can be used to create greater physical distance.
- Signage will be posted throughout the building and on restroom doors reminding students, staff, and guests of efforts to maintain physical distance when possible.
- Restroom sinks may be disabled and marked out of order if they are closer than 3 feet.
- Only bottle fill stations will be available for water consumption, bubblers will be temporarily shut off until health officials deem this a safe option.

Screening Students and Staff

Recommendations:

- All students and staff should self-screen before coming to work or school. If students/staff are displaying symptoms of COVID-19 they should stay home and monitor for 24 hours. Currently, MAPS will not temperature check or screen students before entry each day. Every school will identify and designate a quarantine area and a staff person to care for students who become ill at school.
- Students who become ill with symptoms of COVID-19 should be placed in an identified quarantine area with a surgical mask in place until they can be picked up. Identified school staff caring for these children should wear a surgical mask, with the exception of students with special needs requiring aerosolized procedures in which an N95 mask is required.
- Symptomatic students sent home from school should be kept home until they have tested negative or have recovered according to CDC guidelines.
- Staff should conduct daily self-examinations, including a temperature check, prior to coming to work. If they exhibit principal symptoms of COVID-19 or have a temperature of 100.4 or greater, they should stay home.
 - MDHHS defines “principal symptoms” as follows:
 - At least 1 of the following *not explained by a known medical or physical condition*: fever, shortness of breath, or uncontrolled cough, or
 - At least 2 of the following *not explained by a known medical or physical condition*: abdominal pain, diarrhea, loss of taste or smell, muscle aches, severe headache, sore throat, or vomiting.

District and Building Implementation Plan:

- At this time MAPS is not conducting COVID-19 testing for staff or students.

- Each school building will identify a remote and secluded room, no smaller than 100 square feet to serve as an isolation area. This room will be outfitted with appropriate PPE including gowns, face shields, N95 Masks, gloves, sanitizing wipes, portable two-way radios, and log sheets..
- Each building will have an identified and trained staff person to serve as the “quarantine officer”. These duties will take precedence over any other responsibilities and therefore this individual must have the flexibility to leave their regular assignment at a moment’s notice.
- From the time of identification of potential infection, the student will not be left unattended by the quarantine officer and a log sheet of activity will be maintained at 5-minute intervals until the student or staff member is safely removed from the building.
- Parent communication will be made immediately with clear and concise directions on where and how to pick up the student.
- MAPS will continue assisting the MCHD with contact tracing identifying individuals who are considered close contacts of a student who tests positive for COVID-19. Priority will be placed on those individuals that they were in contact with for a sustained 15 minutes or more.
- Staff should conduct daily self-examinations, including a temperature check, prior to coming to work. If they exhibit principal symptoms of COVID-19 symptoms, or have a temperature of 100.4 or greater, they should stay home.
 - MDHHS defines “principal symptoms” as follows:
 - At least 1 of the following *not explained by a known medical or physical condition*: fever, shortness of breath, or uncontrolled cough, or
 - At least 2 of the following *not explained by a known medical or physical condition*: abdominal pain, diarrhea, loss of taste or smell, muscle aches, severe headache, sore throat, or vomiting.
- MAPS will adhere to determinations made by the Marquette County Health Department when determining whether or not, and for how long, positive cases and/or close contacts need to monitor, isolate and/or quarantine.
- Due to considerable availability of the vaccine to students ages 5 and above, and based on the decreased risk of vaccinated students contracting or spreading the virus causing COVID-19 (MI Safer Schools Guidance for Managing Students Exposed to COVID-19, 2021), effective December 21, 2021, MAPS will only be giving guidance to families regarding possible quarantines, isolation, etc. to the extent required by local and State health department orders.

Testing Protocols for Students and Staff and Responding to Positive Cases

Recommendations:

- Schools will cooperate with the local public health department regarding implementing protocols for screening students and staff if the need arises. ([Marquette County Health Department Site](#))
- Students who develop a fever or become ill with COVID-19 symptoms at school should wear a mask and be transported by their parent or guardian, emergency contact, or ambulance if clinically unstable, off-site for testing.
- Staff who develop a fever or become ill with COVID-19 symptoms at school should wear a mask and be transported off-site for testing.
- Symptomatic students and staff sent home from school should be kept home until they have tested negative for COVID-19, or have been released according to CDC guidelines.

- Families should be notified of the presence of any laboratory positive or clinically diagnosed cases of COVID-19 in the classroom and/or school to encourage closer observation for any symptoms at home.
- In the event of a lab or clinically diagnosed case of COVID-19, immediate efforts should be made to contact any close contacts (those who spent more than 15 minutes less than three to six feet in close proximity to the student or staff member) so that they can be quarantined at home or required to wear a facial covering at school based on current local, state, and federal guidance orders. MAPS will adhere to determinations made by the Marquette County Health Department when determining whether or not, and for how long, positive cases and/or close contacts need to monitor, isolate and/or quarantine.
- MAPS will continue working with the Marquette County Health Department (MCHD) to verify students or staff who test positive for COVID-19, and will continue assisting with contact tracing (i.e., providing appropriate contact information) to determine who may have been exposed.

District and Building Implementation Plan:

- Students who develop a fever or become ill with COVID-19 symptoms at school should wear a mask and be transported by their parent or guardian, emergency contact, or ambulance if clinically unstable, for off-site testing.
- Staff who develop a fever or become ill with COVID-19 symptoms at school should wear a mask and be transported for off-site testing.
- Symptomatic students and staff sent home from school should be kept home until they have tested negative for COVID-19, or have been released according to CDC guidelines.
- Families should be notified of the presence of any laboratory positive or clinically diagnosed cases of COVID-19 in the classroom and/or school to encourage closer observation for any symptoms at home.
- In the event of a lab or clinically diagnosed case of COVID-19, immediate efforts should be made to contact any close contacts (those who spent more than 15 minutes less than three to six feet in close proximity to the student or staff member) so that they can be quarantined at home or required to wear a facial covering in school. MAPS will adhere to determinations made by the Marquette County Health Department when determining whether or not, and for how long, positive cases and/or close contacts need to monitor, isolate and/or quarantine.
- MAPS will continue working with the Marquette County Health Department (MCHD) to verify students or staff who test positive for COVID-19, and may continue assisting with contact tracing (i.e., providing appropriate contact information) to determine who may have been exposed.
- MAPS is not considering temperature checks before entering school at this time.

Food Service

Recommendations:

- Classrooms and outdoor areas should be used for students to eat meals at school, if distancing guidelines cannot be met, three to six feet.
- If cafeterias must be used, meal times should be staggered to create seating arrangements with three to six feet of distance between students.
- Students, teachers, and food service staff should wash hands before and after every meal.
- If possible, school-supplied meals should be delivered to classrooms with disposable utensils.

District and Building Implementation Plan:

- All cafeteria workers are recommended to wear masks/face shields and required to wear gloves when handling food items. They will wash their hands before and after all food service according to CDC guidance. Visual guidance will be posted in the kitchen and by every sink to encourage the correct procedure for hand washing.

Elementary School

- It will be at the discretion of the elementary principal where students will be served lunch (classroom or cafeteria). If lunch is being served in the classroom, Food Service staff will drop off bag/box lunches and disposable utensils, on a cart 15 minutes prior to the designated lunch period.
- If lunch is designated in the classroom, teachers, lunch workers and noon hour supervisors will support the classrooms throughout the meal time supervising students.

Middle School

- At the middle school level students will be socially distanced to the greatest extent possible, three to six feet, using the cafeteria and/or boys and girls sports decks.
- In order to address social distancing, areas may be marked so as to keep students three to six feet apart when they are sitting.
- Middle school students may enter the lunch service line at a staggered schedule and will have three separate lunch periods for each grade level. Students will also be released from class in a staggered fashion, by even and odd classrooms to avoid long lines.

High School

- At the High School level lunch will be socially distanced to the greatest extent possible, three to six feet, by using the cafeteria, library and both the boys and girls sports decks or additional lunch periods will be added to reduce numbers. Student release times will be staggered to avoid long lines. Markings may be put on the floor to designate a three to six foot distance as students wait in line in the cafe and also at the tables.

Gatherings and Extra Curricular Activities**Recommendations:**

- Indoor assemblies are allowed as long as cohorting can take place.
- Students, teachers, and staff should wash hands before and after every event.
- Off-site field trips are permissible as long as cohorting can take place.
- Recess should be conducted outside whenever possible.
- Extracurricular activities may continue and will follow all guidelines established by MAPS and/or MHSAA.

District and Building Implementation Plan:

- Indoor assemblies are allowed as long as cohorting can take place.
- Field trips are permissible so long as cohorting can take place.
- Those extra curricular activities that may continue would be done virtually, or those in person would need to follow all safety protocols in effect including facial coverings, social distancing, and cohorting.

Athletics

Recommendations:

- Facial coverings are strongly recommended to be worn by spectators. Facial coverings may be homemade or disposable level-one (basic) grade surgical masks.
- The district plan will Comply with all guidance published by Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA) and the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS).
- Students, teachers, and staff must use proper hand hygiene techniques before and after every practice, event, or other gathering. Every participant should confirm that they are healthy and without any symptoms prior to any event.
- All equipment must be disinfected before and after use.
- Inter-school competitions may be held and facial coverings must be worn by students, staff, and bus drivers if school transportation is provided. Buses must be cleaned and disinfected before and after every use, as detailed in the subsequent “Busing and Student Transportation” section.
- Spectators are currently allowed at events and the district will follow the safety guidance established by the MHSAA.
- Spectators will be strongly encouraged to social distance three to six feet apart.
- Each participant must use a clearly marked water bottle for individual use. There should be no sharing of this equipment.

District and Building Implementation Plan incorporates the following Requirements and the MHSAA recommended plan:

- Students, teachers, and staff must use proper hand hygiene techniques before and after every practice, event, or other gathering. Every participant should confirm that they are healthy and without any symptoms prior to any event.
- All equipment must be disinfected before or after use.
- Inter-school competitions may be held and facial coverings must be worn by students, staff, and bus drivers on school transportation if provided. Buses must be cleaned and disinfected before or after every use, as detailed in the subsequent “Busing and Student Transportation” section.
- Spectators are currently allowed at events and the district will follow the safety guidance established by the MHSAA.
- Spectators will be strongly encouraged to social distance three to six feet apart.
- Each participant must use a clearly marked water bottle for individual use. There should be no sharing of this equipment.
- Indoor concession will be allowed with consideration to CDC, MCHD and MDHHS guidelines for providing food and drink inside school facilities.
- A student athlete who has contracted COVID-19 will be quarantined per CDC guidelines
- A student athlete deemed a close contact of a COVID-19 positive case may be quarantined or have the option to mask for all practices and activities. MAPS will adhere to determinations made by the Marquette County Health Department when determining whether or not, and for how long, positive cases and/or close contacts need to monitor, isolate and/or quarantine.
- MAPS will continue working with the Marquette County Health Department (MCHD) to verify athletes who test positive for COVID-19, and may continue assisting with contact tracing (i.e., providing appropriate contact information) to determine who may have been exposed.

Cleaning

Recommendations:

- Frequently touched surfaces including light switches, doors, benches, bathrooms, must undergo cleaning at least daily with either an EPA-approved disinfectant or diluted bleach solution.
- Libraries, computer labs, arts, and other hands-on classrooms must undergo cleaning daily with either an EPA-approved disinfectant or diluted bleach solution.
- Student desks must be wiped down with either an EPA-approved disinfectant or diluted bleach solution a minimum of once daily.
- Playground structures must continue to undergo normal routine cleaning, but using an EPA-approved disinfectant is unnecessary.
- 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 use products.
- Staff must wear manufacturer recommended gloves, masks, or face shields when performing all cleaning activities.

District and Building Implementation Plan:

- District Level Administrators and Building Custodians will meet to review all guidance related to cleaning and disinfecting of buildings
- An inventory related to all cleaning supplies that are in compliance with EPA-approved COVID-19 materials will be taken and orders made to address cleaning protocols.
- All classrooms will be provided spray bottles with EPA-approved disinfectant or diluted bleach solution, paper towels, face coverings and gloves in order to address new cleaning protocols. Staff must wear manufacturer recommended gloves, mask or face shield when cleaning, and students will not be allowed access to the cleaning solutions.
- Each building custodial team and administrator will tour their building and identify areas of frequent use throughout the building. A map will be created and kept secure in the head custodian room and office to ensure compliance when custodial substitutes are in the building.
- MAPS classroom teachers may, but are not required, to wipe down the students' desks when students are not in the room. Locked storage units with ventilation for cleaning materials will be available for all staff as needed. All classrooms will have the appropriate EPA-approved disinfectant or diluted bleach solution in their rooms.
- Playground equipment will be cleaned on a normal schedule.
- A training meeting on cleaning and protocols will take place prior to the return of staff. This training will show the use of PPE when cleaning, protocols for the classroom and storage of cleaning materials.

Busing and Student Transportation

Recommendations:

- The bus driver, staff, and all students in grades preK-12, if medically feasible, must wear facial coverings while on the bus.
 - Note: there may be situations where it is not safe for the bus driver to wear a facial covering. Decisions about these situations should be made on a case-by-case basis with local public health officials.
- Hand sanitizer will be supplied on the bus.

- Transportation vehicles will be cleaned and disinfected daily.
- Equipment including items such as car seats, wheelchairs, walkers, and adaptive equipment being transported to schools will be cleaned, sanitized, and disinfected daily.
- Create a plan for getting students home safely if they are not allowed to board the vehicle.
- If a student becomes sick during the day, they will not use group transportation to return home and must follow protocols outlined above. If a driver becomes sick during the day, they must follow protocols for sick staff outlined above and must not return to drive students.
- Weather permitting, doors and windows will be kept open when cleaning the vehicle and between trips to let the vehicles thoroughly air out.
- Weather permitting, keeping windows open while the vehicle is in motion will be considered to help reduce spread of the virus by increasing air circulation, if appropriate and safe.

District and Building Implementation Plan:

- The bus driver, staff, and all students in grades preK-12, if medically feasible, must wear facial coverings while on the bus.
 - Note: there may be situations where it is not safe for the bus driver to wear a facial covering. Decisions about these situations should be made on a case-by-case basis with local public health officials.
- Signage will be displayed on all buses to ensure the appropriate use of face coverings for all students and drivers, use of hand sanitizers and cleaning protocols.
- MAPS bus drivers will dispense hand sanitizer to riders, if they wish, as they enter the bus.
- Disposable face masks will be made available on each bus.
- All bus drivers will receive training that includes:
 - Appropriate use of face covering
 - Policies regarding face covering
 - Policies regarding hand sanitizing
 - Policies and methods for cleaning and disinfecting
- Bus drivers, weather permitting (no precipitation, temperature above 55 degrees Fahrenheit), will keep windows open on the bus both en route and when stopped.
- On buses with specialized transportation and equipment needs, bus aides or drivers will wipe down the equipment before or after using the bus. This will be noted in the cleaning log.
- All MAPS bus drivers will be required to wipe down surfaces in the driver's cockpit, hard seats, arm rests, door handles, seat belt buckles, light and air controls, doors and windows, and grab handles) daily.

Medically Vulnerable Students and Staff

Recommendations:

- Staff should 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.
- Create a process for students/families and staff to self-identify as high-risk for severe illness due to COVID-19 and have a plan in place to address requests for alternative learning arrangements or work reassignments.

District and Building Implementation Plan:

- Identify all health care plans, IEPs, IFSPs, and 504 plans
- Knowledgeable MAPS staff (e.g., nurse, special education teachers, 504 coordinator) will review plans to identify those that require additional accommodations related to COVID-19. Consult CDC guidelines. For example, there are exemptions to wearing face coverings for students with certain conditions. Update plans as needed.
- Parents will be surveyed with a CDC-aligned instrument to determine whether their student is at high risk and requires additional accommodations that might not be evident from reading the student's specialized plans; revise those plans based on parent feedback.
- Any MAPS staff member identifying as medically vulnerable will be required to schedule a meeting with the Human Resource office, no later than August 31st, to discuss options for reasonable accommodations and considerations.

Mental and Social Emotional Health

Recommendations:

- Encourage schools to implement a mental health screening for all students by a trained professional, if possible. Any screening should be compliant with HIPAA and FERPA policies. Screening instructions (offered verbally to younger students) should provide age-appropriate and transparent disclosure of protocols in place to protect confidentiality while adhering to mandated reporting guidelines.
- Establish and communicate to all staff guidelines for identification and rapid referral of at-risk students to appropriate building-level support teams.
- Provide all staff with timely, responsive, and ongoing training/professional development as well as needed tools, resources, and implementation support, focused on a variety of topics, including: social-emotional learning, trauma-informed best practices, identification of students at risk and proper local referral protocols, and self-care to promote holistic wellness and resilience and to prevent burnout and vicarious trauma.
- Encourage the identification of a point person or establish an access navigator to centralize mental health referrals, communications to families/ students, and public-facing wellness materials.
- Establish a comprehensive crisis management plan that leverages available internal and external/ community-based resources, which can be activated efficiently as needed (e.g., loss of student, loss of a school staff member).
- Compile and regularly update comprehensive lists of wellness resources available to both staff and students that can be provided in conjunction with screening activities, and that references school and community wellness resources.
- Establish ongoing reporting protocols for school staff to evaluate physical and mental health status.
- Provide resources for staff self-care, including resiliency strategies.
- Designate a mental health liaison (school-based) who will work across the school, local public health agencies, and community partners.
- Leverage MDE resources for student and staff mental health and wellness support.
- Activate communication channels for school stakeholders to address mental health concerns resulting from COVID-19 (for example, a telephone hotline or a designated email).

- Communicate with parents and guardians, via a variety of channels, return to school transition information including:
 - a. Destigmatization of COVID-19;
 - b. Understanding normal behavioral response to crises;
 - c. General best practices of talking through trauma with children; and
 - d. Positive self-care strategies that promote health and wellness.

District and Building Implementation Plan:

MAPS believes mental and social-emotional health is a critical and foundational piece to our district. We understand in the coming school year having an emphasis on these strategies is more important than ever. We'll elaborate in depth on what these are:

- At MSHS, counselors have developed a student needs assessment that will be given to all students this fall.
- All district faculty and staff will be given a needs assessment developed by counselors and our district social worker.
- At all schools, staff guidelines for identification and rapid referral of at-risk students are covered annually in opening professional development days. This will have more detail and depth as it relates to the current conditions. Major components have been Mandatory reporter training and Suicide Prevention (QPR)
- MAPS has had recent refreshers on QPR and Trauma-informed trainings by Sarah Durwin of Marquette County Health Dept,
- MAPS relies on its counselors as point persons for mental health referrals, communications to families/students and for public facing wellness materials
- MAPS has a comprehensive crisis response plan that leverages available internal and external/community based resources, which can be activated as needed. Each school has specific response plans in place.
- MAPS has active communication channels for school stakeholders to address mental health concerns like. Schools use internet filtering to monitor students key words for students searching suicide.
- Elementary and the Middle school have Social emotional learning courses for nearly every student.
- All schools have mandatory health and physical health courses.