



# Mercer School District

## COVID-19 School Policy August 2022

Based on guidance received August 11, 2022 from the CDC and supported by the [Wisconsin Department of Health Services](#)  
[COVID-19 guidance for community, school, and early childhood education settings.](#)

### Instructional Options

The School District of Mercer offers two instructional options to meet the needs of students and families.

#### In-Person Learning

All students PK-12 attend school in-person five days per week.

#### Virtual Learning

The School District of Mercer partners with Rural Virtual Academy to provide access to high quality virtual learning opportunities free of charge to enrolled students.

### Masking

Masks are optional on school grounds and on the bus. Individuals are supported in their decision to wear a mask if they choose to do so.

### Healthy Environments

- Cleaning and disinfecting protocols will be set daily and weekly.
  - High-touch surfaces and common use areas will be cleaned throughout the day.
- Hand hygiene will be taught and practiced throughout the day.
- Teach and reinforce covering coughs and sneezes
- Hand sanitizer will be available in all classrooms without a sink.
- Hand sanitizer will be available on the bus.
- HAND WASHING, HAND WASHING, HAND WASHING

## COVID-19 Positive

Students and staff who test positive for COVID-19 may not attend school for at least 5 days from onset of symptoms or date of test if asymptomatic. Date of symptom onset or date of test if asymptomatic is considered day zero.

If asymptomatic or symptoms are resolving and fever-free for 24 hours, individuals may return to school after day 5 if either of the following conditions are met.

1. Student or staff masks through day 10. This includes all school related activities.
2. If a student or staff member is unable to mask, they must have a negative test on day 5 or later to return prior to day 11.

## Close Contacts

- Quarantine is no longer recommended for people who are exposed to COVID-19 except in certain high-risk congregate settings (K-12 schools are not considered high-risk congregate settings).
- School District of Mercer will not conduct contact tracing.

## COVID-19 Symptoms

Staff and visitors are required to check themselves for symptoms and refrain from entering the school if they are showing symptoms associated with COVID-19. Families are asked to check their child/ren before sending them to school for any signs or symptoms of COVID-19 and keep them at home when ill.

DPI shared the following list of COVID-19 symptoms to be used in a school setting to limit over identification :

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Fever (100.0° Fahrenheit or higher)</li><li>• Chills, or shaking chills</li><li>• Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath</li><li>• New loss of taste or smell</li><li>• Muscle aches or body aches</li><li>• Cough (not due to other known cause, such as chronic cough)</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Nausea, vomiting, when in combination with other symptoms</li><li>• Headache, when in combination with other symptoms</li><li>• Fatigue, when in combination with other symptoms</li><li>• Nasal congestion or runny nose (not due to other known causes, such as allergies), when in combination with other symptoms</li></ul> |
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## Daily Operations

- COVID testing for students, staff, visitors and members of the community is available on-site
- Morning announcements will be conducted every day in the cafeteria.
- Students PK-12 may eat in the cafeteria
- Recess will continue without restrictions