



Binghamton City School District

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MASK PROTOCOLS

(Based on CDC, NYSDOH and NYSED Guidance)

- All students, personnel, teachers, administrators, contractors, and visitors must wear masks at all times indoors, regardless of vaccination status.
- People with medical or developmental conditions that prevent them from wearing a mask may be exempted from mask requirements, as documented by a medical provider.
- People do not need to wear masks when eating, drinking, singing, or playing a wind instrument; when masks are removed for these purposes, efforts should be made, to the extent possible, to space individuals six feet apart. Students should not be excluded from eating, drinking, signing or playing a wind instrument in order to meet a minimum distance requirement.
- All mask requirements must be applied consistently with any state and federal law (e.g., Americans with Disabilities Act). Information on how to properly wear a mask can be found here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/about-facecoverings.html>

PHYSICAL DISTANCING

(Based on CDC, NYSDOH and NYSED Guidance)

- Because of the importance of in-person learning, we will implement physical distancing to the extent possible within the district, consistent with the following, but will not exclude students from in-person learning in order to meet a minimum distance requirement.
 - A distance of at least 3 feet is strongly recommended between all students.
 - A distance of at least 6 feet is recommended between students and teachers/staff, and between teachers/staff who are not fully vaccinated.
 - Physical distance will be maximized as much as possible when moving through the food service line and while eating (especially indoors).
 - Additional mitigating measures may be implemented where social distancing minimums cannot be met. If teachers wish to use plexiglass desk barriers in the classroom, please request them from your building principal. Barriers will be used during meals.

HAND HYGENE

(Based on CDC, NYSDOH and NYSED Guidance)

As an additional mitigating measure, it is recommended that students and staff should wash or sanitize hands, as follows:

- After using shared objects or surfaces (e.g. electronic devices, musical instruments, writing utensils, tools, toys, desks or table tops);
- Before and after snacks and lunch;
- After using the bathroom;
- After helping a student with toileting;
- After sneezing, wiping or blowing nose, or coughing into hands;
- Upon coming in from outdoors; and
- Anytime hands are visibly soiled.

TEMPERATURE SCREENING

Students will be temperature screened upon entering the building. Any student having a temperature of 100 degrees or higher will be sent to the nurse's office to be screened for COVID symptoms.

TRANSPORTATION

(Based on CDC, NYSDOH and NYSED Guidance)

Masking is required on public transportation in accordance with the CDC recommendations and as also referenced in the CDC's school guidance. To that end, passengers and drivers must wear a mask on school buses, including on buses operated by public and private school systems, regardless of vaccination status, subject to applicable exclusions and exemptions.

QUARANTINE AND CLOSE CONTACT

(Based on CDC, NYSDOH and NYSED Guidance)

- Orders of quarantine and isolation are issued by the Broome County Health Department. Binghamton City School District may ask students or staff to go or remain at home while they assist the Broome County Health Department in contact tracing. Ultimately, the Broome County Health Department is the only authority to quarantine or isolate an individual.
- Consistent with CDC guidance, all "close contacts" with someone with COVID must quarantine unless they are fully vaccinated. People who are fully vaccinated do not need to quarantine after contact with someone who is suspected or confirmed to have COVID-19 unless they also present possible symptoms of infection; however, they should be tested 3-

5 days after exposure and must wear a mask at all indoor public locations for 14 days or until they receive a negative diagnostic test result.

- If a person tests positive for COVID-19 the Broome County Health Department will issue an order of isolation for 10 days from the date of first symptoms or the date of test administration if the individual was asymptomatic. If a person is a “close contact” the Broome County Health Department will issue an order of quarantine for 10 days from the date of last exposure. The orders issued by the Broome County Health Department will contain the specific duration of the isolation or quarantine.
- A “close contact” is any masked adult who was within 6 feet of an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period (for example, three individual 5-minute exposures for a total of 15 minutes). However, students who are properly wearing masks are only considered a “close contact” if they are within 3 feet of an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period.

FINE ARTS & MUSIC

(Based on CDC, NYSDOH and NYSED Guidance)

- People do not need to wear masks when singing or playing a wind instrument; when masks are removed for these purposes, individuals must be spaced 6 feet apart. Signing and playing wind instruments may occur at a distance of 3 feet if the students are masked. The district will provide masks appropriate for use with wind instruments.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION & RECESS

(Based on CDC, NYSDOH and NYSED Guidance)

- People do not need to wear masks when they are outdoors (e.g., participating in outdoor play, recess, and physical education activities). CDC recommends those who are not fully vaccinated wear a mask in crowded outdoor settings or during activities that involve sustained close contact with others. Masks must be worn in indoor settings, including physical education that takes place in a gymnasium or indoor recess (such as takes place during inclement weather). For indoor physical education activities in which masking is not possible (e.g., swimming), a minimum distance of 6 feet must be maintained.

COVID TESTING

(Based NYSDOH Guidance)

New York State Department of Health Required COVID-19 Testing in Schools:

- Requires unvaccinated teachers and staff working in a P-12 school setting to get tested once per week when a school is operating.
 - Binghamton City School District will offer testing for employees and students at each school building free of charge.
 - Employees not assigned to a school building will be provided access to testing at the nearest school building.
 - Vaccination status and testing records will remain confidential.
- We will be offering screening and diagnostic testing to students once per week, with appropriate parent and guardian consent for minors.

COVID TESTING FOR ATHLETICS, MUSIC & FINE ARTS

(Based NYSDOH Guidance)

- As a condition to participating in modified, junior varsity or varsity athletics, students must be tested once a week. Students who submit proof of vaccination are exempt from this requirement.
- As a condition of participating in a fine arts or music program that meets outside of school and culminates in a public performance, students must be tested once a week while participating in such program. Students who submit proof of vaccination are exempt from this requirement.

BUILDING SIGN-OUT DURING SCHOOL DAY

- As we have required in the past, all employees leaving the building during the school day, must sign-out using ScholarChip. If the employee returns to the building during the day, the employee must sign back in using ScholarChip.
- All visitors to the building will also be signing in and out of the building from the main entrance of the building using the ScholarChip system.