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Monroe County Community School Corporation
Recommendation Re: COVID-19 Re-Entry Plan Adjustments for 2021-2022
December 14, 2021 REVIEW

The protocols and procedures within this recommendation are changes to existing COVID-19 guidelines and will be added to other pre-approved guidelines that are currently within MCCSC's COVID-19 Re-Entry Plan. These changes will take effect for the 2021-2022 school year, and are subject to additional review and adjustments, including requirements related to face coverings, throughout the upcoming school year.

Every effort has been made to ensure that all COVID-19 protocols contained within this recommendation for the start of the 2021-2022 school year comply with CDC guidelines as well as mandates and requirements from federal, state, and local officials. As such, these recommendations for adjustments to the MCCSC COVID-19 Re-Entry Guidelines are subject to change pending further such advice and expectations from outside agencies with jurisdiction over MCCSC as well as developing scientific realities provided through updated guidance from the CDC. Further, changes to these protocols may occur if a lack of adherence to existing protocols increase the spread of COVID-19 and/or increase health risks for students and staff.

A formal process for seeking input from community health experts will be utilized for reviewing COVID-19 protocols and metrics to continue to inform the Board regarding MCCSC's Re-Entry Plan going forward, including recommendations for alternations to face covering requirements.

Learning Opportunities

1. In-Person instruction will be the preferred instructional method for the 2021-2022 school year.
2. A full-time online instruction options is available for students for the 2021-2022 school year. Families must register for this option.
 - a. Online instruction will be primarily synchronous for elementary students.
 - b. Online instruction will be a combination of synchronous and asynchronous learning for secondary students based upon the courses required.
3. Simultaneous in-person and online learning, where a teacher has a group of students in-person and another group of students online, will not be regularly available for the 2021-2022 school year. However, MCCSC officials are working to enhance technological capabilities to create this option as a choice for teachers in the future who elect to utilize these opportunities.
4. ALL students who are absent from in-person instruction for health and other qualified reasons will be provided their lessons and accompanying instruction, relevant resources, and assignments. Every effort will be made to provide these materials as soon as possible when school staff receive notification of a student absence. These protocols are important in keeping students on-track with the lessons of any particular grade or course.
5. In-person instruction will return to traditional classrooms; exceptionally large grade-level classes at the elementary and middle school level will be eliminated. For example, three individual fourth-grade classes no longer will be combined into one class placed in a gymnasium for social distancing purposes. This change will return student class sizes to numbers significantly closer to pre-pandemic levels.
6. Elementary "specials" classes such as art, music, and PE will return to the learning spaces originally designed for these purposes. Many of these spaces were utilized by combinations of grade-level classes during the 2020-2021 school year. This change will allow students to have greater movement during the school day and to experience classroom specials in the environment more designed for such learning purposes.
7. Libraries will be re-opened!

Face Coverings (Masks)

8. ALL students and staff must be in possession of a face covering (mask).
9. Face coverings (masks) will be required for all students and staff.
10. Face coverings (masks) will be required for ALL students and staff while riding a school bus based upon federal guidelines.
11. Face coverings (masks) may be removed when students are outside; including times when elementary students are at recess.

Other Changes

12. Cafeterias will be re-opened when distancing and other CDC guidelines can be followed. In situations where space is limited, some students may be required to continue to have lunch in their rooms on a rotating basis.
13. Contact tracing and quarantine requirements will continue to be followed in accordance with CDC guidelines. Vaccinated employees and students who provide proper documentation will not be required to quarantine, but will be expected to continue to monitor for symptoms associated with COVID-19.
14. Family members and visitors will be allowed into our schools. Face coverings (masks) must be worn.

Strict cleaning and sanitizing protocols will remain in effect. School officials will continue to provide proper notification to families who are directly impacted by COVID-19 cases and district-wide data will continue to be available on the district website. MCCSC staff will continue to work closely with families and our school community to follow all safety protocols, including self-screenings for symptoms at home.

MCCSC is focused on the whole child throughout the 2021-2022 school year. These considerations include important academic, behavioral, and social and emotional support.

Many MCCSC teachers and school officials have attended professional development during the summer and are preparing to provide targeted instruction to help close achievement gaps that may have occurred during the COVID-19 pandemic while also focusing on the acceleration of student learning; clearly, delivering specially designed instruction based upon unique learner needs, including those who currently meet or exceed standards, is a priority for MCCSC.

MCCSC school officials will continue to monitor developing realities associated with COVID-19, including updated CDC guidance, and will update protocols, procedures, and guidelines as necessary and prudent.