

## Safe Return to In-Person Learning, Fall 2021

Effective Monday, 8/30/2021

Executive summary:

Prioritizing in-person learning while protecting the health and safety of our students, staff, and families remains our top priority.

- All students, staff, and visitors in school buildings are required to wear masks indoors regardless of vaccination status.
- Students, staff, and visitors are not required to wear their masks outside.
- All individuals riding buses are required to wear masks (federal requirement).
- Vaccinated teachers may remove their masks when in the front of the room (distanced at least 6 feet from students) to enhance the instructional communication occurring in the classroom.
- In all indoor classroom settings, the definition of “close contact” for quarantine purposes “excludes students who were within 3 to 6 feet” of an infected student where both students were “consistently and correctly” wearing well-fitting masks. In other words, entire classroom pods will not automatically need to quarantine in the event of a positive case. The close contacts may remain in school if both the infected student and the close contacts were masked.
- Students and staff who have been fully vaccinated need not quarantine if they are deemed a close contact unless they develop symptoms or have a lab-confirmed positive Covid test, in which case they must isolate. In addition, students or staff who have had a positive Covid case within the last 90 days and have fully recovered need not quarantine if they are deemed a close contact unless they develop symptoms or have a lab confirmed positive Covid test, in which case they must isolate.
- Changes may be made to the face coverings requirement. This process is outlined in the full plan and is based on the metrics and thresholds set by the CDC and provided in weekly meetings with the County of Winona.
- Accommodations may be made for students with disabilities that cannot tolerate face coverings. Refusal to comply with this policy will be handled according to the school’s discipline policy 507.

Bluffview will continue to monitor local and county COVID-19 trends and transmission levels and may alter protocols as necessary to keep our entire community safe and healthy. For the full plan, see the BMS *Safe Return to In-Person Learning Plan*.