

Revised: 08/14/2023

Board Approved: 08/21/2023

Board Reviewed: 02/20/2024



South Middleton School District

Health and Safety Plan

The South Middleton School District's Health and Safety plan has been created using resources developed by Federal, State, and Local health agencies. The District acknowledges that there are no current strategies that will eliminate the risks associated with COVID-19. This plan aims to minimize risk, while allowing our students and staff to resume school activities in a safe manner.

It is recommended that the Board authorize the Administration to temporarily suspend or modify relevant Board policies as needed to align with the Health and Safety Plan. Administrative regulations written to complement this plan shall be used to guide decision making and execution of the plan.

This plan shall be monitored routinely and will be revised based on changing public health conditions.

2023-2024 Opening Plan

The opening plan for the 2023-2024 school year will consist of full in-person learning, grades K-12, Monday through Friday. Our start date for all students is Thursday, August 24, 2023.

Cleaning, Face Coverings, and Ventilation

The District's Facilities Department, comprised of maintenance and custodial staff, is responsible for cleaning and maintenance of all school owned facilities. The District maintains a

regular cleaning schedule that is followed by each custodian. The Facilities Department takes great pride in the training protocols and cleaning methods utilized by the custodial staff.

The District will continue to utilize resources, including the Centers for Disease Control and PA Department of Health, for guidance on cleaning strategies and cleaning frequency. The frequency of cleaning and disinfecting will be determined by the severity of COVID-19 in the South Middleton School District community. The District has acquired additional equipment to aid in the process of disinfecting buildings and school vehicles.

The following actions will be implemented to address these categories:

A. Cleaning

- Cleaning will occur on a routine schedule and daytime custodians will promptly respond to requests for replenishment of depleted items such as handwashing and hand sanitizing products.
- The department will continue to follow the recommendations as prescribed by the Center for Disease Control for cleaning and sanitization.

B. Face Coverings

- Mask use will be optional when participating in school activities.

C. Ventilation

- Standard Operating Procedures for air circulation/filtration will be maintained by the District.

Social Distancing and Other Safety Protocols

- South Middleton School District will not implement measures related to physical distancing nor restrict access to or utilization of locker rooms, restrooms, vending machines, or other areas. The school will continue to monitor COVID-19 activity among the student and staff population and this plan may be updated as necessary.

Monitoring Student and Staff Health

- Parents/guardians are encouraged to conduct a screening for COVID-19 symptoms at home each morning before the school day; screening tool for parents: [Symptoms of Coronavirus](#).
- Students/Staff must stay home if they test positive for COVID-19 for 5 days.
 - If asymptomatic, Day 0 is the day you were tested.
 - If symptomatic, Day 0 is the day of symptom onset.
- The District understands that physicians may recommend isolation that deviates from 5 days. To that end, physicians' orders will be honored in terms of both length of isolation and date of return.
- All known positive cases found during school hours and functions must be reported to the Director of Student Services. The Director of Student Services may report positive case counts to the state weekly.
- The District will no longer contact trace.

- The District will be moving to pre-pandemic conditions regarding illness and mandated leave. Staff/Students experiencing a fever of 100 degrees or higher will be required to leave. Furthermore, school nurses may send students home based on their professional judgment.

Other Considerations for Students and Staff

It is imperative that the District remain responsive to the physical, social, and emotional wellbeing of our students and staff. Therefore, the District will provide all appropriate supports and/or services to students and staff to sustain a safe and supportive learning atmosphere.

As a result, the District will continue to deliver a continuum of supports to promote the social/emotional and behavioral wellbeing of students. Schoolwide positive behavior support will be offered to all students through universally provided screenings and lessons on concepts such as positive coping strategies, anti-bullying, resiliency, emotional regulation, and suicide prevention. Targeted supports tailored to the unique needs of each student will be explored in the event universal strategies are not effective.

In addition to supports available within the school setting, the District will also collaborate with parents/guardians to coordinate community-based mental health and behaviors services, if interested, through our K-12 Student Assistance Program (SAP). SAP teams regularly conference to coordinate services.

Community Partnerships

The South Middleton School District will continue to coordinate with community partners for ongoing guidance and support on COVID-19 related matters. Specifically, the District will consider guidance and recommendations related to health considerations and mitigation strategies offered by the Centers of Disease Control and PA Department of Health.

Health and Safety Plan Communications

The following chart illustrates key communication to and from stakeholder groups.

Topic	Audience	Lead Person and Position	Session Format	Materials, Resources, and or Supports Needed
Routine Updates for Families	Students & Families	Superintendent	E-mail, phone call, website	Routine Updates for Families

		Director of Student Services Building Principals		
Routine Updates for Staff	District Staff	Director of Student Services Building Principals	Email or phone call	Routine Updates for Staff

Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors/Trustees for **South Middleton School District** reviewed and approved the School Opening Health and Safety Plan on **February 20, 2024**.

The plan was approved by a vote of:

9 Yes

0 No

Affirmed on:

By:



(Signature* of Board President)

Brad L. Group

(Print Name of Board President)

*Electronic signatures on this document are acceptable using one of the two methods detailed below.

Option A: The use of actual signatures is encouraged whenever possible. This method requires that the document be printed, signed, scanned, and then submitted.

Option B: If printing and scanning are not possible, add an electronic signature using the resident Microsoft Office product signature option, which is free to everyone, no installation or purchase needed.