

REGULATION

PATERSON SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Reopening After Pandemic-Related Closure

R8451.01 REOPENING AFTER PANDEMIC-RELATED CLOSURE

This regulation establishes procedures for resuming school operations following pandemic-related closures. These procedures apply to all employees, contractors, students, and families.

A. Health and Safety Standards.

1. The lead administrator for each site must communicate the following standard safety precautions to all students, families, employees and contractors:
 - a. Wear a face covering and maintain 6 feet of social distance whenever possible.
 - b. Notify your immediate supervisor or principal and stay home if you test positive or feel sick or if you recently had close contact with someone who is sick, and do not return until you meet criteria to discontinue home isolation.
 - c. Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available.
 - d. Avoid touching eyes, nose, and mouth, and avoid sharing items with others.
 - e. Cover mouth and nose with a tissue or inside of the elbow when coughing or sneezing, immediately throw tissue in trash, then wash hands.
 - f. Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces often.
 - g. Avoid crowding and large gatherings.



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2. The lead administrator for each site must:
 - a. Provide appropriate training for students and staff regarding standard safety precautions.
 - b. Designate "isolation areas", where potentially ill persons can be safely and confidentially separated from other building occupants until they are able to go home to self-quarantine.
 - c. Report every suspected or confirmed case of illness to the District's Nursing Supervisor.
 - d. Ensure signage and appropriate physical barriers are in place to assist with social distancing.
 - e. Ensure hand sanitizer, disinfecting wipes, soap and water, or other sanitizing materials are available and accessible throughout the premises.
 - f. Ensure facilities are routinely cleaned and frequently touched areas are disinfected at least daily.
 - g. Enforce compliance with occupancy and gathering size limits set by public health authorities.
3. Every person on school property must wear a face covering over their nose and mouth at all times, unless: (i) doing so would inhibit their health, or would create an unsafe condition for operating equipment or completing a task, or (iii) in extreme heat outdoors, with a distance of six feet from every other person, or (iv) in designated well-ventilated areas with a distance of six feet from every other person, or (v) while eating or drinking or taking medication, or (vi) while engaged in intense physical activity.



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- a. The District will supply a face covering to any person who does not have one.
 - b. Face coverings need not be worn by any person who is age 2 or younger or anyone who is having difficulty breathing, is unconscious, is incapacitated, or is otherwise unable to remove the face covering without assistance.
4. Social distancing strategies must be implemented and enforced at all times.
- a. Persons will be spaced no fewer than six feet apart whenever possible.
 - b. Indoor and outdoor gatherings will be limited in size according then-current occupancy limits set by public health authorities.
 - c. Schedules will be staggered to the extent feasible to limit crowding.
 - d. Sharing of equipment and supplies will be discouraged, but if equipment or supplies are shared they must be disinfected before each use.
 - e. Appropriate physical barriers and signage will be installed to help ensure social distancing.
5. Facilities and equipment must be cleaned routinely and all high-traffic areas and touch points must be disinfected daily.
- B. Health Screening and Self-Reporting Requirements.
1. Health screening questionnaires must be administered daily to all persons when they enter school property.



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- a. Persons who answer "yes" to any screening question will be deemed to have a suspected case of illness and will be sent home as soon as practicable to self-quarantine.
 - b. A person who was screened upon entering school property does not need to be re-screened if they leave and return later the same day.
 - c. For students in grades Pre-K through 2, the student's parent/guardian may be permitted to answer health screening questions on the student's behalf.
2. If temperature checks are used as part of the health screening process, or required by government mandate, readings must be taken in an area away from direct sunlight or heat. If any person exhibits a fever greater than 100.4°F, they will be placed in Isolation Area #2 and temperature should be checked again in 20 minutes. The person will be sent home if the second check shows a temperature above 100.4°F, or if the person shows other symptoms of COVID-19.
 3. Every person is required to report their health status to the school principal or their immediate supervisor and stay home if they test positive, or feel sick, or recently travelled to any state or country subject to government-mandated quarantine or had close contact with a potentially ill person.
 - a. Persons with confirmed illness and those who have symptoms must remain at home until they receive written clearance from a medical doctor.
 - b. Persons who travelled to any state or country subject to government-mandated quarantine must



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remain home for 14 days while self-monitoring for symptoms.

c. Persons who feel healthy but had "close contact" with someone who is sick must remain home for 14 days while self-monitoring for symptoms. "Close contact" means being within 6 feet for at least a period of 10 minutes.

4. In the event it is determined that any student requires immediate transportation to a hospital or other emergency medical facility, if a parent or other designated adult is not available, a school staff member will accompany the student to a hospital or other emergency medical facility. If the school staff member is not permitted to enter, the parent/guardian will be notified accordingly.

C. COVID-19 Response Protocols.

1. If any person on District property shows symptoms, tests positive, or has close contact with a confirmed case, the lead building administrator must:

a. Separate the person from others in a manner that safeguards their privacy while minimizing exposure risk, and bring the person to the designated isolation area if they cannot immediately return home.

b. Determine who else on District property the person may have interacted with, for how long, and which rooms or equipment in the facility they may have used in the last 7 days.

c. Notify the person's close contacts regarding possible exposure and direct them to self-quarantine for 14 days and seek medical attention



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if symptoms develop. The identities of potentially ill persons should not be disclosed to others unless absolutely necessary.

- d. Report the person's name and the names of any close contacts to the Nursing Supervisor, and notify the person's close contact that they may have been exposed and should self-quarantine for 14 days, monitor for symptoms, and call a doctor if symptoms develop.
 - e. Ensure the isolation area and any other spaces or equipment used by the person are immediately closed off, properly ventilated for at least 24 hours, and then thoroughly cleaned and disinfected. If more than 7 days have passed since the person visited or used the facility, additional cleaning and disinfection is not necessary.
2. Persons who test positive, show symptoms, or live with someone who tested positive will not be permitted to return until they provide written medical clearance.
 3. The Nursing Supervisor will notify public health authorities and the Superintendent of any confirmed or suspected cases of illness.
- D. The procedures in this regulation are consistent with government-mandated health and safety standards in effect as of the date when it was adopted or last revised. Future public health orders that are inconsistent with these provisions will govern in case of conflict. This regulation will be revised as often as practicable to reflect current standards and requirements.

Issued: 21 October 2020


