

## J.O. Combs Unified School District 2021-2022 Safe Return to In-Person Instruction Summary

### Mitigation Strategies

Mitigation strategies are actions that people and communities can take to slow the spread of COVID-19. Because COVID-19 is highly transmissible and can be spread by people who do not know they have the disease, risk of transmission within a community can be difficult to determine. Universal precautions and healthy hygiene practices include staying home when sick, practicing physical distancing, hand washing, and use of face covering if not vaccinated.

	Mitigation Strategy	Current Guidelines/Practice			Response to Increase in COVID-19 Cases*
		Low Transmission	Moderate Transmission	Substantial Transmission	High Transmission
	<i>Indicator</i>				
COVID-19	Masks	Face coverings recommended for students and staff			Face coverings may be required depending upon State/County requirements
	Physical Distancing	Physical distancing encouraged			Strict implementation of mitigation strategies per ADHS School Guidelines**
	COVID-19 Dashboard	COVID-19 Dashboard(s) to communicate active and resolved cases.			COVID-19 Dashboard(s) to communicate active and resolved cases.
	Hand Hygiene	Multiple opportunities to sanitize and wash hands throughout the school day			Strict implementation of mitigation strategies per ADHS School Guidelines**
	Close Contacts	Any adult/child who is a close contact of a positive case is able to quarantine. Follow CDC guidelines for			Any adult/child who is

		definition of close contact and quarantine options.	a close contact of a positive case is able to quarantine. Follow CDC guidelines for definition of close contact and quarantine options.
	Staff <u>I</u> solation/ <u>Q</u> uarantine	If the position allows for telecommuting, the staff member may telecommute while at home	If the position allows for telecommuting, the staff member may telecommute while at home
	Student <u>I</u> solation/ <u>Q</u> uarantine	Allowed access to virtual instruction while at home	Allowed access to virtual instruction while at home
	Vaccinations	Individual decision for staff and students. Per CDC guidelines, fully vaccinated individuals are not required to quarantine if deemed a close contact. Proof of vaccination for these instances is required	Individual decision for staff and students. Per CDC guidelines, fully vaccinated individuals are not required to quarantine if deemed a close contact. Proof of vaccination for these instances is required
	FFCRA	No longer available	Possibly implemented based upon future federal guidelines
	Diagnostic and Screening Testing	Symptomatic adults/children and close contacts referred for diagnostic and screening testing	Symptomatic adults/children and close contacts referred for diagnostic and screening testing

School Operations	After School Activities	No restrictions	Strict implementation of mitigation strategies per ADHS School Guidelines**
	Athletics	Allowable following AIA and district guidelines	Allow per AIA guidelines
	Large Group Gatherings/ Events/Extracurricular Activities	Permissible with mitigation strategies encouraged	Strict implementation of mitigation strategies per ADHS School Guidelines*
	Recess/Lunchtime Activities/Playgrounds	No restrictions	Strict implementation of mitigation strategies per ADHS School Guidelines**
	Lunch Seating	Tables placed with 3ft physical distancing where feasible (elementary). Reduced seating at tables (secondary)	Strict implementation of mitigation strategies per ADHS School Guidelines**
	Water Fountains	Open with frequent disinfecting	Closed
	Volunteers	No restrictions	Not Permitted
	Parent/Guardian Visits	No restrictions	Not Permitted
	School Arrival	No restrictions	Strict implementation of mitigation strategies per ADHS School Guidelines**
	Access to Technology	1:1 initiative allowing each student access to their own device	1:1 initiative allowing each student access to their own device
	Classroom Materials and Textbooks	No restrictions	Limited sharing

	Virtual Enrollment	Able to change selection of learning model at semester mark	Reviewed based on need and capacity
	Closing Schools	School closures will be deemed necessary only by Governor's Executive Order or direction of Pinal County Public Health and ADHS	School closures will be deemed necessary only by Governor's Executive Order or direction of Pinal County Public Health and ADHS
Facilities	Cleaning and Disinfecting	Frequent cleaning and disinfecting of high touch points. Nightly deep clean. Classroom cleaning supplies will be provided	Frequent cleaning and disinfecting of high touch points. Nightly deep clean. Classroom cleaning supplies will be provided and their use required
	Facility Rentals	No restrictions	Strict implementation of mitigation strategies per ADHS School Guidelines**
	Transportation	Physical distancing where feasible and increased disinfecting	Strict implementation of mitigation strategies per ADHS School Guidelines**

\*Increase in COVID-19 Cases is defined as two consecutive weeks of both indicator criteria in the red (see chart below), as provided via data reported by the Arizona Department of Health Services and the Pinal County Public Health Department.

\*\*Strict implementation of mitigation strategies per ADHS School Guidelines include the following: Schools should establish policies and implement structural interventions to promote physical distance between people. Students in classrooms should be at least three (3) feet apart. In areas of high community transmission, middle and high school students should be six (6) feet apart if cohorting is not possible and at least three (3) feet apart if cohorting is implemented. Six (6) feet of distance should be maintained between adults, between adults and students, when masks can't be worn (e.g., when eating), during activities when increased exhalation occurs, and in common areas such as lobbies and auditoriums.

Individuals should wash their hands for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water aren't available, hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol can be used. Encourage staff and students to cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue and immediately throw the tissue out and wash hands. School officials should implement limits on spectators and attendees for sports, extracurricular activities, and school events as consistent with recommendations for masking and physical distancing for each phase. **Schools that are already open for in-person instruction with successfully implemented mitigation strategies can remain open, but only if they continue to strictly implement mitigation strategies and have few cases.** ([Source: Arizona Department of Health Services School Guidance Update](#))

**Indicators: Community Transmission to Reflect Level of Community Risk**

The first step in determining when and how to safely reopen schools involves assessing community transmission of SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19. CDC recommends the use of two indicators of community burden to determine the level of community transmission. These indicators are used to assess the incidence and spread of COVID-19 in the community, not the school itself. Risk is dependent on community level transmission and implementation of school and community mitigation strategies. ([Source: Arizona Department of Health Services School Guidance Update](#))

Indicator	Low Transmission	Moderate Transmission	Substantial Transmission	High Transmission
Total new cases per 100,000 persons in the last 7 days	0 - 9	10 - 49	50 - 99	≥ 100
Percent of nucleic acid amplification tests (NAATs) that are positive during the past 7 days	< 5.0%	5.0% - 7.9%	8.0% - 9.9%	≥ 10%