

Millard School District Covid-19 Guidance for Parents and Families

Welcome to the 2020-21 School Year! We begin this year at a time unlike any we have ever known. Our world is in the middle of a struggle with a virus that has turned our educational setting, our economy, and most aspects of our society in a direction we could not have imagined six months ago. We continue to adapt and to adjust as we reset priorities and objectives. Very plainly, for an institution that has always listed student achievement as its highest priority, we now clearly state those previously understated priorities which have always superseded student achievement, but went without saying. We now state very clearly that our priorities are:

1. The health and safety of our students and staff.
2. The emotional and mental health of our students and staff.
3. Student Achievement.

The first two priorities have always been there, and have always been critical to the third, but in our world our protocols and reassurances must be clearly stated in order to foster achievement.

The over-arching principle in all discussions of health must be unequivocally understood by all students and staff... that is this,

If you are sick, STAY HOME!

This is the greatest safeguard we can have for all our students and staff and is the best course of action to keep our schools open.

This means that attendance policies must be relaxed and individuals must be responsible to make wise decisions in order to accomplish academic objectives. We want students in school. Face-to-face instruction time is gold to us. We learned in the spring how valuable each moment of face-to-face interaction could be. To help assure that we can accomplish this, we take one step back to take two steps forward. We encourage students and staff who are ill, to not come to school in order to safeguard the continued operation of our schools and allow the face-to-face time. We believe and expect our attendance will be much lower than

usual. To keep students moving forward through this we have instructed all teachers to post a course syllabus on one of our lesson management systems, either Google Classroom or Canvas in grades K-6, and Canvas in grades 7-12. Teachers have also been given at least 60 paid hours to accomplish this over the summer. We feel this is critical to the ability of parents and students who are at home to understand the scope and sequence of the instruction provided in the classroom. We have further instructed all teachers to provide a video component to all instruction in order to assist those students who are at home due to illness, or who are required to miss class because of activities or school related programs to progress along with students who are in class. With these steps, we hope it will become the practice of parents to monitor the health of their students closely each day, and have them work from home on days that there is concern about symptoms. We are providing the following guidance from the CDC to assist parents in knowing how to monitor their students. Parents, please print this section off and place it in a location that it can be easily accessed for reference should the need arise. This section is also attached as a PDF that can be printed for your convenience.

Daily Home Screening for Students

Parents: Please complete this short check each morning before your child leaves for school. Please report your child's information to the school if symptoms require absence.

SECTION 1: Symptoms

If your child has any of the following symptoms, that indicates a possible illness that may decrease the student's ability to learn and also put them at risk for spreading illness to others. Please check your child for these symptoms:

- Temperature 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher when taken by mouth;
- Sore throat;

- **New** uncontrolled cough that causes difficulty breathing (for students with chronic allergic/asthmatic cough, a change in their cough from baseline);
- Diarrhea, vomiting, or abdominal pain; or
- New onset of severe headache, especially with a fever.

SECTION 2: Close Contact/Potential Exposure

- Had close contact (within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes) with a person with confirmed COVID-19: OR
- Had close contact (within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes) with person under quarantine for possible exposure to SARS-CoV-2; OR
- Traveled to or lived in an area where the local, Tribal, territorial, or state health department is reporting large numbers of COVID-19 cases as described in the [Community Mitigation Framework](#)
- Live in areas of high community transmission (as described in the [Community Mitigation Framework](#)) while the school remains open

Return-to-School Policies

If the student/parent/caregiver answers YES to any question in Section 1 but NO to any questions in Section 2, the student would be excused from school until symptom-free for 24 hours without fever reducing medications.

If the student or parent or caregiver answers YES to any question in Section 1 and YES to any question in Section 2, the student should be referred for evaluation by their healthcare provider and possible testing. Such students and families are strongly encouraged to contact Central Utah Public Health for guidance on appropriate steps.

The phone numbers for CUPH are as follows:

In Fillmore – 435-743-5723 and

In Delta – 435-864-3612.

Central Utah Public Health officials and/or healthcare providers will determine when [viral testing](#) for SARS-CoV-2 is appropriate. Millard School District will not require testing results as a part of return to school. Students who have received a negative test result will be allowed to return to school once their symptoms have otherwise improved in accordance with existing school illness management policies.

Students diagnosed with COVID-19 or who answer YES to any question in Section 1 and YES to any question in Section 2 without negative test results should stay home, isolate themselves from others, monitor their health, and follow directions from their state or local health department. Students and their families are advised that the local health department may contact the family for contact tracing. If contacted, families should notify the contract tracer that the student attended school.

Students diagnosed with COVID-19 or who answer YES to any component of Section 1 AND YES to any component of Section 2 without negative test results should be permitted to return to school in line with current CDC [“When Can I Be Around Others”](#) guidelines (e.g., 3 days with no fever, 10 days after other symptoms have ended). A negative test or doctor’s note will not be required for return. Questions regarding return to school should be jointly decided in consultation with parents or caregivers, school personnel, and the student’s healthcare provider.

Students who are excluded from school will be afforded the opportunity, as soon as feasible when they are well enough to participate in classwork, to make up any missed classwork without penalty in order to reduce mental or physical anxieties about missed academic opportunities.

We are thrilled to be able to resume instruction within our classes. While many things will look different, those most important will be the same - students entrusted to skilled and caring individuals who will do their best to care for the needs of all students, whether those needs are physical, emotional, or academic. We hope to provide our instruction in a setting free from worries and interruptions. The support of our parents and students in following the steps

outlined in this document will take us a long way down that road. Thank you for your support in this pursuit!

Attachments:

Daily Home Screening for Students

[Community Mitigation Framework](#)

[viral testing](#)

[“When Can I Be Around Others”](#)