



Coldwater Community Schools

Instruction

Coldwater Community Schools will continue to offer the following instructional options for all students K-12. All students K-3 will be assigned a device to keep at school while Grade 4-12 will be issued a device to take home.

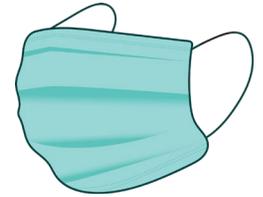
<p>In Person Learning With Safety Protocols</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students will attend school face-to-face at Coldwater Community Schools in grades K-12, Monday - Friday, beginning August 23, 2021. • The school day will follow a traditional schedule, with accommodations made to follow safety protocols outlined in this document. All protocols are subject to change based on MDHHS and CDC recommendations, guidance, and mandates. • Attendance will be based on in person attendance in classes. All grading and assessment protocols of a traditional school year will be followed. • All curriculum used will be district-approved curriculum based on Michigan Standards.
<p>Full-Time Virtual Learning Grades 9-12 Only</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Families will be required to make a semester commitment to this program. • A full schedule of all core subjects and elective options for students 9-12. • Students must have attended the Cardinal Academy last year to be eligible to attend this year. • Students must have been successful in their virtual courses last year and applied for 2021-2022 and been accepted. • The virtual enrollment request must occur within the predetermined timelines established for enrollment and schedule changes. • Students will be provided with a district Chromebook. Assistance with internet accessibility devices will be available to families in need. • Students are considered a full time Coldwater student and can participate in athletics and extracurricular activities. Devices will be provided to all students, and assistance for internet access will be available.

We want 100% in-person learning every school day, and we want to keep all students and staff as safe as possible!
To do this, the following safety protocols and mitigations strategies will be enforced at Coldwater Community Schools. Regular review and evaluation will take place throughout the year, working in collaboration with the Branch-Hillsdale-St. Joseph Community Health Agency. Any new mandates from BHSJCHA, MDHHS, MDE, or the CDC will be enforced.

Safety Protocols: Masks

Masks are an important tool to reduce the risk of transmission of the virus, especially for the unvaccinated.

The following are the current requirements related to masks at Coldwater Community Schools. Please know that this is a very fluid situation in Branch County and things may change before school even starts:



Masks are REQUIRED on buses or any school transportation.

- Current federal guidelines mandate the wearing of masks by all individuals, students and staff, regardless of vaccination status, while on public transportation, including school buses.

Masks (currently) will be OPTIONAL for students in the school or on school grounds.

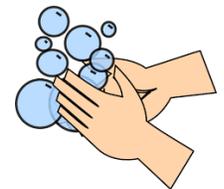
- Branch County is currently in the “high” category for transmission. At this time, both the CDC and the BHSJCHA recommend that all students wear a mask. Coldwater Community Schools is recommending that all staff and students wear a mask to protect themselves as well as others. However, currently we are not mandating that students wear a mask but we will continue to monitor our county positivity rate. During periods of community transmission at substantial or higher as defined by the CDC then in consultation with the BHSJCHA, masks may no longer be optional. The optional use of masks will be continuously reviewed and evaluated based on the community transmission risk level and school transmission.

Safety Protocols: Vaccinations

- The District will advocate for all eligible students and staff to get vaccinated. This includes, but is not limited to, promoting local vaccination clinics, providing access to BHSJCHA, MDHHS, and CDC information on the district website, and other educational materials through our school nurse.
- Vaccinations will NOT be required for all students and staff for in-person attendance.

Safety Protocols: Hygiene

- The District will provide adequate supplies to support healthy hygiene behaviors (including soap, hand sanitizer with at least 70% alcohol for safe use by staff and students, paper towels, tissues, and signs reinforcing proper handwashing techniques).
- Portable hand sanitizing stations will be set up at entrances and throughout school buildings.
- Hand sanitizer will be available in all classrooms.
- The District will post CDC approved flyers in all bathrooms and common areas and instruct students on the following:
 - Teach and reinforce handwashing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and/or the safe use of hand sanitizer that contains at least 70% alcohol.
 - Educate staff and students on how to cough and sneeze into their elbows, or to cover with a tissue, as well as proper techniques for disposal of used tissues.



- Location of hand washing stations and hand sanitizer.
- Safe procedures for opening doors.
- Students and teachers will be encouraged to wash hands with soap and water every 2-3 hours.
- All students are strongly encouraged to have their own school supplies to limit sharing of personal items and supplies such as writing utensils.
- Disinfecting wipes will be available to all classrooms to encourage the regular disinfecting of any shared classroom materials.

Safety Protocols: Spacing, Movement, & Access

Classroom Space

- Class sizes should be kept to the level afforded by necessary spacing requirements.
- In classrooms, desks, tables, and/or student workstations will be set up in the following manner as much as feasible:
 - As far apart as the classroom space allows.
 - All facing in the same direction toward the front of the classroom when possible.
- Teachers will maintain three feet of spacing between themselves and students as much as possible.
- Seating charts will be maintained for contact tracing purposes.
- Classrooms that have windows that can open, will be kept open as much as possible, weather permitting. Considerations will be made for students with allergy-induced asthma.



Hallways and Common Areas

- Students will be directed to go immediately to their first hour classrooms, to minimize congregating in hallways and common areas.
 - Breakfast may be served in first hour classrooms and both breakfast and lunches will be served in a “grab & go” manner.
 - Cafeteria seating will be maintained at approximately 50%.

Visitors

- Family members or other guests will have limited access for entrance in the school building except under extenuating circumstances determined by district and school officials. Prior to entering the building, adult guests (any non-school employee) will be required to:
 - Answer a short screener for symptoms.
 - Be required to wear a facial covering if the county is in either substantial or high risk or show proof of vaccination.
 - Wash/sanitize hands.
 - Sign in and sign out, including date and time, when entering and exiting the building.

Safety Protocols: Screening Students and Staff

Students or Staff Symptomatic at School

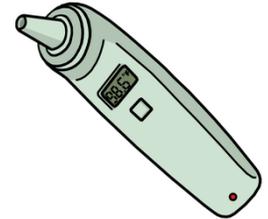
- From the time of identification of potential infection, the individual will be monitored by staff members and a log-sheet of activity will be

maintained until the student or staff member is safely removed from the building.

- Parent communication will be made immediately with clear and concise directions on where and how to pick up the student and where to report for testing.
- Test results may be requested before the students can return to school.
- During the time of quarantine, the student will be asked to self-identify the location and individuals they came into contact with for the last 48 hours to the best of their recollection.
- The health department will be contacted after parents have been contacted to assist in contact tracing and notification of vulnerable individuals.

Student Screening at Home

- Families are encouraged to check their child's temperature at home every morning using oral, tympanic, or temporal scanners; students with a temperature of 100.4 or greater should stay home and consider coronavirus testing if symptoms of COVID-19 are present.
- Families are encouraged to monitor their children for symptoms of COVID-19. The presence of any symptoms, including cough or shortness of breath, should prompt the family to keep the student home from school and to follow up with a primary care provider.



Staff Screening

- All school staff are required to conduct a health safety self-assessment at home prior to coming to work.
- Staff who are unable to work due to displaying COVID-19 symptoms will be required to report this to the school in a timely fashion.
- Positive tests for staff members will result in a required isolation away from school following direction from public health officials.

COVID Testing

- No mandatory testing is required at this time, but Coldwater Community Schools will comply with all screening requirements as mandated by any BHSJCHA, MDHHS, MDE, or CDC order.
- The District will work with BHSJCHA to continuously review and evaluate best practices based on the CDC mitigation risk-level guidance as reported by the BHSJCHA's Current County Risk Level Guidance.

Safety Protocols: Responding to Positive Tests Among Staff and Students

Contract Tracing

- If a student, staff, or visitor tests positive for COVID-19, the district will work with the BHSJCHA to establish appropriate responses, from communicating with parents to potentially closing buildings.
- The school is required to report any communicable disease, as required by law, and work in collaboration with the Branch, Hillsdale, St. Joseph County Health Agency on all contact tracing procedures for quarantines issued by the BHSJCHA.
- All contact tracing guidelines established by the Branch, Hillsdale, St. Joseph County Health Agency will be followed for all school-associated cases at Coldwater Community Schools.
- Coldwater Community Schools will comply with all testing requirements as mandated by any BHSJCHA, MDHHS, MDE, or CDC order.

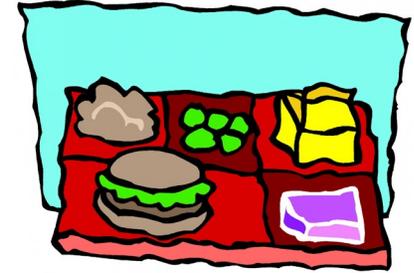
Safety Protocols: Food Service, Gathering, Extracurricular Activities

Breakfast

- Breakfast will be served in either first hour classrooms or in other physically distanced spaces. Students in MS/HS that want breakfast can go through the line to get a Grab & Go breakfast to take back to their first hour classroom and eat in the classroom.

Lunch

- K-12 students will eat lunch in their cohorts and in a variety of areas to promote social distancing, including the cafeteria, side gym, and commons.
- Lunch will be closed campus for all students.



Assemblies/Field Trips/Extracurriculars

- Assemblies, Field Trips/ Extracurricular events will be considered on a case-by-case basis, depending on current guidelines.

Safety Protocols: Athletics

Coldwater Community Schools will comply with all athletics requirements as mandated by any MHSAA, BHSJCHA, MDHHS, MDE, or CDC order. The CCS Athletic Director will review and become familiar with all guidance published by the MHSAA and share this information with coaching staff, students, and parents.

Athletics will follow all guidance published by the MHSAA.



Safety Protocols: Cleaning

The district will create schedules to meet cleaning recommendations and protocols with EPA-approved disinfectant for all required areas including:

- Frequently touched surfaces including light switches, doors, benches, bathrooms.
- Libraries, computer labs, arts, and other hands-on classrooms, if used by students.
- Classroom manipulatives, books, and educational games.
- The clearing and sanitizing desks and workstations each time students leave the room (K-5) and between class changes (6-12) will be encouraged.
- Appropriate PPE and cleaning supplies will be made available to all classroom teachers and staff in each building.



- Custodial staff will be available during the day to clean and check high traffic areas.
- District level administrators and building operations will meet to review and assess the plan for the cleaning and disinfecting of all buildings.

Safety Protocols: Busing and Student Transportation

On the Bus

- All students in grades preK-12, must wear facial coverings while on the bus.
 - All individuals are expected to bring their own mask prior to entering the bus, however, disposable face masks will be available at the entrance of the bus in the event that a student does not come to the bus with the necessary item.
- All individuals that enter the bus will be required to use hand sanitizer before entering the bus. Hand sanitizer dispensers will be located at the entrance of every bus, and the district will ensure that proper supplies are available.
- Bus drivers will create a seating chart to group families together and promote social distancing as much as feasible. Students are required to sit in their assigned seats.
- If a student becomes sick during the day, he/she will not be allowed to ride the bus home. Protocol outlined in “Screening Students and Staff” (above) will be followed for a student that becomes symptomatic while at school. If a driver becomes sick during the day, they must follow protocols for sick staff outlined above and must not return to drive students.
- Signage will be added to each bus to address the use of face masks for all passengers and drivers, use of hand sanitizer, and cleaning protocols.
- To help maintain safety, bus passes will not be allowed.

Cleaning the Bus

- All buses will be cleaned and disinfected before each transportation run. This will include frequently touched surfaces in the vehicle, such as: surfaces in the driver’s cockpit, hard seats, arm rests, door handles, seat belt buckles, and any equipment, such as car seats, wheelchairs, walkers, and adaptive equipment being transported to schools daily.
- No students will be present when a vehicle is being cleaned.
- Weather permitting, bus drivers will keep doors and windows open when cleaning the vehicle and between trips to let the vehicles thoroughly air out.
- All necessary cleaning supplies and PPE for cleaning will be provided by the district.



Safety Protocols: Medically Vulnerable Students

Coldwater Community Schools in conjunction with BISD will systematically review all current plans (e.g., Individual Healthcare Plans, Individualized Education Programs, Individualized Family Service Plans, or 504 plans) for accommodating students with special needs and update care plans as needed to decrease their risk for exposure to COVID-19.

Mental & Social-Emotional Health

- A “Wellness Support Hub” is available to both staff and students and will be posted and regularly updated on the district website under “For Parents.”
- Staff will be provided with timely, responsive, and ongoing training/professional development as well as needed tools, resources, and implementation support, focused on a variety of topics, including social-emotional learning, trauma-informed best practices, identification of students at risk and proper local referral protocols, and self-care to promote holistic wellness and resilience and to prevent burnout and vicarious trauma.
- The K-12 Psychologist will serve as the district’s mental health liaison (school-based) who will work across the school, local public health agencies, and community partners.
- The district will create a K-12 curriculum of Social Emotional Learning for implementation based on the Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL) core competencies of self-awareness, self-management, responsible decision-making, relationship skills, and social awareness.

