

Avon School District 4-1

Expect Excellence

Phone: 605-286-3291

Fax: 605-286-3712

<https://avon.k12.sd.us>

210 Pine Street, PO Box 407
Avon, South Dakota 57315

Tom Culver, Superintendent
Jeff Tolsma, Board President

Kathryn Blaha, K-12 Principal
Sara Hento, Business Manager

RETURN TO SCHOOL GUIDELINES

These Avon School District “Return to School Guidelines” have been developed following the information and guidance provided by the CDC, SD Department of Education, SD Department of Health, and Avon School District Start Well Committee, as well as additional information from recognized K-12 educational agencies. These Guidelines are based on current information and data available to the District. If conditions change concerning this pandemic, these Guidelines will be amended accordingly following any modified/additional guidance from federal and state authorities and forwarded to the school community.

Pre Screening

At Home:

- Parents will screen their children for fever, shortness of breath, headache, loss of taste or smell, fatigue, muscle or body aches, nausea or vomiting or diarrhea.
- Parents will call a Medical Professional if symptomatic.
- Students do NOT report to school if any of the above symptoms are present.
- Parents should keep kids at home if they are not feeling well or have symptoms.
- See new policy in Avon School handbook pertaining to illness concerning fever.

At School:

- All staff and students will enter through the main entrance doors where a temperature screening device is located.
- Handwashing/hand sanitizing and proper hygiene practices will be taught and practiced.
- Masks will be provided by the District for all PK-12 students to use if desired.

Pick Up/Drop Off

Students

- Only students will be allowed into the school building.
- Once students arrive at school, a temperature check will take place while entering the building.
- The main door to the school will be locked until 7:50 AM. Students will wait outside and are encouraged to keep appropriate social distance. Once the staff member opens the front door, students should enter the building in an orderly fashion.
- Parents stay in their vehicle when dropping off or picking up students.

Daily Mitigation Procedures

Classroom

- Hand sanitizer will be available in all classrooms and throughout the building.
- **Grades PK-5** will be **encouraged** to wear masks when practical. For **grades 6-12**, masks will be **recommended and will be highly encouraged to be used when requested by staff to do so**. Reusable cloth masks will be provided by the District for use.
- The use of specific cleaning solutions to combat any germs on surfaces will be used by staff throughout the day.
- Student seating will be replicated in each classroom as much as possible to limit contacts, and students will be socially distanced as much as feasibly possible.
- All PK-12 students will be provided a water bottle purchased by the District. Drinking fountains will be shut off, but filling stations will still be useable.

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Lunchroom

- Salad bar items will all be pre-portioned.
- Student eating utensils will be pre-wrapped.
- Lunch tables will be spread out throughout the lunch room to create more space between student groupings.
- Dining areas will be disinfected after each use between student groups.
- Avon School staff will perform touch free entry of lunch codes for students to minimize surface contact.
- Student seating will be replicated in the lunchroom as much as possible.
- If students leave the school building for lunch, they are encouraged to eat at their own home only and not gather in large groups at other student's homes.

Hallways

- Backpacks will be permitted in the classrooms, and students will be encouraged to limit locker trips. No food will be allowed in the backpacks and only school provided water bottles will be allowed.
- Teachers will limit the number of students in the hallway and making restroom trips during class time.

Parents/Visitors

- All outside visitors will be limited to the main office unless prior arrangements are made.
- If visitors from the outside are allowed in the building, each will enter through the thermal imaging door.
- During school hours, outside visitors will be required to wear a mask while in the main school building, excluding the main office.

Extra-Curricular Activities

- Guidance from the South Dakota High School Activities Association, SD Department of Education, and SD Department of Health will be followed for all extra-curricular activities.
- Students will sit in the same seats during each bus trip.
- Busses will be sanitized regularly after trips.
- Family members are encouraged to sit together on the bus and to limit contact between other students.
- Bus windows will be open to circulate air (as weather permits).
- Concession stand workers for all home activities will be required to wear a mask and gloves. Gloves will be changed every thirty minutes to ensure proper sanitation. One person will be responsible for collecting all money, while the other personnel will be serving the food and drink.

Students who exhibit COVID symptoms at school

- Student will be required to wear their mask
- Student will be placed in an Isolation Area
- Contact parent/guardian and send the child home
- Record event and provide information to building administration
- Sanitize student desk, chair, locker, or used spaces
- Maintain confidentiality of all student/staff health information
- Avon School will follow-up with the parent/guardian

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- In the event of a “confirmed case,” individuals within “direct contact” will be informed. A confirmed case is defined as having documentation from a health care provider or the SD Department of Health.
- The Department of Health will contact the Superintendent if there is a positive case. The Department of Health will provide a plan of action for the District to follow.

Examples and Guidance from Department of Health

- Please thoroughly review the guidance issued by the Department of Health for symptoms, isolation periods, etc.

Home Screening

- **Symptoms**
 - **Temperature 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher when taken by mouth**
 - **Sore throat**
 - **New uncontrolled cough that causes difficulty breathing**
 - **Diarrhea, vomiting, or abdominal pain**
 - **New onset of severe headache, especially with a fever**
- **Close Contact / Potential Exposure**
 - **Identified as a close contact to a confirmed COVID-19 case (15 minutes or more within 6 feet or less)**
 - **Had close contact with a person under quarantine**
 - **Traveled to or lived in an area where large numbers of COVID-19 are reported (New cases exceed rate of 100 cases per 100,000 population in the past week)**
 - **Live in areas of high (substantial) community transmission while the school remains open (<https://doh.sd.gov/news/coronavirus.aspx>)**

RED Symptom Alone =
Exclude until 24 hours
after fever resolves

BLUE Symptom Alone =
Exclusion for COVID-19
not necessary. Follow
existing school policy

GREEN exposure + **RED** or **BLUE** Symptom = Exclude until test
result is negative OR if untested, at least 10 days since symptom
onset (and 24 hours without fever AND symptoms improved)

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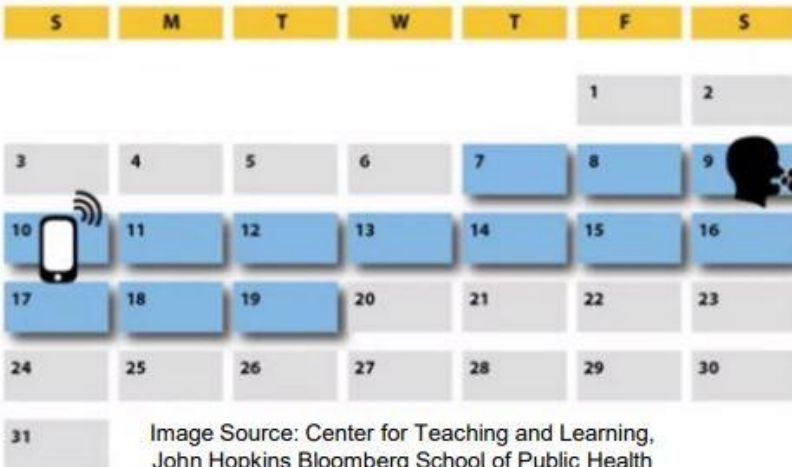
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Calculating end of isolation period for positive case

MAY 2020



Criteria for Removal from Isolation:

- 10 days have passed since symptom onset, and
- Fever free for 24 hours without use of fever reducing medications, and
- Improvement in symptoms

**Not All
Symptoms
Will be a
COVID-19
illness**

Symptoms of COVID-19	Strep Throat	Common Cold	Flu	Asthma	Seasonal Allergies
FEVER	✓		✓		
COUGH		✓	✓	✓	✓
SORE THROAT	✓	✓	✓		✓
SHORTNESS OF BREATH				✓	
FATIGUE		✓	✓	✓	✓
DIARRHEA OR VOMITING	✓		✓		
RUNNY NOSE		✓	✓		✓
BODY/MUSCLE ACHEs	✓	✓	✓		

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Educational Delivery Options

- **On Site Delivery of Education**

We will start with in person instruction on August 19th, 2020.

- **Long Term Off Site Delivery**

If you are choosing to NOT send your child/children back to a traditional education in the school building, we will be facilitating an online option for students based on South Dakota Content Standards and will be free of cost to families. This option is for long term delivery. If families elect to have long term off site delivery, contact K-12 Principal Kathy Blaha at kathy.blaha@k12.sd.us or 605-286-3291 Extension 110. Students that elect to participate in long term off site delivery will not be eligible for extra-curricular activities. Long term off site delivery can be selected for a quarter, semester, or full year. Once the election is made, it can only be reassessed and changed at each quarter.

- **Short Term Off Site Delivery (Self – Quarantined, Mandated Quarantined, Symptoms Exhibited)**

Avon staff will deliver a combination of online learning platforms and/or hard copy packets.

Avon School Operating Phases

- Phase 1 – No cases in our school
 - School is Open
 - Traditional face-to-face instruction
 - Grades PK-5 will be encouraged to wear masks when practical. Grades 6-12 masks will be recommended. Reusable cloth masks will be provided by District.
- Phase 2 – Confirmed case among students or school personnel
 - When aware of a confirmed case, the school will follow recommendations from the SD Department of Health.
 - Individual classrooms, grade levels or school may close.
 - Short Term Off Site Delivery of Content may be invoked.
 - Parents will be notified from the school of the situation.
 - Mandatory Masks may be enforced.
- Phase 3 – Outbreak of cases in school or community
 - When aware of a confirmed case, the school will follow recommendations from the SD Department of Health.
 - School Building will be closed until deemed safe to return.
 - Short Term Delivery will be implemented.
 - Parents will be notified from the school of the situation.

General Notes

- **Hand Sanitizer**
 - FDA is warning consumers and health care providers that the agency has seen a sharp increase in hand sanitizer products that are labeled to contain ethanol (also known as ethyl alcohol) but that have tested positive for methanol contamination. Methanol, or wood alcohol, is a substance that can be toxic when absorbed through the skin or ingested and can be life-threatening when ingested.
 - The agency is aware of adults and children ingesting hand sanitizer products contaminated with methanol that has led to recent adverse events including blindness, hospitalizations and death.
 - Methanol is not an acceptable ingredient for hand sanitizers and must not be used due to its toxic effects. FDA's investigation of methanol in certain hand sanitizers is ongoing.
- Please check your hand sanitizer labels to ensure they are not subject to the FDA recall. For more information, please visit: <https://www.fda.gov/drugs/drug-safety-and-availability/fda-updates-hand-sanitizers-methanol>.