

## **Resolution Supporting the Use of COVID-19 Metrics to Determine When Additional Mitigation Strategies are Warranted**

The West Fargo Public Schools School Board hereby adopts thresholds for the implementation of additional mitigation strategies, including but not limited to masking, when COVID-19 metrics reach the levels outlined in the tables included in this document.

The district’s health and safety protocols for the 2021-22 school year include a variety of mitigation strategies:

- [Robust symptomatic student protocol](#)
- Increased opportunities during the day for handwashing and access to hand sanitizer
- Regular cleaning of high-touch surfaces
- [Rapid testing available onsite for staff and students](#) (with parent permission)
- iMod air filtration units installed at every school

West Fargo Public Schools will take corrective action against individuals that refuse to comply with expectations associated with the implementation of additional mitigation strategies. Such corrective action will be consistent with the law and regulations and district policies and handbooks.

Administration will utilize professional judgement for situations that arise that are not outlined in this document.

This resolution becomes effective as of September 9, 2021, and will terminate on May 26, 2022, unless the School Board acts to modify, rescind, or extend the requirements set forth herein.

### **Within a PK-5 Classroom**

<b>Case Rate</b>	<b>Mitigation Strategy Implemented</b>
<i>Third Positive Case Identified Evidence and strong likelihood that third case is linked to the first or second cases through school-based spread</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Notify parents/guardians of required quarantine or testing for 5 calendar days to remain onsite</li> </ul>

#### *Case Identification*

- 1) While the district prefers to receive official notification of positive cases amongst students from the ND Department of Health, at-home tests are also accepted.
- 2) The ND Department of Health will meet weekly with district administration to review classrooms that have multiple cases identified. This review will include a comparison of infectious periods, the timeframe between case notices, the presence of other COVID-positive cases in the home, and the possibility of other COVID exposures outside of school. These factors will help determine whether or not the cases are connected through school-based spread.

When onsite rapid testing is offered for a classroom, all individuals (students, staff, and families) must wear an approved face covering while at the testing site.

### Within a School (PK-12)

<b>Case Rate*</b>	<b>Mitigation Strategy Implemented</b>
5% of a school's total student and staff population is currently identified as an active positive case	Consideration** of moving a grade level or entire school to temporary distance learning for at least 5 calendar days or until case rates drop below 5%

\*Active positive cases are reported by building every day that school is in session. The data the district shares on the [COVID Data webpage](#) includes the total staff and student count at each building and the current percentage of that total count that is identified as an active positive case. The district has calculated the [number of cases needed for each school to hit the 5% threshold](#). Except for the Early Childhood Center, whose enrollment grows throughout the year as children turn three, all student enrollment numbers were taken from the official count on September 30, 2021.

\*\* District administration will consider the following factors when determining what, if any, additional mitigation strategies should be implemented for a classroom, team, grade level, wing, or entire building once the 5% threshold has been reached. These considerations may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Number of active positive cases and their release from isolation timeline
- Overall staff absences
- Concentration of spread in wing or grade level
- Number of classrooms currently completing the five-day testing regimen
- Capacity to continue offering onsite rapid testing at impacted buildings

These consideration conversations may include representatives from the ND Department of Health, the district's executive leadership team, the building principal, and the school nurse.

*Last Updated: 03/14/22*