



ANDERSON SCHOOL DISTRICT # 41
COVID Mitigation Plan
2022-2023 School Year
September 2022

ANDERSON SCHOOL DISTRICT 41

COVID Mitigation Plan

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Introduction

This document outlines the measures that Anderson School District #41 is taking to help mitigate the spread of COVID 19 within the school.

Policy

Anderson School District has adopted policies that support health and hygiene at the school. A copy of the adopted policies can be found on our website.

Signage

Signage at each public entrance of the facility to inform all faculty, staff and students that they should: avoid entering the facility if they are ill.

Safety Actions

Measures to Protect Faculty, Staff and Student Health

- Healthy hygiene practices will be promoted within the classrooms which will include frequent handwashing, covering coughs and sneezes, and sanitizing work spaces.
- Teach and reinforce frequent hand washing and covering coughs and sneezes among children and staff.
- Visitors to Anderson School must check in the office.
- Social distancing will be maximized by staggering arrivals, lunch times, recesses, and transitions. Outdoor spaces will be promoted when possible, and additional desks and lunch tables will be utilized.
- Adequate supplies to support healthy hygiene behaviors, including soap, hand sanitizer with at least 60 percent alcohol (for staff and older children who can safely use hand sanitizer), and tissues.
 - Disinfectant and related supplies are available to all employees close to their work location.
 - Hand sanitizer effective against COVID-19 and other diseases is available to all faculty, staff, and students within classrooms and at school entrances. The preferred method is to wash hands.
 - Soap and water are available to all employees at their classroom sinks and in restrooms.
- Designated isolation area where sick staff and students who have been identified as presenting with illness symptoms can be held until a parent or guardian can pick them up. Access to this area will be extremely limited and closely monitored.
- All employees and students have been told NOT to come to campus if sick.

Measures to Protect Office Staff

- Isolation Sick Area for students
- Staff evaluating students will use appropriate PPE

Vaccinations

The CDC recommends COVID 19 vaccine and booster for everyone 5 years and older. Staying up to date on vaccinations helps protect against serious illness.

Medical Services and School Nurse

Medical guidance continues to be provided as the District has on staff an advanced practice nurse, Madeline Owens, who continues to be a resource for the District and Anderson families. Madeline provides a bridge in communication with the GCCHD as well. Madeline can be contacted with concerns. She also works with families and facilitates communications between students and families with a student that is at higher medical risk.

Gallatin City- County Health Department Call Center

The GCCHD has established a Call Center to respond to questions from the public. The GCCHD Public Call Center will field questions from Gallatin County residents and refer them to appropriate health department staff as needed. The Call Center number is (406) 548-0123 and you are encouraged to share this with parents, staff, and members of the community. The Call Center will be staffed daily during business hours and will provide responses to the public while relieving key health officials from responding to anticipated overwhelming volume of calls and emails. Local information can also be accessed online at <https://www.healthygallatin.org/coronavirus-covid-19/>.

The District has and will continue to comply with FERPA requirements in reference to any student who may be identified as having contracted COVID-19. The District has and will continue to comply with HIPAA Privacy laws with regards to any staff member who may be identified as having COVID-19.

Facility Cleaning and Maintenance

- The District has adequately equipped maintenance and cleaning staff with personal protective equipment, masks, gloves and gowns that are appropriate for the cleaning products used and to minimize having contact with potentially contaminated surfaces.
- Daily cleaning is performed by both the District custodial staff and Butler Industries. Cleaning and disinfecting frequently-touched surfaces within the school helps prevent the spread of all diseases.
- All ventilation has been updated and optimized as part of the construction process. Air filtration filters will continue to be replaced at recommended intervals to ensure proper indoor ventilation and air quality.

Instructional Guidelines for Teachers

- Teachers will assess student academic levels.
- Teachers will utilize our MTSS system to address interventions needed for students
- Any absences related to COVID 19 will be treated like absences for other illnesses. Remote learning is not an option this school year.

Food Services/Lunch

- Handwashing/Sanitizing will be strongly encouraged before students eat lunch.

Health Guidelines

General

- Students and staff who are ill, feeling ill, diagnosed as ill, or otherwise demonstrating symptoms of COVID 19 illness must not come to school or work.
- Parents, guardians, or caregivers of students who are ill, feeling ill, diagnosed as ill, or otherwise demonstrating symptoms of illness must not be present at the school for any reason including but not limited to events or gatherings or to drop off or pick up students
- If students or staff display respiratory symptoms or fever - send the child alone to the office for assessment. Those with a fever of 100.4 or higher will go home immediately.
- If a student is sent home with a fever they should not return to school until they have been fever free for a minimum of 24 hours.
- Student will be placed in an isolation area in school until evaluation by a nurse and/or taken home by parent/guardian.

Monitoring and Preparing

- Check for signs and symptoms of COVID 19
- Screenings will be implemented safely, respectfully, and in accordance with any applicable privacy laws or regulations.
- Encourage staff to stay home if they are sick and encourage parents to keep sick children home. Encourage staff or children who are sick to stay at home.

Plan for when a staff or child becomes sick

- Isolation room to separate anyone who exhibits COVID-like symptoms. School nurse and office assistants will use Standard and Transmission-Based Precautions when caring for sick people.
- Close off areas used by a sick person and avoid use before cleaning and disinfection.
- If a student or staff member tests positive for COVID 19, the individual should isolate for five days. If symptoms resolve you no longer need to isolate but need to wear a mask for the full 10 days. If you are unable to or do not want to wear a mask the individual should isolate for the full 10 days from when symptoms first developed.

Testing

- Follow up-to-date CDC guidance for positive cases and close contacts.
- Anderson school offers BinaxNow rapid antigen testing to students and staff on an as-needed basis.
- Any student or staff member who presents with a fever or other symptoms associated with COVID-19 will be offered testing at the school. Testing is also available for those who have had a close contact or have been exposed to COVID- 19 including parents of sick children.
- Students, parents, and staff will be notified that OTC home tests are available at the school and encouraged to use when returning to school following holiday breaks and travel.

Contact Tracing

No contact tracing will occur this school year.

Facilities Usage

Anderson School will be available for facility usage. Those who use our facility need to follow the facility usage policies and agreement adopted by the district.

Communication

Parent Communication

- Communications with parents will be through email, newsletters, website, and other means.
- Education of sick guidelines and return to school after being sick.
- Educate students on hand and cough hygiene
- Parents will be notified if there are multiple cases within a classroom at one time
- We would like parents to communicate any positive cases of COVID 19 to the school office or school nurse to make us aware and help us be aware in the event of multiple cases within a classroom or the school.

Staff Communications

- Sick procedure for students and staff.
- Hygiene education

Gallatin City County Health Department Communication

- Testing results from tests completed at Anderson School are shared with GCCHD

Safety measures at school listed in this document will be in place until we are informed by the CDC or GCCHD they are no longer necessary.

Community Information and Documents

The Anderson Website is up to date with COVID-19 links and parent letters
<https://andersonmt.org/covid19/>

Contact information

Anderson School Phone: 406-587-1305

Anderson Office Email (Hannah): schooloffice@andersonmt.org

School Nurse Email: schoolnurse@andersonmt.org

Superintendent: kjacobs@andersonmt.org

Business Manager and Clerk: troberts@andersonmt.org

School Counselor: [**cdickson@andersonmt.org**](mailto:cdickson@andersonmt.org)