

**PUEBLO SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 60**  
**COVID Management and Mitigation Plan**  
Exhibit A

March 2, 2022

As the youngest Coloradans become eligible for vaccines and COVID-19 surveillance indicators such as case rates, percent positivity, and hospitalization rates decrease and stabilize at low levels, Pueblo School District No. 60 (D60) is transitioning away from a case-investigation response model to a more typical routine disease control model for disease control in our schools. This transition is in alignment with new guidelines released by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) on February 11, 2022. D60 will focus more on response to clusters of cases, outbreaks, and evidence of ongoing transmission in schools, and less on individual case investigation, contact tracing, and quarantining of staff and students following school exposures. D60 will continue to provide reports as required by CDPHE and the Pueblo Department of Public Health and Environment (PDPHE).

Routine disease control strategies:

- Continue to encourage vaccination of staff and students. Vaccine clinics and Novir testing will still be offered\*
- Masking is strongly recommended but not required for students, staff, and visitors in D60 schools, buildings, and facilities.
- Students, staff, and visitors with chronic health conditions or special needs while attending school, or school activities are strongly encouraged to wear masks indoors.
- All individuals aged 2 and older are required to wear a Face Covering while on school buses.
- Daily symptom check signage will be posted in all facilities.
- As we move towards a routine disease control model, students or staff who are ill may be sent home as they would be for any communicable disease such as the flu or the common cold.
  - The following symptoms are commonly associated with COVID-19. We are recommending any students or staff who are symptomatic to stay home and get tested.
    - Fever or chills
    - Cough
    - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
    - Fatigue
    - Muscle or body aches

- Headache
  - New loss of taste or smell
  - Sore throat
  - Congestion or runny nose
  - Nausea or vomiting
  - Diarrhea
- Those with self-reported symptoms or recent exposure are not allowed to be at the facility if symptoms persist for more than 24 hours.
  - Follow isolation requirements for students and staff who are ill or have tested positive for COVID-19.
  - Continue to recommend transmission prevention strategies, including testing and masking for staff and students after an illness or exposure.
  - Respond to clusters of cases (including increases in respiratory illness) and confirmed outbreaks as described below.
  - Continue to report identified cases and outbreaks to local public health (PDPHE) as required by Colorado Statute and Regulation (6 CCR 1009-1).
  - In lieu of individual case investigation and contact tracing, implement new cluster or outbreak detection strategies which may include public health reporting of school absenteeism data and participation in wastewater surveillance through PDPHE.
  - Increasing ventilation for schools (HVAC improvement projects).

Strategies not continued in routine disease control model (unless a cluster or new outbreak is detected):

- Individual case investigation and contact tracing.
- Quarantine of students and staff with school-associated exposures.\*\* Given the much greater risk of household exposures compared to non-household exposures, families should continue to follow quarantine guidance for students and staff who report household exposures when isolation is not possible.

*\*As long as funding/partnerships are available*

*\*\*In consultation with PDPHE, in the future D60 may also choose to discontinue quarantine for staff and students with non-household community exposures.*

Without routine case investigation and contact tracing in place, new outbreaks may be difficult to identify and outbreak thresholds challenging to implement. If schools identify increases in absenteeism, especially due to respiratory illness, or an increase in reported cases of COVID-19, D60 will contact PDPHE. D60 will work closely with

PDPHE to determine if an outbreak is suspected and if outbreak response strategies are needed to control transmission.

Possible mitigation strategies for new COVID-19 school outbreaks after March 1, 2022 if appropriate:

- Limit mixing of impacted grades, classrooms, or other groups during meals, recess, and other gatherings to limit spread while a school is experiencing an outbreak.
- Temporary masking of staff and students. Implementation of masking can be done at the classroom, grade, or school level depending on the extent of transmission and structure of the school.
- Temporary universal testing of staff and students. Implementation of testing can be done at the classroom, grade, or school level depending on the extent of transmission and structure of the school.
- This plan and the strategies contained herein are flexible. The impact and mitigation of COVID-19 is constantly evolving. This information may be changed or updated depending upon additional public health or community information.

***\*\*\*D60 Return to Learn Plan will be updated to reflect changes.***

***\*\*\*\*This plan is subject to change at any time by the Superintendent of Schools or her designee based on new public health data or information.***