

## **Autauga County Schools Staff COVID-19 Protocol**

- In-person learning will operate as normally as possible (pre-COVID-19) with prevention measures in place until such time as the district is unable to do so without substantial risk of transmission of disease. Should the number of positive cases within the student population of a particular school reach 10%, additional measures (such as mandatory masks, modified schedules or temporarily transitioning to online instruction) will be taken to ensure the health and safety of staff and students. Further measures may be taken in special circumstances where prolonged contact with other students exists, for example: elementary classrooms, clubs/teams, and self-contained classrooms. These measures will be implemented on a case by case basis.
- The district strongly encourages staff and students to wear masks, including bus settings.
- Staff who **test positive** (vaccinated or not) must isolate for 10 days following the onset of symptoms or a positive test result and must be 24 hours fever-free without fever-reducing medication before returning to their base site or provide medical documentation indicating a safe return to school. (If returning before 10 days with medical documentation, staff will need to wear a mask through the 10 days following the onset of symptoms or a positive test result.)
- Staff who **exhibit major COVID symptoms or become ill while at school** will be sent home. Staff may return to school after 10 days of isolation or sooner with medical documentation indicating a safe return to school.
- Staff **in close contact with a positive COVID case** are not required to isolate for 10 days. Staff will be required to wear a mask for 10 days following exposure or take appropriate sick leave. Exceptions to this are as follows:
  - Individuals who are fully vaccinated (two weeks after the final required dose) including booster if eligible
  - Individuals who have tested positive for COVID in the previous 90 days and have fully recovered
  - Individuals receive a negative result from a physician administered test on day 7 (negative home COVID test results are not acceptable)
  - Individuals provide medical documentation indicating a safe return to school
- School staff will implement safety protocols as applicable: social distancing to the extent possible, encouraging good hygiene (hand washing, coughing or sneezing into arm), sanitizing of school facilities and limiting visitors in all buildings. School staff will need to alert the appropriate contact at the school when additional sanitizing products are needed.
- Schools will use caution in allowing large gatherings to occur. (Alternative options: staggering of schedules, virtual meetings, etc. will be considered.)
- Weekly COVID-19 data is available on our website, [acboe.net](http://acboe.net).
- Autauga County Schools reserves the right to change these protocols should it be deemed necessary. Any changes will be communicated as quickly as possible. Board Policy 5.44 Communicable Diseases, authorizes the Superintendent to make changes as necessary.

January 6, 2022, **Amended January 6, 2022**