

Updated: August 18, 2021, January 26, 2022, February 28, 2022, August 17, 2022, January 11, 2023, August 16, 2023

Return to School Plan Purpose

The purpose of the 2023-24 Return to School Plan is to provide a framework for continuity of learning for our students.

- District Administration is authorized to make changes as needed, subject to School Board approval.
- The plan is subject to change based upon local community COVID health data and information.
- The plan may be modified to comply with an order or mandate by a local, state, or federal authority that supersedes governmental authority.

Goals for Returning to School

- 1. Maximize student learning.
- 2. Keep students and staff physically safe.
- 3. Care for the social-emotional and mental health needs of students and staff.
- 4. Keep students in an in-person learning model.
- 5. Meet the needs of each student by considering their unique experiences.
- 6. Employ flexibility in school schedules, learning environments, protocols, and norms for in-person learning.

Plan Components

- 1. Learning Model
- 2. Face Covering Policy
- 3. COVID-19 Screening, Cases, and Absences
- 4. Social Distancing and People Interactions
- 5. Vaccinations
- 6. Health Services
- 7. Special Education and 504 Plans
- 8. Student Mental Health Supports
- 9. Athletics and Co-Curricular Activities
- 10. Technology
- 11. School Nutrition
- 12. Transportation
- 13. Facilities Management and Hygiene
- 14. Roots and Branches Childcare Center
- 15. Communications

Learning Model

- Students will be in an in-person learning model for the 2023-24 school year. Frederic School District is committed to providing an in-person learning model for the success of its students.
- Students will have a five day school week for the 2023-24 school year.
- A virtual learning option is not available for all students. If a parent or student is interested in a virtual learning setting, they must meet with their principal for approval. Virtual learning is provided by a contracted vendor.



• At the discretion of the administration, and in rare circumstances, a student may be allowed to remote into the classroom setting for specific learning purposes.

Face Covering Policy

- All students, staff, and visitors have the option of wearing a mask or face covering on school property.
- Administration and the School Board may revisit the topic of face coverings for students, staff, and visitors if needed during the school year.
- The Frederic School District will follow all local, state, and federal requirements and mandates for the wearing of face coverings.
- School activities at other locations may require wearing masks in compliance with the venue's requirements. Frederic will follow the requirements of the host venue.
- All students, regardless of whether they are wearing a mask or not, will be treated with kindness, empathy, and respect.
- The policy of mask wearing will be reviewed by the district administration and school board as needed.

COVID-19 Screening, Cases, and Absences

- Parents/Guardians should not send their child(ren) to school if they are ill.
- Parents/Guardians are responsible for screening and monitoring their children for illnesses.
- Positive COVID cases can return to work/school when they have been fever free for 24 hrs without the use of fever reducing medications and their symptoms are resolving.
- Asymptomatic (exposed) students and staff, regardless of where the exposure occurred, no longer need to quarantine. Students or staff who self identify as close contacts may continue to attend school/work if they remain asymptomatic.
- The District will not quarantine close contacts inside or outside of the positive household member. Students and staff may remain at school if they are exposed to a positive case unless they develop symptoms.

Testing and Exclusion

- COVID testing is not required for any symptoms. Staff and students should stay home when sick and return when symptoms are resolving.
- Any student or staff member with a fever, vomiting, or diarrhea cannot be at school/work. They can return to school/work when they have been free of a fever, vomiting or diarrhea for 24hrs.
- Any student who has a fever, is vomiting, or has diarrhea should not be in school. If they can not function or pay attention due to pain or illness they should also not be in school. A negative antigen test for COVID does not mean they should be at school/work if they are sick.

Social Distancing and People Interactions

• Return to pre-COVID

Vaccinations

- The District will not require students and staff to be vaccinated.
- The District will follow all local, state, and federal orders and mandates for vaccination of students and staff.
- Some venues or programs for student travel may require proof of vaccination or a negative COVID test in order to participate.

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Health Services

- Return to pre-COVID
- The District Nurse will work with families to share information related to COVID testing and vaccination venues.
- The District Nurse will collaborate and communicate with the Polk County Health Department.

Special Education and 504 Plans

- Return to pre-COVID
- Frederic School District is committed to working collaboratively with families of students with disabilities to ensure that consistent, quality services are provided.
- Parents of students with disabilities are encouraged to communicate with their principal or child's case manager regarding their child's IEP and whether additional adjustments or modifications may be necessary.
- Parents have the option of attending meetings in person, via telephone, or remotely.

Student Mental Health Supports

- Return to pre-COVID
- The pupil services team of school counselors, district nurse, school psychologist services, academic interventionists, and administrators remain in place to assist all students. Frederic staff are committed to positive, supportive relationships with all students.
- Frederic is committed to working collaboratively with the families of all students.
- Frederic continues to partner with mental health providers that deliver on-site therapy to some students.
- Frederic will be implementing screeners to help identify students who may benefit from assistance or counseling services.

Athletics and Co-Curricular Activities

- Return to pre-COVID
- Frederic will follow the WIAA COVID guidelines as much as possible to ensure student-athletes are allowed to compete.
- The WIAA COVID guidelines are posted online at <u>www.wiaawi.org</u>.
- Varsity home events will be live streamed via the WeAreFrederic Facebook page wherever possible.
- Masks are optional for spectators.

Technology

- The goal is to remain in an in-person instructional model.
- All students have access to school issued devices.
- All staff have access to school issued devices.
- When necessary, Google Meet or Zoom will continue to be used for virtual meetings.
- All requests to place students in a virtual learning environment must be approved by building principals.

School Nutrition

• Return to pre-COVID



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• Students will have access to hand sanitizer and hand washing prior to eating.

Transportation

• Return to pre-COVID

Facilities Management and Hygiene

- Return to pre-COVID
- Proper hygiene will be taught and encouraged.
- Students and staff should stay home when ill.
- Daily and weekly cleaning and disinfecting of high touch point areas will continue to be prioritized.
- Classroom disinfecting supplies will continue to be made available.
- Ventilation systems will continue to maximize air filtration and fresh air circulation.
- Hand sanitizer and stations will continue to be provided throughout the facilities.

Roots and Branches Childcare Center

- Return to pre-COVID
- Roots and Branches Childcare Center may have distinct COVID mitigation strategies unique to the needs of the setting and as a result of different federal and state requirements.
- Closure decisions will remain separate from the schools and will be communicated directly with parents of children in the Center's programming.

Communication

- COVID information will be shared via the District website at <u>www.fredericsd.org</u>.
- Family communications will be facilitated via the Infinite Campus Parent Notification System. Communication will occur in various ways through this notification system, such as phone calls, text messages, and/or emails.
- Parents/Guardians are encouraged to update their contact information in the parent portal, not only for notifications, but for direct parents/guardian calls and emails related to your child.
- Paper communications may be mailed or sent home with students.
- Parents are encouraged to communicate with their child(ren)'s teachers and principal(s) whenever they have questions or concerns.