

Colome Consolidated Safe Return Plan 2021

Elements required per USDOE:

- Dates of Review:
 - Board Meeting: Covid Plan Input June 14, 2021
 - Policy Committee Review of Plan: July 8, 2021
 - Board Meeting: Covid Plan Input July 12, 2021
- Approval Date: August 9, 2021
- Contact Person for Questions:
 - Dr. O'Doan, 605-842-1624

- The plan will be accessible in other languages and formats for non-English language speakers and those with disabilities upon request. Please contact Dr. O'Doan, 605-842-1624
- The plan will be accessible on the website at www.colome.k12.sd.us
- This plan is flexible and subject to change as necessary throughout the year to ensure the safety of staff and students.
- The district will assure there is a regular review of the plan in conjunction with December 2021 Child Count, June 2022 End of Year Sign Off, December 2022 Child Count, June 2023 End of Year Sign Off.

Objectives of the plan:

- To open schools in the best way possible, keeping everyone as safe as possible
- To continue to monitor the situation and pay attention to changes in local Covid cases.
- To be flexible and make changes as needed in accordance with the local Covid case data
- For 1 year, the COVID plan will override current policies without having to update all current policies, if there is a discrepancy (for example, attendance, online)
- Assure the privacy of individuals, when possible (follow FERPA & HIPPA laws)

Rationale:

- Our school decisions will be based on local data
- At this time, Colome Consolidated School District does not have the staff to be able to offer a fully online program. It is something we may need to consider in the future.
- Decisions made by superintendent were and will continue to be based off meetings and information from the Department of Education, Department of Health, CDC, NASP(National Association of School Psychologists), Colome Consolidated School Board members, CORE meetings, and what other area districts are doing.
- Colome School District will continue to use the three levels of operation, Green, Yellow, and Red.

Requirements and Recommendations of Department of Education

Taken from SD Strong Schools 2021:

- "Schools will provide primarily in-person instruction – with a focus on addressing students' unique academic, physical, social, emotional, and mental health needs coming out of the pandemic."

- “Executive Order 2021-08 states that: “No local government or subdivision of local government should require an individual to present a COVID-19 vaccine passport as described above, or any similar proof-of-COVID-19 vaccination, in order to enter government premises, receive a local government benefit, license, or do business with that government.”

Safe Return to In-person Instruction and Continuity of Services (Item 4):

- Colome School District will try to follow the current CDC recommendations, whenever possible, recognizing that these change frequently. CDC Recommendations may include but are not limited to:
 - Continue to recommend masks and/or quarantine/isolation for those that show symptoms or are exposed
 - Continue Physical/Social Distancing when possible
 - Continue Cohort Seating (Colome does this at lunch and in most classrooms)
 - Continue Temperature checks and protocols, as needed
 - Continue Modeling and Teaching Handwashing and Coughing into your elbow
 - Continue to Improve ventilation and air quality where possible
 - AC Units
 - Hold classes outside when possible
 - Open Windows for air flow
 - Continue to work with state tracing of positive individuals
 - Offer Diagnostic and screening testing
 - Abbot Now Diagnostic Testing (continue)
 - Quik- Over the Counter Testing to students, staff, families (NEW! - available upon request from Superintendent)
 - Work with local health officials to support vaccination efforts
 - Continue to work with individuals with disabilities, when accommodations are needed
 - Continue to work with state and local officials
 - School leaders will continue to work transparently with their school boards, staff, and community to communicate decisions and the underlying assumptions guiding those decisions.
 - School leaders will continue to make difficult decisions to ensure the health – both mental and physical – of their entire school community.

Colome School District recognizes that staff and students’ social, emotional, and mental health is an important part of the overall health of the community and school. The district has set aside funding to assist with emotional and mental health services, as needed. Contact the superintendent for assistance.

Colome School District will continue to use the three levels of operation, Green, Yellow, and Red. Every student will have the opportunity to engage in a full year of learning, irrespective of the spread of COVID-19 in a community. See Levels Below.

Levels of Reopening

- Level 1- Green: Open with pre-cautions
- School will operate as normally as possible with the following pre-cautions:
- Social distancing, is expected when possible/practical
- Signs will be posted with proper hygiene practices around the buildings

- Hand sanitizers have been installed in every classroom, multiple places in hallways and common areas
- No sharing of supplies, students should have their own (please let teacher, office know if you don't have something you need)
- All water fountains have been replaced with updated fountains that have water bottle fillers. Water bottles will be highly encouraged to avoid sharing germs at fountains
- Extra cleaning will be required of custodians; rooms/hallways will be disinfected with a new machine 2x weekly
- We have extra masks available for staff, students, and guests, as needed
- Covid Testing will be available and happen in the Superintendent's office, upon request
- Temperature checks will happen in the main office, and in the Title 1 room, when a case is suspected
- Note to parents and students, with back to school packet explaining protocols
- Choosing to stay at home and work is not an option unless you have a **proven medical condition with medical documentation that prevents or restricts you from attending face to face classes**. Specific situations and issues will need to be discussed with administration. Contact administration about personal medical conditions that are a concern.

Level 1- Green: Parent Expectations

- Social distancing, is expected when possible/practical
- Parents are EXPECTED to check/monitor their children at home for symptoms daily prior to sending them to school
- Parents will be REQUIRED to keep sick children home
- Parents will be REQUIRED to immediately pick up children who get ill while at school; sick students will be sent to the isolation room to wait
- Students with COVID symptoms or a temperature of 100.4 or more will be considered positive and sent home and may only return with a doctor's note or a negative Covid test

Level 1- Green: Student Expectations

- Social distancing, is expected when possible/practical
- Students are EXPECTED to tell their parents at home, BEFORE school if they feel sick
- Students will be REQUIRED to stay home when sick
- Students will be sent to the isolation room to wait for parents, if they feel sick during school hours
- Students with COVID symptoms or a temperature of 100.4 or more will be considered positive and sent home and may only return with a doctor's note or a negative Covid test
- Students can help by washing their hands frequently, sneezing into their elbow, not touching walls and surfaces that aren't necessary, keeping your own supplies, wiping desks before/after class, sitting in same seat

Level 1- Green: Teacher expectations

- Teachers will be asked to assist by wiping down their desks/tables, when custodians are not available
- Teachers will be purposeful in asking about how students feel today based on grade level/age first thing in the morning, prior to the actual start of the day; teachers will send ALL students showing symptoms to the office for temp check and possible Covid Testing
- Teach handwashing, social distancing, and provide extra time for handwashing
- Teachers will observe signs/symptoms and check in with students throughout the day

- All teachers will show students and work with them at least weekly in Google Classroom/Teams so students know how to log into their online platforms, in the event of a school closure.
- Seating charts mandatory in the classroom to limit exposure and assist with contact tracing information.
- Where possible, teachers are encouraged to have class outside, for example PE class...

Level 1 Green: Teachers/Staff Expectations (personal)

- All staff are still considered essential employees, per state allowance
- Self-check for symptoms prior to coming to school
- Staff procedure and threshold for staff temping high - 99.6 holding pattern wait 15 minutes and recheck. Will go home if 100.4 for 15 minutes or more.
- Masks - provided but optional
- Substitutes – We will try to find a sub or cover in-house. At this time, it is impossible. Aides and administration will be utilized when possible and practical.
- Choosing to stay at home and work is not an option unless you have a **proven medical condition with medical documentation that prevents or restricts you from teaching your assigned duties**. Contractual Issues will need to be discussed with the school's attorney and the school board. Contact administration about personal medical conditions that are a concern.
- The ability for the teacher to teach while being placed in isolation or quarantine by the state DOH will be case-specific.

Level 1 Green: Cafeteria

- Staggered lunch times
- Students will sit by grade level, not mixed
- Pre-packaged salad bar items
- Pre-packaged condiments
- Milk will be served by a staff member, wearing gloves
- Added hand-sanitizing stations
- POS staff member enters all student pin numbers
- Plexi-glass will stay in place
- Students that have been quarantined who need a lunch, will be allowed to come to the back door of the kitchen to pick up a "To Go" lunch (with permission from admin/ kitchen)

Level 1 Green: Busing

- Students from the same family will sit near each other on the bus
- Students will practice social distancing when possible (if there is room on your bus route, sit in every other row, unless you are family)
- Bus riders are encouraged to wear masks when social distancing is not possible
- Bus drivers will look for visible signs of illness, and call school/parents if child is sick. Bus driver will not allow sick students on the bus.

Level 1 Green: Afterschool program

- The afterschool program last year was improved over years past and will continue as it was in the year 2020-2021, with minor adjustments as necessary
- The afterschool program will be intervention based tutoring for identified students only
- Teachers will identify students in need
- Program will be taught by certified teachers

- CARES money has been designated to K-12 tutoring
- If teachers are not able, program will be cancelled and money will be repurposed

Level 1 Green: Extra-curricular Activities

- We will follow SDHSAA guidelines
- Participate at your own risk.
- Fans attend at your own risk.
- Details of SDHSAA guidelines have been released and we are following them; you may refer to them as guidance.
- As of now all sports seasons are scheduled to start at originally scheduled dates.
- Plexi-glass will stay on concessions for the year 2021-2022
- Training for concessions workers will be required, temperatures should be taken prior to working with food

Level 2: Yellow

- When we have been notified that we have an increase in positive cases in our district and isolating/quarantining is not an option to solve the issue:
- The DOH and DOE will work with us and recommend what actions to take
- Key assumptions: others have possibly been exposed, be flexible, be ready for some changes
- The class/grade that has been exposed will need to take extra safety precautions, other students/classes related to identified positive will need to take extra precautions
- We will still try to do as much face to face instruction as possible
- We will use one system (Google Classroom/Chromebooks)
- Bus routes may change or be canceled for a group of students (if there is close contact)
- School may close for 1-3 days and deep cleaning will take place

Level 2: Yellow, continued

- Schedules may change, some classes/groups/grades may go online
- Students may be separated to come on specific days (ex. A-M on M-T, N-Z on W-Th)
- A blended/hybrid learning model may be used
- Online for a specified number of days and then back to the classroom
- Be flexible
- Attendance policy will be as follows:
- All hybrid/online attendance will be considered as “counting” days
- Students will be required to attend all class periods synchronously online when/if school moves to online, or they will be considered absent
 - Students who log on and do not have their face on the screen will be considered absent
- Students who are absent due to quarantine or isolation will have 4 days to make up their work
- Students shall not sign up for events, activities, jobs, or responsibilities that prevent them from being in EVERY class with EVERY teacher, just as they would in face to face settings
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Level 3: Red

- We have been notified by the DOH that we have community spread in our school
- We will follow the direction of DOE/DOH.

- In order to avoid becoming the next hot spot, we will likely move to full distant learning for a limited period of time
- All teachers will have been trained in one learning management system (Google classroom).
- K-2 may still need to do some form of packets, if we find Google Classroom to difficult for those students; K-2 may do partial face to face instruction or recorded lessons

Level 3: Red

- In case of Red and full school shut down:
 - School will revert to E-Learning via online format (Google Classroom).
 - Teachers will include programs discussed/used in class already.
 - A traditional modified schedule will be maintained throughout the duration of a shut down.
 - The schedule will mirror the normal on campus schedule. A schedule will be provided to all students and staff.
 - Students will be expected to log in and stay logged in for the class period
 - Students will be required to do their work
 - Parents will be expected to support their students, as needed
- Board Action, as needed
- **Board Action:**
- The School Board will approve the plan and reserves the right to change elements of the plan at any time. The fluidity of the situation will demand changes be made. These are recommendations being made for the School Board's consideration. The School Board will make the final decision on the plan's implementation and restructuring.
- The School Board is aware that this plan will require a review every 6 months and approval the month after.