

Van Buren ISD: Return to Learn Guidelines 2021-2022

Edited 8/19/21

[CDC - Indicators of Community Transmission](#)

In-person learning has been shown to provide the greatest benefit to students and ensuring this can happen consistently and safely during the upcoming school year has been deemed by Van Buren Intermediate School District (VBISD).

The *2021-2022 Return to Learn Guidelines* provides detailed guidance to ensure that COVID-19 prevention and mitigation measures are implemented in a way that fosters optimal learning environments while simultaneously ensuring health and safety for students and staff at VBISD. This plan was collaboratively with the support of the Van Buren/Cass County District Health Department to ensure that VBISD has a detailed plan for a successful return to the classroom this fall.

VBISD staff members working in local school districts are expected to follow the guidelines associated with the district in which they work. VBISD programs housed in local school districts are expected to follow either the VBISD guidelines or the guidelines of the district of location, whichever is most restrictive.

Low Transmission	Moderate Transmission	Substantial Transmission	High Transmission
<i>0 to 9 new cases per 100,000 persons within last 7 days</i>	<i>10 to 49 new cases per 100,000 persons within last 7 days</i>	<i>50 to 99 new cases per 100,000 persons within last 7 days</i>	<i>>100 new cases per 100,000 persons within last 7 days</i>
<i><5% of RT-PCR tests that are positive during the last 7 days</i>	<i>5% to < 7.9% of RT-PCR tests that are positive during the last 7 days</i>	<i>8% to 9.9% of RT-PCR tests that are positive during the last 7 days</i>	<i>>10% of RT-PCR tests that are positive during the last 7 days</i>
<i>Local community spread per VB/Cass District Health Department</i>	<i>Local community spread per VB/Cass District Health Department</i>	<i>Local community spread per VB/Cass District Health Department</i>	<i>Local community spread per VB/Cass District Health Department</i>
Vaccinations			
No matter which color indicator Van Buren County is in, the district encourages staff and students to become vaccinated. The district is NOT requiring staff or students to be vaccinated at this time.			

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Instructional Format			
In person	In person	In person instruction - individual schools or classrooms may be moved to remote instruction	Multiple schools may be closed and the district may be closed if staffing and attendance necessitate closure. Remote instruction will occur in closed buildings
Cleaning & Disinfecting			
The district will follow regular cleaning and disinfection procedures.	The district will follow regular cleaning and disinfection procedures.	The district will follow regular cleaning and disinfection procedures. Additional cleaning and disinfecting procedures may take place for high contact areas.	The district will follow regular cleaning and disinfection procedures. Additional cleaning and disinfecting procedures will take place for high contact areas in a manner similar to 20-21.
Social Distancing			
No restrictions	No restrictions. Consider limiting crowded and/or poorly ventilated indoor activities. Increase physical social distancing	Avoid crowded and/or poorly ventilated indoor activities. Increase physical social distancing to 3 feet regardless of vaccination status whenever feasible.	Avoid crowded and/or poorly ventilated indoor activities. Increase physical social distancing to 6 feet regardless of vaccination status whenever feasible.
Contact Tracing/Quarantines			
The implementation of contact tracing & quarantines will be based upon the current requirements of the Van Buren/Cass County District Health Department. School districts will assist with robust case investigation and contact tracing as well as providing educational support for students and families who are impacted by isolation and quarantine. Contact Gary Brown (VB Crisis Management) for current policies/procedures.			

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COVID Testing			
COVID testing of students or staff <u>will only be required</u> when mandated by a local or state agency and/or a sanctioning body.			
Extracurriculars			
Extracurricular activities may occur as scheduled	Extracurricular activities may be modified based on risk levels.	Extracurricular activities may be suspended.	Extracurricular activities may be canceled OR modified depending upon an assessment of the overall risk level..
Field Trips			
Field trips may occur as scheduled.	Field trips may occur as scheduled.	Field trips may be suspended.	Field trips are suspended.
Face Covering (Masks)			
Face coverings are optional.	Face coverings are optional.	Face coverings are strongly recommended for all staff, students, volunteers and visitors regardless of vaccination status.	Face coverings are required for all staff, students, volunteers and visitors regardless of vaccination status.
Food Service			
Normal food service operations	Normal food service operations.	Normal food service operations. Consider implementing meals in cohorts.	Normal food service operations. Meals in cohorts/classrooms as feasible.
Gatherings and Facility Use (non-school related)			
No restrictions on gatherings or use of facilities	No restrictions on gatherings or use of facilities	Gathering size and facility use will be limited to events in which at least 3 feet of social distancing can occur with masks strongly recommended .	Gathering size and facility use will be limited to events in which at least 3 feet of social distancing can occur with masks required .

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Gatherings and Facility Use (school personnel or students)			
No restrictions on gatherings or use of facilities	No restrictions on gatherings or use of facilities	Gathering size and facility use will be limited to events in which at least 3 feet of social distancing can occur with masks strongly recommended .	Gathering size and facility use will be limited to events in which at least 6 feet of social distancing can occur with masks required .
Hand Hygiene and Respiratory Etiquette			
Hand Hygiene and Respiratory Etiquette is expected.	Hand Hygiene and Respiratory Etiquette is expected	Hand Hygiene and Respiratory Etiquette is expected and additional opportunities for proper hand washing will be available throughout the day. Hand sanitizing may be required when students leave or enter the classroom and other designated areas.	Hand Hygiene and Respiratory Etiquette is expected and additional opportunities for proper hand washing will be available throughout the day. Hand sanitizing will be required when students leave or enter the classroom and other designated areas.
Home Visits			
Face coverings are optional.	Face coverings are optional.	Face coverings are strongly recommended for all staff, regardless of vaccination status.	Face coverings are required for all staff regardless of vaccination status. Staff members performing home visits may ask that parents & students wear masks; however, this is not a requirement for service provision.
Offices			
District and building offices will be open for normal school	District and building offices will be open for normal school	District and building offices will remain open. Prioritize visits to minimize office visitor traffic.	District and building offices will remain open. Prioritize visits to minimize office visitor traffic. No

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business. Visitors and guests are allowed in buildings.	business. Visitors and guests are allowed in buildings.	Visitors and guests may be restricted throughout the buildings.	building access beyond the office will be permitted unless approved by the on-site administrator.
Personal Care			
VBISD requires the use of a mask when assisting a student with personal care at this time.			
Recess/Outdoor Activities			
VBISD is not requiring masks during recess or outdoor activities at this time. Social distancing should be considered when feasible during recess and outdoor activities.			
Remote/Virtual Learning			
VBISD is not currently offering a remote/virtual learning option for the 2021-22 school year. If a student is required to miss a substantial length of time due to a COVID related illness or quarantine, the district will assess the best method for providing educational access to that individual during this period.			
Staff Health Screening			
Staff members should conduct a daily wellness self-check prior to reporting to work. DO NOT REPORT TO WORK IF YOU ARE SICK.	Staff members should conduct a daily wellness self-check prior to reporting to work. DO NOT REPORT TO WORK IF YOU ARE SICK.	Staff members should conduct a daily wellness self-check prior to reporting to work. DO NOT REPORT TO WORK IF YOU ARE SICK.	Staff members will be required to complete a daily screener prior to reporting to work. DO NOT REPORT TO WORK IF YOU ARE SICK.
Student Health Screening			
Parents/guardians should conduct a daily student wellness check prior to sending student to school. DO NOT SEND STUDENT TO SCHOOL IF THEY ARE SICK.	Parents/guardians should conduct a daily student wellness check prior to sending student to school. DO NOT SEND STUDENT TO SCHOOL IF THEY ARE SICK.	Parents/guardians should conduct a daily student wellness check prior to sending student to school. DO NOT SEND STUDENT TO SCHOOL IF THEY ARE SICK.	Parents/guardians should conduct a daily student wellness check prior to sending student to school. Schools may implement temperature screening. DO

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			NOT SEND STUDENT TO SCHOOL IF THEY ARE SICK.
Transportation			
<p>Normal transportation operations.</p> <p><i>*Adhere to CDC order for facemask requirements</i></p>	<p>Normal transportation operations.</p> <p><i>*Adhere to CDC order for facemask requirements</i></p>	<p>Normal transportation operations. Additional health and safety protocols may be put in place. Additional cleaning and disinfecting procedures may be implemented.</p> <p><i>*Adhere to CDC order for facemask requirements</i></p>	<p>Normal transportation operations. Additional health and safety protocols will be put in place. Additional cleaning and disinfecting procedures will be implemented.</p> <p><i>*Adhere to CDC order for facemask requirements</i></p>

**Please Note: This plan may change and evolve as knowledge changes surrounding current and potential variants and availability of vaccination for younger age groups*