

**USD 244**  
**HEALTH and ABSENCE GUIDELINES**  
**REVISED 10-11-2021**

These guidelines have input from the USD 244 Board of Education, USD 244 administration and directors, Coffey County Health Department, Coffey County Health Officer, and the USD 244 COVID Advisory Committee.

**Masking:** Masking decisions will be left up to the USD 244 Board of Education. The current recommendation from the Coffey County Health Officer is to have a masking policy or have thresholds where masking will become mandatory. Please note if both an infected individual and their close contact are wearing masks, quarantine will not be necessary. Masks are optional but highly encouraged.

**Vaccinations:** Staff and students age 12 and over are encouraged to speak with their parents and physician about receiving the COVID-19 vaccine. USD 244 will support efforts for our staff to be vaccinated. Local pharmacies are offering the Pfizer vaccine for students age 12+.

**Student and staff illness:** If your child or a staff member is ill, please stay home. We will continue to use the Return to School Flow Chart on the district website if exhibiting two or more symptoms. If a student/staff member exhibits one symptom of either fever, vomiting, or diarrhea; they should not return to school or work until symptom free for 24 hours. A fever is defined as 100 degrees or greater per KDHE/CDC guidelines.

**Isolation:** Staff/students who have had a positive test will isolate from school for 10 days from the test collection date.

**Quarantine and antigen testing:** Staff or students who are placed in quarantine due to exposure to a positive case (as identified by the Coffey County Health Department during the disease investigation) will be quarantined for 10 days, to return to school on Day 11. There is an option for daily antigen testing. Daily negative results will allow a student in quarantine to continue to attend school and participate in activities during the quarantine timeframe. Staff and students that begin the antigen testing process will remain in antigen testing unless they become symptomatic, COVID positive, or have administrative approval. Parental consent would be required for such antigen testing. Those participating in antigen testing will be required to mask while at school as well as distance from others by 3-6 feet and/or limit time to less than 10 minutes except when actively participating in high exertion physical activity. No mask exemptions will be allowed during antigen testing, with the exception of high exertion physical activity which will be reviewed with coaches and sponsors to determine what is appropriate for the activity. Antigen testing will remain in effect until further notice or until antigen test kits run out.

**Environmental sanitation:** We will continue to clean high-touch areas with approved cleaners.

**Water fountains and bottle filling stations:** Water fountains will be turned off. Water bottle filling stations will be operational in all buildings.

**Spacing indoors:** We will try to have 3-6-foot spacing in schools for students and staff when groups are together for 10 minutes or longer.

**Handwashing and sanitizing:** Students and staff should continue to wash hands frequently throughout the day. Sanitizing throughout the building will continue to be emphasized.

Health guidelines may be adjusted throughout the year based on USD 244 school district health information and guidance from the Coffey County Health Department/Coffey County Health Officer.

**ABSENCE GUIDELINES:**

- UNDER 4% COVID POSITIVE RATE WOULD ALLOW A BUILDING TO HAVE MASKS OPTIONAL FOR STUDENTS, STAFF, AND VISITORS. THIS WOULD INCLUDE EVENTS AT THE BUILDING.
- 4%-6% COVID POSITIVE RATE WOULD PUT A BUILDING IN MASKS FOR STUDENTS, STAFF, AND VISITORS. THIS WOULD INCLUDE EVENTS AT THE BUILDING. MASKING WOULD REMAIN IN PLACE FOR 10 CALENDAR

DAYS. AFTER 10 CALENDAR DAYS, ADMINISTRATION WOULD EVALUATE THE ILLNESS RATE TO DETERMINE IF MASKING NEEDS TO CONTINUE OR MASKING COULD BE OPTIONAL.

- OVER 6 % COVID POSITIVE RATE OR 10% ILLNESS RATE COULD CLOSE A BUILDING AND PUT IT IN REMOTE LEARNING. ACTIVITIES MAY OR MAY NOT CONTINUE DEPENDING ON ADMINISTRATOR AND BOARD APPROVAL.