

Staunton Community Unit School District No. 6

Health Plan Frequently Asked Questions and Answers

August-September 2021

Will SCUSD No. 6 require students to wear masks indoors?

Yes. On August 4 Governor JB Pritzker and IDPH Director Dr. Ngozi Ezike announced masks will be required for students, teachers, and staff at pre-kindergarten-12th grade schools. SCUSD No. 6 will comply with this order. The new requirement formalizes CDC guidance released in July on universal masking for both unvaccinated and vaccinated people in schools to ensure a safe return to classrooms. Please see the ISBE guidance below for more information.

<https://www.isbe.net/Documents/Updated-Public-Health-School-Guidance.pdf>

Are students 3 feet apart in all classrooms?

No. Many of our classrooms are approximately 900 square feet. Many of our classes have 25 or more students. We have removed non-essential furniture and rearranged student desks with an attempt to have all students at least 3 feet apart. But, to have all students 3 feet apart in all classrooms is not possible at this time.

What does “close contact” mean when it is in relation to socially distanced and being quarantined?

Students who were within 3 to 6 feet of an infected student are not considered close contacts and do not require quarantine as long as both the case and the contact were consistently masked. If your child is in close contact (within 3 feet for more than 15 cumulative minutes over a 24 hour period) of a positive case at school or on the bus, your student will be required to quarantine at home for a period of 10 days since the last contact (unless your student is fully vaccinated and without symptoms).

Will SCUSD No. 6 offer a full remote option this school year?

No. However, our teachers and paraprofessionals will work with families who are out of school for an extended period of time due to Covid.

What if my child is sick? When can he/she return to school?

All students with any of the following symptoms: fever (100.4 or higher), loss of taste/smell, sore throat, vomiting, diarrhea and/or body aches will require a physician's note, negative COVID test or remain out of school for ten calendar days. For these specific symptoms, vaccinated students may return after 24 hours of no symptoms and are encouraged to get tested. Siblings symptoms must stay home from school until the symptomatic sibling meets requirements, unless the student is vaccinated.

What if someone in my home, other than my SCUSD No. 6 child, has an exposure to someone who has tested positive for Covid?

If anyone in the student's household tests positive for COVID, the student must quarantine for 10 days. Fully vaccinated children in the same household will not need to quarantine if they are without symptoms. This information would have to be confidentially volunteered to our school nurse, as we will not ask.

If someone in the student's household has an exposure to someone who has tested positive for COVID, and the student remains symptom free, the student is not required to quarantine and may come to school.

What if my SCUSD No. 6 child tests positive for Covid?

Please report all positive (and negative) test results to the Macoupin County Health Department. For your convenience, the Macoupin County Public Health Department has established a hotline. If you have

questions regarding COVID-19, call the hotline at 217-313-5078 or you can email your questions to mcphd@mcphd.net. If you are experiencing symptoms, contact your primary physician. If you do not have a primary physician, call 217-854-3692 and ask for the Public Health Nurse.

What is expected on school bus rides?

All bus riders and drivers will be required to wear a mask on the bus. We ask that household members sit together on the bus. It would be helpful if all parents limit having their child ride home with friends. Seating charts will be used on the bus. Please explain to your students the importance of sitting in their assigned seats.

What is expected during breakfast and lunch?

All students can receive a free breakfast and lunch. Students may report to the cafeteria each morning between 7:35 and 8:05 for a free breakfast. Students will report to their assigned cafeteria for lunch during their scheduled lunch. To help separate students at lunch, we will temporarily assign freshmen to eat in the cafeteria, sophomores staying on campus will eat in the library, juniors staying on campus will eat in the cafeteria and seniors staying on campus will eat in the old gym. K-8 students will eat in the cafeteria.

Will SCUSD No. 6 families be required to continue to conduct daily self checks of their children for symptoms prior to sending them to school?

Yes. But at this time, SCUSD No. 6 will not require any type of documentation or reporting form. This is an honor system. Even so, please help us in keeping sick kids home. This is truly the single most important part of our plan.

What if my child tests positive for Covid-19?

Please report all test results to both the Macoupin County Public Health Department and your child's school office. Upon receiving notification of your test results, you will receive specific instructions for your child, which may include isolation of your child and quarantine of others in your household. As a reminder, fully vaccinated children in the same household will not need to be in quarantine if they are without symptoms. This information would have to be confidentially volunteered as we will not ask. While your child or anyone in your household waits for test results, please stay home.

What about disinfecting and hygiene protocol?

Throughout the day, custodians are assigned to disinfect high touch areas such as sinks, door handles and toilet/urinal handles. Teachers also have 2 types of disinfectants at their disposal to use on high touch areas in their classrooms. We will continue with nightly disinfecting using EPA approved disinfectants and effective protocol. We have worked closely with our vendors to purchase disinfectants that are EPA approved to kill Covid, other viruses and other bacteria in a short amount of time. Please see our **Covid Cleaning, Disinfecting and Sanitizing Procedures, Updated August 25, 2021, for more information**. SCUSD No. 6 has placed and installed a variety of hand sanitizing products and dispensers throughout the District. Faculty and staff encourage our students to use hand sanitizers, wash hands and use proper hygiene protocol at all times.

How has SCUSD No. 6 addressed air quality in our buildings?

All air filters have been replaced with Merv8 full synthetic filters. Filters will be replaced again in 3 months in November and December. Along with this, we have encouraged our faculty to open windows when appropriate and take students outside for mask breaks when possible.