

Fontana Jt. 8 School District 450 S Main Street Fontana WI 53125 Home of the Falcons

Ph: 262.275.6881 Fax: 262.275.5360 www.fontana.k12.wi.us

Dear Family/Caregiver,

Welcome to the 2020-21 school year! The health and safety of our students and staff is our highest priority this school year. We want to assure you that we are working closely with Walworth County Public Health Department to monitor COVID-19. We look forward to our ongoing partnership with you as we work together to make education possible for all students.

We want to provide you with some information on COVID-19 and share the steps we are taking to keep your student safe and healthy while at school.

How is COVID-19 spread?

The virus that causes COVID-19 is thought to spread from person-to-person, mainly through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes. These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby, or possibly be inhaled into the lungs. Spread is more likely when people are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet).

The steps we are taking to reduce the risk of COVID-19:

- 1. Asking families and caregivers to screen their student for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 daily and keep the student home if they are ill
- 2. Asking all staff to screen themselves for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 daily and stay home if they are ill
- 3. Maintaining 6 feet physical distancing as much as possible
- 4. Keeping students in small groups (referred to as "cohorting") within one classroom.
- 5. Increasing homerooms to be able to decrease the number of students in one classroom, and keeping students in the same classroom throughout the day
- 6. Having school staff wear face coverings and have extra face coverings readily available for those whose face covering may become soiled or are not able to provide their own.
- 7. Having students ages 5 and up wear face coverings and have extra face covering readily available for those whose face covering may become soiled or not able to provide their own
- 8. Cleaning and disinfecting according to CDC guidelines
- 9. Improving ventilation by increasing the amount of outdoor air and increasing air filtration
- 10. Having class outside as much as possible while weather permits
- 11. Eliminating the use of lockers
- 12. Eliminating shared supplies and having students use individual classroom supplies
- 13. Having two separate health rooms. One health room will be designated for wellness/injuries. One room will be for illness and isolation until the student is able to be picked up from school
- 14. Protocol in place for if/when somebody in the building presents with COVID-19 symptoms (see enclosed guidance from Walworth County Health Department)
- 15. Protocol in place for a confirmed positive case in our school and contact tracing



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We need your help, too!

Here is what you can do at home to help keep your student and yourself healthy.

- Help them wash their hands often.
- Help them avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Remind them to stay 6 feet apart from other people outside of their household.
- Remind/encourage those who are able to do so safely to cover their mouth and nose
 with a cloth face cover when they are around others. Some people cannot wear a cloth
 face covering safely. Cloth face coverings should not be placed on children under age 2,
 anyone who has trouble breathing, or anyone who is unable to remove the covering
 without assistance. In addition to medical considerations, individuals may fear racial
 profiling or discrimination based on wearing or not wearing a face covering.
- Teach them to clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily.

Keep your student home if ill:

It is important for you to keep your student home when they are not feeling well. If you have any questions on whether your student should come to school, the best decision would be to keep them home and contact your health care provider to discuss your concerns. We especially want you to keep your student home from school if they are experiencing any of the following symptoms, if they have been in contact with anyone diagnosed with COVID-19, or if your student has been diagnosed with COVID-19.

If you do not have a doctor, call 211 to be connected to resources that can help you access testing and care. Many clinics in Wisconsin provide services for people with little or no insurance, including <u>free and low cost clinics</u>, <u>Federally Qualified Health Centers</u> (FQHCs), <u>rural health centers</u>, and <u>tribal health centers</u>.

When should I keep my child home from school?

- Chills or shivering
- Cough
- Headache
- Muscle or body aches
- Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea
- New loss of taste or smell
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Sore throat

- Temperature of 100.4°F or above
- If your child has had close contact with someone who has COVID-19
- If your child was diagnosed with COVID-1

Pick-up and Drop-off Adjustments for 2020/2021 School Year:

- Staggered Pick-up and Drop-off locations/times
 - Last names (A-M) Drop-off 8am and Pick-up 3pm
 - o Last names (N-Z) Drop-off at 8:10am and Pick-up at 3:10pm
- Grades Daycare through 1st grade



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- Enter/exit through South Playground doors (door 2)
- Grades 2, 3, 4
 - Enter/exit through main entrance (door 1)
- Grades 5, 6, 7, 8
 - Enter/exit through North doors (door 9)
- Bus pick-up times will be determined by Dousman Transportation and all bus students will leave Fontana for home at 3:30pm.

Breakfast, lunch, and food programming:

- Breakfast and lunch will be provided, as usual, during the school day
 - o Breakfast will be "grab and go" to bring to back to classrooms
 - Lunch will be in the lunchroom and outside as much as possible weather permitting.
 - Virtual learners and/or students learning from home will have access to breakfast and lunch, if interested. (Meals will be charged as a typical school day)
 - Please contact Wendy Schanau (<u>wschanau@fontana.k12.wi.us</u>) by 9am each virtual school day if you plan to take advantage of this opportunity.
 - The virtual breakfast/lunch will need to be picked up at school (Pick-up times TBD once we have final registrations/planning completed)

**while we work to stagger and adjust the flow of traffic at pick-up and drop-off for safety purposes, we understand there may be slight adjustments needed for multiple family pick-up etc.

We look forward to having our new school year start and we want to be sure we are all on the same page (families, students, staff, community) as this will be a total team effort of success!! There is a chance there may be intermittent closures and we will work with all stakeholders to ensure safety is always our top priority. Having a family back-up plan and alternate childcare will be a good idea just in case we are forced into some unexpected situations this school year.

Open communication, patience, teamwork, and a constant eye on safety will have a lasting impact on our children for the better. At Fontana School, we are always looking for ways to partner with our parents and community, and while this current health crisis has altered the way we live day-to-day, there is a guiding light that has resulted, and that is a true community/family feel of unwavering support. Stay well, stay safe, and we can't wait to see you all very soon!

If you have questions or concerns please feel free to contact the following:

Mark Wenzel, Superintendent mwenzel@fontana.k12.wi.us

Steve Torrez, Principal <u>storrez@fontana.k12.wi.us</u>

Amanda Carek, District Nurse acarek@fontana.k12.wi.us

Thank you and GO FALCONS!!!