

Middlebury Community Schools



2021-2022 School Year Plan

Approved by Middlebury Community Schools School Board June 15, 2021



COVID-19 LEARNING PLAN

The Middlebury Community Schools Re-Opening Plan was created in July 2020 to serve as a framework for providing the maximum amount of in-person instruction, while continuing to follow public health agency requirements to ensure the safety of students and staff during the COVID-19 pandemic. The wellbeing of students and staff has been, and will continue to be, our top priority.

All aspects of this plan were developed using the Indiana Department of Education's COVID-19 Re-entry Guidance. The IDOE recommends our planning considerations include the following two key points: 1) Our district's ability to keep our students and staff safe. 2) The amount of spread in our local community.

This plan was updated in June 2021 to reflect updated policies and procedures that will carry through to the 2021-2022 school year. More details about the optional wearing of masks, guidance for close contacts, and ongoing mitigation practices can be found within this updated plan.

We are committed to continue working with local and state health officials, as well as neighboring school districts, to evaluate the conditions in Elkhart County and will make adjustments to the plan as needed. These plans are subject to change.



The Middlebury Community Schools 2021-2022 School Year Plan was approved by the School Board on June 15, 2021.

Note: In order to keep this plan timely and responsive to changes as they occur, the Board of School Trustees allows the administration to amend this plan as needed to comply with local and state health guidelines with the board potentially ratifying action after the fact.



IN- PERSON LEARNING

On August 11, 2021, Middlebury Community Schools will open for the 2021-2022 school year. We anticipate a traditional year with some mitigation strategies. We will continue to monitor the spread of COVID-19 in our community.

- **All students will attend school in-person 5 days per week**
- **Masks/Face Coverings Optional**
 - **except on school buses – all students and drivers must wear a mask due to Federal regulations**
 - **except when considered a close contact**
- **Students or staff who test positive for COVID-19 will isolate for 10 days**
- **Social distancing will be encouraged, but not required as we return to full capacity classrooms, lunchrooms, and buses**
- **Cleaning and mitigation strategies will remain in place**
- **We will continue to monitor the spread of COVID-19 in our community**
- **Implementation of specific mitigation strategies will be based on local data in consultation with local health officials**



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS Updated 6/17/2021

Q. Will my child be required to wear a mask?

A. Effective June 1, 2021, the wearing of masks will be optional in Middlebury Community Schools in all settings except for when an individual is determined to be a close contact.

Q. Will my child be required to be vaccinated against the COVID-19 virus?

A. Middlebury Community Schools will not require students to be vaccinated, but will comply with state requirements.

Q. What happens if my child tests positive for COVID-19?

A. Students who test positive for COVID-19 will be required to isolate for 10 days.

Q. What happens if my child is determined to be a close contact?

A. Students who are determined to be close contacts will either follow the procedures outlined below, or quarantine at home for 14 days. Close contact is defined as "within 6 feet for more than 15 minutes accumulated in a day." Your child may continue to come to school, provided the following criteria are met:

- Close contact must provide their own transportation.
- Immediately isolate if symptoms develop.
- Practice good hand hygiene by washing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or using a hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Stay at least 3 feet (was 6 feet) from other individuals.
- Wear a mask over your nose and mouth at all times when around others, including recess.
- Eat meals in an isolated location.
- Maintain six feet of physical distance and remain masked at all times during extra-curricular activities.

Any close contact student or staff member who is vaccinated will not have to quarantine or follow any of the conditions listed above. This also applies to students who participate in extra-curricular activities.

Q. If my child is determined to be a close contact, but I do not want him/her to wear a mask, what option exists?

A. Your child can quarantine from home for 14 days and complete school work provided for him/her at home.

Q. Can I enroll my student in virtual learning?

A. All students will resume in-person classes. Specific self-paced courses will continue to be offered through Northridge High School Digital Academy and Northridge Middle School Blended Learning.

Q. What protocols are in place for responding to COVID-19 cases in schools?

A. Middlebury Community Schools will follow local and state health official guidance. If a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19, the individual will be required to stay home in accordance with Indiana Department of Health guidelines. Middlebury Community Schools will consult with the Elkhart County Health Department regarding the need for potential targeted school closure(s), as well as to assist with contact tracing as directed by ECHD.



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Indiana State Department of Health

- [Isolation Guidelines for Families - 20 Family isolation COVID-19 8-10-20 \(in.gov\)](#)
- [Quarantine Guidelines for Families - 20 Family quarantine 2-11-21](#)
- **COVID-19 Screening for Parents** - [20 Parent screening 2-9-21](#)
 - [COVID-19 Testing Information - ISDH - Novel Coronavirus: COVID-19 Testing Information](#)
- [Stop the Spread of Germs - Stop the Spread of Germs \(COVID-19\) \(in.gov\)](#)
- **Indiana COVID-19 Data Report** - [ISDH - Novel Coronavirus: Indiana COVID-19 Dashboard and Map](#)
 - [School Recommendations Based on Level of Community Spread - One-pager \(in.gov\)](#)
- **COVID-19 Vaccination Information** - [ISDH - Novel Coronavirus: Vaccine Information and Planning](#)
 - [Vaccine Fact Sheet for ages 12-15 - 21 Youth Pfizer fact sheet 5-12 \(in.gov\)](#)

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

- [Guidance for Schools and Child Care Programs - School Settings | COVID-19 | CDC](#)
- [COVID-19 Self-Checker - What to Do If You Are Sick | CDC](#)
- [Symptoms of COVID-19 - Symptoms of COVID-19 | CDC](#)