Safe at School

2023-2024

COVID-19 Prevention Response
School District of Indian River County

Dr. David K. Moore, Superintendent of Schools

Revised Fall 2023

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STRONGER
SDIRC
TOGETHER

Modifications to the SDIRC Safe at School 2023-2024 Plan will be made as necessary and with the approval of the Superintendent.

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Prevention Response

The School District of Indian River County (SDIRC) is committed to establishing and maintaining physically and psychologically safe learning environments for all students and staff. The creation of structures and processes that support optimal working and learning environments enhances the physical and mental well-being of students and staff and maximizes educational outcomes.

During the past academic year, our school communities have experienced extremely limited impacts associated with COVID-19. As a result, the previously implemented specialized health and safety procedures have been adjusted accordingly. Specifically, health and safety measures included in this plan, which are in alignment with CDC guidelines, are limited to hand washing and physical distancing in health rooms.

Preventative Health & Safety Measures

Wellness Screenings

- Students shall be screened for possible COVID-19 symptoms at home by parents/guardians to ensure absence of symptoms.

- Staff observe for any students presenting symptoms of illness. Students who are observed or self-report not feeling well are sent for further screening by a school health professional. Further screening of identified students, including temperature checks, is conducted by a school health professional in a location that supports student privacy.

- Before entering a school or district building, all individuals should assess their own wellness with the following questions (Adapted from: CDC, 2021):
    o Do you have a new cough, nasal congestion, or runny nose?
    o Are you experiencing shortness of breath or difficulty breathing?
    o Are you having new muscle pain or body aches?
    o Do you have a headache (that is not normal for you)?
    o Do you have a fever or chills?
    o Have you had a fever in the last 24 hours?
    o Do you have a sore throat?
    o Are you experiencing a new loss of taste or smell?
    o Are you experiencing nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, or diarrhea?
    o Have you been exposed to anyone who has tested positive for COVID-19 in the last two weeks?

Health Room Protocols

- Students presenting with fever or flu-like illness will be physically separated from other students visiting the School Health Room.

- Due to the nature of the health room setting, physical distancing is maximized, when feasible, including distancing of cots/chairs. Additionally, portable barriers are utilized in cases in which a student is presenting with symptoms associated with fever or flu-like illness, when feasible.

- Sufficient inventory of Personal Protective Equipment (e.g., masks, face shields, and gloves) is maintained.

- Approved district disinfectant is used to sanitize the Health Room after every student visit. All disinfectants are locked up when not in use.

- All students and staff must wash their hands upon arrival and leaving the Health Room.

Response to Potential Symptoms

Possible Symptoms of COVID-19

- Students or staff who present any of the following illness symptoms are sent home from the physical school setting:
  - Fever of 100.4 F or more
  - Chills
  - New cough, nasal congestion, or runny nose
  - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
  - New muscle or body aches, or fatigue
  - Headache (if abnormal for you)
  - New loss of taste or smell
  - Sore throat
  - Nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain
  - Diarrhea

- If a student presents with possible symptoms of COVID-19, the health assistant follows any relevant Department of Health requirements for reporting.

- Custodians disinfect and sanitize all potentially affected areas related to identified cases.

Continuity of Educational Services

Continued Instruction While at Home Due to COVID-19

- If a student is home with COVID-19 or their parent/guardian has elected that their child self-isolate due to close contact with an individual who is COVID-19 positive, they may continue their instruction using the District's Canvas platform and/or contingency work assigned by his/her teacher(s).

- Parents and students may contact their teacher(s) by phone, email, or their Focus account with any questions regarding their assignments while out.

Supports for Students & Staff

Below are resources provided to assist our families and school community in accessing resources that support the well-being and resilience during times of added stress.

SDIRC Mental Health Supports for Students

772-564-6199
mentalhealth@indianriverschools.org

Please contact us with questions about your child's mental health
or well-being.

SDIRC Mental Health Supports for Employees

1-800-272-3626
www.resourcesforliving.com

Please access resources provided through our SDIRC Employee Assistance
Program for supports related to mental health and well-being.

Social Media & Website Communications

The School District of Indian River County provides ongoing updates about our school community via our district website, social media platforms, Dr. Moore's Facebook Live sessions, and School Messenger phone calls, text messages, and Focus notifications. For specific questions about health and safety procedures at your child's school, please contact your child's designated school site.

Visit our district website for updates and resources at www.indianriverschools.org

Follow us on X (formerly Twitter) @ircschools for updates

Connect with our school community by following us on Facebook @SchoolDistrictofIRC

Watch Dr. Moore's Facebook Live sessions on the SDIRC YouTube Channel

Listen for School Messenger Text Messages & Phone Calls

Look on our Focus App for notifications