



School District of Flambeau

HOME OF THE FALCONS



N4540 County Highway I, PO Box 86, Tony, Wisconsin, 54563

P: 715-532-3183

F: 715-532-5405

School District of Flambeau
2022-2023 Return-to-School Plan
Board Approved 09/21/2022

Introduction:

The situation for schools and communities across Wisconsin has changed since the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) first issued recommendations on infection control and mitigation measures for schools since the 2020-2021 school year. Recommendations have been revised several times to reflect what is currently known about the SARS-CoV2 virus and best public health practices as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS). The DPI continues to work in consultation with the DHS to develop guidance for school district boards of education, school administrators, and school healthcare professionals.

As we return to school for the 2022-2023 school year, the safety of our students and staff is, as always, our top priority. The School District of Flambeau is providing face-to-face instruction five days per week beginning September 1, 2022. State agencies continue to provide state-level guidance, not requirements, meant to provide what is considered best practices at the current time based upon what is currently known and understood regarding COVID-19 transmission in schools, vaccines, variants of concern and takes into consideration the level of community transmission in Wisconsin.

District Strategies to Decrease Risk of Transmission of COVID-19:

It is especially important, and the School District of Flambeau will, layer multiple prevention strategies outlined in this document to help reduce transmission risk.

Staying Home when Sick:

People who have symptoms of respiratory or gastrointestinal infections, such as cough, fever, sore throat, vomiting, or diarrhea, should stay home. Testing is recommended for people with [symptoms of COVID-19](#) as soon as possible after symptoms begin. People who are [at risk for getting very sick](#) with COVID-19 who test positive should consult with a healthcare provider right away for possible treatment, even if their symptoms are mild. Staying home when sick can lower the risk of spreading infectious diseases, including COVID-19, to other people. For more information on staying home when sick with COVID-19, including recommendations for isolation and mask use for people who test positive or who are experiencing symptoms consistent with COVID-19, see [Isolation and Precautions for People with COVID-19](#).

Board of Education

Administration

Joel Taylor, President
Doug Verdegan, Vice-President
Julie Hauser, Clerk
Sara Taylor, Treasurer

Laura Dutter-Nelson, Director
Daniel Kopacz, Director
Zachary Lund, Director

Erica Schley, District Administrator
Betsy Miller, 4YK-12 Principal
Sheri Kopka, Assistant Principal

Testing Positive:

If you test positive for COVID-19 regardless of your vaccination status you should:

Stay home for 5 days. Day 0 is the day of symptom onset.

You may end isolation after day 5 if:

You are fever free for 24 hours (without the use of fever-reducing medication).

Your symptoms are improving or have ended.

If you have a fever, continue to stay home until your fever resolves.

COVID-19 Exposure:

If you were exposed to someone with COVID-19 you should:

Watch for symptoms, (you do not have to isolate).

Test on day 5, if possible or sooner if you develop symptoms.

Promoting Vaccination:

In order to promote vaccination, the School District of Flambeau will:

Visit [vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov) to find out where teachers, staff, students, and their families can get vaccinated against COVID-19 in the community and promote COVID-19 vaccination locations in our district.

Encourage teachers, staff, and families, including extended family members that have frequent contact with students to maintain a vaccination status.

Partner with Rusk County Public Health to serve as a COVID-19 vaccination site, and work with local healthcare providers and organizations, including school-based health centers.

Find ways to adapt key messages to help families, teachers, and staff become more confident about the vaccine by using the language, tone, and format that fits the needs of the community and is responsive to concerns.

Face Coverings/Masks:

The wearing of face masks by students and staff is a district decision and remains optional for staff and students for the 2022-2023 school year while in our building and on our school sponsored transportation.

The School District of Flambeau will provide masks to students and staff who choose to wear them, but do not have access to them.

Testing:

The School District of Flambeau will direct families, who need testing, to a local medical facility for their testing needs. Tests will be available in the school nurse's office should a parent want to test their child upon pickup while experiencing symptoms of COVID-19.

Ventilation:

Improving ventilation is an important COVID-19 prevention strategy that can reduce the number of virus particles in the air. Along with other preventative strategies, bringing fresh outdoor air into a building helps keep virus particles from concentrating inside.

The School District of Flambeau will increase ventilation by opening multiple doors and windows, using child-safe fans to increase the effectiveness of open windows, and consider changes to the HVAC or air filtration systems.

During transportation, windows in buses may be opened or cracked, if doing so does not pose a safety risk. Keeping bus windows open a few inches will improve air circulation.

Handwashing and Respiratory Etiquette:

Students and staff should practice handwashing and respiratory etiquette (covering coughs and sneezes) to keep from getting and spreading infectious illnesses including COVID-19. The School District of Flambeau will monitor and reinforce these behaviors and provide adequate handwashing supplies.

Teach and reinforce handwashing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.

Give reminders to wash hand frequently and assist young children with handwashing.

If handwashing is not possible, use hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol (for teachers, staff, and older students who can safely use hand sanitizer). Hand sanitizers will be stored up, away, and out of sight of young children and should be used only with adult supervision for children under 6 years of age.

Cleaning and Disinfecting:

In general, cleaning once a day is usually enough to sufficiently remove potential virus that may be on surfaces. Disinfecting removes any remaining germs on surfaces, which further reduces any risk of spreading infection.

Visitors:

As per our visitor policy, the School District of Flambeau welcomes visitors. Because it is necessary to avoid disruption of the education process and protect the safety and welfare of our students and staff, administration has the right to determine which visits to permit and can determine the extent of such visits. Administration will determine if such visits are essential to the function of the school day.

The district will continue to provide areas for drop-off and pick-up for students. Parents will not be admitted into the building beyond the school office unless pre- approved by the school principal or district administrator. Once a visitor or volunteer is approved, all other procedures of the visitor policy will be followed.