



South Bound Brook Public School



Welcome to the 2021-2022 School
Year!

Road Forward Plan

The South Bound Brook School District is committed to providing our students with a safe and happy learning environment.

We look forward to leading, learning, and making a difference during this exciting school year!

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Universal and Correct Wearing of Masks

As of August 9, 2021, and pursuant to Executive Order 251, face masks are now required in indoor spaces (including at Board of Education meetings) in the South Bound Brook School District.

Accordingly, face masks shall be worn by staff, students, and visitors in the indoor portion of the school district premises, except in the following circumstances:

- When doing so would inhibit the individual's health, such as when the individual is exposed to extreme heat indoors;
- When the individual has trouble breathing, is unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove a face mask without assistance;
- When a student's documented medical condition or disability, as reflected in an Individualized Education Program (IEP) or Educational Plan pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, precludes use of a face mask;
- When the individual is under two (2) years of age;
- When the individual is engaged in activity that cannot physically be performed while wearing a mask, such as eating or drinking, or playing a musical instrument that would be obstructed by a face mask;
- When the individual is engaged in high-intensity aerobic or anaerobic activity;
- When a student is participating in high-intensity physical activities during a physical education class in a well-ventilated location and able to maintain a physical distance of six feet from all other individuals; or
- When wearing a face mask creates an unsafe condition in which to operate equipment or execute a task.

Health-related requests for the optional wearing of a face mask must be accompanied by a physician's note which will be verified by the school physician.



Physical Distancing

Students and staff must remain socially distanced to the fullest extent while on school grounds.

Other considerations include:

- When possible, student seating will be arranged to maintain three feet of distance between students while offering full-time, in-person learning to all students.
- Schools will continue to use signage to remind students, staff, and visitors to maintain social distancing to the greatest extent possible.
- When practicable, student desks will be arranged so that all desks face the same direction. • Any student grouping strategies utilized in a classroom, co-curricular, extracurricular, before-school, or after-school setting will limit the number of students working together and will take into consideration students that regularly sit near each other.
- When possible and while engaging in physical education, athletics, or other high-intensity physical activity, students and staff will maintain six feet of social distance.

Hand Hygiene and Respiratory Etiquette

Administrators, teachers, and support staff will reinforce proper handwashing with soap and water. Students and staff members will have opportunities to wash hands at key transitions during the school day. This includes but is not limited to upon arrival at school, before and after lunch/snack time, recess, after the use of shared equipment, after physical education class, after the use of the restroom, and before dismissal. Other considerations include:

- Hand sanitizer will be made available at the entrance to each building. In addition, hand sanitizer (with at least 60% alcohol) will safely be available throughout the schools.
- When students and staff are not wearing masks, they will be encouraged to cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue. Used tissues should be thrown in the trash, and handwashing or hand sanitizing should be performed immediately.
- Elementary school students will be taught, monitored, and assisted with proper handwashing and respiratory etiquette techniques.



Lunch, Snack Time, and Meals

Students and staff members can remove face masks while eating or drinking.

Other considerations include:

- When possible, student seating will be arranged to maintain three feet of distance between students.
- • When possible, students will be grouped to limit the number of students dining together.
- When possible, seating arrangements will be made to limit the mixing of students between groups.
- Self-serve food options will not be available in the cafeteria, and students will be prohibited from sharing food and drinks.

Transportation

The South Bound Brook School District is a walking district. In instances when transportation is used the following will be in place:

- Face masks shall be worn by staff and students while on school buses, except in the following circumstances:
 - ◇ When doing so would inhibit the individual's health, such as when the individual is exposed to extreme heat;
 - ◇ When the individual has trouble breathing, is unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove a face mask without assistance;
 - ◇ When a student's documented medical condition or disability, as reflected in an Individualized Education Program (IEP) or Educational Plan pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, precludes use of a face mask.
- When possible, student seating will be arranged to maintain three feet of distance between students.
- When practicable, windows and roof hatches will be opened to maximize airflow and increase ventilation.
- All buses will be routinely cleaned with an EPA-approved disinfectant between all bus routes.



Shared Supplies and Equipment

Student use of shared supplies will be minimized to the greatest extent practicable. Other considerations include:

- Students and staff members will have opportunities to wash/sanitize hands after the use of shared equipment.
- Students in grades 6-12 will be given their Chromebooks for use at home and in school. Students in grades K-5 will be given an assigned Chromebook for use in school.
- Schools will provide adequate supplies (i.e. classroom supplies, art supplies, equipment) in order to minimize the sharing of high-touch materials.
- Schools will limit the use of supplies and equipment by one group of students at a time and will clean and disinfect supplies and equipment routinely between use by different groups of students.

Maintaining Healthy Learning Environments

All high-touch surfaces will be routinely cleaned using an EPA-approved disinfectant. While school is in session, all high-touch areas will be cleaned multiple times during the course of the day.

Other considerations include:

- When possible, unoccupied classrooms will be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected between student and staff use.
- All district ventilation systems have received upgrades to MERV-13 filters.
- All classrooms will be equipped with air purifiers that contain HEPA filters.
- The district will utilize window exhaust fans at various locations to increase airflow throughout our schools.
- For areas prone to increased exposure of individuals exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 (i.e. Health Office, isolation rooms), UV may be utilized to ensure increased sanitation of those areas.



Screening

Staff, students, and visitors will no longer be required to have a temperature check or a daily health check form/questionnaire.

Parents, guardians, and students should regularly monitor for signs and symptoms of COVID-19.

Parents, guardians, students, and visitors should not attend school and/or school events when sick and/or when exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms.

Those symptoms include:

- At least two of the following symptoms: low-grade fever (measure or subjective), chills, rigors (shivers), myalgia (muscle aches), headache, sore throat, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea, fatigue, congestion, or runny nose;
- At least one of the following symptoms: cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, new olfactory disorder, or new taste disorder; or
- Temperature above 100°F. Standing orders from the School Physician state that students with temperatures of 100°F or higher should not attend school.
- All absences should be reported on the school's attendance line. Reports of absences should include reasons for absences and student symptoms when applicable.

Symptomatic Students and Staff

Staff and students who become ill during the school day will be directed to the Health Office. Students who have signs and symptoms of COVID-19 will be supervised in a designated room until they can be picked up by a parent or guardian. Other considerations include:

- While waiting to get picked up by a parent or guardian, students will be seated at a minimum of six feet apart from other students in the designated room.
- The Health Office and the designated room will be fully equipped with additional face masks, facial tissues, and alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- To the greatest extent possible, the School Nurse will follow the CDC Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Healthcare Personnel.



Criteria for Isolation and/or Quarantine

Staff and students who have COVID-19 compatible symptoms or who test positive for COVID-19 will be directed to stay home as follows:

- Ill individuals with COVID-19 compatible symptoms who have not been tested or individuals who tested positive for COVID-19 should stay home until at least 10 days have passed since symptom onset and at least 24 hours have passed after resolution of fever without fever-reducing medications and improvement in symptoms.
- Persons who test positive for COVID-19 but are asymptomatic should stay home for 10 days from the positive test result. Close contact is defined as being within 6 feet of someone with confirmed COVID-19 for 15 or more minutes during a 24-hour period. Exception: In the K-12 indoor classroom setting, the close contact definition excludes students who were within 3 to 6 feet of an infected student where both the infected student and the exposed student(s) correctly and consistently wore well-fitting masks the entire time. This exception does not apply to teachers, staff, or other adults in the indoor classroom setting.
- Staff and students who are close contacts of individuals who tested positive for COVID-19 will be required to quarantine. The quarantine period is based on community transmission as follows:
- When the transmission level in Somerset County is high (orange), exposed close contacts will quarantine for 14 days.
- When the transmission level in Somerset County is moderate (yellow) or low (green), exposed close contacts will quarantine for 10 days or 7 days with a negative test result collected at 5-7 days. Exposed close contacts who are fully vaccinated and have no COVID-like symptoms, do not need to quarantine, be excluded from school, or be tested following exposure to someone with suspected or confirmed COVID-19. Individuals who are fully vaccinated are encouraged to provide a copy of their COVID-19 Vaccination Record Card to the Health Office. For purposes of contact tracing, if the vaccination status of an individual cannot be verified, that person will be considered not fully vaccinated.



Ensuring Continuity of Educational Services

Students who must quarantine or isolate for COVID-19 related reasons will receive remote instruction aligned to in-person teaching and learning to the greatest extent possible. This instruction will meet, at a minimum, the four hour minimum day requirement, excluding lunch and recess. The district will purchase wi-fi hot spots and work with internet providers to provide additional avenues for internet connectivity for families in need of assistance. The district has provided a Chromebook to all students and will continue to assess needs with instruction and the deployment of technology through the provision of an annual survey of technology needs.

Considerations and procedures include:

- Classroom assignments and activities will be posted to *Google Classroom*.
- Those students who must isolate or quarantine due to an in-school COVID-19 related matter will receive a *Google Meet* link from their teacher(s) within one school day. The teacher(s) will provide direct/teacher-led instruction through *Google Meet* as necessary. The teacher will periodically check in with students throughout other portions of the lesson(s) accordingly.
- The parents/guardians of students who must isolate or quarantine due to an out-of-school COVID-19 related matter must contact the school's main office with their request for remote instruction. Upon review and approval of documentation (i.e. doctor's note or test results) pertaining to the out-of-school COVID-19 related matter, the student will receive a *Google Meet* link within one school day. The teacher(s) will provide teacher-led instruction through *Google Meet* as necessary. The teacher(s) will periodically check in with students throughout other portions of the lesson(s) accordingly.
- In the event that a classroom, school, or district needs to move to a complete remote learning environment, the students will follow the regular school schedule. All students will receive a *Google Meet* link on the first morning of the remote session.



Safe Delivery of Meals to Students

For the 2021-2022 school year, the South Bound Brook School District offers free daily breakfast and lunch to all students. The federal government funds this program.

Meal distribution for students who must quarantine or isolate for COVID-19 related reasons are as follows:

- For students who must isolate or quarantine due to a COVID-19 related matter, meal pick up will occur on the following days of the week:
- On Monday, students will receive lunch for Monday and Tuesday and breakfast for Tuesday and Wednesday.
- On Wednesday students will receive lunch for Wednesday through Friday and breakfast for Thursday through Monday.
- For students who must isolate or quarantine due to a COVID-19 related matter, parents/guardians can pick up meals at the following time: Monday & Wednesday from 1:00 to 2:30 pm.
- In the event that a classroom, a school, or the district needs to move to fully remote instruction, we will follow the same schedule as noted above.
- If a parent/guardian cannot pick up meals at the time noted above (due to quarantine, isolation, work schedule, and/or transportation issues), they should call Mr. Leonaggeo at 732-356-3018 ext. 313.



Internet Resources

South Bound Brook School District Road Forward Plan

Executive Order No. 251

<https://nj.gov/infobank/eo/056murphy/pdf/EO-251.pdf>

Executive Order No. 253

<https://nj.gov/infobank/eo/056murphy/pdf/EO-253.pdf> NJDOE

Memo - Educating Students During Quarantine

https://www.nj.gov/education/broadcasts/2021/aug/11/Educating%20Students%20During%20Quarantine_.pdf

The Road Forward: Health and Safety Guidance for the 2021-2022 School Year

<https://www.nj.gov/education/roadforward/docs/HealthAndSafetyGuidanceSY2122.pdf>

