



2023-2024 Vermillion School Return to School Plan

The Vermillion School District will continue to work in collaboration with local, regional, state, and national resources through the school year to ensure the health and safety of our staff and students.

General Guidelines

- VSD will consider CDC/SD DOH recommendations for positive cases.
- VSD supports the CDC recommendation for COVID-19 vaccinations for children.
- Students and staff are expected to stay home while exhibiting symptoms of illness.
- VSD encourages physical distancing and frequent handwashing throughout the school day and school activities.
- Water bottles are highly recommended. Water bottle fill stations are available in every building.
- Covid related absences will be addressed individually based on student's specific situations.
- The VSD School Board will review this plan at its December and June meetings or more often if necessary.
- The superintendent has the authority to alter this plan as needed based on available data at the time.

Communication

- Parents are expected to communicate positive cases to building administration for the purpose of:
 - Ensuring missed absences are documented as COVID-related.
 - Collecting data to help district administration make informed decisions about local COVID response.

Face Coverings

- Optional for all staff, students and visitors
- It will be the responsibility of the individual to follow masking guidelines for close contact or returning to school after a positive case.

Positive Case – Isolation

- Any student or staff who is positive for COVID will be excluded from school for a 5-day isolation period.
- Students/staff may return on Day 6 after a positive test with the recommendation to wear a mask on Days 6-10.

Close Contact – Quarantine

- VSD supports the CDC recommendation that any person exposed COVID-19 should wear a well-fitted mask for 10 days after exposure when in public. **However, the school district will no longer be doing contact tracing for positive case reporting in the school setting.**

Activities

- Activities will return to pre-Covid-19 protocols. There are no restrictions for activity attendance.
- Activities may be restricted or modified at any time in response to COVID-19 mitigations.

Remote Learning

Black Hills Online will be the remote option for students wishing to not attend VSD in person. <https://www.bholc.org/>. This will be a semester commitment with costs covered by the school district.