



Pandemic Response Plan 2023-2024

June 14, 2023

In order to keep our students and staff healthy and avoid disruptions to learning, the following plan will be reviewed, updated and changed as needed by Parkway administration and the Board of Education. We welcome the public to provide ongoing feedback into our plan via our website at <https://www.parkwayschools.net/Page/12709>.

While the federal Department of Health and Human Services has declared an end to the public health emergency due to COVID-19, the Centers for Disease Control continues to monitor hospitalizations, deaths, and emergency department visit data due to COVID-19 and provide guidance to the public on mitigation strategies. As we continue to navigate the COVID-19 pandemic, we thank our community for partnering with us to help keep our facilities safe and healthy and for your ongoing understanding and support.

Mitigation and Prevention Strategies

Face Coverings

Face coverings will no longer be required of students, staff or visitors and we will no longer utilize a building-level threshold to determine if students, staff and visitors must wear a face covering. However, students, staff and visitors may choose to wear face coverings to address their own individual health needs. We expect our community to be respectful of the choices of others.

The CDC continues to encourage the wearing of a well-fitted face covering if you have symptoms, have a positive test, or have been exposed to someone with COVID-19.

Physical Distancing

We will continue to work with students, staff and families to address individual health and medical needs. Physical distancing may be one of the layered mitigation strategies for addressing personal health safety.

Clean and Healthy Habits

Each day we will routinely clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces.

Students will be encouraged to wash/clean their hands often throughout the school day.

Students will also be encouraged to use appropriate respiratory etiquette, such as:

- Covering a cough or sneeze by coughing and sneezing into a tissue or elbow;
- Disposing of tissue immediately in a nearby receptacle; and
- Washing/cleaning of hands and nearby surfaces.

Parkway heating and cooling systems are updated using standards established by the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE), which are recommended by the CDC. System operation and ventilation will continue to be monitored and updated based on CDC and ASHRAE guidance. Our upgraded systems utilize the newest technologies and ensure fresh outside air is brought in continually throughout the day, and that components such as fans and filtering systems are working correctly.

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Health Screenings/Communicable Disease Policies

Students, staff and visitors should self-assess before coming to school or work. Stay home and consider consulting with your physician if you experience symptoms associated with any contagious illness, including COVID-19. Symptoms may include:

- fever or chills
- cough
- shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- congestion or runny nose
- sore throat
- tiredness
- muscle or body aches
- headache
- nausea or vomiting
- loss of taste or smell
- diarrhea

For more information on board policies and Missouri law related to communicable diseases, see below.

[JLCC.BP - Students with communicable diseases](#)

[JLCC.G \(guidelines\)](#)

[GBGF.BP - Employees with communicable diseases](#)

[GBGF.G \(guidelines\)](#)

[Missouri Revised Statute 167.191](#)

Contact Tracing

Effective August 11, 2022, the District will no longer contact trace or quarantine students, staff or visitors. The superintendent may require schools, sites and programs to implement contact tracing and follow CDC Quarantine Guidelines if mandated by local health authorities.

Riding the Bus

Due to ongoing staff shortages, parents are encouraged to provide transportation to school if possible. If you have any transportation questions, please contact the Transportation Department at 314-415-8400.

Diagnostic and Screening Testing

When you have symptoms of COVID-19, testing is key to reducing the spread in our school communities. The CDC recommends that when you have symptoms of COVID-19, you should test immediately. If you do not have symptoms but have been exposed to COVID-19, wait at least five full days after your exposure before taking a test. Tests can be purchased online or in pharmacies and retail stores. Community-based testing locations, such as a pharmacy or health center may offer PCR or antigen tests, and provide low- or no-cost testing for everyone, including people without insurance. Free PCR or antigen tests may also be available through your local health department. We encourage you to take advantage of [free at-home testing kits](#), while they are available, to keep on hand at home and consider consulting with your physician.



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Vaccinations

We continue to encourage vaccination for all students and staff. While COVID-19 vaccination is not required to attend public school in Missouri, it can protect your child and others at school from serious illness.

The vast majority of our students and staff are eligible to be vaccinated. For information on convenient access to vaccination in our region, visit covidvaccine.mo.gov.

Accommodating All Students

Schools will partner with families and students to ensure equity and access to instruction. Accommodations will be made as needed for students who are medically vulnerable or require individualized education plans.

School nurses and other District personnel will work with families and students with disabilities to ensure they receive continued care, allowing students priority visits and/or private visits with the nurse as needed, so a student can have their healthcare needs met and also minimize exposure to ill students.

ARP/ESSER III Funds

Parkway Schools received a one-time allocation of COVID relief money from the American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARP/ESSER III) funds. To receive funds allocated under the ARP, school districts must publish information on their website that addresses mitigation and prevention strategies, continuity of services during interruptions to in-person learning, and periodic review and revision of the district's plan.

[A summary of the completed and planned spending can be found here.](#)

Finance / ESSER Expenditures

Periodic Revision and Review

Modifications to this plan will be made in a timely and reasonable manner, when necessary. The plan must be reviewed and, if needed, revised at least every six months, in accordance with federal guidelines. Feedback will be gathered from stakeholders through a variety of means. Any updates will be communicated to the community.

This document supersedes previously approved Pandemic Response Plans and/or actions:

1/18/2023, 8/10/2022, 5/18/2022, 4/23/2022, 4/13/2022, 4/1/2022, 3/9/2022, 2/16/2022, 1/19/2022, 1/13/2022, 12/15/2021, 10/20/2021, 8/11/2021, 6/30/2021, 6/2021, 2/16/2021, 12/21/2020, 12/2/2020, 11/18/2020, 10/21/2020, 10/7/2020, 9/29/2020, 5/20/2020, 3/19/2020