

Board Approved on 3/2/2023

Revised on: 3/19/2024



## Star of the North Academy Safe Learning Plan 2023-2024

SNA encourages staff and students to stay up to date on all recommended vaccines, including COVID-19 vaccines.



### **Vaccine Resources**

For more information on how to access vaccines:

[MHD Find my vaccine website](#)

### **Testing Resources**

If necessary, SNA offers tests that are available by request.

Free at-home COVID testing is available to all U.S. households. Every home is eligible to order a set of at-home tests. Go to: [MN get tested at home](#)

### **Masking**

Face masks are optional at SNA and on school transportation when community levels of COVID-19 are low to medium in Anoka County. Masks are required when community levels of COVID-19 are high in Anoka County. This applies to all staff, students and visitors (ages 5 and older), regardless of a person's vaccine status, unless a person has a qualifying exemption.

Community levels for COVID-19 are updated by the CDC. SNA will notify families and staff if COVID-19 levels are high and masks become required.

*Masking (cont.)*

**SNA recommends wearing masks for those in the situations below, regardless of community levels:**

- People who are immunocompromised or at high risk for a severe reaction to COVID-19
- Staff working with immunocompromised individuals and those ineligible for the vaccination.
- Staff and students who have completed a five-day isolation period after testing positive for COVID-19 should wear a mask for an additional five days after returning to school to reduce potential spread
- Those with a household member who has recently tested positive for COVID-19
- All students being evaluated by the health office or waiting to be picked up to reduce potential spread
- Students, staff & visitors will be provided face masks if requested.

### **Social Distancing**

SNA is committed to maintaining in-person learning opportunities. Although we are unable to implement physical distancing in most circumstances due to classroom sizes, we will focus efforts on other key prevention strategies to help reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 and other infectious diseases.

### **Quarantine Guidelines**

#### **EXPOSURE**

If a household member tests positive for COVID-19, all students and staff from that household are strongly encouraged to wear a mask at school and work until the household member's symptoms are gone.

Students and staff who feel ill should stay home and get tested for COVID-19. See Health Screening Guidelines below.

#### **POSITIVE TEST**

Students and staff who test positive for COVID-19 will isolate for 5 days and can return to school and work if they have been fever-free for 24 hours and have no or improved symptoms. Masks are strongly recommended for an additional 5 days after their isolation period when they return to school and work.

*Isolation due to a positive COVID-19 case is considered an excused absence. Teachers will share resources and materials through Google Classroom and other means for students who are home due to COVID-19. Students will have accommodation for extended deadlines or the option to make up work as needed.*

### **Contact Tracing**

SNA is no longer conducting contact tracing following a positive COVID-19 case report. This means families will not be notified if someone in their student's class has tested positive for COVID-19.

SNA is required to report confirmed cases of COVID-19 to the Minnesota Department of Health.

### **Case Reporting**

Designated reporters (typically the health assistant) only need to complete weekly reports for

positive cases now (for students and staff).

<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/schools/plan.html>

### **Field Trips**

Day and overnight field trips are allowed. Face masks may be required and/or trips may need to be canceled when COVID-19 community levels are high in Anoka County and/or the destination.

### **Building Access for Families and Visitors**

Parents/guardians are welcome inside school buildings. Visitors will be required to wear face coverings when community levels of COVID-19 are high in Anoka County.

### **Health Screening Guidelines and Expectations**

● ***Families should conduct a health screening every morning before sending their students to school. School staff will continue to monitor for symptoms throughout the school day.*** ●

*Symptoms of COVID-19 include: new onset cough or shortness of breath, fever (100.4°F or higher) or feeling feverish, chills, muscle pain, sore throat, headache, loss of sense of smell or taste, and gastrointestinal symptoms of diarrhea, vomiting or nausea*

- Answer the following questions each morning before sending your child to school:
  - Did my child recently test positive for COVID-19?
  - Does my child have any of the COVID-19 symptoms listed above, even if they have completed their primary vaccination series, received a booster shot, or previously had COVID-19?
- If you answered YES to **any** of the above:
  - Do not send your child to school, even if they are fully vaccinated. Report your child's absence to your school and contact your child's health care provider.

**\*\*Students that are feeling sick and displaying COVID symptoms at school will get a call home to see if a parent can come pick them up.**

### **Reporting Methods**

SNA will request parents/guardians to self-report if their student(s) test positive for COVID-

### **19. Community Expectations**

**Hand Washing:** Proper hand washing practices are very important to reducing the spread of any viruses. Posters will be placed in the building that remind everyone of good hand washing practices. Hand sanitizer will be provided throughout the building. Teaching staff are expected to encourage proper hand washing with all students. (\*This is no longer a requirement but is still highly recommended).

**Ventilation Systems:** Ventilation systems are checked regularly to ensure that they are operating properly. The school's HVAC system is equipped with filters in order to limit the

spread of airborne viruses.

**Cleaning & Disinfecting**

Regular housekeeping practices are being implemented, including routine cleaning and disinfecting of the school including restrooms, lunch room and other “high touch” areas. **SNA follows all CDC and OSHA recommendations on cleaning and disinfecting.**