



COVID-19 Recommendations for K-12 Schools for 2021/2022 School Year

PCHD strongly recommends that people who have **not** been vaccinated follow all COVID-19 mitigation practices

This guidance outlines recommendations for K-12 schools to prepare for and respond to community spread of COVID-19 based on CDC's recommendations and suggestions by Pima County Health Department, taking into consideration the level of community spread, rates of vaccination in zip code and/or census tract, and positive cases.

Physical Distancing

PCHD recommends that staff and volunteers continue to physically distance from students at least **3 feet**, if not vaccinated when inside or in poorly ventilated spaces.

PCHD recommends that students, family members, employees and community members physically distance at least **3 feet** for:

- School registrations
- Clubs and after school functions and gatherings, i.e. Latin Club, prom, parent night
- Community gatherings
- Sporting events: inside
- Field trips: no restrictions here, but may vary by state

**PCHD recommends physically distancing, but cannot enforce these restrictions!*

PCHD suggests **no physically distancing** when with fully vaccinated groups or when inside or outside.

Masks

PCHD recommends continued correct mask usage indoors for:

- Staff and volunteers, especially in unvaccinated populations
- Athletes, performances, and practices when inside and unvaccinated
- Parents entering schools with unvaccinated groups

*Mask usage may depend on:

- Herd/community immunity under/over 70%
- Zip code (most students in high poverty areas attend in their zip code areas)
- Census data

- Vaccination rate under/over 70%
- Age
- High school students are highly recommended to mask
- Pre-K to 8th may change with fall vaccinations

No masks required

PCHD suggests that **no masks** are necessary **outdoors** for all students, regardless of their age.

Food

PCHD suggests that there are no restrictions on:

- Food preparation (outside of general PCHD food handling guidelines and safety)
- Cafeteria (hot or cold food)
- Paying for and scanning lunch cards
- Staff eating areas and breakrooms
- Staff pot lucks
- High school lunches

**PCHD does recommend that Pre-K to 8th grade physically distance 3 feet apart in lunch room.*

Positive Cases

Contract tracing and working with schools and their POC with reported positive cases and contact tracing will continue, as before.

Continue to work on screening with schools who want it, offering Binax and pooled-strategies for testing.

Recommendations for isolation and quarantine by PCHD

***Positive cases only thing PCHD can require to be reported.*

PCHD Future Recommendations

We will continue to suggest and give guidance to schools, to the best of our ability, depending on CDC guidelines. We will work with ADE and ADHS to align with their recommendations.

***Highly or strongly recommended or suggested; cannot mandate**

****Mandated by PCHD**