

**Missouri Schools for the Severely Disabled (MSSD)  
Plan for Avoidance and Containment of COVID-19**

**Overview of systems in place:**

- MSSD Administration and Instruction Guidebook Section (*6440 Blood-Borne Pathogens Exposure and Standard Precautions*) details the steps for handling blood or bodily fluids that may contain pathogens. MSSD staff are trained in the handling of blood-borne pathogens and bodily fluids.
- MSSD Administration and Instruction Guidebook Section (*6400 Communicable Disease*) details the steps to reduce risk of exposure to discharges from respiratory tract or infected persons by airborne transmission and by droplets. MSSD staff are trained in the handling of communicable diseases.
- MSSD's Custodial Department will follow cleaning protocol lined out in MSSD's Custodian Manual. These correlate with Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) guidance.
- Staff will follow MSSD's Administration and Instruction Guidebook Section (*6700 Diapering*) on proper protocol for changing students. The changing areas are cleaned and disinfected after each use.
- Door handles and light switches are sanitized each day.
- Staff utilizing educational toys, therapy equipment and devices will sanitize them after each student's use as well as daily.
- MSSD's Custodial Department uses the OXIVIR spray throughout the entire building daily.
- MSSD's Custodial Department uses OXIVIR solution on all desks, chairs and hard surfaces and wipe those down daily.
- MSSD's Custodial Department uses OXIVIR solution to disinfect classroom sinks, fixtures and countertops daily.
- MSSD's Custodial Department disinfects restrooms and nurses offices' daily, and checks them throughout the day for cleanliness.
- MSSD's Custodial Department will clean the playground each day that the equipment could potentially be used, and will be cleaned as needed between uses.
- All classrooms have a supply of facemasks, tissues, hand sanitizer, cleaner and gloves.

- A hand sanitizing station will be set up at the front of each building.
- Buildings may choose to add floor signage in areas of possible congestion to ensure students are staying six feet apart.

### **Protocol for entering the building:**

#### Staff:

- The nurse or designated staff will take and document the temperature of each staff member as they enter the building. Any staff with a temperature of 100 or higher will be sent home.
- Building Administrator/School Nurse will assess staff in the building.
- If staff are exhibiting flu-like symptoms (cough, fever, shortness of breath, body aches or vomiting) they are to stay and/or return home.
- All parents/staff will receive the *Possible Exposure to Infectious Disease or Parasite* (7-760-596) form whenever there is a possibility of exposure to one of the diseases listed on the form. This will occur once a student or staff member has a diagnosis of COVID-19.
- Staff will wear a facemask while at work. Staff may wear their own mask or a mask that MSSD will supply.
- Staff and related service providers that travel between rooms or buildings must wear facemasks and frequently use hand sanitizer.

#### Transportation

- Students will have their temperature taken and documented on the *Daily Route Ridership Log* (7-760-561) by the bus aide before they will be allowed to load on the bus.
- Any student with a temperature of 100 or higher will not be allowed to be transported to school.
- The bus driver, aide and students will be consistent on the same routes (morning and evening as well as each day) whenever possible.
- Buses will be disinfected between each route.
- Staff must wear masks while loading/unloading students and use hand sanitizer between each student.
- Students will social distance, to the greatest extent possible, as they load and unload the buses and while they are on the bus.
  - This may mean only one bus loads and unloads at a time.

#### Students:

- Students will wash their hands upon arriving to school.

- Teachers and aides will visually assess the current health of each student as they are coming into the building. Buildings may need to add floor signage to ensure students are staying six feet apart.
- If a student exhibits flu-like symptoms (cough, fever, shortness of breath, body aches or vomiting) the student will be taken to the nurse's office for further evaluation. The student will be isolated from other students.
- The nurse will then determine if a student has met the requirements to be sent home.
- Because of the possible spread of communicable diseases among students, parents will be notified when the student displays symptoms of being ill and/or requires pick-up.
- Parents will be asked to not send the student to school until they are fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication.
- Students will have multiple emergency contacts for pick-up if sick.
- All parents will receive the *Possible Exposure to Infectious Disease or Parasite* form whenever there is a possibility of exposure to one of the diseases listed on the form. This will occur once a student or staff member has a diagnosis of COVID-19.
- Masks will be made available for students to wear.

Parents, visitors and all others entering our building:

- All public meetings are suspended at the school until further notice.
  - i.e. PTO meetings, open houses and building tours
- Please limit your visits to the building if at all possible.
- All parents and visitors entering our building will have their temperature taken and documented by the Building Administrator/School Nurse before they will be allowed access to the building. No one with a temperature of 100 or higher will be allowed access to the building.
- If anyone entering our building exhibit flu-like symptoms (cough, fever, shortness of breath, body aches or vomiting) they are encouraged to stay home and will not be allowed to enter the building.
- If possible, staff outside the building will greet parents dropping off students and the student will be escorted inside.
- Masks must be worn by visitors entering the building.
- All parents and visitors entering our building will be required to use hand sanitizer upon entering the building.
- Building Administrator/School Nurse will assess parents/visitors who request access to the building.

**Protocols for the buildings:**

Classrooms:

- Each classroom will stay isolated within their class as much as possible.

- Classrooms, if possible, should include the same group of students each day and the same teachers and aides.
  - Staff will do their best to socially distance the students from one another in the classroom.
  - No whole school activities.
  - Stagger lunch times or have students eat in their classrooms.
  - Stagger playground times.
- MSSD Parents are given the COVID-19 Information Sheet distributed by DHSS.
  - Nurses have a list of local resources for parents and staff to access, should a case of COVID-19 be identified at MSSD.
  - Building Administrators review with all staff the Administration and Instruction Guidebook Sections (*6440 Blood-borne Pathogen Exposure and Standard Precautions*) and (*6400 Communicable Disease*).
  - If COVID-19 is confirmed in a student or staff member:
    - Parents will be notified and students will be sent home.
    - Staff will put into place online learning opportunities.
    - Areas used by the person who is sick will be closed off.
    - Outside doors and windows will be opened to increase air circulation.
    - We will wait up to 24 hours, or as long as possible, before cleaning or disinfecting to allow respiratory droplets to settle.
    - Custodial staff will clean and disinfect all areas used by the person who is sick, such as offices, bathrooms and common areas according to MSSD Guidance.
    - If more than seven days have passed since the person who is sick visited or used the facility, additional cleaning and disinfection is not necessary.
    - The building will be closed for 2-5 days until it can be disinfected and is safe for students and staff to return.
    - Once the building has been deemed safe for staff and students to return, custodians will continue routine cleaning and disinfection.

**Vulnerable and high risk groups:**

- Per CDC recommendation, if a staff member is age 65 or older, or has a serious underlying health conditions, we encourage them to talk to their healthcare provider to assess their risk and to determine if they should stay home.
- MSSD encourages parents to talk to their healthcare provider to assess their child's risk and to determine if they should stay home. If it is decided the child should not attend, the IEP team will meet to determine what services are needed for the child to continue their education

# MSSD Additional COVID-19 Guidelines

July 15, 2020

- **If a staff member, household member or student has a pending COVID-19 test and is symptomatic:** Stay home until results are known. If the test comes back negative, the individual cannot return to school until their fever has reduced below 100<sup>0</sup> for 24 hours after they stopped taking fever-reducing medicines.
- **If a staff member or student has a positive COVID-19 test:** Quarantine per local County Health Department's guidelines. Individuals in quarantine should stay home, separate themselves from others, monitor their health and follow directions from their state or local health department.

*The individual may return to school when all of the following conditions have been met:*

- Officially released from quarantine by local Health Department
  - No fever for 72 hours (3 days) without medication
  - Improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g. cough, shortness of breath)
- **If someone in the household tests positive for COVID-19:** Quarantine for 14 days.
    - If no symptoms develop during quarantine, then the staff member may return to work.
    - If symptoms develop during quarantine, then the staff member should be tested for COVID. If positive, see above criteria.
  - **If a staff member or student was less than 6 feet away from a positive COVID contact for longer than 15 minutes:** Quarantine for 14 days.

**\*\*\*This guidance/information could change as we learn more information about COVID-19 that may better inform our response efforts.**