



COVID-19 Mitigation Plan

February 16, 2022

Mitigation Strategies

Mask Policy

TEACH Las Vegas has adopted a mask policy that follows the recommended mask mandate put forth by the State of Nevada. The policy states:

All students, staff, and school employees/volunteers as of February 10, 2022 are not required to wear a mask while on the TEACH campus. While masks are not required, any and all individuals can continue to wear a mask if they chose.

If TEACH Las Vegas experiences a COVID-19 outbreak, an outbreak would be defined as 3 or more students, staff, or teachers in the same classroom or office contract COVID-19 within 14 days of one another, all persons in that classroom or office **MUST** wear a mask.

Pursuant to Directive 052, use of face coverings is not required within the school setting, unless the school is experiencing an outbreak of COVID-19. Schools that are experiencing an outbreak must implement appropriate mitigation measures, including universal masking for the duration of the outbreak. Masking must also occur for anyone who has COVID-19 and is following the shortened isolation and quarantine periods, which allow for 5 days of masking after 5 days of either isolation or quarantine as outlined later in the document. Use of face coverings is required on public transportation pursuant to the CDC order issued on January 29, 2021. This includes all passengers and all personnel operating public transportation vehicles, which includes school buses

Promoting Vaccination

TEACH Las Vegas encourages all staff, students and families to get vaccinated. Vaccination for COVID-19 is the most effective way to keep our students healthy and at school. TEACH Las Vegas will host vaccination clinics provided by Sav-On pharmacies monthly beginning March 9, 2022. These clinics will be able to provide vaccinations for children as young as 5. Information will be provided via email and informational flyers will be sent home with students. In addition to hosting vaccination clinics, TEACH Las Vegas has a list of vaccination locations available in the front office.

TEACH officials and health departments can work together to also support messaging and outreach about vaccination for members of school communities. TEACH communication platforms can facilitate outreach to encourage vaccination of household members of school-age children as they become eligible. This should include outreach in a language that limited English proficient family members of students can understand and in alternate formats as needed to facilitate effective communication for individuals with disabilities.

Physical Distancing and Cohorts

TEACH Las Vegas will no longer require physical distancing as of January 10, 2022. If we experience an outbreak of COVID, State of Nevada, Southern Nevada Health District, or any other state agency in the future requires schools to implement physical distancing, TEACH Las Vegas will comply.

TEACH Las Vegas will continue to monitor our students in grade level cohorts. Each grade level, in grades K-7 are outside for recess with only their classroom. At lunch, each classroom is assigned to the same table every day and each student has an assigned place to sit daily as well. If we were to have an outbreak, we would be able to easily identify who may be at risk for infection.

Staying home when appropriate: TEACH will educate teachers, staff and families about when they and their children should stay home and when they can return to school. Students, teachers, and staff who have symptoms should stay home and be referred to their healthcare provider for testing and care. TEACH may need to consider flexible sick leave policies and practices that enable teachers and staff to stay home when they are sick, have been exposed, or are caring for someone who is sick. TEACH will recruit and train sufficient substitute educators to ensure that teachers can stay home when they are sick or have been exposed to someone who is confirmed or suspected of having COVID-19.

Handwashing and Respiratory Etiquette

TEACH Las Vegas will provide ongoing health education units and lessons, teach children proper handwashing, and reinforce behaviors, and provide adequate supplies. Ensure that teachers and staff use proper handwashing and respiratory etiquette.

- Teach and reinforce handwashing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and increase monitoring to ensure adherence among students, teachers, and staff. If handwashing is not possible, hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol should be used.
- Encourage students and staff to cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue when not wearing a mask and immediately wash their hands after blowing their nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- Some students with disabilities might need assistance with handwashing and respiratory etiquette behaviors.
- Supplies: Support healthy hygiene behaviors by providing adequate supplies, including soap, a way to dry hands, tissues, face masks (as feasible), and no-touch/foot-pedal trash cans. If soap and water are not readily available, schools can provide alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol (for staff and older children who can safely use hand sanitizer).

Cleaning and Maintaining Healthy Facilities

TEACH Las Vegas will make changes to physical spaces to maintain a healthy environment and facilities, including improving ventilation. Routinely clean high-touch surfaces (such as doorknobs and light switches).

Ventilation: Improve ventilation to the extent possible to increase circulation of outdoor air, increase the delivery of clean air, and dilute potential contaminants. This can be achieved through several actions.

- Bring in as much outdoor air as possible.
- Ensure Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) settings are maximizing ventilation.
- Filter and/or clean the air in the school by changing filters regularly
- Use exhaust fans in restrooms and kitchens.

Modified layouts: Adjust physical layouts in classrooms and other settings to maximize physical space, such as by turning desks to face in the same direction.

Cleaning: Regularly clean high touch surfaces and objects (for example, playground equipment, door handles, sink handles, toilets, drinking fountains) within the school and on school buses at

Communal spaces: Stagger use and clean regularly (for example, daily or as often as needed). Consider use of larger spaces such as cafeterias, libraries, gyms for academic instruction, to maximize physical distancing.

Food service: Avoid offering any self-serve food or drink options such as hot and cold food bars, salad or condiment bars, and drink stations.

Water systems: Take steps to ensure that all water systems and features (for example, sink faucets, decorative fountains) are safe to use after a prolonged facility shutdown.

TESTING

At all levels of community transmission, TEACH should offer referrals to diagnostic testing to any student, teacher, or staff member who is exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 at school. Diagnostic testing for Covid-19 is intended to identify occurrence of Covid-19 infection at the individual level and is performed when there is a reason to suspect that an individual may be infected, such as having symptoms or suspected recent exposure. Examples of diagnostic testing strategies include testing symptomatic teachers, students, and staff who develop symptoms in school, and testing asymptomatic individuals who were exposed to someone with a confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19. Additional considerations for diagnostic testing:

- TEACH will advise students, teachers, and staff to stay home if they are sick or if they have been exposed to COVID-19. TEACH can encourage these individuals to talk to their healthcare provider about getting a COVID-19 test.
- If a student, teacher, or staff member becomes sick at school or reports a new COVID-19 diagnosis, TEACH should follow the steps of the COVID-19 Diagnosis flowchart on what to do next. This includes notifying a student's parent or guardian and initiating testing strategies. Notifications must be accessible for all students, parents, or guardians, including those with disabilities or limited English proficiency (for example, through use of interpreters or translated materials).
- It is important that school-based healthcare professionals have access to, and training on the proper use of personal protective equipment (PPE).
- Not every school or school-based healthcare professional will have the staff, resources, or training to conduct testing. Public health officials should work with TEACH to help link

students and their families, teachers, and staff to other opportunities for testing in their community. Testing could be offered by referral to community-based testing sites, through collaboration with local public health, or through a centralized test location offered by the school district.

The presence of any of the symptoms below generally suggests a student, teacher, or staff member has an infectious illness and should not attend school, regardless of whether the illness is COVID-19. For students, staff, and teachers with chronic conditions, symptom presence should represent a change from their typical health status to warrant exclusion from school. Occurrence of any of the symptoms below while a student, teacher, or staff member is at school suggests the person may be referred for diagnostic testing.

- Temperature external icon of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher
- Sore throat
- Cough (for students with chronic cough due to allergies or asthma, a change in their cough from baseline)
- Difficulty breathing (for students with asthma, a change from their baseline breathing)
- Diarrhea or vomiting
- New loss of taste or smell
- New onset of severe headache, especially with a fever

Students should not attend school in-person if they or their caregiver identifies new development of any of the symptoms above. TEACH can provide options to separate students with COVID-19 symptoms or suspected or confirmed COVID-19 diagnoses by, for example, placing students in isolation room/areas until transportation can be arranged to send them home or seek emergency medical attention.

If a COVID-19 diagnosis is confirmed, TEACH will support public health officials in determining which close contacts and other potentially exposed persons in the school setting could be tested and either isolated or quarantined. TEACH can assist by providing information, where appropriate, to identify close contacts (for example, class rosters, seating charts, and information to facilitate outreach to contacts).

Contact Tracing

TEACH Las Vegas will collaborate with the health department, to the extent allowable by privacy laws and other applicable laws, to confidentially provide information about people diagnosed with or exposed to COVID-19. Students, teachers, and staff with positive test results should isolate, and close contacts should quarantine. TEACH will report positive cases to the health department as soon as they are informed. TEACH school officials will notify families of close contacts as soon as possible after they are notified that someone in the school has tested positive (within the same school day).

Staying home when appropriate: TEACH will educate teachers, staff and families about when they and their children should stay home and when they can return to school. Students, teachers, and staff who have symptoms should stay home and be referred to their healthcare provider for

testing and care. TEACH may need to consider flexible sick leave policies and practices that enable teachers and staff to stay home when they are sick, have been exposed, or are caring for someone who is sick.

Isolation should be used to separate people diagnosed with COVID-19 from those who are not infected. Students, teachers, and staff who are in isolation should stay home and follow the direction of the local public health authority about when it is safe for them to be around others.

Quarantine should be used for students, teachers, and staff who might have been exposed to COVID-19. Close contacts, identified through contact tracing, should quarantine unless they are fully vaccinated, or have tested positive in the last 3 months, and do not have any symptoms. Students, teachers, and staff who are in quarantine should stay home and follow the direction of the local public health department about when it is safe for them to be around others.

Covid-19 Outbreaks

A Covid-19 outbreak is defined as 3 or more people diagnosed with Covid-19 within a 14-day period who have identifiable connections to one another at school. Moving forward, if TEACH Las Vegas experiences an outbreak of Covid-19, physical distancing measures in the classroom will be instituted. Masking will be required until the outbreak has been contained.

Stakeholders will be informed via email as well as written notice that there has been a Covid-19 outbreak the day the outbreak has been identified. Students, staff, and teachers will have their temperatures taken as they come on campus and anyone experiencing a fever of 100.4 or higher, or is exhibiting any other Covid-19 symptoms, will be sent home until they can provide a negative Covid-19 test. ALL mitigation measures that had previously been in place when Covid-19 was at its peak will be put in place until the outbreak is contained.

If after 14 days, there are no new cases of Covid-19, TEACH Las Vegas will lift the outbreak status, but encourage students, staff, and teachers to continue to wear masks. Once an outbreak has been lifted, stakeholders will be notified via email and written notice that the outbreak has been contained.