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Contact information

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(For Non Technical Questions Only)

Office of Communications

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, August 19, 2021

2021-2022 M-DCPS Back-to-School COVID-19 Safety Protocols

Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) prioritizes the health and safety of its students and employees above all. Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, nearly 18 months ago, M-DCPS has made decisions regarding protocols according to science-based guidance from leading health and safety organizations as well as public health and medical experts. As the information available on COVID-19 evolves, the District continues to adjust its policies for the 2021- 2022 school year.

Following recommendations recently issued by the District's Public Health and Medical Experts Task Force, M-DCPS is implementing a multi-layered approach to address COVID-19 with the following protocols for the upcoming school year:

- Facial coverings are mandatory for all students, employees, volunteers, and visitors while in M-DCPS facilities and on school buses. Students and employees may receive an accommodation for a medically documented need in accordance with federal law.
- Maximum physical distancing will be observed in classrooms, school buses, and cafeterias. Alternate seating areas for mealtimes will be utilized when possible.
- Heightened cleaning and sanitization protocols will continue to be implemented on school buses, campuses, and District offices.
- Personal hygiene behavior, including frequent handwashing and the use of hand sanitizing stations, will continue to be encouraged.
- Improved environmental technology will be implemented in school sites, including enhanced air filtration purifiers, ionization systems, and upgraded A/C units.



- Circulation of outdoor fresh air into our school buildings will be maximized.
- HVAC (heating, ventilation, and air conditioning) systems will run at maximum outside airflow for two hours before and after school buildings are occupied.
- All schools will have a health screening area.
- The quarantine process will focus on individuals directly impacted by a potential exposure through the consistent maintenance and monitoring of seating charts. This will avoid having to quarantine entire classes or departments, to the extent possible.
- Current quarantine protocols require isolation for 10 days, regardless of COVID-19 test results.
- Visitor access to school sites will be limited.
- M-DCPS will continue to encourage eligible students and employees to receive the COVID-19 vaccine and work with community partners to provide vaccination opportunities.

The District will monitor local conditions on an ongoing basis to reevaluate, and possibly adjust, its current COVID-19 protocols. Working together, with the support of families and the community, we can ensure a successful 2021-2022 school year.

For the most up-to-date information, please download the Dadeschools Mobile App to your iPhone or Android device. Follow us on Twitter [@mdcps](#) and [@miamisup](#), on Instagram [@miamischools](#) and [@miamisup](#), and on Facebook at [MiamiSchools](#) and [AlbertoCarvalho](#).

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Contact us:

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Resources

- [Back to School Kit](#)
- [Dadeschools .net/TV](#)
- [Statistical Highlights – 2014-15](#)
- [Photo Release Form](#)
- [Protocol Manual](#)

Mission Statement

Miami-Dade County Public Schools' (M-DCPS) Office of Communications (OOC) is committed to the timely and accurate dissemination of information that highlights the school districts programs, initiatives, and achievements to reinforce awareness among internal and external stakeholders. We pursue this mission through targeted messaging, integrated marketing, social media, and public relations activities that inform and educate parents, students, employees, and all stakeholders of Miami-Dade County Public Schools.