



**Last Update: May 2023**

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## Beulah School District Families

Our commitment to a safe and healthy school year remains consistent and strong. Over the course of the last school year and into this summer, we have done a number of things to enhance the environments in which our kids learn and teachers teach.

### Our Commitments to our families, students, and staff

- ⇒ Mitigate risk/spread by encouraging physical distancing, proper hand hygiene, sanitization, staggering class start and release times, hallway flow adjustments, adjusting lunch times and seating, recess modifications and spacing of students in common areas.
- ⇒ Be aware of illness/symptoms in the student body and contact a student's family immediately if a student exhibits symptoms.
- ⇒ Monitor positive COVID-19 cases and its spread in the Beulah School District and follow — as we would with any community health concern — the recommendation of health department officials regarding school closures, modified school schedules or in-school adjustments. A document that outlines this procedure can be found later in this plan.
- ⇒ Continue to refine our Continuity of Services plan to meet the needs of our students and teachers.
- ⇒ Modify our method of delivery, however necessary, to ensure the health and well-being of students and staff.

### The Commitment We Ask from Our Families

- Understand that these guidelines are determined by health, educational, and civic professionals commissioned to care for your child, considering the physical environment, time spent in school, and the potential risk to the health of our students, staff and families.
- Keep your child home if they have a fever, cough, cold or flu symptoms, and have them return only when these symptoms have subsided. The district will work with you on any and all health-related absences.
- Create a family plan in the event schools close for an extended amount of time because of increased cases or other potential emergencies.
- Prepare as much as possible to adapt to change. As evidenced over the course of the last year and a half, things evolve quickly, and schedule modifications and/or closures may be unavoidable.

- Understand that our educators are trying to do their best at all times. Our guarantee to you is that we will continue to push for excellence and never stop learning.

We thank you in advance for your patience and cooperation as we head into the new school year. Please reach out to us with any questions, comments or concerns as they arise.

Sincerely,



Travis Jordan  
District Superintendent

## *#BeulahMinerPride*

*Providing Education Opportunities that empower,  
encourage, and engage our students*

### **Ensuring Continuity of Services**

#### **Health & Safety:**

Ensuring the health and safety of our students and staff during a health emergency is our top priority. The decisions made by Beulah Public Schools will be in accordance/collaboration with the North Dakota Department of Health (NDDoH), Custer Health, the Center for Disease Control (CDC), and local health officials.

#### **Instructional Models:**

The Instructional models used by the district will be guided by the current risk level of Covid-19 in the community, as defined by the North Dakota Department of Health. The different risk levels are defined by the color phases below. These guidelines categorize reopening into five phases: **red**, **orange**, **yellow**, **green** and **blue**. The designations signal how restrictions on school, work, congregate settings and social interactions will be determined in our school setting. As mentioned prior in this document the current risk level is low and therefore will be starting the year fully and exclusively in-person.

**Beulah Schools Color Coded Health Guidance System (These are taken directly from the North Dakota K-12 Smart Restart Guidelines).**

Yellow

Moderate Risk

Controlled Transmission



## Beulah Public Schools Current Phase (May, 2023)

**Green**

### Descriptions of Risk Levels:

**Red / Critical Risk** is the level with the highest disease burden and level of significant and uncontrolled community transmission, multiple outbreaks resulting in increased deaths, surge capacity of hospitals are threatened and there is lack of adequate PPE supplies available for healthcare workers. The most significant mitigation strategies are implemented at the Red / Critical Risk level.

**Orange / High Risk** is the level of significant transmission and high risk for exposure due to widespread community spread of infections. There are significant mitigation strategies emphasizing “Stay Home. Stay Healthy. Stay Connected.” Only essential travel and essential workforce, adherence to strict social distancing guidance, increased cleaning and disinfecting of bathrooms and high touch surfaces.

**Yellow / Moderate Risk** is the level of heightened exposure risk and transmission is controlled in these areas. Cases are reported but contained by rapid testing and robust contact tracing. Moderate social distancing and precautions are needed. Increased cleaning on high-touch surfaces and cleanings on shared spaces should be routine. Shared surfaces will be more frequently cleaned and disinfected. Case-based interventions will actively identify and isolate people with the disease and their contacts. All vulnerable individuals should continue to self-isolate and avoid large groups in public places. Those who are sick will be asked to stay home and seek testing for COVID-19.

**Green / Low Risk** for exposure or transmission, low case counts are reported, public health and private healthcare are ND Smart Restart able to safely diagnose, treat, and isolate COVID-19 cases and their contacts. Some physical distancing measures and limitations on gatherings will still be recommended to prevent transmission from accelerating again. For older adults (those over age 65), those with underlying health conditions, and other populations at heightened risk from COVID-19, continuing to limit time in the community will be important. State and community leaders should prepare health alerts, communicate risk and symptoms, review plans, prepare for public health capacity if needed for spikes in cases.

**Blue / New Normal** is when most normal activity can resume, with standard precautions and awareness of health guidelines such as routine hand washing, stay home when sick, cover your cough, education, stockpiling, planning, routine health alerts, etc. Monitoring for illness and outbreaks will continue. Even under new normal conditions, those found to be ill will be asked to self-isolate and contacts will be asked to remain at home.

**Models of Instruction:**

During the course of the past year, Beulah Schools utilized a combination of distance learning and in-person learning. Even though we believe in-person instruction provides the best opportunity for students to be successful, our teachers will continue to prepare and plan for a shift to distance learning to ensure no loss of learning occurs. Expectations for both of those learning environments can be found on the following page.

On-Site (Face-to-Face)	Distance Learning
<p><b><u>Parent Expectations</u></b></p> <p>Parents are asked to screen their children before sending them to school. If a student has a fever of 100.4F or more, you will be asked to keep your child at home until they are fever free for 24-hours without medication.</p> <p>If anyone in the student’s home has been diagnosed with Covid-19, the student shall follow the recommendations set forth by the NDDoH.</p> <p>Promote and encourage good health and personal hygiene</p> <p><b><u>Student Expectations</u></b></p> <p>Practice good hygiene at all times.</p> <p>Congregate in spaces which allow for physical distancing.</p> <p>Report to an adult when not feeling well.</p>	<p><b><u>Parent Expectations</u></b></p> <p>Provide internet access for your child to access the distance learning platform.</p> <p>Provide a quiet study place for your child.</p> <p>Ensure your child engages daily in online learning activities.</p> <p><b><u>Student Expectations</u></b></p> <p>Attendance will be taken.</p> <p>Be aware that assessments and grades will be consistent with on-campus instruction.</p> <p>Daily participation and engagement in all courses will be expected.</p> <p><b><u>School Expectations</u></b></p> <p>Attendance will be taken</p>

**School Expectations**

Provide additional time for handwashing/sanitizing and cleaning of classroom spaces and supplies.

Increase the distance between students when possible.

Reduce capacity of common areas when possible.

Expectations and learning outcomes will be consistent with on-campus instruction and grading.

Frequent check-in with families to ensure learning expectations are being met.

## Covid-19 Screening Tool for Students

Beulah Public Schools kindly asks that parents use the following screening tool to determine if a child should be sent to school each day. This screening tool is not required to be sent with the child to school each day, rather it's to be used only as a guide.

1. Has your child been exposed to an individual that has tested positive to Covid-19 in the past 14 days?

Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_

2. Does your child have new or worsening shortness of breath?

Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_

3. Does your child have a fever of 100.4 or greater without the use of fever reducing medications?

Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_

4. Does your child have chills, diarrhea, or unexplained muscle pain?

Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_

5. Does your child have a headache (unrelated to a known health condition, i.e. migraines)?

Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_

6. Does your child have a sore throat or cough?

Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_

7. Is your child experiencing a loss of taste or smell?

Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_



If you answered "Yes" to any of the above questions...STOP!

Do not send your child to school. Contact your child's school/Teacher and let them know of your child's symptoms and absenteeism. For Covid-19 related questions please contact the North Dakota Department of Health at [\(701\) 328-2372](tel:7013282372)

## Covid-19 Screening Tool for Staff and Guests

Beulah Public Schools kindly asks that all staff and guests to the school use the following screening tool to determine if they should come to work or enter the school. This screening tool is not required to be turned in each day from staff members, but all guests will be required to answer these questions before being allowed admittance to our schools.

1. Have you been exposed to an individual that has tested positive to Covid-19 in the past 14 days?

Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_

2. Do you have new or worsening shortness of breath?

Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_

3. Do you have a fever of 100.4 or greater without the use of fever reducing medications?

Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_

4. Are you experiencing chills, diarrhea, or unexplained muscle pain?

Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_

5. Do you have a headache (unrelated to a known health condition, i.e. migraines)?

Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_

6. Do you have a sore throat or cough?

Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_

7. Are you experiencing a loss of taste or smell? Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_



If you answered "Yes" to any of the above questions...STOP!

Do not enter the school. If you are a staff member contact building principal and make them aware of your symptoms and absenteeism. For Covid-19 related questions please contact the North Dakota Department of Health at [\(701\) 328-2372](tel:7013282372)

## Health and Safety Protocols

The following protocols will be in place at all three school buildings.

- **Identifying students and staff of higher risk:** The Back to School and enrollment processes will include questions asking families to identify if their child is at-risk, based on a health professionals' diagnosis. This information will be provided to the building principal (COVID-19 Coordinator) who will contact the family and discuss instructional model options. The school district will also follow up with all families that indicated they have a child that is at-risk on the district survey that was sent out. This district also has a questionnaire that can be found in this document that parents, staff, and guests are asked to take before entering their respective schools each day. The Business office will work in partnership with the building principal/director and the employee to coordinate adjustments to the work schedule or workplace for those staff that have been identified as at-risk and must need to quarantine.
- **Isolation and Quarantine:** Beulah Public School District will follow isolation and quarantine guidelines and directives as set by NDDOH and our local health unit.
  - **Isolation:** For people who are already sick from the virus. A prevention strategy used to separate people who are sick with the virus from healthy people.
  - **Quarantine:** For people who are not sick but have been exposed to the virus. A prevention strategy used to monitor people who were exposed for a period of time.
- **If a student or staff member becomes sick at school (or school event):** Beulah Public School District will have the following protocols in place for a child or staff member that become sick at school.
  - **Student**
    - Direct escort to the office.
    - The child will be required to wear a face mask and provided a room to isolate in.
    - Parents will be notified immediately and expected to make arrangements for pick up.
  - **Staff**
    - Inform supervisor immediately.
    - Required to use face mask.
- **Return to School:** A child or staff member will be allowed to return to school on-site when they have been cleared by the North Dakota Department of Health or local health care provider.
- **Practice/Model Good Hygiene:** One of the most effective and least expensive ways for us to control the spread of Covid-19 is to practice good hygiene. We kindly ask that all parents and staff members model good hygiene at all times. If we can model in the home what we will be modeling at school – the transition for our students will be that much easier.



### **Mental and Behavioral Health Services**

Beulah Public Schools is committed to the physical, emotional, and mental well-being of its staff and students. In times such as these we fully understand that a spike in depression, anxiety, and trauma could very well present itself. The district has three counselors that are on call for student consultation. The Beulah School District also has the IMPACT Program in which we collaborate with Coal Country Community Health to offer extended services for our students. Beulah Public Schools also recognizes that a rise in mental illness is not just subject to our students. The health and safety of our staff is of our utmost importance as well. We will make available the number to, and the assistance offered through, our Employee Assistance Program to all staff.

### **Considerations for Special Populations (IEP, 504, EL, etc.)**

Beulah Public Schools is committed to offering a top-notch education for all students. Considerations for Special Programs won't change in the on-site deliverance model with the exceptions of the health and safety protocols put in place to minimize the risk of transmission. Considerations for Special Programs for a remote deliverance model will be made on an individual basis in accordance to any learning plans that are in place for those students. Our staff will be in contact with those families to discuss options and expectations.

### **Beulah Public Schools Nutritional Services Guidelines (All Risk Levels)**

- Touchless Point of Sale
  - Each school will do it's best to mitigate risk as students pass through the lunch lines.
- To ensure our food service employees are adhering to the latest food service guidelines, it will be required that they familiarize themselves with the [safety and operational guidelines from the North Dakota Department of Health - Food and Lodging](#) for all statewide food service industries.
- Students and staff will be required to physically distance themselves as much as possible while going through the serving line.
- When and where possible we will reduce the number of students eating in designated areas designed for such.
  - Elementary students will be seated in the cafeteria to allow the most space possible between students.
  - Middle School students will be seated in the cafeteria to allow the most space possible between students.
  - High School students will be seated in the cafeteria to allow the most space possible between students.

### **Facility and Maintenance Guidelines**

- Deep summer cleaning will have been completed prior to the 2021-2022 school year starting.
- Change air filters at the beginning of August, December, and April in lieu of as needed.

- CDC handwashing guidelines will be posted in every bathroom of the district. A copy of those guidelines can be found here: <https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/pdf/handwashing-poster.pdf>
- All staff will be responsible for wiping down and disinfecting frequently touched areas in their rooms.
- Custodians will disinfect all common areas, door hardware and frequently touched surfaces on a consistent basis.

### **Technology**

- Beulah Public Schools is 1:1 in grades 1-12. Each student will use their own device and device sharing will not be allowed. If devices need to be shared they will be cleaned and sanitized after each use by the teachers.
- All teachers will be required to have materials available digitally in the case that one or all students will need to access material from a distance. All of our teachers currently have learning modalities, either Google Classroom (5-12) or SeeSaw (K-4), and will be required to keep these updated.
- Our Technology Specialists will monitor the district's help desk multiple times a day. All district families will have access to the help desk via the following link: <https://www.beulah.k12.nd.us//cms/module/selectsurvey/TakeSurvey.aspx?SurveyID=130>

### **General Building Practices**

- Beulah Public Schools will promote physical distancing as much as possible.
- Learning areas such as classrooms will be spaced with the maximum amount of space possible while ensuring adequate occupancy.
- The sharing of materials will be limited to only essential instances.
- For purposes of this plan and as set forth by the CDC and the North Dakota Department of Health close contacts are currently defined as those who have been in close proximity (within 3 feet for 15 minutes) to a person who has tested positive for COVID. The number of minutes is to be calculated in a cumulative way (e.g. – contact was with the positive case for 10 minutes in the morning and 5 minutes in the afternoon).
- Bathroom breaks and handwashing times will be staggered in grades K-6.

### **Transportation Practices**

- Hand sanitizer will be located at the entrance of each bus for students/driver to use when entering and exiting.
- Disinfecting wipes will be used by each bus driver to wipe down seats and frequently touched areas of the bus after each route.
- Bus windows will be kept partially opened when possible.

- Students will have assigned seats at all times and physical distancing will be practiced as much as possible.
- Bus Drivers will be expected to complete the Covid-19 Screening Tool each day before operating the bus.

### **Stakeholders and Communication**

Constant communication will be key to the success of the 2020-2021 school year. The district is committed to informing parents and stakeholders of all pertinent information. The district utilizes a number of tools, but are not necessarily limited to the following.

- Beulah Public Schools Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/beulahpublicschools>
- Beulah Public Schools Webpage: <https://www.beulah.k12.nd.us>
- School Newsletters
- Superintendent Jordan's Supts Soup News Letter
- Blackboard Connect Message System
- District/School Wide Emails
- Teacher Facebook Pages, SeeSaw, Remind Apps
- Student Handbooks
- Beulah Beacon Articles
- Monthly School Board Meetings

### **Student Activities**

As long as Beulah Public School remains in the phases that allow for on-site learning, we will allow sports and activities to go on as planned. The Beulah School District will adhere to guidance from the North Dakota High School Activities Association, the National Federation of High Schools, the Center for Disease Control, and the North Dakota Department of Health for guidance in order to minimize risks in such activities. Sport specific guidance is currently being drafted and those accommodations will be given to our coaches and Athletic Department.

Beulah Public Schools will allow fans and spectators in the building for events as long as the Center for Disease Control continues to give guidance as to capacity limits. Fans will be encouraged to wear face coverings and will be asked to physically distance themselves while in attendance.

## **Community Involvement**

It is the goal of Beulah Public Schools to include the community and district stakeholders in the continued evolution of our Health and Safety Plan. Current Committee members of our plan includes the following individuals. This community will continue to meet as needed to ensure that this plan follows all of the current recommendations from the North Dakota Department of Health, the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction, and the Governor's office.

<b>District Coordinator</b>	Travis Jordan	<b>ES Teacher</b>	Rachael Feil
<b>ES Coordinator</b>	Amber Skalsky	<b>MS Teacher</b>	Rebecca Huss
<b>MS Coordinator</b>	Stacy Murschel	<b>HS Teacher</b>	Tina Heller
<b>HS Coordinator</b>	Carl Blackhurst	<b>HS Teacher</b>	Brandon Zahn
<b>Tech Integration Spec.</b>	Sarah Becker and Deb Schields	<b>Pre-School Director</b>	Cassie Plienis
<b>Athletic Department</b>	Jason Simpfinderfer and Belinda Suter	<b>Coal Country Community Health</b>	Dr. Garman and Dr. Placke
<b>Business Community</b>	Sonja Dutchuk	<b>District Admin Assistant</b>	Jodi Hammargren
<b>Custer Health</b>	Erin Ourada		

