

BHMSD Healthy Operations Plan

2021-2022

Last update: July 19, 2021

Our greater BHMSD Community, consisting of students, families, employees, local businesses, service organizations, and community members, is critically important to the successful continuation of in-person instruction for Bluffton-Harrison Metropolitan School District (BHMSD). This document outlines the ongoing efforts of the greater BHMSD community to operate safe and healthy schools following the termination of Indiana's public health emergency on July 1, 2021.

BHMSD continues to collaborate, share information, and review plans with the Wells County Health Department to help protect the whole school community, including those with special health needs. Prior to the 2020-2021 school year, BHMSD developed our [BHMSD Reopening Plan](#). As part of the plan development, the BHMSD Board of School Trustees approved:

- a draft version on June 20, 2020, with no public comment heard
- the official BHMSD Reopening Plan on July 20, 2020, with no public comment heard.

In December of 2020, BHMSD updated the BHMSD Reopening Plan to [Keeping BHMSD Open](#) by addressing new health guidance from the Indiana State Department of Health.

Beginning July 1, 2021, Indiana is no longer under a public health emergency as declared by the Governor; therefore, BHMSD will return to standard operational practices that follow board policy and student handbook guidelines concerning the health and safety of our students, staff, and school community.

For the 2021-2022 school year, BHMSD will begin the school year under the following guidelines:

- Face coverings/masks are recommended for non-vaccinated individuals at school, on the bus, and at events.
- Contact tracing and quarantines will be followed as directed by the Wells County Health Department.
- Social distancing will be preferred, but may not be fully possible in all scenarios.
- Desktop cleaning will remain an option for students, faculty, and staff.
- Sanitizer fogging/spraying will continue on a nightly basis.

As the school year progresses, BHMSD will rely on the guidance of the Wells County Health Department in regards to the public health status of our community. If local health circumstances trend towards increased cases/spread, BHMSD will utilize existing "Keeping BHMSD Open" plan to provide a safe and healthy school environment for all students, faculty, staff, and patrons.