



ARGYLE CENTRAL SCHOOL COVID RESPONSE/OPENING PLAN 2021-22

Guiding Principle: Our students need to be in school and learning in an environment that is as safe as we are able to make it for everyone.

Primary Goals

- 1) Return all PreK-Grade 12 Argyle CSD students to in-person instruction.
- 2) Provide a safe learning environment for all students, faculty, and staff.
- 3) Offer all extra-curricular, music, and athletic activities and programs for our students.



All students grades Pre-K-12 are expected to attend school in-person everyday.

Remote instruction will not be an option, except in limited circumstances (such as whole class or large-scale quarantine or quarantine resulting in staff shortage.)



This plan is subject to change based on recommendations from:

- Center for Disease Control
- New York State Education Department
- New York State Department of Health
- Washington County DOH
- Needham Risk Management
- The District's Risk Management and Safety Specialist, Dr. Robert Nielsen, District Physician
- Washington County's COVID-19 Community Transmission Rate*



Masking

Indoors: Masks are required to be worn by everyone in the building when students are present, regardless of vaccination status. Masks may be removed during meals and during mask breaks.

Outdoors: Masks do not need to be worn when outdoors.

Transportation: Masks are required to be worn on school buses at all times, regardless of vaccination status.



Daily Health Screenings for Students, Staff, and Visitors

- All students will be screened via daily temperature checks prior to entering the school building.
- Argyle CSD will send regular communications to parents/guardians reminding them to monitor and check their child/children for COVID-19 symptoms, to keep their child/children home when symptomatic and/or sick, and to seek testing when appropriate.
- All staff will be required to complete a digital daily health screening.

Visitors to Argyle CSD will be limited to only when required and will be required to sign in, complete an attestation, and participate in a temperature screening upon arrival.





Cafeteria

The primary eating location will be the cafeteria, with overflow in the gymnasium, fishbowl, or other identified location.

Students will be separated by, at a minimum, three (3) feet while eating (more when possible.)

Athletics



Outdoor sports do not require masking.

Inside sports require masking.

Spectators for indoor sports could be limited and will be required to mask and observe 3-feet physical distancing.

Transportation

To reduce the population on our busses, Parents/Guardians who are able to provide transportation to and/or from school are encouraged to do so.

- Busses will return to full capacity seating with physical distancing maximized to the extent possible.
- Masks are required on buses by federal mandate for all students and staff (regardless of vaccination status.)
- Windows/vents will be open (weather/temperature permitting and to the extent possible.)
- All seats will be assigned and siblings will sit together when possible.
- High-touch surfaces will be cleaned/disinfected on a regular basis.
- Bus changes are not able to be accommodated.



Cleaning/Disinfection



The building will be sanitized daily.

High-touch surfaces will be sanitized and disinfected on a regular and scheduled basis.

Areas where symptomatic/positive cases are presumed will be sanitized and disinfected following occupancy.

Handwashing: Argyle CSD will reinforce handwashing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Faculty, staff, and students will be reminded to wash hands frequently and hand sanitizer will be available throughout the building.



Physical Distancing

At a minimum, Argyle CSD will maintain three (3) feet of physical distancing between students where possible.

Seating charts will be maintained in classrooms to assist with contact tracing.

Faculty, staff, and students will wear masks while in transit and when appropriate physical distance cannot be maintained.

Ventilation

Ventilation throughout the building will be increased to the greatest extent possible by: Increasing flow of outdoor air, opening windows (when outdoor air temperatures allow) and using fans when possible to increase airflow.

We will ensure air filters are sized, installed, and replaced according to the manufacturer's instructions.

County-Required Quarantines

Mandatory quarantines are issued by Washington County Public Health (not Argyle CSD.)

- In the case of an exposure (per Washington County Public Health):
 - Fully vaccinated individuals, if asymptomatic, will not be required to quarantine.
 - Unvaccinated Individuals
 - Separated by 3ft or more:
 - If properly masked: No quarantine required

If not masked (i.e. during meal time): County-required quarantine

Miscellaneous



- Extra-curricular clubs will be held.
- Field trips will be considered case-by-case.
- 9th period and late busses will be offered on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays.
- Locker use info for Jr/Sr High School students will be shared by Mrs. Passaro.
- Quarantining of symptomatic faculty/students/staff will still occur; vaccination status, proper and consistent masking, and physical distancing will reduce this need. Program options for quarantined students are being developed.
- Symptomatic students, faculty/staff will be sent home and may require a negative COVID test before returning to school.