DOUGLAS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

UPDATED 08-05-20

Disclaimer: The following information and responses are accurate as of the time this document was posted. The process for reopening DCSD schools is fluid and unprecedented and we will continue to do our best to give the most up-to-date information. During this time, Douglas County School District seeks to ensure equitable educational opportunities while prioritizing the health and well-being of students, families, and all staff. This document, at the time of this writing, compiles questions that DCSD has received related to the reopening of schools. This document will be updated as new information comes available.

Note: We are working collaboratively with district, county, and state health and safety officials to ensure a thorough response to the following question: 1) Will students be screened for COVID-19 symptoms? We will update our FAQ document once this information is finalized.

When will school start?
The first day of school for K-12 students will be:


- PreK programs will start on Tuesday, August 18, 2020 for the Valley and Tuesday, September 1, 2020 for the Lake.

Teachers will have three teacher workdays and five days of professional learning and preparation time to prepare for hybrid and distance learning and the new school year.

What options do I have for my child(ren)'s education?
As required by the Declaration of Emergency Directive 022, Douglas County School District was required to develop three (3) Learning Models for the 2020-21 school year. Those models include: 1) Full In-Person Instruction, 2) Full Distance-Learning Instruction, and 3) Hybrid Instruction, which includes both In-Person and Distance Learning. DCSD will be providing an additional option, which is a full online school called Douglas Nevada Online.

Based on current guidance/restrictions within the state of Nevada, Douglas County School District will open our middle and high schools, as well as a portion of our elementary schools using an A/B Hybrid Learning Model. Students will be divided into two cohorts, Cohort 1 and Cohort 2. Cohorts will alternate every other day between In-Person and Distance Learning instruction.

At the elementary level, all students in Preschool through Third Grade will attend school every day in person, with two minor exceptions involving Jacks Valley and C.C. Meneley Elementary Schools. The 3rd grade students at Jacks Valley and C.C. Meneley Elementary Schools will start school in the A/B Hybrid Learning Model for the first 6 days of school. Starting August 25th, third grade students at these two schools will transition to the in-person model where they attend school every day in person. In some instances, students may work for a period of time in a Distance Learning setting within the school. A student in this setting may be supervised by classified staff.
The District is still analyzing whether we have the capacity for all valley 4th and 5th grade students to attend school every day in person. We are working with our site administration to make this determination and will have more information following the August 11th school board meeting. At this time, students in 4th and 5th grade will begin the year utilizing the A/B Hybrid Learning Model, alternating every other day between in-person and distance learning instruction. This is the same model being utilized at our middle and high schools.

In addition to the hybrid and elementary in-person models, DCSD is offering a new online education option, Douglas Nevada Online (DNO). This option is available for all students in Kindergarten through 12th grade. If a student chooses to enroll in Douglas Nevada Online, we ask that he/she commit to remaining enrolled in the online school for an entire semester. At the conclusion of the semester, if he or she would like to re-enroll in the in-person option at their zoned school, they are welcome to do so. Because Douglas Nevada Online is a new school, families will need to complete new registration materials for each child they wish to enroll at DNO.

**When and how will cohorts be established for the Hybrid Learning Model?**
Parents will be informed on Friday, August 7, 2020 regarding which cohort their child(ren) has been assigned to. The selection of cohorts will be an automated process within our student information system, Infinite Campus, with an emphasis on ensuring students in the same household are assigned to the same cohort while equally balancing classes. DCSD will not consider personal requests regarding cohort placement.

While we currently plan to start the year with students in preschool through 3rd grade participating in full in-person learning, students will still be assigned a cohort should there become a need for it at some point later in the school year.

**How can parents assist the school and/or district?**
Parents play a major role in the success of our local educational system. They are encouraged to do the following:

1. Screen your child(ren) at home with temperature checks every morning.
2. Keep your child(ren) home if they show symptoms of illness.
3. Transport your child(ren) to/from school when possible to minimize crowding on our school busses.
4. Reinforce the importance of wearing face coverings at school with your child(ren) to minimize risk to peers, teachers, and other staff.
5. Provide reusable face coverings for your child(ren) if possible. DCSD will provide reusable face coverings if parents are unable to do so.
6. Activate your parent account in Infinite Campus (IC) and keep all information up to date to ensure access to communication and student information.

**What if I do not have access to the Internet within my home?**
Those who do not have access to the Internet, or an electronic mobile device should contact their zoned school for help. DCSD is committed to providing equal access to learning for all students.

**Will physical distancing be required?**
In accordance with the Declaration of Emergency Directive 028, students, employees, volunteers, visitors and contractors will be expected to observe physical distancing practices. Directive 028 prescribes 3’ physical distancing for students in preschool through 8th grade. 6’ physical distancing is prescribed for students in 9th - 12th grade and school staff. While we anticipate that it may always be challenging to maintain 100 percent physical distancing of students, appropriate administrative controls will be implemented to facilitate adherence to the guidelines. Signage and other communications around our school buildings will educate students on the desired behaviors.
Will face coverings be required?
Per Declaration of Emergency Directive 028, all students, employees, volunteers, visitors and contractors are required to wear face coverings at school. In accordance with Douglas County School District Board Policy 521 - Student Dress and Grooming, students may not wear face coverings which advertise or display inappropriate words or pictures or are intended to cause disruption of any school, class or activity. We encourage parents to provide a reusable face covering that is comfortable for their child(ren). However, if you need assistance obtaining a face covering, please contact your school for assistance. Reusable face coverings will be available for students and staff, and disposable face coverings will be provided to visitors who do not have their own.

What if I do not want my child to wear a face covering?
The school district is required to abide by the Declaration of Emergency Directive 028 in order to open our schools. The State Health Department cited a 40 to 60 percent reduction in COVID-19 transmission when face coverings are used by all. While children may be at lower risk of infection, they may be carriers of the virus, transmitting it to school staff. DCSD has an obligation to minimize risk for staff from workplace exposure to disease.

Students with an appropriate medical release, or team identified reason in their Individual Education Plan (IEP) or 504 Plan are permitted to participate according to the current guidance.

Douglas Nevada Online is a school available for students K-12. This is a viable option for parents who do not want their child(ren) wearing a face covering at school, or for students who prefer to avoid social distancing in a school environment.

Depending on the reason for the refusal to wear a face covering, the District may choose to unenroll the student from the current school and enroll the student full time in Douglas Nevada Online.

Can my child wear a face shield instead of a face covering?
Students will be permitted to wear a face shield, but they are also required to wear a face covering underneath the shield.

Will my child(ren) be required to wear a face covering outdoors?
When physical distancing requirements can be maintained, students will not be required to wear face coverings when outside. Our school administrators have been encouraged to build in time during the school day to provide opportunities for “face covering” breaks!

Are parents, vendors, volunteers, visitors and guests required to wear face coverings?
Parents, vendors, volunteers, visitors and guests who are unable or unwilling to wear face coverings under any circumstances or exemptions will not be allowed on school buses, in school buildings, or on school campuses.

What will be different on school buses?
DCSD buses will operate at a maximum of 50% capacity. To minimize risk on all DCSD buses, we will implement the following precautions:
1. Face coverings will be required on buses.
2. Appropriate signage and seat markings will be placed on each bus.
3. Buses will be loaded back to front and unloaded front to back to limit contact and minimize risk.
4. Air flow throughout the bus will be increased by opening roof hatches and selected windows.
5. Bus vents will be open, and fans will be on for increased airflow during inclement weather.
6. Hand sanitizer will be available on all buses
7. Bus drivers will disinfect handrails, seat tops, and entrance doors between runs.
8. Bus drivers will clean and disinfect each bus at the end of the route.

Due to capacity limitations, students will not be able to ride a friend’s bus home.

Depending on how many students need access to transportation, we may be required to modify walking zones. To help avoid overcrowding on DCSD buses, we encourage parents to transport their child(ren) when...
I bring my child to school; will anything change?
We are encouraging parents to transport their child(ren) when possible, so we anticipate an increase in parents dropping off and/or picking up students at school. You should expect some changes in procedures, but those changes will be communicated to parents by the individual school sites. Some schools may need to assign staggered drop-off and/or pickup times and change drop-off and/or pickup locations to accommodate this increase.

What changes will students see in the cafeteria?
In most cases, students will eat lunch in the cafeteria on days they attend school. Students may be assigned seating according to physical distancing restrictions. Face coverings will be required while picking up food in the cafeteria line. All students will be required to either sanitize or wash their hands prior to entering the cafeteria.

It is preferred that meal payments be made via Infinite Campus; however, cash and/or checks can still be sent with your child to school.

Meal service will be a contactless serve where all foods, condiments, drinks, and silverware come from the food services staff in the cafeteria line rather than students picking up their own items. Due to the closing of salad bars, daily fruit and vegetable choices may be reduced.

Will water fountains be turned off in the schools?
DCSD has not received permission by the health department to turn off school water fountains. However, students will be encouraged to not use school water fountains. We encourage students to plan on bringing a water bottle to school. Where applicable, touchless water bottle filling stations will be available for students to access water throughout the day.

How will students receive meals for distance learning days?
Any students (Free, Reduced, and/or Paid status) are eligible to sign up for meals for the days they are assigned distance learning. The same pricing will apply as when they eat meals on campus. The prepackaged meals will be distributed as follows:

- If your student is attending class on campus that day they can sign up for meals for the next day when they will be distance learning at home.
- These meals will be packaged and available to be picked up at the end of the school day before they leave campus.
- Their meal account will only be charged if they come and pick up the meal.

Example: Student Z will be attending school on campus this week on M/W/F and distance learning T/TH. On Monday Student Z can sign up for breakfast and lunch for Tuesday, pick it up Monday afternoon before school is out, and eat it on Tuesday when at home.

Bottom Line: If your student is at a school with a hybrid learning plan, whenever your student is attending school on campus they will be able to sign up for meals to be taken home for the next day they will be distance learning. This includes when on campus on Friday meals will be available to take home for the Monday distance day.

If a student is participating in the Douglas Nevada Online school, the School Nutrition Program will be sending you a survey to gather information on the need and interest in school meals for your student/s. When school starts and you would like school meals for your student/s, we are requesting you please contact the School Nutrition Program no later than the day before needing meals at 775-782-7613 to schedule pickup times and locations.
What changes will be implemented on playgrounds and in specials?
To limit exposure, classroom groups will play at recess within playground zones and will rotate through different play zones throughout the week. Access to playground equipment may be limited or not available.

Scheduling for physical education, music, art, and library are being developed at the individual elementary school sites.

**UPDATE - What changes will be implemented in school health clinics?**
Students who develop flu-like symptoms during the school day will be isolated in a designated area and parents will be expected to come and pick them up immediately. Students sent home will not be allowed to return to school until there have been no flu-like symptoms for 24 hours.

Parents will not be allowed to enter the health clinics/offices. Nurses/Health Aides will coordinate with families that need to deliver medications to the school.

Based on CDC guidelines, you can also expect to see some changes in how we administer stocked medicines. In addition, there may be new criteria for staying home from school/returning to school.

Please reach out to your school nurse/health aide if you have specific concerns regarding your child’s medical care.

**UPDATE - What is contact tracing?**
Contract tracing is the process for identifying people who have an infectious disease (a case) and their contacts (people who may have been exposed) to stop the disease from spreading.

**UPDATE - What is a close contact?**
For COVID-19, a close contact is defined as any individual who was within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes starting from 2 days before illness onset (or, for asymptomatic patients, 2 days prior to positive specimen collection) until the time the patient is isolated. If a student or staff member is a close contact of a case, they are advised to follow directions from Carson City Health and Human Services (CCHHS), which may include self-quarantining and/or being tested and continue to monitor for symptoms of COVID-19. Other students and staff members do not need to self-quarantine unless they were told they were a close contact of a case.

**UPDATE - How does contact tracing work?**
Contact tracing works in the following manner: 1) An infected person shows symptoms and tests positive, making them a case., 2) The health department asks case who they have been in contact with., 3) Contacts are notified of their exposure and risk for infection. Contacts self-quarantine for 14 days., and 4) The health department follows up with contacts for 14 days. If a contact becomes a case, they have been home and prevented the disease from spreading more.

**UPDATE - What will happen if a student has symptoms of COVID-19 while at school?**
If a student shows up to school with symptoms of COVID-19, the school will identify an isolation room or area and immediately separate the symptomatic student from everyone else. The student’s parent/guardian will be contacted to come pick up the student immediately. The parent/guardian is encouraged to contact the Quad-County COVID-19 Hotline, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at (775) 283-4789 for COVID-19 testing.

**UPDATE - What will happen if a staff member has symptoms of COVID-19 while at school?**
If a staff member shows up to school with symptoms of COVID-19, they will be sent home and expected to contact the Quad-County COVID-19 hotline, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at (775) 283-4789 for...
COVID-19 testing. The staff member should self-quarantine and not return to campus until symptoms have resolved.

UPDATE - What will happen if my child is exposed to COVID-19 at school?
Exposure potentially occurs when a person is within six feet of an infected person for fifteen minutes or longer. The school district does not have the authority to notify you if your child is exposed at school. This is a function of our local health department. The local health department performs contact tracing and notification of individuals who may have been exposed. It is essential that parents cooperate with contract tracing and respond accordingly if contacted by health officials. The school district is taking steps to minimize risk and prevent exposure but cannot guarantee that your child will not be exposed at school. DCSD is not liable for such exposure.

UPDATE - Should my child be sent to school while waiting for the results of a COVID-19 test?
No, students should not be sent to school while awaiting results of a COVID-19 test.

UPDATE - What will happen if my child becomes ill from COVID-19?
If a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19, they are asked for follow directions CCHHS, the local health partner for the Quad-Counties, and isolate at home until CCHHS tells them they can return to school. Students and staff who were in the classroom with the individual two (2) days before they felt sick, until the time they were isolated, may be asked to self-quarantine for 14 days after last exposure date while monitoring for symptoms of COVID-19. Contact your school nurse/health aide and report the illness. This confidential health information will only be shared with school administrators having a legitimate interest in your child’s education.

UPDATE - What if my child/family is instructed to quarantine?
You must follow the lawful orders of the health department and fully cooperate. Younger people may experience the virus differently; some may have only mild symptoms while others require medication and/or hospitalization. If your child is physically able to participate in distance learning and complete assignments while awaiting negative test results, arrangements will be made with your school’s administrator to continue distance learning. If your child is symptomatic and unable to complete assignments, your school will mark these as excused absences in accordance with district policy.

UPDATE - What will happen if someone at my child’s school tests positive for COVID-19?
If there is a confirmed case of COVID-19 within the district, we will follow direction from the Douglas County Health Officer, Carson City Health and Human Services, and the Quad County Emergency Group. This may include closing a classroom or school(s) within the district for a period of time. In such instances, DCSD is prepared to quickly shift to full distance learning for students who are impacted. Many of our new procedures are designed to support contact tracing should a confirmed case occur. This will assist the Health Department with quickly identifying and contacting individuals who may have been exposed.

Will schools be open all year? Will these procedures be in place all year?
The pandemic shifts rapidly and we do not know what the rest of the school year may bring. If cases surge, schools may be ordered to close again, requiring all students to shift to distance learning from home. If the situation improves, we may be able to abandon some elements of this plan and return to full in person learning and more normal operating conditions.

How will the full-time online learning option work (Douglas Nevada Online)?
The Reopening Schools Plan offers families the option of a full-time online instruction, Douglas Nevada Online, as a replacement to in person instruction within Douglas County School District buildings. Family decisions to participate in this model are made based primarily on concerns about the potential for virus exposure with attendance at a school site. If health conditions improve that would allow DCSD to resume in-person instruction for all students, the district will reassess its operating status and any additional options for families at that time.

What are the family commitments of online instructional through Douglas Nevada Online?
Families are asked to communicate their intent to participate in this model by August 7, 2020 and commit to continuing with full-time online instruction for at least one (1) semester. DCSD asks that families register in DNO by the aforementioned date to ensure we have adequate staffing and materials to provide a quality learning experience for your child(ren). Families should be prepared to support their children’s active participation in all online learning activities. They will need to ensure their children have adequate space, materials and technology access for their daily online instruction, requesting school assistance to provide a Chromebook and Internet service as needed. Families will need to be ready to follow the established daily learning schedule and will need to work with school staff to arrange for their children to participate in standardized assessments and other mandated educational activities.

**Grades K–5 - Douglas Nevada Online (DNO)**

While students are engaged in online learning utilizing Edgenuity courseware, students will receive asynchronistic instruction (pre-recorded lessons that focus on essential standards in each core subject area of language arts, math, social studies and science). Depending on the grade level, elementary students will be engaged in online learning approximately 2.5-3.5 hours per day. Additionally, Edgenuity provides the following guidance:

- **LANGUAGE ARTS** - 60-75 minutes a day. In grades K-3 Language Arts, there are 18 modules. A student should complete 1 module a week, 1 lesson a day. In grades 4-5 Language Arts, there are 6 modules. A student should complete 1 module approximately every 3 weeks.

- **MATH** - 45-60 minutes a day. In grades K-3 Math, there are 18 modules. A student should complete 1 module a week, 1 lesson a day in grades K-1. In grades 2-3, the lesson numbers will vary, so focus on one module a week for grades 2-3. In grades 4-5 Math there are 6 modules. A student should complete 1 module in about 3 weeks.

- **SCIENCE** 30-40 minutes per module. In grades K-3 Science, there are 6 modules. A student should complete 1 module in 3 weeks. In grades 4-5 Science, there are 6 modules. A student should complete 1 module in 3 weeks.

- **SOCIAL STUDIES** 30-40 per lesson. K-1 Social Studies has 18 modules a semester. There are approximately two lessons per module, the lessons are meant to be spread over one week so that a student would complete one module a week. In Grades 2-3 there are 6 modules a semester, there are approximately 3 lessons a module, 1 lesson should be completed a week so that a student would take 3 weeks to complete a module. Fourth grade Social Studies has 18 modules a semester. Students should complete one module a week. Fifth Grade Social Studies has 6 modules a semester. Students should spend 3 weeks on each module in fifth grade.

- **ELECTIVE COURSES**: 30 minutes per lesson. Electives can be rotated each day. For example, if your student has Art and Physical Education, do Art one day and PE the next. A student can focus on one elective each day and alternate the days.

Students in K-5 will also receive workbooks for practice of concepts learned. In addition, DCSD staff will provide specialized instruction, as needed, such as ESL or special education services. The amount of special education service will be determined by IEP teams.

**Grades 6–12 - Douglas Nevada Online (DNO)**

Students who do not attend school in person will be enrolled in Douglas Nevada Online. Their progress will be monitored by licensed staff, but course content will be delivered online through Edgenuity. In addition to online readings and practice exercises, instruction and assignments may include other activities such as video tutorials and projects. All courses necessary to fulfill Standards of Learning and graduation requirements are guaranteed for students. However, it is important to note that students may not be able to participate in all courses they originally selected, including electives, honors sections and special programs. Families should recognize that full-time online instruction may not be able to support some specialized programs and course offerings that would otherwise be available to enhance student options and experiences, such as Advanced Placement (AP) and certain career and technical education (CTE) and fine arts electives. The time needed to complete coursework varies for each student but should be comparable to requirements for in-person learning. DCSD staff will also provide specialized instruction, as needed, such as ESL or special education services. The amount of special education service will be determined by IEP teams.

*Version 2 - Revised: 08-05-20*
If my child enrolls in Douglas Nevada Online, may he or she still play sports at another school?
Douglas Nevada Online will not sponsor any athletics. However, under the rules of the Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association (NIAA), students enrolled in a district online school (Douglas Nevada Online) or alternative school (Aspire Academy High School) may try out for athletics at their zoned high school (Douglas High School or George Whittell High School). If the sport requires a competitive tryout, the student must make the team and to play the student must meet all eligibility requirements.

What services will my EL student receive?
EL students who normally receive a daily English Language Development (ELD) lesson, in addition to the ELA lesson per their established EL proficiency need will still be provided this lesson per NDE Title III guidelines. EL teachers and paraprofessionals will provide additional small group support for students requiring those services as determined in their ILEP plans.

Will my student still receive special education or 504 services?
Students who are served on a 504 Plan or Individualized Education Plan (IEP) will continue to receive the services outlined in their respective plans.

Will students be graded on a pass/fail system?
No. Our traditional grading system will be used for all preschool through 12th grade courses.

Is the district still offering the Jump Start program this year?
Grant funding was not received to support student tuition at Western Nevada College. However, students who have been accepted in the Jump Start program will still be able to participate in the program if they desire. Western Nevada College will determine if classes will be held online or in person and how students will be graded.

How often will classrooms be cleaned/disinfected?
Our standard Process Cleaning for Health program requires our staff to disinfect all touchpoints of the school every night and during regular school hours. We are also taking additional measures by using a dry surface antimicrobial protectant called Bio-Protect that will be put on all touch point surfaces and equipment of the schools before school starts. This product has been tested to be effective for 90 days then it will be reapplied. This product is food safety certified and safe for staff and students. If there is a wave of cases our custodial team will also use Electrostatic sprayers in addition to the regular daily disinfection process to enhance the disinfection of the schools for additional safety of the students and staff.

What cleaning enhancements are being implemented in school buildings?
Douglas County School District has worked hard to develop adequate inventory of personal protective equipment, hand-washing materials and cleaning supplies that will be available to staff. Liquid/foam sanitizer stations will be provided at every building main entrance in the school district and all students/staff members will be asked to use these dispensers when entering the school. In addition, wall mount dispensers will be positioned throughout the building and classrooms that do not have a sink for hand washing. Hand pump dispensers will also be provided for office areas.

What measures are being taken to provide the appropriate and safe Indoor Air Quality?
DCSD uses Merv-10 filters, which are recommended and will be changed at a minimum of every six months.

What social and emotional resources will be in place as students return?
We recognize the importance of providing students and staff with extra social and emotional support as they return to school this year. Expect to see special welcome activities, extra time for building relationships and establishing new routines, and focus on coping strategies.
Our counselors, social workers and school psychologists will be ready to assist students and staff in need of support. We will be sharing additional resources throughout the year and you can find suggestions on our website.

**Will back-to-school and sporting events still be scheduled?**
Individual schools will provide information on back-to-school events taking place in Douglas County schools. In alignment with state guidance, many of the activities have been canceled or modified to meet physical distancing requirements.

The Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association (NIAA) has announced that high school sports will not occur until January 2, 2021. Sports seasons will be approximately 6 weeks long for competition. Our middle school sports will also be changed to align with the high school schedule developed by the NIAA.

**Will students be allowed to attend field trips or out-of-district activities this year?**
The district has restricted all non-mandatory travel for students and staff until further notice. Since we do not know how long state travel restrictions will last, it would be irresponsible to pay for travel and conference fees that may not be refunded in case of cancellation. The district will not approve field trips at this time.

**What can parents do now to ensure a smooth start to school?**
Parents will play a critical role in how well their child(ren) transitions back to school this fall. We encourage parents to do the following:
1. Talk with, reassure and support their children about these changes, and the importance of social distancing and wearing face coverings.
2. Allow your child to ask questions and answer them to the best of your ability.
3. Explain the why behind wearing a face covering and have your child practice wearing it.
4. Follow recommended guidelines regarding face coverings and social distancing to help prevent a future surge in cases that might impact the start of school.
5. Help students get back into a normal schedule at least a week before school begins, such as reinstating bedtime and wake-up routines.
6. Be sure that all your child’s immunizations are up to date, including newly required immunizations for students entering kindergarten, sixth and 12th grades.
7. Stay in close communication with your school should your health situation or return plans change.

**Can I volunteer or visit my child(ren)’s school?**
Under normal circumstances, DCSD welcomes volunteers and visitors to campus. We know parent and volunteer support is a critical component of our community engagement and partnership. Unfortunately, the COVID-19 pandemic is a difficult time for all of us. Times have changed quickly and dramatically due to the virus. Minimizing risk to our students and staff is our number one priority, and we must do everything we can to prevent the spread of this disease and protect our students, teachers, and staff. As a result, DCSD will restrict parent and volunteer visitation during the school day until further notice. Regular volunteers who work with the Backpack Buddies program will be permitted in our school buildings but will be required to follow the visitor protocol.

At times, we know parents may need to drop off an item for their child during the school day. If this situation arises, we will require parents to report to the school’s main office to leave the items. When entering the building, parents must be wearing a face covering and sanitize hands upon entry. Visitors with fever greater than 100.4, congestion, dry cough, breathing difficulties, sore throat and/or chills should NOT enter our school buildings or offices. It is extremely important that you do NOT come to our schools or offices if you are sick.
What is the DCSD visitor protocol?
Our visitor protocol is as follows:

1. Seek approval for the visit from school administration 24-hours prior to the visit.
2. Arrive wearing a face covering.
3. Sanitize hands upon entry.
4. Submit to a temperature check.
5. Comply with physical distancing norms.

What is the procedure when my child(ren) has a doctor/dental appointment or other off campus appointment?
Doctor/Dental appointments and other off campus appointments are encouraged to be scheduled outside the school day when possible. Please notify a school secretary at least 24 hours in advance of the scheduled appointment. All students returning to campus after an appointment will be required to have their temperature checked and sanitize hands before proceeding back to the classroom.

How will meetings or conferences be held?
All parent meetings including PTO, PTA, Booster Club, Back to School Nights, and Parent-Teacher Conferences will be scheduled virtually until further notice. Individualized Education Program (IEP) meetings will be held virtually to the extent possible. There may be occasions when an in-person meeting must occur. In such instances, the visitor protocol must be followed.

Will there be any changes in the attendance policy?
DCSD continues to work within state guidelines regarding student attendance. For the 2020-21 school year the following attendance process will be used, pending changes made by the Nevada Department of Education.

- Attendance will be taken in every face-to-face class, hybrid learning session, or virtual/distance learning session.
- It is expected that students actively participate in In-class instruction and demonstrate at least one daily participation requirement per course for that day or period. All students must have attendance taken daily for each class or period class whether scheduled for In-class or Virtual/Distance Learning.
- Students participating during Virtual/Distance Learning will be required to complete a daily assignment and submit the information through Google Classroom per teacher instructions. During Virtual/Distance Learning this daily assignment will indicate a student’s positive attendance for the day or course and will show that contact has been made between the student and teacher for that day.
- Absent and Present mean absent or present for that day or partial day (elementary) or for that period or class (secondary).
- If a child(ren) is sick or has been restricted from attending school by the Health Department, parents must notify the school office to report the absence(s).

In addition, we will be eliminating any attendance recognitions that could encourage students to attend school when they are not feeling well.