

Continuity of Services Plan 2023-2024



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Table of Contents

Overview and Review	1
Health & Safety Protocols	2
DPS Instructional Delivery Models	3
Communication	3
School Meals	4
Transportation	4
Special Education	4
Activities	4
Resources	4



Overview & Review

This plan was developed to meet the requirements established by the North Dakota Department of Instruction (ND DPI) following the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act.

Our plan outlines recommendations from health officials and reasonable procedures to try and mitigate risks and minimize the spread of COVID-19 & other transmissible diseases to accomplish our goal of keeping schools open.

The plan is a living document and will be updated following new guidance from the Governor’s office, ND DPI, the ND High School Activities Association, and local health officials. The Dickinson Public School Board may review this plan and make changes at any time based on the current conditions.

We will review this plan every six months.

Health & Safety Protocols

The health and safety of our students and staff remain a top priority. DPS will incorporate health guidance and these protocols to try and mitigate risks and limit the spread of COVID-19 or other infectious diseases.

HEALTH

- Students & staff feeling ill should remain at home.
- Use the [ND DOH Decision Tree for Schools](#).

HAND HYGIENE

- Students & staff are encouraged to clean hands at key times with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or using an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not readily available.

CLEANING & DISINFECTING

- Staff will perform routine cleaning & disinfecting.
- Nonirritating disinfectants will be used when possible to avoid potential side effects for students and staff.

FACE COVERINGS

- Face coverings are not required.
- Any changes will be communicated to all stakeholders.

CONTACT TRACING, SCREENING, VACCINATIONS

- Contact tracing and diagnostic screening will be conducted as needed in collaboration with our local health department.
- Local health departments are providing free vaccination clinics for those interested.

PROTECTING VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

- The district will consider special health & education needs on a case-by-case basis to address individual needs and health and safety concerns of students with disabilities.

Closures Matrix:

DPS will isolate closures in the following manner:

Individuals	Building Administrator
Classrooms	Building Administrator/Assistant Superintendent
Individual Schools	Assistant Superintendent/Superintendent
District	Superintendent/School Board

DPS Instructional Delivery Models

Dickinson Public Schools is preparing for students to begin the 2023-2024 school year in Level 1.

The instructional delivery model may change at any time based on current weather conditions, COVID-19, or other infectious diseases.

Dickinson Public Schools provides a full-time K-12 online option for any student interested in an online learning environment.

**Level 1
Face-to-Face**

DPS will deliver full-time in-person instruction for students.

**Level 2
Hybrid**

DPS will shift to a hybrid schedule with students attending school on alternate days, so some students are learning part-time in school, and some students are learning part-time at home.

**Level 3
Distance Learning**

In extreme conditions, which could include a local or state stay-at-home order, DPS will close schools and shift to remote learning for all students.

Communication

Dickinson Public Schools strives to deliver important messages to those we serve in DPS, our families, and the general public.

Communications will be sent out from the district office on an as-needed basis to update families on any relevant changes to instructional models or operations.

School Meals

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 enabled public schools nationwide to provide all students with free meals since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The free school meal benefits EXPIRED after the 2021-2022 school year.

School meals will remain at paid-for status during the 2023-2024 school year.

Transportation

Dickinson Public Schools will ensure busing services are available for eligible in-town and rural students. Proper health and safety guidelines will be followed for any students receiving district transportation.

Special Education

Dickinson Public Schools will ensure that the educational needs for students on an Individual Education Plan (IEP) will be met. The special education department will monitor the continuity of services, regardless of the district instructional delivery model.

Activities

Dickinson Public Schools will follow the guidance from the [North Dakota High School Activities Association](#).

Resources

[ND Department of Health](#)

[ND Department of Public Instruction](#)

[Center for Disease Control and Prevention](#)