

DPS Health Plan



LAST UPDATED: October 5, 2020

Board Adopted October 08, 2020

Dickinson Public Schools

INTRODUCTION

In July 2020, the state of North Dakota provided guidance within the K-12 Smart Restart Guide for the reopening of public schools. Within that guide, the state identified three risk levels, and guidance to accompany each of those risk levels. The Dickinson Public Schools Health and Safety Plans addresses the actions that DPS will take in response to each of those levels. The three risk levels identified are as follows:

Risk Level 3 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. The most significant mitigation strategies are implemented at the Critical Risk Level 3.

Risk Level 2 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.

Risk Level 1 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. 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. 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.

Each level of guidance after Risk Level 3 becomes progressively less restrictive. Every level strives to protect student and staff health, and outlines the necessary mitigation strategies. The decision to move from one level to the next is made in consultation with Southwestern District Health officials who are guided by a rigorous measurement system, based on criteria such as the number of cases reported, positivity rates, testing capacity, hospital capacity, occurrence of point-source outbreaks, level of community spread, vulnerable populations affected and ability to protect, the availability of personal protection equipment (PPE), etc.

Guiding Principles

The Dickinson Public Schools Health Committee, in response to the current COVID-19 pandemic, has created the following Health and Safety Plan for the Dickinson Public Schools. The following guiding principles were followed in the creation of this plan.

1. Dickinson Public Schools (DPS) will ensure high levels of learning for all DPS students throughout the 2020-21 school year.
2. The COVID-19 pandemic will not prevent or deny any student of their right to achieve 1 year of academic growth during the 2020-21 school year.
3. Dickinson Public Schools will provide rigorous and relevant learning experiences regardless if those experiences are in person (face-to-face), virtual (online/distance) or a hybrid of both.
4. Dickinson Public Schools will take practical steps to mitigate the spread of the COVID-19 virus while maintaining a focus on student learning.
5. Dickinson Public schools will act to ensure a Safe, Supportive, and Collaborative culture for all students, staff, and patrons.
6. Our understanding, and responses based on that understanding, of the COVID-19 pandemic will continue to change throughout the school year. DPS will make decisions based on the most current guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), current spread in and around the school community as reported by NDDoH, Southwest Health Department, and in the best interests of students, staff, and families.
7. Dickinson Public School will work closely with the officials at the Southwest Health Department in making decisions that are in the best interest of our students.

Resources

ND Department of Public Instruction - <https://www.nd.gov/dpi/parentscommunity/nddpi-updates-and-guidance-covid-19>

ND Department of Health - <https://www.health.nd.gov/diseases-conditions/coronavirus>

Center for Disease Control and Prevention - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>

Dickinson Public Schools Health Committee

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Keith Harris, Assistant Superintendent

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Dana Glasser, Parent

Cassidy Hughes, Student

Griffon Obrigewitch, Student

Best Intentions

Despite taking every reasonable precaution, Dickinson Public Schools cannot guarantee that our schools will be without risk as it relates to COVID-19. The virus may be present on our buses, in our classrooms, and at our activities. In certain situations, social distancing will not be possible in a school setting. Our actions, as outlined in this plan, cannot guarantee that a student or staff member will not come in contact with the virus. Because of this, we ask that our students and staff abide the following recommendations:

Protect Yourself and Others

Wash your hands often



- Students are encouraged to wash their hands often throughout the day.
- Wash with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- If soap and water are not available, use hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

Avoid close contact



- Whenever feasible, keep social distance (at least 6 feet apart) from others. Visual cues/reminders will be provided to help individuals understand social distancing protocols.
- Alternate or modified schedules, adjustments to use of common areas, use of outdoor spaces and other actions that increase physical separation may be considered.
- The sharing of instructional materials should be limited as much as possible.
- Physical separation on busing will be recommended but cannot be guaranteed.
- Entry to school buildings, by visitors, shall be restricted to those essential to the instructional function or maintenance of the building. Nonessential visitors will not be allowed beyond the front office, without the permission of the building principal.
- Parents/Guardians may accompany their child to the school but are encouraged to not enter classrooms without permission of the teacher. Parents/guardians should remain in common areas.

Cover coughs and sneezes



- Always cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or use the inside of your elbow.
- Throw tissues away and wash hands or use hand sanitizer to prevent spread.

Clean and disinfect



- School staff will clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily.
- Shared materials (the use of which will be limited whenever feasible) will be disinfected.
- Classrooms will be cleaned nightly by custodial staff following approved protocols.

Cover your mouth and nose with a cloth face cover when around others.



- The wearing of masks will be applied in all phases of the reopening of the DPS schools.
- It is expected that individuals will keep their cloth facemasks laundered/clean and/or follow the manufacture’s recommendations for replacing disposable facemasks.
- Educators will teach students how to properly wear a face covering so they are prepared to use them on school buses or other situations in close proximity with others.
 - Resources from NDDPI and DPS will be provided to teachers. ([Appendix G](#))
- In specific instances the wearing of an approved face covering will be required. These are explained in the table below.



DPS COVID-19 PPE Guidance

STAFF	PPE
All staff	Required to wear a cloth facemask (or shield) when inside and where social distancing is not feasible.
All Students	Required to wear a facemask or approved face covering. Students will be allowed to remove their mask during planned breaks, when outside, or while occupying spaces that can accommodate social distancing. Specific details surrounding the wearing of masks will be developed and communicated by each Building Leadership Team.
Public facing staff (i.e. receptionists/clerical) unless plexiglass partition is in place.	Required face shield or cloth face mask
Staff caring for / instructing a student in a small space – small group – for more than 15 minutes. (i.e. Nurse, SPED, EL, educator)	Building administrators in consultation with Southwestern District Health nurses and/or District SPED/Student Service departments will determine if face coverings or face shield are required. This may be influenced by instructional and learning needs of the student and health considerations of all occupants in the room.

Monitor your health daily



- Be alert for symptoms. Watch for a fever, cough, or shortness of breath.
- Parents are asked to screen their children each day before sending them to school. Use the screening guidance provided ([Appendix F](#)).
- Staff and students who are sick should stay home.
- Temperatures of symptomatic students or staff may be taken at the school office.
 - Symptomatic students will be isolated, and their guardians contacted.

Risk Level 1/ The New Normal

DPS schools will reopen but incorporate health guidance and protocols to try and mitigate risks and limit the spread of COVID-19:

<p>COVID-19 Response Plan:</p>	<p>The building principal at each school will be designated as the official contact that will be notified by public health officials of COVID-19 cases within their school staff and student population. Each building principal will provide their contact information to the designated Southwestern District Health Department and State Health personnel. It is understood that that each building principal will be available to respond to communications from Southwestern District Health and State Health officials at all times including evenings and weekends. In the event that the building principal cannot be available, they will arrange for a substitute designee and communicate that designee's contact information to the public health officials. It is understood that in the event that the building principal/designee is contacted after normal work hours or on the weekend, they will be compensated at a rate of \$100 per hour for the time required to assist public health officials in the identification/notification of close contacts in the school setting.</p> <p>At each school within the district, the Building Leadership Team/Guiding Coalition will develop a safety preparedness and response plan with the objective to ensure a Safe, Supportive, and Collaborative learning environment for all students, staff and patrons. Each building's Level 1 plan will include the following:</p> <p>Each Building Leadership Team will identify a process to identify Students & Staff at High Risk in accordance with the following CDC recommendations:</p> <p><i>Risk for Severe Illness Increases with Age</i></p> <p>As you get older, your risk for severe illness from COVID-19 increases. For example, people in their 50s are at higher risk for severe illness than people in their 40s. Similarly, people in their 60s or 70s are, in general, at higher risk for severe illness than people in their 50s. The greatest risk for severe illness from COVID-19 is among those aged 85 or older.</p> <p>People with Certain Medical Conditions</p> <p>People of any age with certain underlying medical conditions are at increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19. People with the following conditions are at increased risk of severe illness from COVID-19:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cancer• Chronic kidney disease
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- [COPD \(chronic obstructive pulmonary disease\)](#)
- [Immunocompromised state \(weakened immune system\) from solid organ transplant](#)
- [Obesity \(body mass index \[BMI\] of 30 or higher\)](#)
- [Serious heart conditions, such as heart failure, coronary artery disease, or cardiomyopathies](#)
- [Sickle cell disease](#)
- [Type 2 diabetes mellitus](#)

This process will include the following:

- Back to School and enrollment processes that 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 the opportunity for distance/online learning.
- Staff members who believe that they are at-risk based on a health professionals' diagnosis, will be invited to communicate with their building principal. The building principal will work in partnership with the HR department and the employee to coordinate feasible adjustments to the employee's work schedule or workplace when possible.

Each Building Leadership Team will identify a process for monitoring students and staff for symptoms of COVID-19 which will include the taking of staff and student temperatures.

Upon building entry, a symptom screening process will take place.

- Students, staff, and visitors entering a Dickinson Public Schools building will be temperature screened.
- School staff will be trained and provided protocols on how to screen students.
- When feasible, the same staff will conduct symptom screening upon building entry each day. This will increase entry efficiency and enable staff to know the entry protocols/equipment.

As a part of this plan, it is expected that each staff member and parent will self-monitor their own, or their child's health by reviewing the questions contained in the Daily Health Monitoring Guide ([Appendix F Daily Health Monitoring Guide](#)). Staff and students will follow the guidance contained within the Decision Tree for Symptomatic Individuals ([Appendix A](#)) to make the decision if they should attend school/work. While at school, students and staff will follow the "Protect yourself and Others" guidelines (contained within this document) for hygiene practices including, best practices for hand washing and use of hand sanitizer throughout the day, as

well as the set guidelines for when facial coverings should be worn by staff and students when social distancing is not possible. ([Appendix H](#))

Any staff or student who has tested positive for COVID-19 must secure and present a release from their State Health Case Manager before returning to school.

In the event that a student or staff member exhibits COVID-19 symptoms or becomes sick at school, the following protocols will be followed:

- Student
 - Direct / escort the child to the designated location.
 - The child shall be provided a facial covering and isolated in the designated space at each building.
 - Parent / guardian will be contacted to pick up their child.
- Staff
 - Inform your supervisor immediately and wear a facemask / shield until they can be replaced if supervising students at that time.
 - Leave the school building/grounds and consult with a health care professional.
- Multiple students in a single classroom
 - In the event that multiple students from a single classroom exhibit symptoms of the COVID-19 virus, exposed students and staff will remain contained within the classroom while arrangements are made to have parents pick up their children from school.
 - Administration will utilize the Building Closure Matrix and consult with Southwestern District Health Officials to determine further actions.

Each school will be equipped with a response kit supplied with PPE for staff to use when responding to a child who exhibits COVID-19 symptoms. Before the start of the year, staff will be notified of the location of the response kits and provided training on the proper use of the PPE. Said training will include the appropriate steps to be taken after being exposed to an individual who is exhibiting symptoms of the COVID-19 virus. ([Appendix K, You May Have Been Exposed COVID-19](#))

In the event that a staff member is exposed to an individual exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms, the CDC publishes that “workers may be permitted to continue work following potential exposure to COVID-19, provided they remain symptom-free and additional precautions are taken to protect them and the community.” For workers potentially exposed to someone with COVID-19, employers should:

Check temperatures and assess symptoms of workers, ideally before entering the facility or operation. If no fever (>100.4 F) or COVID-19

	<p>symptoms are present, workers should self-monitor for onset of symptoms during their shift.</p> <p>As a general good practice for all workers, employers should encourage workers to use an employer-approved facemask or cloth face covering at all times while in the workplace.</p> <p>Make available facilities and materials for worker hygiene so workers can practice CDC recommended handwashing.</p> <p>Clean and disinfect workplaces/stations at frequent intervals.</p> <p>Each Building Leadership Team will identify a process to rapidly notify staff and parents of exposures in the school setting if directed by state health officials. Said process may include the creation of a classroom calling tree for each elementary class, a school-wide text/email blast, a classroom group text / email, etc.</p> <p>All contact tracing, and associated communication, will be the responsibility of state health officials.</p> <p>Each Building Leadership Team will develop protocols that provide, to the maximum extent feasible, social distancing during common times/congregate settings. (e.g. start of school, passing times, lunch periods) When feasible, protocols will include visual helps/reminders for students to reinforce social distancing requirements.</p> <p>Each Building Leadership Team will develop guidelines for providing support and training for staff and students on the school Health and Safety plan.</p> <p>In an attempt to limit student and staff exposure to the COVID-19 virus, access to instructional spaces beyond the front office will be limited to students, essential employees, and to visitors essential to the instructional function or maintenance of the building. Each Building Leadership Team will develop protocols for limiting exposure from nonessential visitors and volunteers.</p>
Classroom Spaces:	<p>Protocols to limit the use of shared student learning devices -iPad, Chromebook or laptop, materials and supplies. A part of this plan will include the use of 1-to-1 devices.</p> <p>Each Building Leadership Team will develop a plan to provide training for all instructional staff on Chapter 8 of <i>The New Art and Science of Teaching</i> book. This training will focus on helping teachers to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish rules and procedures. - Organize the physical layout of the classroom. - Demonstrate a high degree of withitness.

	<p>Facemasks/coverings will be required to be worn by all staff and students whenever social distancing protocols are not possible. Staff, following the direction of the Building Leadership Team, will provide opportunities for students to remove their facemasks when appropriate. (e.g. planned breaks, when utilizing outdoor spaces, in small group settings, etc.) Staff and students will follow the face coverings guidelines contained within the Protect Yourself and Others section of this document. (Appendix G)</p> <p>Increased utilization of outdoor learning spaces when feasible.</p>
<p>School Spaces:</p>	<p>The Building Leadership Team will develop protocols for use of congregate spaces/activities. (e.g. cafeterias, common areas, etc.)</p> <p>Dickinson Public School recognizes the important role that good nutrition plays in a child’s health and ability to learn. Schools will provide students access to a healthy breakfast and lunch that meet the USDA school lunch guidelines. The District’s Dietitian will work with the Southwestern District Health staff to create guidelines for hygiene practices that include the manner and frequency of hand-washing, use of gloves and wearing of face coverings and provide each kitchen staff training on the implementation of the identified guidelines while preparing and serving meals. Furthermore, the District’s Dietitian will work with Southwestern District Health officials, along with other state and federal officials, to create and communicate safe protocols including the use of self-serve food distribution stations. In preparing these guidelines, the following guidance from the CDC will be followed when possible:</p> <p>It may be possible that a person can get COVID-19 by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it and then touching their mouth, nose, or possibly eyes, but this is not thought to be the main way the virus spreads. The coronavirus is mostly spread from one person to another through respiratory droplets. However, it’s always critical to follow the 4 key steps of food safety—clean, separate, cook, and chill—to prevent foodborne illness... We also recommend discontinuing self-service buffets and salad bars until...</p> <p>As an extra precaution to help avoid the transmission of COVID-19 through surface contact, we recommend frequent washing and sanitizing of all food contact surfaces and utensils. Food-service workers also must practice frequent hand washing and glove changes before and after preparing food. Include frequent cleaning and sanitizing of counters and condiment containers. (Posted March 17, 2020)</p> <p>The District Dietitian will also assist building staff in creating feasible disinfecting protocols for food prep, serving/eating, and dishwashing areas.</p>

The Building Leadership Team will collaborate with the Head Custodian to create protocols for cleaning/disinfecting learning spaces, frequently touched surfaces and other areas used by students and staff. These protocols will be developed based on the unique needs of each school building and CDC recommendations. ([Appendix I Reopening Guide for Cleaning and Disinfecting](#) and [J Cleaning and Disinfecting Your Facility](#))

Custodial staff in each building will work with administration, in consultation with Southwestern District Health staff, to determine the most prudent path forward in the event that a building is exposed to an infected individual. As a general rule, the following CDC guidelines will be followed:

- **Close off areas** used by the person who is sick.
- Companies do not necessarily need to close operations, if they can close off affected areas.

- **Open outside doors and windows** to increase air circulation in the area.
- **Wait 24 hours** before you clean or disinfect. If 24 hours is not feasible, wait as long as possible.
- Clean and disinfect **all areas used by the person who is sick**, such as offices, bathrooms, common areas, shared electronic equipment like tablets, touch screens, keyboards, remote controls, and ATM machines.
- [Vacuum the space if needed](#). Use vacuum equipped with high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filter, if available.
 - Do not vacuum a room or space that has people in it. Wait until the room or space is empty to vacuum, such as at night, for common spaces, or during the day for private rooms.
 - Consider temporarily turning off room fans and the central HVAC system that services the room or space, so that particles that escape from vacuuming will not circulate throughout the facility.
- Once area has been **appropriately disinfected**, it **can be opened for use**.
 - **Workers without close contact** with the person who is sick can return to work immediately after disinfection.
- If **more than 7 days** since the person who is sick visited or used the facility, additional cleaning and disinfection is not necessary.
 - Continue routine cleaning and disinfection. This includes everyday practices that businesses and communities normally use to maintain a healthy environment.

Dickinson Public School recognizes the important role that providing safe and efficient transportation services plays for many of our students. The Building Leadership Team will collaborate with the transportation provider to determine a workable student drop-off and pick-up schedule that will support social distancing to the greatest extent feasible. In addition, the following protocols will be put in place for students while riding on the bus:

- Whenever feasible, social distancing practices will be employed.
- Busses will load from the back to the front.
- Seating charts/assigned seats will be utilized on each route bus.
- Adults and students will be required to wear face coverings while riding on, or operating, a bus.
- Some windows will be left open whenever the weather permits. Passengers will be encouraged to dress appropriately to permit this practice to continue even during cool weather.

Transportation staff will ensure that each bus is disinfected twice a day (following the completion of the morning routes and the afternoon routes). Drivers will wipe down and disinfect frequently touched handrails/surfaces at the entrance to the bus.

Priorities in Risk Level 1:

- * Ensure students and staff who are sick or showing symptoms stay at home.
- * Implement social distancing and cohort groups where possible and reasonable.

Moving From Risk Level 1 to Risk Level 2.

The decision to move from Level 1 to Level 2, or return to Level 1 from Level 2, will be made by the DPS School Board in consultation with district administrators and Southwestern District Health officials. In making this decision, consideration will be given to official orders /recommendations from federal, state, and local governmental leaders, and the most relevant data on COVID-19 trends in the Dickinson area. When making the decision to move from Level 1 to Level 2, every reasonable effort will be made to minimize the impact of the decision on the patrons of the community while maintaining a focus on keeping students and staff safe from the spread of the virus. Depending on conditions, a move to Level 2 could occur in a single school, within a cluster of schools or district-wide. ([Appendix D DPS Reopening and District Learning Plan.](#))

Guidance for School Building Level Closure Matrix*				
ACTIVE CASES contracted while attending school.	Criteria 1 1-2 students or staff members in classroom, grouping, or school building	Criteria 2 3-5 students or staff members in building within 14 days of each other	Criteria 3 6-10 students or staff members in building within 14 days of each other	Criteria 4 11+ students or staff members in building within 14 days of each

				other
Action	Building remains Open	Close affected classroom(s)/areas (24 -72 hrs)	Close affected classrooms/areas (72 hrs-14 days)	Close individual school (14 days)
<p>* The closing of affected classrooms/schools will be made on a case-by-case basis as a result of contact tracing within an individual school.</p> <p>The decision to close a school will be made based on what is happening in the individual school.</p> <p>The decision to transition between risk levels will be based on circumstances occurring within the community. In order to return to a lower risk level, the school district will have evidence of reduced cases/transmissions within the community. Examples include 14-day trends, percent positives, cases per 10,000, hospital capacity, etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close contact is defined as someone 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 school is closed for any length of time, the district will determine which mode of instruction will resume. • Individuals may be quarantined per Dept. of Health guidelines for longer periods of time. 				

Risk Level 2 - Hybrid

Based on guidance from health officials, DPS may decide to shift to a hybrid schedule where students would attend on alternating days and learn part-time in school and part-time at home. Depending on conditions, hybrid schedules could be implemented in a single school, within a cluster of schools or districtwide. Here is what to expect:

<p>COVID-19 Response Plan:</p>	<p>At each school within the district, the Building Leadership Team will develop a safety preparedness and response plan with the objective to ensure a Safe, Supportive, and Collaborative learning environment for all students, staff and patrons. Each building’s Risk Level 2 plan will incorporate the same safety protocols that are identified in the Risk Level 1 plan, (See Risk Level 1) in addition to the following enhanced protocols.</p>
<p>Classroom Spaces:</p>	<p>Students will attend school on a hybrid schedule (an alternate day’s schedule). DPS will make every effort to try to ensure children from the same families attend school on the same days. (See Appendix D, DPS Reopening Plan)</p> <p>Approximately 50% of the students (all A-K last names) will attend school on Mondays/Wednesdays, and every other Friday with the remaining 50% of students (all L-Z last names) attending Tuesdays/Thursdays and every other Friday.</p> <p>Teachers will utilize the Learning Management System (LMS) while presenting their in-person (F2F) lessons. This will accommodate the anticipation that some students will need to be absent from the F2F class due to Covid-19 restrictions.</p> <p>Students will receive direct instruction on the days that they are at school. Students will work independently to practice concepts and grow mastery when they're working at home. In general, students will not be learning new material while working independently at home.</p> <p>Staff and students will be expected to wear face coverings while in the school building except for those designated times/learning experiences where face coverings are not possible.</p>
<p>School Spaces:</p>	<p>In an attempt to limit exposure, Building Leadership Teams will develop plans that allow students to move in cohort groups where possible and feasible. School schedules may be adjusted to reduce the number of students passing in hallways.</p> <p>School events, assemblies and gatherings may be changed or cancelled to limit large gatherings.</p> <p>Dickinson Public School recognizes the important role that good nutrition plays in a child’s health and ability to learn. Schools will provide access to a healthy breakfast and lunch that meet the USDA</p>

	<p>school lunch guidelines to those students scheduled to attend school in person on that given day. Lunch times may be staggered to reduce the number of students in the cafeteria and allow for social distancing. Some students may be permitted/assigned to eat in other areas of the school or outside, weather permitting.</p> <p>The custodial staff in each building will work with administration, in consultation with Southwestern District Health staff, to determine enhanced cleaning/disinfecting protocols of learning spaces, frequently touched surfaces and other areas used by students and staff based on the unique needs of each school building.</p> <p>Dickinson Public School recognizes the important role that providing safe and efficient transportation services plays for many of our students. Bus transportation will be provided for students on their scheduled school day. This will result in approximately 50% of the scheduled riders on a bus at a time. Seating assignments will be modified to provide increased social distancing when feasible.</p> <p>Building Leadership Teams will develop enhanced utilization of outdoor learning spaces when feasible including increased opportunities for outdoor recesses/activities.</p> <p>Building Leadership Teams will develop enhanced protocols for use of congregate spaces/activities. (e.g. cafeterias, common areas, etc.)</p> <p>A plan to implement sneeze guards and other enhanced protective measures to protect staff and students will be considered where feasible.</p>
<p>Priorities in Risk Level 2:</p>	<p>* Maximize social distancing cohort groups by reducing the number of students in school buildings.</p>
<p>Moving From Risk Level 2 to Risk Level 3.</p>	<p>The decision to move from Risk Level 2 to Risk Level 3 will be made by DPS School Board in consultation with district administrators and Southwestern District Health officials. In making this decision, consideration will be given to official orders /recommendations from federal, state and local governmental leaders, and the most relevant data on COVID-19 trends in the Dickinson area. When making the decision to move from Risk Level 2 to Risk Level 3, every reasonable effort will be made to minimize the impact of the decision on the patrons of the community while maintaining a focus on keeping students and staff safe from the spread of the virus. Depending on conditions, a move to the Red risk level could occur in a single school, within a cluster of schools or district wide. (Appendix D DPS Reopening and District Learning Plan.)</p>

		Guidance for District Level Closure Matrix			
Community Spread: ACTIVE CASES PER Building	Criteria 1 0 schools closed	Criteria 2 1-2 school closed	Criteria 3 3-4 schools closed	Criteria 5 5+ schools closed	
Learning modality	Remaining School Buildings- Open	Remaining School Buildings- Open	All remaining School Buildings - Hybrid Closed School Buildings – Distance	All School Buildings - Distance	

Risk Level 3: Learn at Home and Stay Safe

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. Based on local conditions, DPS could close a single school, a cluster of schools or close all schools. Here is what to expect:

Remote Instruction	<p>Implement the DPS Distance Learning Plan</p> <p>Utilize the grading policy contained with the DPS Distant Learning Plan. (Appendix D)</p> <p>Develop a clear communication plan to ensure that all students and families stay informed.</p> <p>Create protocols to provide identified students with some face-to-face learning opportunities.</p> <p>Create a plan to provide support and training for parents who need help accessing technology, tools and online curriculum.</p>
Moving from Risk Level 3 to Risk Level 2.	<p>DPS School Board in consultation with district administrators and Southwestern District Health officials will make the decision on when it is best to move from Risk Level 3 to Risk Level 2. The District’s School Board will follow the guidelines contained in the DPS Reopening Plan (Appendix B), The CDC “Schools During the COVID-19 Pandemic” guide (Appendix C), as well as the most recent guidance from the North Dakota’s Governor’s and DPI office.</p>
School Spaces:	Closed to the general public except by special appointment.

	<p>Dickinson Public School recognizes the important role that good nutrition plays in a child’s health and ability to learn. Schools will continue to provide students access to a healthy breakfast and lunch that meet the USDA school lunch guidelines by utilizing a curbside pick-up model. The District’s Dietitian will work with the Southwestern District Health staff to create guidelines for hygiene practices that include the manner and frequency of hand-washing, use of gloves and wearing of face coverings and provide each kitchen staff training on the implementation of the identified guidelines while preparing and serving meals.</p> <p>Provide access to school nutrition program utilizing a curbside pickup model at Dickinson Middle School, Lincoln Elementary School and Heart River Elementary School. (See District Curbside Plan, Appendix E)</p>
Priorities in Risk Level 3:	* Reduce the risk of further community spread by closing schools.

[Appendix A: ND Health COVID-19 Exclusion Guidance Decision Tree](#)

[Appendix B: ND K-12 Smart Restart Fall 2020](#)

[Appendix C: CDC Reopening Guidelines](#)

[Appendix D: Dickinson Public Schools Reopening Plan](#)

[Appendix E: Dickinson Public Schools Curbside Breakfast Program](#)

[Appendix F: Parents and Staff Daily Health Monitoring Checklist](#)

[Appendix G: ND Health Consider the Risk](#)

[Appendix H: Making Sense of the Research on COVID-19 and masks](#)

[Appendix I: CDC Reopening Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfecting](#)

[Appendix J: Cleaning and Disinfecting Your Facility](#)

[Appendix K: You May Have Been Exposed to COVID-19, Now What?](#)