



2021



View a full schedule of [Phase Planning](#)



Read PSD's updated [COVID-19 protocols](#)



Review PSD's 2020-21 protocols for [Health & Safety](#)



More information: [PSD's 2020-21 School Year and COVID-19 data](#)

We need your help!

PSD has experienced medical professionals, compassionate staff and health protocols in place, but only together can we build a shared culture of **health and safety to Keep PSD Open.**

The 3 W's to reduce risk of COVID-19

3 medidas para reducir el riesgo de contraer la COVID-19



WEAR
a mask
USAR tapabocas



WASH
your hands
LAVARSE las manos



WATCH
your distance
MANTENER su distancia

Face covering requirements

PSD staff and students are **required to wear face coverings.**

- Cloth face coverings may be removed during limited circumstances while following physical distancing, including approved outdoor "mask breaks," recess, eating and drinking.
- Face coverings should be clean, in good repair, include multiple layers of fabric and fit snugly.

Return to Learn illness guidance

PSD will align with [Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment \(CDPHE\) Return to Learn guidance](#) for when staff and students may return to work and school after experiencing illness symptoms (not a COVID-19 case).

- These replace the previous iteration of illness protocols followed in the first semester.
- Neither staff nor students should come to work or school sick.

Social distancing updates in Phase 4

Six feet of social distance will not always be possible due to space limitations. [CDPHE](#) and the [Larimer County Department of Health and Environment \(LCDHE\)](#) allow schools to seat students between 3-6 feet apart. (see next page) Due to that change, plastic partitions will be used to separate students when distancing is a challenge.

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How PSD will respond to COVID-19 cases

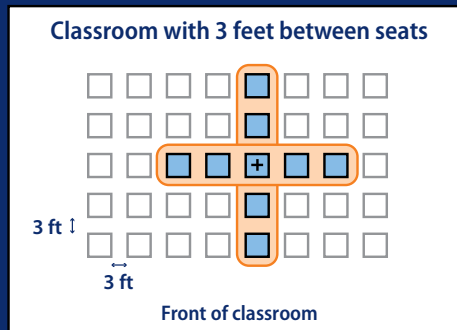
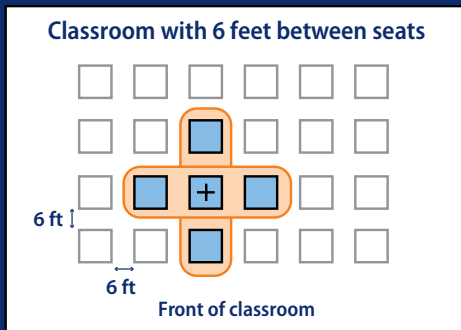
PSD will take different – but still **LCDHE**-approved – approaches to contact tracing by grade level in the second semester.

Enhanced contact tracing: Rather than investigating and identifying close contacts, all students in a classroom will shift to remote education for 10 days to prevent the possible spread of the virus. Staff members (homeroom teachers, paraprofessionals, etc.) identified as close contacts will also shift remote. All may return to school/work once cleared to do so.

Targeted contact tracing: PSD COVID-19 Response Teams investigate and identify possible close contacts (zero to X number); LCDHE issues orders to quarantine. Contact tracing happens in a classroom but also extends into lunchrooms, buses, athletics and other school-specific spaces.

Who is a close contact?

- Less than **6 feet** for more than **15 minutes**
- Maintaining **6 feet** or more of distance is not always possible within some PSD schools due to space constraints that are difficult to reconcile with educating more students more of the time.
- Recognizing this challenge, the **CDPHE** and **LCDHE** allow schools to seat students between **3-6 feet** apart.
- PSD will maximize social distancing whenever possible, with a goal of at least **6 feet**.



Every COVID-19 case investigation is unique and may require slightly varied responses. However, these graphics indicate generally which students may be identified as possible close contacts, depending on the size and set-up of the classroom. If a middle school student with five classes tests positive for COVID-19, there will likely be close contacts identified in each of their classes.

** Not to scale*



Temporary school closures: *This is new for the second semester.* PSD leadership and Health Services staff will discuss with principals whether a temporary school closure is necessary when a school's case percentage goes **above 1%**, as displayed on [PSD's data dashboard](#). Families should be prepared that their student's school may be affected by this new change and that they may receive little notice before a temporary closure occurs.

Data transparency: Each PSD department and school has a COVID-19 Response Team. PSD's COVID-19 data dashboards display data entered by COVID-19 response teams and are kept as current as possible on the [PSD COVID-19 Data and School Information web page](#).

Preschool/Elementary - will follow enhanced contact tracing

• **Why the change from targeted to enhanced contact tracing between first and second semester?** We do not believe PSD preschool/elementary COVID-19 Response Teams would be able to balance the significant workload of targeted contact tracing and keep our youngest

learners in school all day, every day.

- Although we recognize the remote shift is disruptive, this approach reduces case response work and allows staff to have the time to consistently deliver full-time in-person education.
- LCDHE will issue quarantine orders to students.

Middle and high school – will follow targeted contact tracing

- Targeted contact tracing in secondary schools second semester will look like it did first semester.
- School COVID-19 Response Teams will identify recommended possible close contacts of the infected individual and shift those people to remote teaching/learning for an Initial Assessment Period with LCDHE.
- At the end of the assessment period, LCDHE confirms close contacts and issues quarantine

orders (quarantine date may vary by person depending on exposure date to the positive individual).

- Targeted tracing is less disruptive and more sustainable at the secondary level. Enhanced tracing is thought to be more difficult for secondary teachers to manage, who engage with multiple classes in a day, compared with an elementary homeroom teacher who interacts with one.

Vaccinated individuals may not have to quarantine

As of February 2021, when PSD COVID-19 Response Teams conduct contact tracing investigations, they will submit names of all possible close contacts to LCDHE who will verify whether anyone has been fully vaccinated. Those who have a verified vaccination status will not have to quarantine.

Asymptomatic close contacts have option of shortened quarantine

As allowed by public health guidance, asymptomatic PSD staff and student close contacts can voluntarily end their quarantines early if they meet strict criteria and are approved to do so. This goes into effect March 22 and is a change from PSD's previous protocols. [More information >>](#)