



2021-2022 School Year Plan

Updated May 2nd, 2022

Operational Plan Update Summary
As of May 2, 2022

All students and faculty who test positive will isolate for five days as long as they are asymptomatic. The positive test date is day zero. If they are asymptomatic, they may return to school on day six.

Students and faculty who test positive with symptoms, even mild ones, must isolate for a minimum of seven days. The positive test date is day zero. If symptoms have resolved or shown improvement, they may return on day eight. They must be fever-free without medication before returning to school.

To isolate means there is **no unmasked contact** between the student and other members of their household. COVID-positive students may isolate by:

- Remaining in a different room from other members of the household; or
- Limited household contact, preferably at a distance of 6+ feet or more from others, while all individuals wear a high-quality (KN95 or similar) mask at all times.

If the COVID-positive individual cannot isolate, **other Prairie students living in the same household** must either:

- Remain home for five days from the date of the most recent positive test in the household (most recent positive test date is day zero). If asymptomatic, these other students may return on day six. OR:
- Return to school by taking a daily COVID test – with a negative result – each day for the five calendar days following the most recent positive test in the household. At-home tests are accepted for this purpose.
- Returning students who live with a COVID-positive individual are strongly encouraged to wear a mask and test daily until day ten.

Please contact our school nurse, [Julianne Smith](#), immediately if you, your child, or anyone living in the child's home tests positive.

All current policies that do not involve masks – including visitors, the dining room, fitness center, locker rooms, and RUVNA check-ins – will remain in place.

Moving to mask-optional means we will be unable to contact trace. We will continue to inform Primary School parents when there is a positive test result for a student in their child's class. Middle and Upper School parents will receive regular updates of positive test results in their child's grade.

If you would like guidance in making the decision to mask, we recommend that you follow the advice of your doctor.

Students and faculty may now bring food to share (ex: advisory treats), as long as it is individually prepackaged before coming to school or served by one person.

Prairie students, faculty, coaches, and chaperones will continue to follow off-campus athletic host site or field trip location masking rules.

If your child is anxious about any of these changes, School Psychologist [Mike Boticki](#), Ph.D. and School Counselor [Amy Peterson](#) are available to support all students in ES - 12th Grade. Please reach out to one of them, your child's classroom teacher or advisor, or your Division Head to talk further.

If you have any questions about these policies, [please submit them here](#) and someone will contact you within two working days.

2021 - 2022 Operational Plan

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Overarching Goals of Prairie's Plan

Our primary goal remains to keep the school safely operating in person. To accomplish this, we need healthy teachers and students. Key steps:

- Keep children home when ill.
- Get vaccinated.

Vaccines are free and provide unparalleled protection against severe COVID-19, hospitalization, and death.

Prairie will also:

- Continue to provide a world-class, in-person, college-preparatory education.
- Make data and science-based decisions following the advice of experts.
- Use layered mitigation strategies.
- Consistently monitor local and school health data and evolve this plan as needed on an ongoing basis..
- Maintain as normal a school experience as possible, including:
 - A six-day rotating schedule;
 - 1st-12th Grade eating in the Dining Room, including in tented outdoor space;
 - [Early Day and Stay & Play](#);
 - A full slate of co-curricular and extracurricular activities (following host sites' health requirements);
 - Field trips (following host sites' health requirements);
 - Continuing to maintain limits on visitors to school; and
 - Reinstating Upper School service, exercise, and co-curricular requirements.
- Strengthen our sense of community, recognizing our interconnectedness and shared duty to each other.
- Sanitize our hands regularly and surfaces daily.
- Every person on campus completes an individual daily COVID-19 health screening.
- Stay at home when ill.

Health & Safety

- How will Prairie mitigate student and faculty risk of exposure to COVID-19?
 - All Prairie employees are fully vaccinated.
 - Students will sanitize their hands on the way out of every room.
 - Prairie will continue to use electrostatic sprayers on a regular basis.
 - All of our HVAC systems have external exchanges to bring in fresh air.
 - UV lights are now a part of our HVAC systems.
 - Upgraded HVAC filters have been installed in every student space..
- What is Prairie's mask policy?
 - Masks are optional.
 - Masks must follow the rules in Prairie's Student Handbook that pertain to clothing (no profanity, depictions of violence, etc.).
 - You may purchase Prairie logo masks from the Athletic Department. Contact Jersey Eickhorst in the Athletic Department for more information.
- What is Prairie's visitor policy?
 - All visitors should have made an appointment in advance.
 - If you need to drop something off for your student, leave it at the Welcome Desk at Door #2. Be sure it is labeled with first and last name and grade level.
 - Parents are not allowed in the school at arrival. At pickup, Early and Primary School parents may enter through Door #7 or Door #5 on an as-needed basis beginning at 3:30PM. If entering, you must be parked in the main lot.
- What is Prairie's volunteer policy?
 - Volunteers working directly with children, including volunteer coaches and field trip chaperones, must show proof of vaccination.
 - Unvaccinated parents may attend field trips where they are only responsible for supervising their own child. They may not chaperone other children and may not accompany Prairie students on school-sponsored transport. Any field trip chaperone with responsibility for children outside of their own family must be vaccinated.

- Per Prairie’s long-standing policy, all volunteers working directly with children must also be background checked by the school. Background checks are good for several years and Prairie will keep those results on file.
- How will Prairie events take place?
 - Large-scale, in-person community events may be modified (i.e. Convocation, Faculty Trustee Celebration, Fall Fest, Upper School dances, etc.).
 - More information will be released closer to each date.
- What mental health supports are available at Prairie to deal with stress related to the pandemic?
 - School Psychologist Dr. Mike Boticki and School Counselor Amy Peterson are available to support all students ES - 12th Grade.
- What should I do if my child has individual health conditions or concerns?
 - If your child has an ongoing health condition (i.e. asthma, diabetes, etc.), please send an email to Julianne Smith, School Nurse, and CC the appropriate Division Head.
- What else can we do to help?
 - The CDC and epidemiologists agree that getting vaccinated is our primary COVID-19 mitigation strategy.
 - Families with unvaccinated children are encouraged to limit student contact outside of the Prairie community to mitigate exposure risk.
 - Send disinfecting wipes or hand sanitizer to school for your child to use.
 - Become a substitute teacher. Many of our usual substitutes will not be available this year because they are concerned about the Delta variant. Click here (scroll to *Current Openings*) to apply to be added to our sub list.

All-School Individual Health Screening & Protocols

- What is the purpose of the daily Ruvna health check-in?
 - The purpose is to facilitate a temperature check and daily conversation about your child’s health, and to demonstrate to the school that these have taken place.

- [Click here](#) for more information about Ruvna, Prairie’s online health screening tool. If you have questions after reviewing the Ruvna webpage, please contact your Division Assistant.
- When should I keep my child home from school?
 - If your child has any of the following symptoms:
 - Fever above 100.3 degrees
 - Cough that becomes productive
 - Skin changes, such as discolored areas on the feet and hands
 - Gastrointestinal symptoms, such as nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea
 - New loss of taste or smell
 - Sore throat
 - Chills
 - Muscle aches and pain
 - Extreme fatigue
 - New, severe headache
 - New nasal congestion
- What if I have to check “yes” on one of the Ruvna symptom boxes?
 - Do not send your child to school.
 - Seek medical advice (call your pediatrician).
- What if I forget to log my child’s health information in Ruvna?
 - Upper School students receive the Ruvna text themselves each day, so they are able to complete their check-ins independently.
 - In Primary and Middle School, we will take your child’s temperature and you will be contacted by your Division Assistant to fill out the symptom information as soon as possible.
- What if my child is not feeling well?
 - They should stay home and you should seek medical advice (call your pediatrician).
 - Students should be symptom-free for 24 hours without medication before returning to school unless they have a fever. Students with fevers must be fever-free without medication for 48 hours.

- What if my child has a fever (a temperature of more than 100.3°F) ?
 - Prairie requires that students be fever-free without medication for 48 hours in order to return to school.
- What happens if a student feels ill at school?
 - Upper School: The student should go to the division office. The US Office will connect the student with the Health Office, the school nurse on duty will call home, and the student will leave campus as quickly as possible. If the student needs to be picked up, they will wait in the vestibule of Door #4.
 - If the nurse needs the Upper School student to come to the Health Office, the student will exit the building using Door #9 and re-enter the building at Door #4.
 - Students will not be dismissed from campus for illness until they see the school nurse and s/he can speak with a parent to confirm their departure.
 - Primary and Middle School: The student will go to the nurse, who will call home, and the student will leave campus as quickly as possible. Primary and Middle School students will wait for pickup in the vestibule of Door #4.
- Will Prairie employ contact tracing?
 - Moving to mask-optional means we will be unable to contact trace. We will continue to inform Primary School parents when there is a positive test result for a student in their child's class. Middle and Upper School parents will receive regular updates of positive test results in their child's grade.
- If you or anyone in your house has tested positive for COVID-19, you must follow the procedures outlined in the COVID-19 Illness & Exposure section (page 15).

All-School Logistics

- What does the start of the day look like?
 - Parents are not allowed in the school building at arrival; please drop your children off and let them walk into the building themselves.
 - Early Day:
 - Begins at 7:30AM for Early School, Primary School, and Middle School.

- Primary School students will enter through Door #7 of the new Leipold Johnson Early Childhood Center (LJC).
 - Middle School Students will enter through Door #2 and proceed directly to the SRC, where they will be supervised by faculty until classrooms open at 8:15AM.
 - Primary and Early School classrooms will open at 8:15AM.
 - Early School, Kindergarten, and 1st Grade students should enter at Door #7. They are permitted to enter through Door #5 if that is preferred.
 - 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Grade students should enter through Door #5. They are permitted to enter through Door #7 if that is preferred.
 - Primary and Early School students should be in the building by 8:25AM. Any students arriving after 8:35AM must enter at Door #2.
 - Middle School: Doors and classrooms will open at 8:15 AM. Students should enter through Door #2 at 8:15 or later; earlier arrivals must go to the SRC for Early Day until classrooms open.
 - Upper School: Doors and classrooms will open at 8:15 AM. Upper School students may enter through Doors #2, #8, and #9.
 - Seniors in good academic standing do not need to arrive until their first class or 9:15AM, whichever is first. See page 11 for more information on Senior privileges.
 - All students (except Seniors; see above) should be in the building by 8:25AM.
- What does the end of the day look like?
 - If you are picking up students from PS and another division, you must park in the main lot due to the 11-minute difference between PS and MS/US dismissal times.
 - Early School and Primary School will be dismissed at 3:30PM.
 - Primary School Parents may enter the building through Door #7 or Door #5 on an as-needed basis no earlier than 3:30PM. If entering the

building, you must be parked in the main lot (not angle parking or in the pickup queue).

- Early and Primary School Stay and Play will be in the Fallico Family Room of the new Leipold Johnson Early Childhood Center (LJC).
- Primary School Stay & Play pickup will occur at Door #7 in the LJC.
- Middle and Upper School will be dismissed at 3:41PM.
 - There will be After-School Study Hall (ASSH) for both Middle and Upper School.
 - Middle School Stay & Play is in the Leipold Johnson Early Childhood Center (LJC) and students should be picked up at Door #7 in the LJC.

Academics

Remote Learning

- If mandated by the government, the school will go to remote learning simultaneously. It is also possible the portions of the school will have to go remote because of an outbreak.
- What happens if we have to go to remote learning?
 - Prairie's complete remote learning plan [can be found here](#).
 - There will be a 2-weekday break between in-person and remote instruction to give teachers time to prepare for the transition.
 - How will I/we be notified?
 - Families will be notified by email as well as via Prairie's new automated calling system. Please update your contact information in PowerSchool to ensure that you receive these messages.
- If a situation arises where a whole grade or classroom needs to transition to remote learning, there will be a 24-48 hour transition period. Our faculty has invested significant time training to teach fully online and are ready to implement this successfully should we have to do so.

Pandemic-Related Changes to In-Person Learning

Prairie will not be offering a hybrid virtual learning option this year. It is detrimental to everyone involved to have a mixture of on-campus and off-campus students.

- Assignments will be shared with absent students by the teacher, advisor, or Division Office as appropriate.
- Faculty will be available via email for absent students.
- Students who are absent will not be able to Zoom into class.
- If an entire ES-6th grade/classroom is required to be home, instruction will continue online.

All-School Changes

- Cooperative learning opportunities (e.g., Buddy Program) will resume in the fall of 2022.
- More activities will take place outdoors as weather permits.
- Middle School PE will take place outdoors when the weather allows and MS students will not change clothes for PE.

Upper School Changes

- Music practice rooms will only be available for individual use, scheduled in advance, with the permission of Fletcher Paulsen, Performing Arts Department Chair.
- Senior privileges:
 - Senior privileges will be granted to those in good academic standing:
 - No grade in any class below a C (2.0).
 - Senior privileges may only be lost or reinstated for academic reasons at midterms and the end of first semester. They may be temporarily removed for other disciplinary or attendance reasons at any time.
 - Senior privileges will begin on September 1st.
 - Seniors in good academic standing do not have to arrive on campus until the beginning of their first class of the day or 9:15 AM, whichever is first.
 - Seniors must stay on campus until school ends at 3:41PM.
 - Seniors in good academic standing will be able to leave campus for lunch.

Athletics & Co-Curriculars

All-School

- Will the JAC weight room and track be open?
 - The Fitness Center will only be open to students and faculty. There will be no community classes or open indoor track.
 - Students must sign up [in advance online](#).
- All co-curricular and extracurricular activities will take place and will be modified as needed on a case-by-case basis.
- Private music lessons will still be available in person during or after the school day.

Middle & Upper School

- Locker rooms:
 - Only Upper School students will be allowed to access the locker rooms.
 - Middle School students will not change clothes for PE class and locker rooms will not be available during the school day.
 - A separate pair of gym shoes is required for students in Grade 5 and up.
- Interscholastic athletics:
 - Upper School:
 - Interscholastic athletics will be taking place. Prairie continues to work with the Metro Classic Conference, our District 7 partners, and our local health authorities.
 - Visiting Prairie teams will follow the health and safety policies of our host sites.
 - Middle School:
 - Interscholastic athletics will be taking place. Prairie continues to work with our competitor schools and our local health authorities.
 - Visiting Prairie teams will follow the health and safety policies of our host sites.

Lunch/Food

- Students in Grades 5-12 will eat in the Dining Room and in the adjacent tents when weather permits.
- Students in Grades 1-4 who are purchasing lunch in the Dining Room will eat in the Dining Room. Students in Grades 1-4 bringing lunch from home will eat in their classrooms.
- Students in Grades ES-K will eat in their classrooms and will need to pre-order box lunches via the form published in the *Weekly*, via your family's FACTS account.
- Lunch purchases for all grades will be billed to your FACTS student account.
- Prices:
 - Primary School single lunch: \$5.00
 - Middle School single lunch: \$6.00
 - Upper School single lunch: \$6.75
 - Milk or juice only: \$0.50
- Larger servings will be available to all students who purchase lunch.
- Classroom/advisory (birthday and other) treats and items for bake sales may now be brought to share as long as they are individually prepackaged before coming to school or served by one person.
- Water fountains are available for water bottle fill-ups only.

Transportation

- Will there be bus service?
 - Yes. Students must check in on RUVNA before boarding and will be spread out around the bus.
 - Whether or not masks must be worn on the bus is a decision made by RUSD and its bus company. All bus riders must observe their masking rules while on board.
- Will you help me arrange a carpool?
 - Yes! [Fill out this form](#) and a member of our Admission Office will contact you directly.

COVID-19 Illness & Exposure

Please note: “Fully vaccinated” is defined as being two or more weeks out from receiving either the second Moderna or Pfizer shot or the single Johnson & Johnson shot. If these criteria are not met, the individual is not considered to be fully vaccinated.

Any student awaiting the result of a COVID-19 test for themselves, whether vaccinated or unvaccinated, must remain at home until test results are received.

If someone in their household is COVID-19-positive, unvaccinated students must remain at home. Please contact [Julianne Smith](#), School Nurse, to confirm the length of your child’s quarantine.

While Prairie will accept the results of an in-home [antigen] COVID-19 test as proof of negative status, at-home testing is strongly discouraged because:

- The accuracy of antigen tests is lower than that of PCR tests, particularly in asymptomatic carriers;
- The chance of user error in an at-home test is significantly higher;
- The accuracy of home tests varies by manufacturer; and
- Home tests can often produce an *inconclusive* result, which is not considered a valid positive/negative. In that case, another test must be taken in order to obtain a conclusive result.

If you choose to test at home, please reference the [CDC’s website on self-testing](#).

In the event of CLOSE CONTACT at home or off campus:

The day of close contact is day zero.

Unvaccinated students must quarantine for five days. If they are asymptomatic, they may return to school on day six. The date of exposure is day zero.

Asymptomatic, vaccinated faculty and students must closely monitor symptoms and may continue to attend school.

If symptoms develop, the student or faculty member must isolate and get tested. If there is a positive test result, see below for next steps.

In the event of a POSITIVE TEST:

Contact [Julianne Smith](#) immediately with a positive test result for any student, faculty member, or member of an unvaccinated student's home (262-752-2660).

The student or faculty member must isolate for five days; the positive test date is day zero. If they are asymptomatic, they may return to school on day six.

If they are showing any symptoms, they must isolate for a minimum of seven days. The positive test date is day zero. Students and faculty must be symptom-free for 24 hours without medication and fever-free for 48 hours without medication before returning to school.

If the first day back to school after a quarantine falls on a Friday or on the final school day before an extended break, the individual should not return before Monday or the end of the break. The extra protection afforded to the school community by the additional 3+ days away outweighs the value of one in-person school day.

If you have any questions about these policies, [please submit them here](#) and someone will contact you within two working days.