

Mitigation Plan 2022-2023

(Updated July 2022)





A Message from the Superintendent (Updated July 2022)

Dear WESD Families and Staff,

Thank you for your patience and grace as we have all worked together during these unprecedented times. We are all human beings working together and planning for uncertainties. We know we must focus on the needs of our families and staff: first physiological needs (food, clothing, shelter); then the need for safety (employment, resources, health); then love and belonging; then esteem and finally self-actualization (academics). These have a long researched history by Abraham Maslow (Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs).

We are updating this Mitigation Plan based on the recommendations from the Maricopa County Department of Public Health (MCDPH) and based on the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) Guidelines.

Our guiding principles throughout this process continues to be the health and safety of our students and staff; this is ALL of our situation and we will continue to share factual information.

We really appreciate our caring community that focuses on the needs of its families and children. We thank you for your patience and understanding.

With gratitude,

Dr. Paul Stanton, Superintendent
Washington Elementary School District #6

Governing Board: Tee Lambert, President • Nikkie Whaley, Vice President
Jenni Abbott-Bayardi, Member • Bill Adams, Member • Lindsey Peterson, Member

Dr. Paul Stanton, Superintendent



MCDPH Guidance

Key Takeaway

- Students benefit from in-person learning, and safely returning to in-person instruction.

Prevention Strategies

- Staying up to date on vaccinations
- Staying home when sick
- Ventilation systems
- Hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette
- Cleaning and disinfection

[Complete Maricopa County Department of Public Health Guidance](#)

MCDPH Indicators and Thresholds for Community Transmission of COVID-19

Low	Medium	High
<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccines◦ Get tested if you have symptoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ If you are at high risk for severe illness, talk to your healthcare provider about whether you need to wear a mask and take other precautions◦ Stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccines◦ Get tested if you have symptoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Wear a mask indoors in public◦ Stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccines◦ Get tested if you have symptoms◦ Additional precautions may be needed for people at high risk for severe illness

Mitigation Strategies

Health Screening

- Students should **stay home** if they feel ill or are exhibiting symptoms of respiratory infection.
- Parents and guardians should assess their child's health daily prior to heading to school or the bus stop.
- If the staff member has concerns about a student's health, they will contact the school health office for guidance.
- Students will be reminded of proper respiratory hygiene, including:
 - Avoiding touching the eyes, nose, and mouth.
 - Covering the mouth when coughing.
 - Covering the nose when sneezing and safely discarding tissues.

Handwashing

- Frequent hand washing/cleaning will be encouraged at regular intervals throughout the day with both soap and water or hand sanitizer. Instructions for hand washing include:
 - Using soap and water, scrubbing for 20 seconds, and rinsing.
 - Using paper towels to dry hands, when feasible.
- Classrooms without hand washing stations will have access to alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Hand washing stations are in classrooms or entry ways to cafeteria.
- Hand sanitizer stations are installed in school and district office entryways.

Face Masks

- Mask recommendations based on the level of community transmission.

Ventilation

- HEPA air scrubbers for classrooms, cafeterias and other locations.
- Keeping all exhaust fans running continuously to maximize the amount of local exhaust ventilation, per ASHRAE guidelines.
- Continued air quality will be maintained by changing air filters as scheduled, and keeping outside air dampers open to bring in additional fresh air.

Contact Tracing

- CDC protocols regarding reported cases will be followed using the MCDPH guidelines:
 - Quarantine
 - Isolation
 - School-based quarantine
- School health technicians will follow established screening protocols, and will consult with public health officials to determine how best to handle students and staff who display or develop COVID-19 symptoms.



Visitors

- Visitors will be allowed on campus following the guidelines outlined in the parent/student handbook.

Volunteers

- Volunteers will be allowed on campus and new volunteer applications will be processed following all district volunteer policies and guidelines.

Field Trips

Local Field Trips

- The district resumed local field trips in Spring 2022. This will continue during the 2022-2023 school year.

Out-of-State and Out-of-County Field Trips

- The district will resume both out-of-state and out-of-county field trips for the 2022-2023 school year following all district field trip policies and guidelines.

Note: Out-of-state field trips may have to follow other mitigation strategies based on the destination.

Activities and Events (Athletics, Musicals, etc.)

- The district will no longer limit the number of spectators allowed to attend school activities and events following all district policies and guidelines.

Note: There is an administrator at each event; Safety and Mentoring may also be in attendance.