

Mitigation Plan 2023 - 2024

(Updated August 2023)





A Message from the Superintendent

(Updated August 2023)

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: Jenni Abbott-Bayardi, President • Kyle Clayton, Vice President
Nikkie Gomez-Whaley, Member • Lindsey Peterson, Member • Tamillia Valenzuela, Member

Dr. Paul Stanton, Superintendent



MCDPH Guidance

Key Takeaway

- To maintain a healthy school environment, children, teachers, and staff who exhibit symptoms of any infectious disease should be encouraged to stay home.

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](#)



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

- Face masks are a personal preference and not required.

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.

Special Considerations

There are currently no special considerations for visitors, volunteers, field trips or after-school activities.

