The goal of the updated “Learning by Design” plan is to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 so that school buildings will remain open and students will continue to learn in person five days a week.

Levels of COVID-19 Community Spread
For 2021-2022, the Douglas County School System will recognize three levels of community spread of COVID-19 within our schools. These levels will guide our mask protocol. Data is obtained from the number of positive cases reported by schools each week.

- **Low Spread**
  - Positive rate of 0 - 2%
  - Schools open 5 days a week

- **Moderate Spread**
  - Positive rate of 2 - 4.9%
  - Schools open 5 days a week

- **High Spread**
  - Positive rate of 5% or more
  - Schools open 5 days a week

*Face covering must be worn over nose and mouth

**PLEASE NOTE:**
If, at any time, the number of staff members who are quarantined makes it impossible to conduct class in person or transport students to school, we may move a class, grade level, or school to digital learning for a limited time.

**Learning Plan & Safety Guidance**
The following will be implemented for all levels of spread as long as COVID-19 is a concern in our community.

**ACADEMICS**
Traditional learning in person five days a week
Online options: FLEX Academy and FLEX Live-Online (FLEX programs have a defined enrollment window.)

**PHYSICAL DISTANCING**
Students and staff should physically distance themselves when possible.

**CLEANING**
High touch areas will be cleaned throughout the day. Areas will be fogged in the event of COVID-19 cases.

**OTHER PREVENTION STRATEGIES**
Students and staff should:
- remain home if experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms
- practice good hand hygiene by washing hands frequently and/or using hand sanitizer often
- cover coughs and sneezes
- not share eating utensils
- not drink after others
- bring a water bottle to refill at the water stations

**REPORTING PROCEDURES**
Parents, guardians and staff must report all pending or positive tests, direct contacts or COVID-19 symptoms to a school administrator. Schools will notify families of exposure to COVID-19. Students and staff will be notified by phone if they are a direct contact to an individual who has tested positive. Students and staff who are indirect contacts will receive a low risk letter.

Direct contacts are defined as:

**In school**
- someone who was not properly wearing a mask and was within 6 feet for 15 consecutive minutes or more of a person who tests positive for COVID-19

**Out of school**
- someone who resides in the home with someone who tests positive for COVID-19
- someone who was within 6 feet for 15 consecutive minutes or more of a person who tests positive for COVID-19

**QUARANTINE**
Individuals unvaccinated, or became fully vaccinated more than 6 months ago (Moderna or Pfizer vaccine) or more than 2 months ago (J&J vaccine), and have not received a booster, must quarantine for 5 days. After that, a mask is required for 5 additional days.

Individuals vaccinated, within the last 6 months (Moderna or Pfizer vaccine) or within the last 2 months (J&J vaccine), who are in direct contact with someone who has tested positive do not have to quarantine if they are asymptomatic. They should wear a mask around others for 10 days.

**ISOLATION**
Students and staff who test positive must isolate for 5 days from the start of symptoms or a positive test for COVID-19. After 5 days continue to wear a mask for 5 additional days. All individuals with a pending test, due to suspected COVID-19, should isolate at home pending results.

**VACCINE GUIDANCE**
The COVID-19 vaccine is strongly encouraged for all eligible individuals.

**TESTING**
Students and staff in need of COVID-19 testing may contact Cobb & Douglas Public Health or their healthcare provider.