



# SAU 9 Return To School

Planning for Fall 2021

August 5, 2021

# Zoom Protocol

- Please mute your microphone when not speaking
- Use the chat box (located on the toolbar) to comment, ask questions, or provide information
- Please turn on video if you can
- If you need to leave the meeting, please notify in the chat box.

# Objectives

**By the end of the session committee members will:**

- ❑ Have an understanding of the proposed plan based upon recommendations from the subcommittees.
- ❑ Gain school community perspective on masking and vaccinations.
- ❑ Make a recommendation to the SAU9 School Board through consensus.

# Overarching Goal

To develop a dynamic operational plan for the safe return and continuation of services to SAU9 school facilities for **all** students and staff members.

# Guiding Indicators

## INDICATORS

### Community Spread

Number of new cases per 100,000 in the last 14 days

Percentage of RT-PCR tests that are positive during the last 14 days

### School Based Health Conditions

Student absenteeism

Staff absenteeism

### Ability of the School to Implement Key Mitigation Strategies

Consistent and correct use of masks when applicable

Social distancing to the largest extent possible

Hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette

Cleaning and disinfection (including supply availability)

Contact tracing

### Vaccination Rate

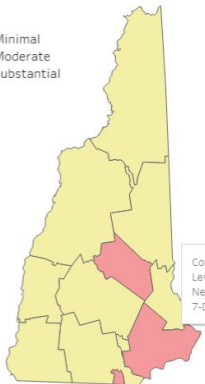
Vaccination rate among students, staff and community

Moderate

School Specific Case

(One)

- Minimal
- Moderate
- Substantial



Search by School District (K-12 Schools Only)

All

Search by School Name

Total Onsite Active Cases  
4

Total Onsite Recovered Cases  
6,983

School Name

County:

Level of Transmission:

New Cases per 100k over 14 days:

7-Day Antigen and PCR Test Positivity Rate: 2.6%

Carroll

Moderate

73.6

Manchester Memorial High School (Manchester)

Frances C. Richmond School (Hanover)

Colebrook Academy and Elementary School (E) (Colebrook)

Bow Memorial School (Bow)

St. Thomas Aquinas High School (Dover)

Data as of: 8/4/2021

# Current Community Spread - Moderate

<https://www.covid19.nh.gov/dashboard/schools>

		7/19/2021	7/26/2021	8/2/2021	8/5/2021
NH DHHS Carroll County	New Cases per 100,000 (14 days)	20.4	38.8	49.1	73.6
Carroll County	7 day PCR positivity rate	0.7	2.4	1.1	2.6
Harvard Global Carroll County	Cases per 100,000 7 day moving avg	1.2	4.1	2.3	8

Current numbers are consistent to where we were at the beginning of November 2020

# School Based Health Conditions (Summer 2021)

- One positive case confirmed
- Averaging 60 students in attendance a day

# Mitigation Strategies

- Students masked inside, unmasked outside\*
- Small cohorts (<13)
- Social distancing
- Cleaning and disinfection
- Hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette
- Contact tracing



# Vaccination Rate

Although a key indicator, data around student and staff vaccination rate is unknown. Town vaccination rates are in the table below.

<https://www.covid19.nh.gov/dashboard/vaccination>

	<b>Fully Vaccinated</b>
NH	53.7%
Carroll County	57.7%
Albany	46.8%
Bartlett	46.9%

Eaton	53.9%
Conway	65.6%
Jackson	84.2%

# Survey Data

*Perspective from the community - General Themes*

**Parent/guardian survey - 700+ respondents**

**Q. 6 Are there any conditions under which mandatory masking should be put into place? (699 resp) Yes 49% No 51%**

28% of those responding “No” to question 6, qualified their answer with a statement noting that there are conditions in which masking would be appropriate.

**Q.7 Under which circumstances is masking in schools an appropriate prevention strategy?**

**Statements included:** the need to respond to increases in COVID-19 positive cases in the community and/or school; consider number of unvaccinated elementary school aged students; keeping students in school is a top priority.

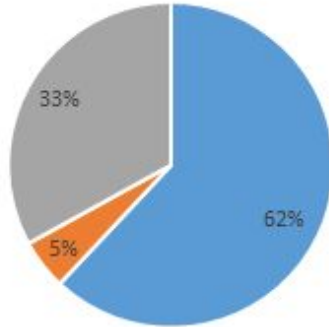
# Survey Data

*Perspective from the community - General Themes*

## Parent/guardian survey - Vaccination

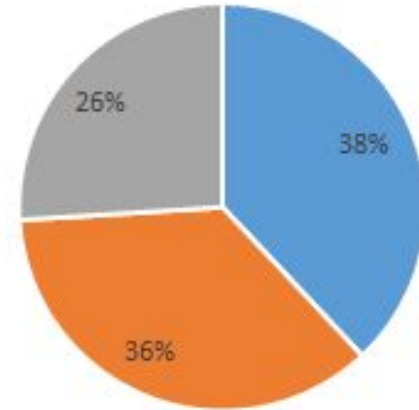
**Q 8. If your child is 12 or older, what is their vaccination status? (please check all that apply) 429 respondents**

Parent Guardian Survey-12+ Vaccination Status



■ Vaccinated fully ■ In process or wish to get vaccination ■ No Vaccination

**Q 9. If you have a child who is under 12 years old, do you plan on vaccinating your child? 382 respondents**



■ Yes ■ No ■ Unsure

# Survey Data

*Perspective from the community - General Themes*

**Staff survey - 247 respondents**

**Q. 6 Are there any conditions under which mandatory masking should be put into place?      Yes 73%      No 26%**

## Comments

- Many responses related to operations color. Moving from Green to Red increases favorability of masking
- Vaccinated-No mask. Unvaccinated-Mask
- Concern about elementary school aged students not being able to be vaccinated
- Difficulty insuring physical distancing at elementary schools

# Current Guidance Documents

## NH Division of Public Health Services

[General Provider COVID-19 Resources and Information | NH COVID-19 Response](#)

## CDC- Center for Disease Control and Prevention

[Guidance for COVID-19 Prevention in K-12 Schools and ECE Programs](#)

## AAP-American Academy of Pediatrics

[All AAP | AAP](#)

## US DOE Return to School Roadmap - Guide for K-12 School Communities for the 2021-2022 School Year

[US DOE Roadmap K-12](#)

# SAU#9



COVID-19

2021-2022

School Year

Safe Return to In-Person  
Instruction and Continuity  
of Services Plan

# Dynamic Decision Making

Monitor and evaluate the indicators below.

INDICATORS	
<b>Community Spread</b>	Number of new cases per 100,000 in the last 14 days
	Percentage of RT-PCR tests that are positive during the last 14 days
<b>School Based Health Conditions</b>	Student absenteeism
	Staff absenteeism
<b>Ability of the School to Implement Key Mitigation Strategies</b>	Consistent and correct use of masks when applicable
	Social distancing to the largest extent possible
	Hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette
	Cleaning and disinfection (including supply availability)
	Contact tracing
<b>Vaccination Rate</b>	Vaccination rate among students, staff and community

# Dynamic Decision Making

After reviewing **all** of the indicators a determination of operating conditions will be made.

OPERATING CONDITIONS		
RED	YELLOW	GREEN
<b>WHEN:</b> Multiple indicators trend at elevated levels moving school operations to strict protocols and procedures.	<b>WHEN:</b> Some indicators trend at elevated levels moving school operations to follow modified protocols and procedures.	<b>WHEN:</b> Minimal indicators of concern. Limited or no restrictions on school operations.

**Most Restrictive** **Least Restrictive**



# Self Screening and Medical Testing

Daily screening is the responsibility of family and staff and should be conducted prior to entering the school building each day.

When experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, whether vaccinated or unvaccinated, all students and staff must stay at home, contact their medical provider, get tested for COVID-19 and separate themselves from others.

# School Response to a Positive COVID-19 Case

When the school is informed of a COVID-19 case, the POC will compile a list of close contacts and notify parents/guardians and staff impacted.

“Quarantine if you have been in [close contact](#) (within 6 feet of someone for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period) with someone who has COVID-19, unless you have been [fully vaccinated](#). People who are fully vaccinated do NOT need to quarantine after contact with someone who had COVID-19 unless they have [symptoms](#). However, fully vaccinated people should get tested 3-5 days after their exposure, even if they don’t have symptoms and wear a mask indoors in public for 14 days following exposure or until their test result is negative.

**CDC Exception: In the K–12 indoor classroom setting, the close contact definition *excludes* students who were within 3 to 6 feet of an infected student (laboratory-confirmed or a [clinically compatible illness](#)) where**

- **both students were engaged in consistent and [correct](#) use of [well-fitting masks](#);**

*and*

- **other [K–12 school prevention strategies](#) (such as universal and correct mask use, physical distancing, increased ventilation) were in place in the K–12 school setting.”**

# Cohorts, staffing and congregate settings

- Each school will provide face to face instruction to students using indoor and outdoor spaces responsive to local conditions and the use of mitigation strategies.
- Increased mitigation strategies and improved conditions = increased flexibility in cohort movement
  - Cohort sizes
  - Cohort movement (within and without the school)
  - Cafeteria usage
  - Sports & Clubs
  - Project SUCCEED

# Masking Considerations

**Staff and students may not be treated differently based upon vaccination status.**

Masking decisions will be made based on current **indicators** and state and federal guidance

If a school requires masking, students and staff will all be required to wear masks regardless of vaccination status.

Appropriate accommodations will be made to the health and safety protocols for students with disabilities. As needed, such accommodations may be developed through the established 504 and/or special education processes.

Staff will make requests to Human Resources Manager (Siiri Chase @ SAU9) if requesting accommodations to health and safety protocols.

If conditions call for masking and the district chooses not to mask, then additional mitigating strategies will be put into place. Social distancing will increase to 6', cohort movement will be restricted, quarantining will be increased, seating on buses may be limited.

# Key Mitigating Factor-Masking

CDC order requiring masking on public transportation (including school busses). [CDC Public Transportation](#)

CDC, [US Department of Education Return to School Roadmap](#), and [AAP \(American Association of Pediatricians\)](#) have recommended that all individuals in schools wear masks indoors regardless of vaccination status.

Current conditions would designate SAU9 into this plan's YELLOW operating conditions due to:

- Community spread in Carroll County is Moderate (73.6 per 100,000)
- Vaccination rate for students is low or unavailable
- School based health conditions are undetermined
- Physical distancing will be put in place
- Hygiene and sanitation practices are in place
- Contact tracing will be implemented

# **Moving the Plan Forward**

To the

**SAU9 School Board**

**Thursday, August 12, 2021**

**Loynd Auditorium, KHS**

# Schedule Moving Forward

**SAU 9 School Board Meeting** -Thursday, August 12th at 6:00 pm  
Loynd Auditorium KHS

**Conway School Board Meeting** - Monday, August 23rd at 6:30 pm at CPDC

**Bartlett School Board Meeting** - Friday, August 13th 5:00 pm JBES Gymnasium

**Jackson School Board Meeting** - Monday, August 16th 6:00 pm Whitney Center