

CAPE COVID-19 Safety Plan

Based on CAPE's First Response to COVID-19

Adopted August 17, 2021

Implemented August 30, 2021

Revised October 9, 2021

Revised January 7, 2022

Revised January 17, 2022

Revised February 9, 2022

Revised March 1, 2022

1. As previously indicated in our CAPE communications, we adhere to the Personal Information Protection Act and the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and do not ask about vaccination status. However, some decisions require data and therefore CAPE may from time to time conduct anonymous and voluntary surveys.

2. Starting Tuesday, March 1, 2022, the mask mandate for all adults and children in the school building and on school grounds is no longer in effect.

However, CAPE will continue to support anyone who chooses to wear a mask.

3. CAPE will continue to provide rapid test kits to all staff to use at their discretion.

4. Best Practices to Prevent the Spread of Illness:

- 4.1 Sick students and staff are to stay home. Isolating close contacts at home also prevents the spread and is very strongly requested. If only healthy children and staff attend school, the threat of spread is reduced substantially.
- 4.2 Staying home and avoiding others helps prevent the spread of COVID-19 by reducing the number of people one could infect if one has symptoms or test positive. Effective January 3, 2022, Albertans are legally required to isolate as outlined below:
 - Fully vaccinated (2 doses or 1 dose Janssen): Isolate for 5 days from the start of symptoms or until they resolve, whichever is longer, if symptoms are not related to a pre-existing condition. For 5 days following isolation, wear a mask at all times when around others outside of home.
 - Not fully vaccinated (1 dose or less) or unvaccinated: Isolate for 10 days from the start of symptoms or until they resolve, whichever is longer, if symptoms are not related to a pre-existing condition.
 - If you test negative and have symptoms, you should still stay home and away from others until symptoms resolve.

Quarantine limits potential spread from people who have been exposed to COVID-19 but have not yet developed symptoms or tested positive.

Isolation and quarantine requirements will continue to be in effect until further notice from the Government of Alberta and Health Officials.

- 4.3 If a student or staff member has symptoms, they are advised to follow the AHS recommended guidelines prior to coming to school.
- 4.4 Regular hand hygiene is done throughout the day, especially around transition times such as between classes, before lunch, after lunch, after using the bathroom, before going out for recess, after returning from recess.
- 4.5 Increased cleaning and sanitizing continues throughout the day. This ensures common surfaces and bathrooms are sanitized regularly. In addition, all surfaces are sanitized before a new numeracy, literacy or project group enters a room.
- 4.6 The ventilation system has been inspected to ensure proper air flow throughout the building. The HVAC system was completely revamped during the summer of 2019.
- 4.7 Classes are strongly encouraged to have windows open as weather permits and outside activities are encouraged.
- 4.8 Portable HEPA filter systems have been put in each classroom and office, the gym, learning commons, and lab. The units are specifically selected to provide effective and efficient air purification to the room i.e. of an appropriate capacity for the size of the space. These provide extra air filtration.
- 4.9 The CAPE Board of Directors is committed to safeguarding the wellness of students and staff. To this end, the Board of Directors relaxed the policy re sick days and personal days to ensure staff have the time to self-care when needed and as long as needed. The Board of Directors also entered into contractual agreements to support student wellness.

In addition, the Board of Directors has approved additional mental health supports for staff and students via the CAPE Insurance Plan and additional mental health service contracts respectively. This ensures all people in our building have the support they need to successfully attend school and to learning.

[Isolation and quarantine requirements](#) will continue to be in effect until further notice from the Government of Alberta and Health Officials.

We will continue to follow the guidelines as recommended by The Chief Medical Officer of Health and the Government of Alberta.

5. Measures to Promote Responsible Contact with Others:

- 5.1** Students enter the school at the beginning of the day at staggered times and are also dismissed at staggered times to facilitate orderly, distanced movement. By staggering times by 10 minutes, the number of students in the hallways and common areas at one time are greatly reduced. We have also installed more lockers in classrooms to reduce hallway traffic by 20%.
- 5.2** It is recommended that meetings such as board and School Council meetings, staff meetings, admin meetings, and parent meetings **continue** as virtual, via Zoom.
- 5.3** No cohorting.
- 5.4** Field trips will be looked at on an individual basis and may or may not be approved.
- 5.5** Directional signage is in place to promote single file distanced movement within the building.
- 5.6** Effective immediately, assemblies, intramurals and team practices will be resuming. There will be no limits on fans and audiences and no screening is required.

6. Measures to Promote Safe Learning:

- 6.1** Cohort requirements are no longer in place as of March 1, 2022.
- 6.2** Use of Google Classroom continues to support all students with classroom information. A parent support document for how to effectively use this program is made available.

- 6.3** Field trips within walking distance of the school promote access to fresh air and remove the exposure to shared buses and are still recommended.
- 6.4** The school has provided each teacher with a sound enhancing device that is worn like a microphone and clipped to a belt to ensure that students are able to hear the teacher clearly when the teacher is masked. Use of this tool is optional.
- 6.5** We will continue to follow the guidelines as recommended by The Chief Medical Officer of Health and the Government of Alberta.

7. Measures to support transparency and communications:

- 7.1** CAPE's website supports posting of the CAPE COVID-19 Safety Plan. This plan is updated as often as needed and board-reviewed.
- 7.2** The CAPE site administration (principal) routinely updates via e-mails parents/guardians and staff as to cases, latest protocols, Alberta Guidelines, etc. and includes links for parental ease of access.
- 7.3** The site administration responds to e-mails as soon as possible. However, it is to be clearly understood that at times a reply may not be possible until the next workday at the earliest. The CAPE administration is pleased and honoured by the confidence parents have shown towards the staff and the school protocols. However, administrators also need and deserve downtime.

8. Response to Identified Positive Cases within the School:

If three or more COVID-19 cases are identified within a five day period in one of our Kindergarten to Grade 9 classes, students will be shifted to on-line home learning for a 5 day period. Should the entire school require a shift to online-learning, approval must be given by Alberta Education.

9. Measures to Promote Wellness:

- 9.1.** Staff is to maintain weekly/frequent connections with families.

- 9.2** The educational psychologist focuses on the well-being of each student, staff, administrator, and parent, with the support of the entire school community: system leaders, the Board of Directors, and community health professionals and agencies.
- 9.3** Opportunities for staff to reconnect in a social setting with distancing, sanitizing and masking measures are routinely implemented.
- 9.4** The Board of Directors has relaxed policies in regard to personal/wellness days.
- 9.5** The CAPE Board of Directors has entered once again in contractual agreements to support student and staff physical, mental, and overall wellness.

Additional mental health supports for staff through our Employee Assistance Program and students through addition mental health contracts are being investigated. This ensures all people in our building have the support they need to successfully attend school and learn.

THIS CAPE SAFETY PLAN COMES INTO EFFECT MARCH 1, 2022.

WE WILL CONTINUE TO FOLLOW THE GUIDELINES AS RECOMMENDED BY THE CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH AND THE GOVERNMENT OF ALBERTA.

A FURTHER UPDATE WILL BE SHARED WITH OUR STAKEHOLDERS AS NECESSITATED BY PROVINCIAL GUIDELINES.