

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE METROPOLITAN SCHOOL  
DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP, MARION COUNTY, INDIANA, FOR  
COVID-19 PROTOCOLS AUGUST 11, 2021**

WHEREAS, the United States of America and the State of Indiana have faced a pandemic caused by the coronavirus and COVID-19;

WHEREAS, the District continues to closely monitor the spread of COVID-19 in Indiana with updates from international, federal, state, and local governmental agencies; and

WHEREAS, the safety of students and their families and employees of the District remains a central concern to the District.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE METROPOLITAN SCHOOL DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP, MARION COUNTY, INDIANA, AS FOLLOWS:

Effective August 16, 2021 all facilities and schools in MSDWT will implement the following COVID-19 protocols (subject to MCPHD or IDOH requirement changes):

**Masks**

- **Students:** Grades PK-12 Masks are required indoors regardless of vaccination status, unless actively eating/drinking
- **Staff & Visitors/Spectators:** Masks are required indoors regardless of vaccination status, unless actively eating/drinking (Face shields can be used in addition to a mask but not in substitution of a mask)
- Masks are required on buses for both staff and students regardless of vaccination status (per Federal order)
- Performing Arts & Special Areas:
  - Choir - Masks are required indoors regardless of vaccination status; social distancing will be maximized
  - Band - applicable instruments will have bell covers, masks are required indoors regardless of vaccination status when not playing an instrument with a mouthpiece; social distancing will be maximized
  - Physical Education - Masks can be removed during strenuous activity and social distancing will be maximized
- Masks are temporarily optional for:
  - when a mask prevents optimal teaching with students - fully vaccinated instructional staff (both permanent or contracted) may substitute a face shield for a face mask, when a min. of 6 feet social distancing is implemented between the staff and anyone else (i.e. testing/assessment, lecture/direct instruction, phonics, speech, etc.)
  - when a mask prevents optimal learning for a student - upon permission by a staff member, student may optionally remove a face mask for less than 15 min. when a minimum of 6 feet social distance is implemented between the student and anyone else (i.e. improves the ability for staff to understand what the student is saying, phonemic awareness, speech therapy, testing/assessment, etc.)
  - everyone during times when eating or drinking is involved and social distancing is maximized
  - everyone outdoors, including recess
  - everyone during designated mask breaks for up to 10 min. allowed indoors for students by staff
  - fully vaccinated staff by themselves in isolation in an office/classroom (in high traffic areas door closed required)
  - everyone during strenuous activity
- Mask exemptions (as defined by the Health Dept. and approved through WT Health Services):
  - any individual who is unable to physically remove the mask themselves, children under the age of 2 years
  - a person with a disability who cannot wear a mask or cannot safely wear a mask because of the disability as defined by ADA
  - a person for whom wearing a mask would create a risk to workplace health, safety or job duty as determined by the relevant workplace safety guidelines or federal regulations
  - individuals who are hearing or speaking impaired and for whom a mask or face covering is an obstacle to communication

Facilities & Beyond the School Day	Transportation, Cafeterias & Visitors During School Day	Social Distancing & Contact Tracing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All WT facilities can function at 100% capacity</li> <li>• Visitors are required to wear a mask indoors regardless of vaccination status</li> <li>• Anyone entering WT facilities will need to self-monitor whether they have COVID-like symptoms. Those who develop COVID-like symptoms will need to stay at home and not enter WT facilities or participate in activities.</li> <li>• Beyond the school day, all activities held on WT property or off site property hosted by WT along with any organization using WT facilities must follow the protocols outlined in this plan</li> <li>• All Athletic programs will follow IHSAA guidelines and protocols for COVID-19</li> <li>• International student or staff trips sponsored/hosted by WT are not allowed</li> <li>• Overnight student night trips sponsored/hosted by WT are not allowed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Transportation:</b> Per federal order, <u>masks are required</u> for staff and students to be worn on public transportation, which includes school buses including athletics and after school and assigned seats will be implemented</li> <li>• <b>Cafeteria:</b> Classroom cohort seating for elementary and assigned seating for secondary will be implemented. Visitors will not be permitted to eat lunch with students</li> <li>• <b>Visitors:</b> Visitors will be minimized during the school day as determined by the Principal and mask required regardless of vaccination status</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seating charts or cohort groups will be implemented for students when possible</li> <li>• 3 ft or more social distancing will be implemented when possible where individuals will be together for longer than 15 min.</li> <li>• Isolation, quarantine &amp; close contact will be defined based on the most current guidance from CDC, MCPHD &amp; IDOH</li> <li>• Close contact exemptions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Pk-12 student who wears a mask indoors and is not under 3 ft. close to the COVID positive individual for 15 min. or longer indoors</li> <li>2. Anyone fully vaccinated</li> <li>3. COVID-19 positive test in last 3 months (post isolation)</li> </ol> </li> </ul>

*WT will post individual school risk assessment data from MCPHD on the WT website weekly. Additional COVID-19 mitigation strategies may be implemented by administration at individual schools based on collaboration with MCPHD using the individual school risk assessment data.*

**Resolution authority:**

- A. District Administration is delegated the full power and authority by this Board of Education to implement and carry out the provisions of the foregoing and any and all district policies and regulations or other District documents inconsistent with the foregoing which would otherwise prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in carrying out or implementing the same in order to respond to the pandemic are hereby waived and suspended as allowed by law;
- B. In exercising the above authority, the Superintendent or designee will keep members of the Board of Education reasonably informed of actions taken pursuant to the foregoing authority; and
- C. This resolution supersedes prior resolutions on this matter.

THIS RESOLUTION adopted this 11th day of August, 2021 by at least a majority vote of the entire Board in a public meeting.



Board of Education President  
Donald B. Kite, Sr.



Board of Education Secretary  
Deirdre George Davis