

Facilities and Operations FAQ for COVID

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Facilities and Operations

Q: What is the plan for cleaning?

Cleaning Procedures

Infection Control Measures:

1. Alcohol based hand sanitizer will be available at all schools and in all classrooms.
2. Signage in high traffic areas that will educate students and staff and serve as reminders of ways to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Signs will be placed throughout schools in highly visible locations such as at school entrances and bathrooms that promote healthy protective measures such as hand washing and social distancing.
3. **Cleaning and Disinfection Efforts:** High touch surfaces including door handles, handrails, desks and tables will be cleaned at least daily utilizing disinfectant products approved by the FDA and effective against COVID-19. If surfaces are dirty they should be cleaned using soap and water prior to disinfection. Bathrooms will be cleaned twice daily. Thorough cleaning should be done when children are not present. A disinfecting atomizer treatment will occur midweek when school is not in session, the end of the school week and immediately following any known outbreaks. Cleaning logs with dates and types of cleaning will be maintained.
4. If an individual is ill with COVID-19 the area will be closed off for up to 24 hours or as long as possible prior to cleaning and disinfection. If possible windows should be opened to increase circulation.

Q: Who is responsible for cleaning all high-touch surfaces between classes (when class rotating occurs, such as at the middle and high school levels), during turn over times, and at the end or beginning of each day? Do you have the custodial staff to do this? Are teachers going to be expected to do this? What cleaning agents will be used? What about on the buses?

Our custodial staff is primarily responsible for ongoing cleaning of high-touch areas throughout the day and after school hours. Teachers and staff are responsible for the cleaning of computer keyboards and mice. Cleaning and disinfecting products vary based on availability at the time of purchase. Dattco currently uses Spirit 2 and Zep disinfectant products to clean the buses which may vary based on availability.

Q: What facilities updates are being implemented to help prevent the spread of COVID-19?

Facilities Modifications:

1. No touch paper towel dispensers
2. Removal of hand drying blowers
3. Elimination of all water fountains
4. An isolation area for sick students and staff in all schools
5. Assure optimal ventilation in the health office, bathrooms and other areas
6. Social distancing in front offices and cafeteria kitchen
 - a. Additional space needs
 - b. Wireless phone sets
 - c. Plexiglass partitions
 - d. Visitors counter

Q: What has been done and is in the process of being done to improve ventilation and air filtration in our schools?

In its effort to promote a healthy and safe building environment, and mitigate the potential spread of germs, bacteria and viruses the district will continue to implement the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Tools for Schools (TfS) protocols. Center for Disease Control (CDC) recommendations calling for increase in ventilation (open doors and open windows) will need to be carefully balanced with the TfS protocols, the district's safety & security standards, and the energy performance systems improvements made in recent years.

Our HVAC systems were designed to use MERV 8 filters, with the exception of a few air intake points (MERV 10). While most of our systems can be fitted with higher MERV filters (MERV 13, 14) our HVAC consultants have informed us that the higher MERV factors will further restrict airflow, which would be counterproductive to increasing airflow/exchange. We have also

learned that MERV filtration is ineffective in capturing COVID-19 microns. As a result, we will continue to use MERV 8 filters (with few exceptions).

HEPA filtration is not an option as all systems would need to be redesigned, retrofitted and ventilated differently. The district is using stand alone room HEPA filters in isolation rooms in each school.