Unified School District No. 217 203 Van Buren · Box 167 Rolla, Kansas 67954-0167



# COVID-19 PROTOCOLS 2023-2024

## HEALTH/SAFETY MEASURES

Per CDC and KDHE guidance, the USD 217 health team recognizes the importance of maintaining a layered approach to protecting students, staff, and the community. This layered approach may include masks, physical distancing, appropriate ventilation, hand hygiene, testing, and encouraging vaccinations for those who are eligible.

For the 2023-2024 school year, USD 217 will resume normal school operations and monitor recommendations from the Morton County Health Department, Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The district will follow state and federal mandates and protocols are subject to change based on recommendations from federal, state and local health authorities.

## Hygiene

USD 217 will encourage effective handwashing and hygiene practices, good respiratory etiquette, and strong cleaning/disinfecting practices.

## Mask

Masks are optional in our buildings and on all USD 217 property.

#### Vaccinations

- COVID vaccinations are NOT required for students or staff members.
- USD 217 encourages staff and eligible students to discuss the COVID vaccine with their healthcare provider.

## **COVID-POSITIVE INDIVIDUALS**

Individuals who test positive for COVID must follow the district's Communicable Disease Policy and Morton County Health Department guidance before returning to school.

#### **Systematic Individuals**

Individuals with COVID-like systems should stay home and inform the school.

This plan was approved by the USD 217 Board of Education on September 11, 2023. Protocols are subject to change based on updated guidance from national, state, and local health officials.