July 14, 2021

Dear Alpena Public Schools’ Students, Families, and Staff,

We are pleased to share our COVID-19 & Communicable Disease Protocols for the 2021-22 school year. We are providing the following question and answer document to help you understand what the plan and expectations are for our students and staff. This guidance is based on information available as of July 14, 2021.

**Will Alpena Public Schools be in person this fall?**

Yes. We will offer a five-day, full day, K-12 grade program.

**Will Alpena Public Schools offer a virtual option for students?**

We will continue to offer our traditional APS Online where students can take virtual classes through third-party vendors. In this case, an APS teacher would act as the student’s mentor.

**Can last year’s APS Online students change to in-person learning and how do they do that?**

Yes. If someone wishes to return to face-to-face instruction this year, they simply need to contact Jeana Bellanger in the enrollment office at 989-358-5015.

**How do I re-enroll in Alpena Public Schools?**

You may reach out to the enrollment office by calling 989-358-5015.

**Will face masks be required at school or on buses?**

No. Face masks will be a parent/guardian choice for the 2021-22 school year and provided by parent/guardians.

**Will my child be required to get the COVID-19 vaccine to attend school?**

No. The COVID-19 vaccine is not listed on the school required vaccine list. For more information on required vaccines to attend Michigan public schools, please see [School Required Vaccines for Parents by MDHHS](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1JyqS8c-0LxW3U9Fj2dR2WwzGh9DKJrsQ/view?usp=sharing).

**Will you separate students who are vaccinated from unvaccinated students?**

No.

**Will students be in cohorts in the classroom or on the playground?**

No. As of June 22, 2021, MDHHS has discontinued all gathering limits for residential and non-

residential settings.

**Will contact tracing continue?**

Schools are required to report any communicable diseases to their local health department within

24 hours. Positive and probable COVID-19 cases will be reported to the District Health Department #4 following our [Communicable Disease Board Policy 8450](http://go.boarddocs.com/mi/alpena/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=BSMQKL695277) and Michigan Law Act

No. 368 of the Public Acts of 1978. For a complete list of reportable diseases, please see the

Following document: [2021 Reportable Diseases](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1xBT1AsZqGX0PjznrJelyt3-Gjq9xL9jt/view?usp=sharing). When there is a positive or probable case within a classroom, an exposure letter will be sent home to parent(s), just as we do with other

communicable diseases such as chickenpox.

**Will Alpena Public Schools quarantine students?**

No. All quarantines will be issued by the student’s resident health department.

**Will student athletes need to be tested for COVID-19 to participate?**

No. MDHHS and MHSAA lifted all requirements for student testing as of June 22, 2021.

**Will any student need to be tested for COVID-19 to attend school?**

No. Getting tested is a parent/guardian choice. The district does encourage students to get tested if exposed to COVID-19 or symptomatic.

**Will students be able to eat lunch in the cafeteria?**

Yes. Students will be able to eat lunch in the cafeteria at their school.

**What are the start and end times for the schools?**

### **ELEMENTARY**

Besser, Lincoln, Ella White 8:33 AM - 3:42 PM

Half Day Dismissal: 11:45 AM

Hinks, Sanborn, Wilson 8:54 AM - 4:03 PM

Half Day Dismissal: 12:06 PM

### **SECONDARY**

Thunder Bay Jr. High 7:25 AM - 2:20 PM

Half Day Dismissal: 10:26 AM

## Alpena High School/ACES Academy 7:35 AM - 2:30 PM

Half Day Dismissal: 10:36 AM

Sincerely,

David Rabbideau

Superintendent