



Benzie County Central Schools

Moving forward, the district will continue to preserve the ability to enact protocols based on the situation at hand in cooperation with the local health department. Local data that will drive levels of protocols and may be as specific as an individual classroom, teams, organizations, grade levels, or school-wide data.

2023-2024 Return to Benzie Recommendations

Masks

- Masks are not required of students, staff, or visitors.

Vaccination

- This is a personal choice for families and staff and will not be required by Benzie County Central Schools.

Testing

- The district will not require COVID-19 testing at this time. (MHSAA will not be requiring testing at this time.)

Cohorts

- We will not require cohorting.

Health

- Benzie Central will continue to model appropriate hand washing, covering coughs and sneezes, etc.
- Benzie Central will encourage parents to monitor the health of their children including staying home if fever is present.
- If a student becomes ill at school (fever of 100.4 or more, new uncontrolled cough that causes difficulty breathing, vomiting, severe headache) parents or emergency contacts are expected to pick up the child immediately and the child will remain out of school for 24 hours and should be fever free before returning to school.

COVID-19 Guidance

- When you have a respiratory virus, stay home and away from others. These symptoms can include fever, chills, fatigue, runny nose, and headache.

- You can go back to your normal activities when, for at least 24 hours, both are true:
 - Your symptoms are getting better overall, and
 - You have not had a fever (and are not using fever-reducing medication). A fever is considered 100.4 when taken on a temporal

Cleaning

- Daily cleaning will occur in all spaces

Visitors

- Visitors/parents will be allowed in the building
- Pick up and drop off routines will be the same as last year

Athletics/Performing Arts

- Testing will no longer be required.

Learning Options

- Pre-K through 5th grade students will be face to face. Benzie Schools believes that these students learn best when they are face to face with their teacher and peers. Much early learning focuses on social emotional skills. These skills are best learned in the presence of their peers.
- Grades 6-12 will have two options: Face to Face or virtual learning through Benzie Academy. We understand that maturing students have unique needs and want to offer learning opportunities that will meet individual needs. Face to Face is always the preferred method of learning, however, we are providing Edgenuity for students that found success with online learning that was self-paced. Parents are strongly encouraged to speak to a counselor to ensure that this is the best fit for their child's learning style.