

COVID-19 School Scenarios

Planning for the school year under multiple conditions

Prepared by the South Dakota Department of Health - Revised July 7, 2020



Scenario One: No active cases in your community, and no cases in your school building

The South Dakota Departments of Health and Education recommend that school takes place with appropriate preparedness measures (e.g., requiring students/staff who are sick to stay home; teaching and reinforcing healthy hygiene practices; cleaning and disinfection efforts).

Scenario Two: Active cases in your community, but no cases in your school buildings

The South Dakota Departments of Health and Education recommend that school takes place with appropriate preparedness measures (e.g., requiring students/staff who are sick to stay home; teaching and reinforcing healthy hygiene practices; cleaning and disinfection efforts).

Scenario Three: Student or staff member identified by Department of Health as close contact of a positive COVID-19 case outside of the school community

The South Dakota Departments of Health and Education recommend that school should continue with appropriate preparedness measures in place.

Scenario Four: Active case is identified in one of your school buildings

The South Dakota Departments of Health and Education recommend that school officials reassess processes - looking for gaps in prevention strategies. In the short-term, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends closing off areas used by the sick person and waiting 24 hours (if feasible) before cleaning and disinfecting. Once area is appropriately disinfected, it can be opened for use.

Scenario Five: Multiple active cases identified in your buildings at the same time

The South Dakota Departments of Health and Education recommend that school officials review relevant data to understand level of virus spread within the school building and conduct a risk/benefit analysis of factors such as degree of potential exposure within building; case trends in surrounding community; grade levels impacted; remote learning options; scheduling options; ability to staff buildings, etc. in determining the next steps. School leaders can request technical assistance from the DOH/DOE School Response Team if desired.