

# Investing in COVID-19 Safety

Cambridge Public Schools has made student and employee safety its top priority with significant investments to support our goal of zero in-school transmissions.



## Comprehensive COVID-19 Testing

CPS and the Cambridge Public Health Department (CPHD) have partnered to implement a comprehensive COVID-19 testing plan. *Surveillance testing* identifies COVID cases among people who don't have any symptoms. CPS staff working in-person have access to free, voluntary, on-site testing twice per week. Students in all grades will have access to surveillance testing (or pooled testing) when they are in school, once or twice per week depending on grade level. Student athletes are also regularly tested. *Symptomatic testing* is available to all in-person students and staff who show symptoms during the school day before they leave the building.



## Strong Contact Tracing & Quarantine Processes

When there are positive cases, the school health nursing program, which is part of the Cambridge Public Health Department (CPHD), conducts follow-up contact tracing. CPS and CPHD enforce strong quarantine processes to prevent transmission in schools. The health department hired additional healthcare staff to support school nurses.



## High Quality Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

CPS purchased more than 300,000 masks, which have been independently tested and achieve approximately 90-95% filtration. Face shields, gloves, and other PPE are available for all in-person students and staff who need them.



## Improved Building Ventilation & Hand Washing Capacity

Every CPS school has maximized air circulation through a combination of central systems, HEPA filters, windows, and fans. CPS performs regular air quality testing (CO2 monitoring) and results are posted online. CPS has also installed hundreds of new sinks and hand sanitizer stations.



## Cleaning & Sanitizing

CPS expanded its custodial workforce to support regular cleaning and sanitizing, especially high-touch areas. CPS purchased electrostatic sprayers, which are used to disinfect buildings when a positive case is reported.



## Infection Control Teams

Each CPS school has an infection control team, including administrators, teachers, and other staff, who are trained to help students and staff understand and implement COVID-19 safety protocols.