

SAFE RETURN TO IN-PERSON LEARNING PLAN

The Board of Directors is committed to providing students, staff, and visitors with a safe and healthy environment. In order to maintain a healthy environment, the school will review guidance provided by the Ohio State Health Department, Ohio Department of Education, Center for Disease Control, local health departments and other entities (hereinafter collectively referred to as the “Guiding Entities”). To that extent, the school has implemented the following procedures and policies on each of the following mitigation strategies subject to changes as may be required by the changing status of COVID infection rates:

a. Universal and correct wearing of masks:

The school will follow its Face Covering Policy based on the Guiding Entities’ recommendations and requirements. The school’s Face Covering Policy may be requested from the school administration.

b. Physical distancing (e.g., including use of cohorts/podding):

The school will determine student and staff capacity of school areas based on recommendations from the Guiding Entities.

To accommodate capacity limitations, various educational modalities and alternative schedules may be utilized.

Where appropriate, the school may post signage to direct traffic or encourage safe distances during transitions or when waiting in line to take a turn for an activity. Desks may be arranged in a way that minimizes face-to-face contact and meets the considerations of physical distancing objectives.

If necessary, other campus spaces will be utilized for instructional activities (i.e., lecture halls, gyms, auditoriums, cafeterias, outdoors).

Access to the school for parents may be limited and based on the school’s evaluation as to whether and to what extent external visitors can safely utilize the facilities and campus resources.

c. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette:

The school will follow handwashing protocols based on recommendations from the Guiding Entities. The protocols may include:

- Providing regularly scheduled opportunities for students and staff to meet handwashing frequency guidance.
- Providing sufficient access to handwashing and sanitizer stations.
- Providing a fragrance-free hand sanitizer (with a minimum of 60 percent alcohol) is available and supervised. Children under age nine will use hand sanitizer under adult supervision. Staff members will be instructed to call Poison Control if hand sanitizer is consumed: 1-800-2221222.

Staff and students will be provided information on proper handwashing techniques which may include the following:

- Scrubbing hands with soap for at least 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer if soap and water are not accessible. Staff and students should use paper towels (or single-use cloth towels) to dry hands thoroughly.
- Wash hands when: arriving and leaving home; arriving at and leaving school; after playing outside; after having close contact with others; after using shared surfaces or tools; before and after using scheduled restroom times; after blowing the nose, coughing, and sneezing; and before and after eating and preparing foods.

d. Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation:

The school plans to follow cleanliness and disinfecting standards in the school facility and property which may include:

- Following Guiding Entities' recommendations and guidance related to the sharing of electronic devices, toys, books, and other games or learning aids.
- Conducting safe and correct application of disinfectants using personal protective equipment and ventilation recommended for cleaning.
- Disinfecting the following surfaces between uses, such as:
 - Desks, chairs and tables
 - Keyboards, phones, headsets, copy machines
- Disinfecting high touch surfaces such as door handles, handrails, sink handles, and restroom surfaces frequently, Whenever possible, completing thorough cleanings when children are not.
- Closing off areas used by any sick person and do not use space before cleaning and disinfecting are completed.
- Providing adequate outdoor air circulation by following Guiding Entities' recommendations to increase the circulation of outdoor air as much as possible by opening windows and doors when possible.

e. Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the state, local, territorial or tribal health departments:

To prevent and minimize the spread of COVID-19 throughout the school and community, procedures to facilitate the documentation, reporting, tracking, and tracing of positive infections will be followed as may be required or recommended by the Guiding Entities. Parents or guardians of students and school staff who have been diagnosed with COVID-19, whether by laboratory test or through clinical examination should notify the school no later than twenty-four (24) hours after receiving a confirmed diagnosis.

f. Diagnostic and screening testing:

The school will screen students as may be recommended or required by the Guiding Entities using the parameters provided. The school may offer diagnostic tests when feasible and where the school is able to obtain free diagnostic tests for use at the school or for distribution to parents. The school may also consider a test to stay program where free testing options may be available to parents and students. The school will work with the Guiding Entities to establish test to stay strategies that will work best for the school if such program is implemented.

g. Efforts to provide vaccinations to educators, other staff and students, if eligible:

The school will continue to work with the local health department to provide opportunities for vaccinations to all staff and students who are eligible and choose to receive the vaccination.

h. Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to the health and safety policies:

The school's policies will be practical, feasible, and appropriate for a child and adolescent's developmental stage.

Special considerations and accommodations to account for the diversity of youth will be made, especially for our vulnerable populations, including those who are medically fragile, have developmental challenges, or have special health care needs or disabilities, with the goal of safe return to school.

No child or adolescents should be excluded from school unless required to adhere to local public health mandates or because of unique medical needs.

i. Describe how the school will ensure continuity of services including but not limited to services to address the students' academic needs, and students' and staff social, emotional, mental health and other needs, which may include student health and food services:

Based on the grade level of the student, their academic needs and the teacher's discretion, additional work may be sent home for additional practice or enrichment. Students with Special Education needs will receive services as specified in their IEP. Regular communication will occur with the family regarding the child's academic progress and their social emotional well-being. Communications may occur through phone calls, text messages, video conferencing or other means dependent on health and safety considerations. The school understands that many of the students and their families rely on the school's free breakfast and lunch program. Every effort will be made to continue to provide such meals. In addition, social emotional, mental health and overall health needs for our staff and students will remain important. The school will continue to work with outside agencies to provide behavior health

services to students. In addition, employees of the school will have access to an employee assistant program for a variety of services they may need.

- j. Describe how the school will engage in meaningful consultation with stakeholders:

Prior to finalizing this plan the school posted a draft of the plan on the school's website and provided the public with an opportunity to provide comment at Board meetings.

- k. Please state the next review period for this plan: (must be at least every 6 months):

This guidance is effective as of the date it is posted on the school's website. Per the requirements of the American Rescue Plan, this Plan will be reviewed every 6 months. Any amendments to this Plan will be posted for public comment.

FOR PUBLIC COMMENT