

# SAFE RETURN TO IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION AND CONTINUITY OF SERVICES PLAN

Introduction- As the Cole R-I School District plans for the reopening of school, our goal is to provide a safe environment for our students and staff. We understand that these recommendations will be adopted, reviewed, and revised with consideration given by the Federal, State, and Local health officials. As a district, we understand that this plan may create some inconvenience, but we are following the guidelines and recommendations to minimize the spread of communicable diseases in our district. This plan will help reduce the threat of the spread of communicable diseases. The intent of this plan is to provide a start to school that is as normal as possible and be modified in the event of a positive case. The district will remain open until given guidance from the county health department. The district will develop plans in the case of limiting the number of students per day in the building.

## **Health Protocols**

1. Parent responsibilities -
  - a. We encourage parents to take daily temperatures of students before school each morning. In the event a student is ill and exhibits signs of COVID-19, we ask the parents to follow the health protocol outlined by the district.
2. Students -
  - a. Hygiene - Create an appropriate schedule to wash hands during the day.
  - b. Students will practice social distancing when feasible.
  - c. Infection prevention instruction is taught to students, signage in buildings encourages compliance, sneezing into the elbow, throwing away tissues, etc.
3. Staff-
4. Vaccinations
  - a. It is recommended that all staff and eligible students be vaccinated. Vaccination can be done through many different health agencies and pharmacies.
5. Illness protocol
  - a. Pandemic/Health Protocol for Epidemic/Pandemics

## **Social Distancing in the School Environment**

1. Students will be spaced out as best as possible in the classroom and in the cafeteria.
2. Students will practice social distancing when possible during the day.

## **Transportation**

1. Students will load back to front when possible and set in family units.
2. Only one bus will unload at a time.

3. Encourage parents to bring students to and from school.
4. Buses will be cleaned between routes.
5. Ridership is limited to that outside of one mile unless otherwise designated.
6. Per CDC and TSA, all riders will be provided with a face mask upon entering the bus.

### **Wearing Masks and other Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**

1. If students in grades 6-12 cannot maintain social distancing, wearing a mask is strongly recommended. Students and staff are strongly encouraged to wear a mask or PPE.
2. Existing student and staff dress codes will apply to face coverings that are worn.
3. Exposures that occur in the school setting will be evaluated to determine if other students would be considered close contact. If both the positive case and the contact were wearing masks at the time of exposure, the contact may be allowed to remain in school while asymptomatic.
4. Vaccinated Students and Staff may not be required to wear masks when social distancing can not be maintained.
5. It is possible Cole R-1 will consider implementing stricter requirements related to face coverings

### **Accommodations for Children or Staff with Disabilities**

Many people of all ages have conditions that put them at higher risk for COVID that may not be apparent to others. Students or staff members who have serious heart conditions, chronic kidney disease, COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease), Obesity (BMI>30), Sickle Cell Disease, Solid Organ Transplant (heart, kidney, etc.), Diabetes, Asthma, Cerebrovascular disease, hypertension, pregnancy, Smoking or use of corticosteroids or immunosuppressive medications may be at higher risk for COVID-19 disease or many other diseases. Those over 65 in addition to those with chronic medical conditions may be at risk. It is important that adults take precautions consistently should they have any of these risk factors and that parents reinforce to their child(ren) with identified high-risk conditions the importance of following all the guidelines set forth by the school and the CDC. Alternate plans may need to be considered for accommodation and should be discussed with school authorities **before** an event occurs at the school.

### **Continuity of Services**

In addressing the pandemic the school district has constructed a plan that is broken into three phases, **Substantial spread**, **Moderate Spread**, and **Low Spread**. **Substantial Spread** indicates that positive cases of COVID-19 have been identified within the school building with extensive contact investigation within the school building. **Moderate Spread** indicates positive cases of COVID-19 have been identified within the school building and contact tracing within the school building. **Low Spread** indicates a positive case of COVID-19 within the school building but no exposure to the school building. If no cases are identified within the community then the Cole County R-1 School District will open implementing and practicing all necessary precautions with the intent to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Following are the plans for three scenarios in the case we are required to move to a modified schedule.

## Scheduling Plan

1. Green - School in session
2. Yellow - School in session, modification of student group sizes.
3. Red - Hybrid or School Closed (virtual)
  - a. E-Learning virtual platform
  - b. Monday, Wednesday and Tuesday Thursday, Friday E-Learning
  - c. 50% student attendance; Students will be divided by families.

## Academics

1. Learning Plans
  - a. Elementary/Middle School
    - i. Green - School in session
      1. Implement standard operating procedures while taking preventative measures such as:
        1. Encouraging hand washing and providing sanitizer for students and staff
        2. Conducting cleaning of classrooms and high-touch surfaces each day.
      2. Establish an academic baseline:
        1. At the beginning of the school year formative assessments will be administered in order to obtain an academic baseline for each student.
        2. Teachers and administrators will conduct meetings to discuss where students are academically and create a plan on how to close the academic gap.
      3. Prepare for potential future distance/virtual learning
        1. Review the current AMI (Alternate Methods of Instruction) plan and make necessary changes to ensure quality instruction for all students.
        2. Integrate virtual learning practices:
          - a. Digitizing lessons
          - b. Using Google Classroom
          - c. Completing lessons/assessments on learning platforms
        3. Schedule school-wide training on digital learning platforms
    - ii. Yellow - Modified Schedule
      1. Traditional Instructional Model -
      2. Evaluate each class to balance numbers in the elementary to reduce class size. In middle school evaluate how class size can be reduced by the manipulation of the master schedule. Practice social distancing within the classroom (as feasible).
      3. Limit partner/group work
    - iii. Red - If School is hybrid or closed:
      1. Implement AMI (Alternate Method of Instruction) Plan
      2. Distribute printed instructional packets of instructional materials, Chromebooks, Kjeets, and any other materials that may be required for virtual learning
      3. Teachers will be expected to maintain weekly office hours in order to provide tutoring, class meetings, or to provide any other necessary academic resources for students.

4. Assure an appropriate placement for student work to be dropped off
5. Communicate to the community the plan for the distribution of meals
6. Communicate the location and dates/times that student work can be dropped off

b. High School

i. Green- School is in session

Implement standard operating procedures while taking preventative measures such as:

1. Encouraging hand washing and providing sanitizer for students and staff
2. Conducting cleaning of classrooms and high-touch surfaces each day.
3. Create 3rd lunch shift

Assess students:

1. Teachers will use power standards to evaluate prior knowledge in order to meet students' needs
2. This data will guide the instructional process. Teacher collaborative teams will gather data and determine what interventions/extensions will be used.
3. Power standards will be crucial.

AMI:

1. All classroom teachers will use Google Classroom as their platform
2. Google Certification will be encouraged.
4. Once per week, a lesson will be done virtually through Google. The teacher will become a facilitator to that lesson. Thus increasing familiarity with the process in case school closure occurs.

ii. Yellow- modified schedule

1. Limit class sizes.
2. Follow Green Plan

lii. Red - If School is Closed;

1. Implement AMI (Alternate Method of Instruction) Plan
2. Distribute printed instructional packets of instructional materials, Chromebooks, Kajeets, and any other materials that may be required for virtual learning
3. Communicate to the community the plan for the distribution of meals
4. Communicate the location and dates/times that student work can be dropped off
5. Assure an appropriate placement for student work to be dropped off
6. Teachers will be required to hold office hours and teach from the classroom remotely

**Cole R-1 Russellville**  
**Pandemic/Epidemic Health Protocol 2023/2024**

With the ever-increasing population of individuals vaccinated against Covid-19 as well as those having acquired natural antibodies against the virus, the Cole R-I School District has established the following health protocol for the 2023-2024 school year.

In the event of an increase in confirmed Covid-19 or variant transmission within the district or community, this protocol can be amended at any time to allow for more rigorous prevention strategies to be implemented.

The district will work closely with the Cole County Health Department for guidance in decision-making.

**Exclusion from School**

Students and employees will be excluded from school if they test positive for Covid-19.

Any of the following symptoms indicate an illness that can be spread to others:

- Temperature of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher
- Sore throat
- Cough (for students with chronic cough due to allergies or asthma, a change in their cough from usual)
- Difficulty breathing (for students with asthma, check for a change from their baseline breathing)
- Diarrhea or vomiting
- New onset of severe headache, especially with a fever.

Check your child for these symptoms before they go to school. Check symptoms for changes from usual or baseline health. If your child DOES have any of the symptoms above:

- Keep your child home from school and consult their healthcare provider.
- Absences due to illness will be verified with a physician note in order to comply with school attendance policies.
- Students may return to school once they are FEVER-FREE for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications *and* they exhibit symptom improvement.
- If your child is sent home from school sick and has a fever of 100.4 degrees or higher, they cannot return to school the next day due to the 24-hour fever-free requirement which will be strictly enforced.
- Students who have a cough or fever and are waiting to go home will be given a mask to wear in the nurse's office and while exiting the building.
- If your child is sent home from school sick without a fever, we ask that symptoms show signs of improvement before sending them back to school.

**CONTINUED**

### **Positive Covid-19 test result protocol**

1. If a student tests positive, parents/guardians of students identified in their “cohort” may be notified that a possible exposure has occurred and to monitor for symptom onset. Isolation and exclusion of the asymptomatic individual who may have been exposed at school may not be required. The individual who tested positive will not be identified in communications to the school community at large but may need to be selectively identified for contact tracing by the health department.

### **Isolation for positive students or employees**

1. Exclude for 5 days. If you have no symptoms or your symptoms are resolving after 5 days you may return to school.

### **Protocol for identified close contacts (Household Contacts)**

1. Students identified as close contacts may stay in school while remaining symptom-free
2. If symptoms develop during this time, isolate at home. Testing is recommended. Stay home while awaiting test results.

### **Medical Inquiries**

Given the nature of the pandemic, the school district may make additional medical inquiries of staff and students than they otherwise would have. Please note that federal law typically limits the type of medical inquiries that can be made but given the nature of the pandemic more leeway has been given by federal agencies in this circumstance. If a parent tells the school district that a student is ill, the school district may ask the parent whether the student is exhibiting any symptoms of COVID-19. If an employee calls in sick or appears ill, the school district will inquire as to whether the employee is experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms. The school district may take the temperature of students, employees, and visitors to school property on a random basis or in situations where there is reason to believe that the person may be ill. If a person is obviously ill the school district may make additional inquiries and may exclude the person from school property.

### **Review & Revision of SRCSP Plan**

Cole R-1 School District will review and revise, if necessary, this Plan by December 23, 2021 and every six months thereafter as required. This revision process will include consultation with students, families, school and district administrators, (including special education administrators), teachers, school leaders, other educators, school staff, and their unions.

Adopted 06/21/2021, Revised 07/22/2021, Revised 08/16/2021, Revised 11/18/2021, Revised 12/20/21, Revised 1/06/22, Revised 8/18/22, Revised 7/2023