

# USD 411 Goessel Schools



## 2020-2021 Reopening Plan

The purpose of this document is to outline the steps USD 411 will take in response to the COVID-19 pandemic during the 2020-2021 school year. Every staff member and student should follow and apply the following guidelines to reduce the risk of exposure to COVID-19. The plan describes how to minimize student and staff exposure to coronavirus, protective measures to occur in the classroom, personal protective equipment and work practice controls to be utilized, cleaning and disinfecting procedures, and what to do if a staff member or student becomes ill or is exposed. Please know this document is fluid as we continue to monitor available resources through the U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Kansas Department of Education (KSDE), and the Kansas State Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) for additional information. USD 411 continues to work closely with the Marion County Health Department to ensure safety measures and recommendations are being followed adequately.

Goessel USD 411 is committed to providing a safe learning and working environment for students and staff. In response to COVID-19 and the concerns it has brought our staff, families, students and community, our district is offering two learning options for the 2020-2021 school year: on-site (or in-person learning) or remote learning (learning from home).

Following the guidance from the Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE), Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), Marion County Health Department, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and other experts, Goessel USD 411 remains committed to doing everything we can as a district to protect the health of students and staff for a safe return to instruction and learning within our reopening plan.

Our staff has worked hard to create a plan that best accommodates all students, staff and parents. While the majority of our families have told us they want to be back in school, others have expressed the desire to have a remote learning option. Our teaching staff is anxious to get back to work teaching all of our students. As you can imagine, teaching students both on-site and remote can present a challenge, mostly due to the time it takes.

Additional restrictions will be put in place if there are documented COVID-19 cases within the school building.

### Restrictions Explanation

<b>Low School Restrictions</b> Total Active Cases 0%-5% of building student population	Low Risk of Spread <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School Capacity 100% attendance</li> <li>• Masks, Social Distancing</li> <li>• Daily Health Screener for all</li> </ul>
<b>Moderate School Restrictions</b> Total Active Cases Up to 10% of building student population	Moderate Risk of Spread <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School Capacity may or may not be 100%</li> <li>• Masks, Social Distancing</li> <li>• Remote learning possible for students who need to isolate or quarantine due to health guidelines</li> <li>• County guidelines for modified quarantine will be followed see KDHE Modified quarantine</li> </ul>
<b>High School Restrictions</b> Total Active Cases More than 10% of building student population	High Risk of Spread: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School Capacity is limited or closed</li> <li>• Students will shift to Remote Learning as the main delivery system for education as practiced</li> </ul>

**Case counts will be tracked by Marion County Health Department and shared with USD 411 for collaboration with required steps to occur. Clusters will be identified by Marion County health officials. USD 411 will adhere to their guidance.**

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# Instructional Delivery Methods

## On-Site Learning

School will be conducted as normally as possible with COVID-19 guidelines in place as follows:

- Traditional classroom setting with safety precautions set in place.
- Classrooms will teach remote learning expectations to allow for a seamless transition, should schools be required to go remote.
- Non-traditional spaces may be utilized for instructional purposes.
- Students may have class outdoors when a teacher deems it necessary and weather permits.
- Transitions will be staggered when possible.
- Daily health checks will occur.
- Hand sanitizing to occur frequently- sanitizer has been placed at classroom and building entries and exits for easy access and utilization.
- Students should maintain assigned seats.
- Students maintain regular enrollment status unless quarantine is required by county officials.
- In-Person learning, conversations, and engagement.
- Social interaction with peers and staff.
- Immediate access to libraries and materials with the exception of library material on a three day rotation for safety measures.
- Technology and Internet provided as needed.
- Students who enroll in this option are eligible to participate in extracurricular activities.

## Remote Learning

The Kansas State Department of Education has set new guidelines for remote learning for all students and school districts in Kansas. These include:

- The standards must be the same for all students regardless if they are in on-site or remote learning platforms.
- Competencies have been added as documented by the Navigating Changes 2020 document.
- A teacher must make daily contact with each remote learner.
- Students must have daily meaningful connection with a classroom teacher through **telephone or video** conference
- The parent must sign off on a daily log attesting to the time a student spends on school work.
- Students **MUST** document and submit a minimum of six hours engagement time daily.
- Students will be required to have **DAILY** contact with teachers.
- Student workload will be the same as in person.

Other District Guidelines for remote learning include:

- Remote learners will remain Goessel USD 411 students and receive their instruction/services from district instructors and staff remotely.
- The daily log signed by parents indicating correlation of school day hours and time spent on assignments in each subject is due on the Friday of each week
- A network connection is required for each child in remote learning
- A device with the ability for the child to be engaged in class activities is encouraged for each child with a specific location for each child to work in their home/location of remote learning
- An adult is requested present during K-6 remote learning as many students will need assistance navigating the platforms as the teacher may not be available
- A child will be considered absent if a child is not present for live class or does not make daily connection with a teacher
- Staff will only be available during 7:50-4:00 during their contract times. Available times will be shared with remote parents by each teacher. An appointment is required to ensure the teacher is available and not fulfilling other duties.
- It is possible that NOT all classes will be available due to limitations of remote learning
- Credits will NOT be waived for those who choose remote learning
- Students/Parents will have a two week trial window in the first quarter to choose remote learning.
- Elementary students may use Seesaw in addition to Google Meets or other live video resources.
- Computers are available for checkout for those who need or request. At this time, the internet is not available through the school for remote learners.
- Participation in school-sponsored activities and programs is allowed. Contact your building principal or counselor for more information.
- Video must be on during the duration of the class and attendance will be taken by the teacher.
- All remote learning for grades 6-12 will be done remotely through utilization of Google Classroom and online meeting times.
- Students may change between on-site and remote learning within the first two weeks of the start of school or at the end of each 9 week period. If a student chooses to switch between on-site and remote, there will need to be at least a 3-day notice for procedural changes.
- A student placed in mandatory quarantine by county health officials will switch immediately to remote learning for the duration of the quarantine period and return to school immediately when released from quarantine.

\*\*Quarantine by the entire school or district will not count as a change in learning



## While at School

School Day Operations

### Home Health Self-Screening

It is important that all families and staff partner with us in monitoring health. We ask that students and staff take their temperature on a daily basis at home prior to coming to USD 411 facilities and events, and follow the self-screening checklist. No student or staff with a fever of 100.4 degrees or higher may enter any USD 411 facility. No fever-reducing medication may be taken to reduce fever.

### Home Health Screening

1. Do you have a fever of 100.4 or greater?  
Yes/No
2. Do you currently have any flu-like symptoms? Yes/No
3. Do you currently have a cough or experiencing shortness of breath? Yes/No
4. Have you had a sudden loss of taste or smell? Yes/No

If you demonstrate any of the symptoms above and/or have a fever then please report your absence to school staff.



### HOME HEALTH SCREENING

Answer the Following Questions



Do you have a fever of 100.4 or greater?

Yes or No

Do you currently have any flu-like symptoms?

Yes or No



Do you currently have a cough or experiencing shortness of breath?

Yes or No

Have you had a sudden loss of taste or smell?

Yes or No



If you demonstrate any of the symptoms above and/or have a fever then please report your absence to school staff.



## Feeling Sick?

Stay home when you are sick!

If you feel unwell or have the following symptoms  
**please leave the building and contact your health care provider.**  
Then follow-up with your supervisor.

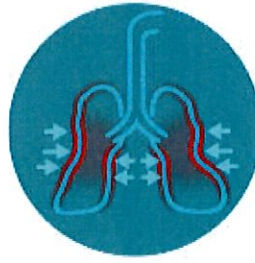
DO NOT ENTER if you have:



**FEVER**



**COUGH**



**SHORTNESS OF  
BREATH**



CS176128-A March 22, 2020 5:14 PM

[cdc.gov/CORONAVIRUS](https://cdc.gov/CORONAVIRUS)



# Symptoms of Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Know the symptoms of COVID-19, which can include the following:



Symptoms can range from mild to severe illness, and appear 2-14 days after you are exposed to the virus that causes COVID-19.

Seek medical care immediately if someone has emergency warning signs of COVID-19.

- Trouble breathing
- Persistent pain or pressure in the chest
- New confusion
- Inability to wake or stay awake
- Bluish lips or face

This list is not all possible symptoms. Please call your healthcare provider for any other symptoms that are severe or concerning to you.



[cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://cdc.gov/coronavirus)













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# COVID-19

## CORONAVIRUS vs. COLD vs. FLU vs. ALLERGIES

SYMPTOMS	COVID-19*	COLD	FLU	ALLERGIES
 <b>Fever</b>	Common (measured at 100 F or higher)	Rare	High (100-102 F), can last 3-4 days	No
 <b>Headache</b>	Sometimes	Rare	Intense	Sometimes
 <b>General aches, pains</b>	Sometimes	Slight	Common, often severe	No
 <b>Fatigue, weakness</b>	Sometimes	Slight	Common, often severe	Sometimes
 <b>Extreme exhaustion</b>	Sometimes (progresses slowly)	Never	Common (starts early)	No
 <b>Stuffy nose</b>	Rare	Common	Sometimes	Common
 <b>Sneezing</b>	Rare	Common	Sometimes	Common
 <b>Sore throat</b>	Rare	Common	Common	No
 <b>Cough</b>	Common	Mild to moderate	Common, can become severe	Sometimes
 <b>Shortness of breath</b>	In more serious infections	Rare	Rare	Common
 <b>Runny nose</b>	Rare	Common	Sometimes	Common
 <b>Diarrhea</b>	Sometimes	No	Sometimes**	No

For more information: [www.kdheks.gov/coronavirus](http://www.kdheks.gov/coronavirus)

\* Information is still evolving.

\*\* Sometimes for children.

Sources: KDHE, CDC, WHO, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, American College of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology.

## **Fever Observed While at School**

Preliminary screening will be done with an infrared contactless thermometer as students and staff enter the school. If a fever is indicated, the student will be kept in the isolated area for further verification with a secondary measure. If a student exhibits a verified fever of 100.4 degrees or greater while at school, they must immediately be picked up from school. They cannot return to school until they are fever-free for 24 hours without fever-reducing medicine. Elementary students will be walked out to the parent just outside the main office door to limit people in the building. High school students may transport themselves home with parent permission. If symptoms continue longer than 24 hours, consider consulting your doctor or local health department for additional guidance. Additional temperature screenings may be conducted if there are positive cases of COVID-19 in the school building.

## **Masks**

All students Pre-K-12 and staff will be required to wear appropriate masks on campus. Masks must not include messages or images that distract from the learning environment as outlined for other articles of clothing in the school dress code policies. Staff and parents are expected to teach proper mask wearing protocols. Opportunities for “mask breaks” will be provided as appropriate with teacher approval when 6 feet social distancing can be maintained. Masks will be worn to lunch, but students may remove masks once seated in order to eat. Violation of not wearing a mask properly will be handled under dress code violation or possible defiance in some cases. Students who continually fail to follow safety protocols could be required to move to remote learning. Face shields will not be permitted in place of masks. Mask exemptions as outlined in [EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 20-59](#) will be followed. Exemption from a mask will only occur with a medical professionals written order. USD 411 will make masks available as needed. Staff will be provided masks upon request. For elementary students school-provided masks will be labeled with a sharpie and need washed daily. In the event that elementary teachers wash masks, students will be expected to have a personal mask for exiting the building and to ride the bus home.



# How to Wear Face Coverings

## Put on Your Face Covering



1  
Wash your hands before putting on your face covering.



2  
Put it over your nose and mouth and secure it under your chin.



3  
Try to fit it snugly against the sides of your face.



4  
Make sure you can breathe easily.

## Take Off Your Face Covering Carefully, When You're Home



1  
Untie the strings behind your head or stretch the ear loops.



2  
Handle only by the ear loops or ties.



3  
Place covering in the washing machine or trash can if disposable.



4  
Do not touch your eyes, nose or mouth when removing. Wash hands immediately.

### Who should NOT use face coverings:

Children under age 2, or anyone who has trouble breathing, is unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance.

### Face coverings are NOT surgical masks or N95 respirators.

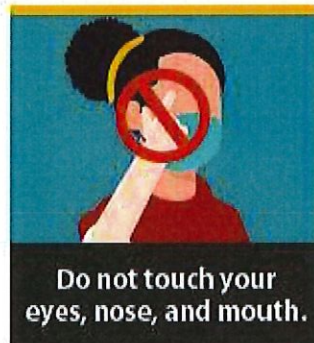
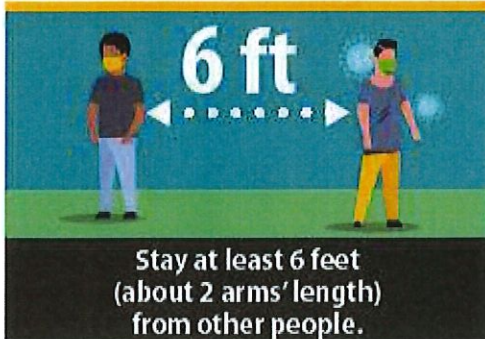
Currently, surgical masks and N95 respirators are critical supplies that should be reserved for healthcare workers and other first responders.





# Stop the Spread of Germs

Help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases like COVID-19.



[cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://cdc.gov/coronavirus)

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## **Transportation**

USD 411 will implement health and safety practices including the following:

- Busses will be cleaned and sanitized following each route.
- Drivers and students will be required to wear masks including vans and cars due to close proximity.
- Students will have assigned seats, with siblings or those living in the same house will be seated together.
- Busses will be filled starting with the back of the bus filling to the front as students load.
- Students will spread out as much as possible.
- Busses will unload front to back.
- Parents will be responsible for home screening of students as temperature checks will not take place until students arrive at school.
- When possible, windows will be down for air circulation, as recommended by the CDC.
- In town pickups will not occur due to social distancing recommendations.
- Elementary to high school and high school to elementary pickup/drop offs will not occur due to the need of sanitizing between rider changes.

Parents need to take these factors into consideration when deciding if school or personal transportation is best for their child. If there is a shortage of bus drivers due to COVID-19, the district may need to alter and/or temporarily suspend bus routes.

## **Classrooms**

- Classroom desks and common seating areas (including tables) will be arranged to maximize space between students.
- Plexiglass or partitions will be utilized when seats are not able to accommodate six feet.
- Classrooms will be sanitized daily.

## **Water Fountains**

All water fountains will be disabled with the exception of bottle filling stations. A new disposable water bottle will be provided each day for each student to refill throughout the school day as needed. Students are encouraged/able to bring their own water bottles to use in the classroom. Water bottles brought from home MUST be labeled and cleaned daily. Specific grades may not allow water bottles brought from home.

## **Hand Sanitizer Procedures**

Hand sanitizer is available in every classroom and at all building entrances and exits. Students will wash or sanitize hands upon entering and exiting each classroom, and hourly following.



## **Cleaning and Disinfecting**

Custodial staff will disinfect all classrooms at the end of each day. In addition the use of an iWave, an air purifying device that will be placed in both the elementary and Junior High/High Schools in all air units. Students will assist in sanitizing desks in the classroom at the end of each class period. Options in class will include disinfecting wipes, and spray disinfectant and paper towels.

## **Parents and Visitors**

No visitors will be allowed in the building without an appointment. All visitors will receive temperature screening before entering the school building.

## **Counseling Services**

Supporting student overall well-being is our number one priority, especially after we return to school after a long break. All staff will work to identify students struggling with mental health concerns and will work to ensure these students can access any necessary resources. Through our school counselor, social worker, and local mental health resources, students can find the level of support needed. Teachers will utilize classroom time to connect with students and create an environment where students feel safe and are able to develop social and emotional skills, even when the school will look different than what we are used to.

## **Social-Emotional Supports**

Goessel Public Schools has worked to support all needs of our students including social and emotional, as well as assisting in resources for mental health. All buildings will continue to implement already established interventions that are aimed to build relationships and connection, address the regulation of emotions, and build skills to cope with the stress of everyday life. Due to the nature of the current COVID-19 pandemic, these interventions will be provided and implemented more frequently and more intensely to ensure that all of our staff and students are well and ready to learn.

## **Open House and Parent-Teacher Conferences**

- Teachers will make a recorded video introduction to their classrooms.
- Possible virtual Google meet for parents of remote learning.
- IEP meetings will have a virtual meeting option (Google Meet/Zoom).

## **Fundraising**

Online rather than face-to-face fundraising is highly encouraged. All fundraisers will be considered by the school principal and will be approved or denied based upon need, ease, and safety of management, as well as other factors associated with current circumstances surrounding COVID-19.

# **Pre-K & Elementary**

Information specific to Pre-K & Elementary students

## **Arrival & Dismissal**

### **Arrival**

- Please check your child's temperature prior to arriving at school.
- Students may arrive at 7:40 am. Car riders will be dropped off at the main entry. Preschool students will have an adult waiting for students to arrive. Bus riders will enter through the west side doors.
- Everyone entering the building will have their temperature checked and hands sanitized. Temperatures must be under 100.4 to enter the building. Students must be symptom free without the aid of fever reducing medicine.
- Students eating breakfast should go straight to the breakfast line, while non-breakfast students should go to the gym, entering through the East (right) door.
- Students will have a designated socially distanced area on the floor in the gym as their assigned seats on a line for their grade level. Students will go straight to their spot and sit there until led to class.

### **Dismissal**

- Students will be dismissed from their classrooms according to bus groups in order of the lined up buses. Once the first group is loaded onto their bus, then the second bus's group will be dismissed. Non-bus students will be dismissed last with car riders going out the main entry.

## **Breakfast & Lunch**

- Breakfast: assigned seating in the lunchroom. After eating, students report to the gym or stay and wait in the lunchroom with masks back on.
- Lunch: seats will be assigned in the lunchroom with kids being spaced and facing the same directions as much as possible.
- Cafeteria tables will be cleaned between each group
- An extended lunch schedule will be created to allow for fewer classes in the cafeteria at a time
- Lanyards will be provided for students so they can attach their masks and the mask can hang from the lanyard while students are eating and then the child can put the mask back on when finished with lunch. This eliminates masks being laid on tables.



## **Assigned Seating**

- Students will be seated, face forward, next to the same children throughout the whole day including class time, specials, lunch, etc. Seating charts may switch at quarters.
- Students can be in the restrooms in small groups as long as they are wearing masks.
- Students can work in small groups as long as they are wearing masks.

## **Student Supplies**

- USD411 and The Ministerial Alliance have partnered to supply all school supplies for grades K-8. Students will need to provide backpacks, which will need to be sanitized at home regularly.
- Students will keep their supplies separate from others whenever possible. Any items that are shared (not preferred) must be sanitized between uses.

## **Outdoor Recess**

- One class will be on the playground at a time. Schedules will be adjusted for this.
- Sanitizer will be used before and after recess.
- Playground balls will be cleaned after each use.
- Masks may be removed during physical activity at recess and hung from lanyards around the neck.
- Schedules will be adjusted to limit multiple classes passing in the hall when possible.

## **Band, Choir, Art, PE**

- Students will report to their regular specials when school is in the green zone.
- Music classes may be outside, when possible.
- Students in Music will be expected to wear masks, and will spread out.
- Specials may transition to a cart and come to classrooms if we move to the yellow zone
- Remote to classrooms if a modified quarantine is placed by the county
- PE will be outside when possible. Masks may not be worn depending on the physical activity occurring.
- Teachers will continually follow the KSHSAA considerations and follow recommendations as they are made available

## **Library**

- Books returned will have a 3 day quarantine before being reshelfed.
- Adults must be present to assist book checkout at the computer.
- There will be scheduled check out times for each class so there are not multiple grades in the library at one time.
- Students will be expected to wear masks.

## **Online Platform**

- Elementary staff will utilize SeeSaw and Google Tools while integrating live video during class.

## **Assemblies**

- No school-wide assemblies will be held.
- Google Meets or pre-recorded video will be utilized for building wide introductions as needed

## **Snacks and Birthday Treats**

- Students may not bring treats or share with classmates.
- Prepackaged treats for birthdays. Pre-K and Kindergarten will provide prepackaged snacks as needed.

## **Technology Devices**

Chromebooks will be available for 1:1 usage from Kindergarten through 5th grade as needed. Students will be taught how to use them while in person learning so that IF distance learning is necessary for all, then students will be prepared to work remotely.

# **Jr/Sr High Grades 6-12**

Information specific to Jr/Sr High Students

## **Arrival & Dismissal**

### Arrival

- Students may arrive at 7:40 AM. They will have two entry points with temperature checks in place: main office doors, and the east gym entrance
- Students may store items in their locker but are not allowed to congregate in locker areas.
- Students eating breakfast may go to the commons.
- Students not eating breakfast may go to first hour classrooms at 7:50 AM or practice social distancing in the JH or HS gym until reporting to class.
- If a teacher is present and open to early arrival, students may go to their first period class earlier than 7:50 AM.

### Dismissal

- Students will dismiss at 3:25 following navigating changes guidelines.
- Dismissal times may staggered for athletes and activities as needed

## **Breakfast & Lunch**

### Breakfast

- Breakfast will be served beginning at 7:40. Students will eat breakfast in assigned seats in the cafeteria.

### Lunch

- Assigned seating will be required, due to contact tracing requirements.
- Self Serve options will be discontinued.
- Changes in seating must be requested formally through administration.
- Students will eat in the cafeteria and HS gym in assigned seats, with social distancing guidelines in place.
- Seating areas will be arranged and designated to maximize space between students.
- Classrooms will be staggered in their release to lunch.
- At this time, parents and other guests do not have the opportunity to join their child for lunch on-site.
- Nutrition staff will wear masks during food preparation and food distribution.

- A staff member will log all lunches versus students keying in their meals
- Students will wear masks when in the cafeteria and may only remove their masks while in their assigned seats.
- Weather permitting, students may be allowed to go outside during or after lunch at supervisor's discretion.
- Individual servings of items as possible
- Modified quarantine students will have lunch delivered to the quarantine area.

## **Assigned Seating**

- All classes will have assigned seating. Students will have assigned seating for lunch.

## **Student Supplies**

- Sharing of supplies will not be allowed. Students will keep their individual supplies separate from those of others.
- Shared classroom equipment will be sanitized after use.

## **Band, Choir, Art, PE, Etc.**

- Music classes might be outside when possible. Students in Music will be expected to wear masks, and will spread out.
- PE will be outside when possible. Masks may not be worn depending on the physical activity occurring.
- Additional details are being determined.

## **Library**

- Books returned will have a 3 day quarantine before being reshelfed.
- An adult will assist book checkout at the computer to minimize contamination.
- There will be scheduled check out times for each class so there are not multiple grades in the library at one time.
- Students will be expected to wear masks.

## **Assemblies & Meetings**

- No school-wide in-person assemblies will be held.
- Group meetings may be limited with social distancing in place. Meetings may be held virtually.



## **Snacks and Birthday Treats**

- Students may not bring treats or share with classmates.

## **Athletics & Activities**

- All athletic programs will continue to follow district safety protocols and work closely with the Kansas State High School Activities Association (KSHSAA) regarding practices and sanctioned sports events.
- Temperature screenings will be conducted by coaching staff/sponsors for students before practice or meetings on days that school is not in session.
- Students who are remote learning *will* be able to participate in extracurricular activities.
- Students in quarantine may **not** attend or participate in extracurricular activities and practices.

## **Technology Devices**

- Each student will pick up their Chromebook and keep it with them all day. Students choosing remote learning will be assigned and checked out a Chromebook if needed. Students will be utilizing Google Classroom for remote learning.

## **Google Classroom**

- All teachers will utilize Google Classroom for all classes, remote and on-site.

## **Passing Periods**

- Clear traffic patterns and staggered times will be established to encourage social distancing. Flow of traffic will be designated with arrows, floor dots, and signs. Students will no longer line up in the hallways, they will enter and begin cleaning their area. Students are expected to stay on the right side of the halls, ramps, and stairs when traveling around the building.

## **Fundraising**

- Online rather than face-to-face fundraising is highly encouraged. All fundraisers will be considered by the school principal and will be approved or denied based upon need, ease, and safety of management, as well as other factors associated with current circumstances surrounding COVID-19.

## **Social Distancing**

- Classrooms will be arranged in an effort to maximize the amount of space between students. Additional furniture has been removed from some classrooms to provide more seating/movement and social distancing.

## **School Nurse**

The USD 411 BOE has approved hiring a school nurse for the 2020-2021 school year to assist with additional health and safety precautions due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Information will be provided to all staff regarding the recognition of COVID-19 symptoms and updates as they become available. Students exhibiting these symptoms will discretely be referred to the nursing station and they will have their temperature taken and further assessed as deemed appropriate by the school nurse. The school nurse will be in continual communication with the county health department to ensure all recommendations are in place.

In the event that a student tests positive, the Marion County Health Department will contact the nurse in order for implementation of the modified quarantine plan presented by KDHE to begin. The nurse may inquire of symptoms should a student or staff member be called in sick. A person who tested negative for COVID-19 may return to school or work. Students and staff will be excluded from school if they test positive for COVID-19. Students and staff are to follow the county health department isolation guidelines as documented below.

If you have any questions or concerns, please let us know. Please understand this is a fluid document which will be modified as determined by the BOE and administration. All modifications will be in response to new information provided that is feasible and appropriate for the school setting.



\*Adopted from TN Dept of Health

## RELEASING CASES AND CONTACTS FROM ISOLATION AND QUARANTINE

### CASES

Must be isolated for a minimum of 10 days after onset and can be released after afebrile and feeling well (without fever-reducing medication) for at least 72 hours, whichever is longer.

Onset date

(or specimen collection date if onset unclear or asymptomatic)

Minimum 10 days

+ Afebrile and feeling well for at least 72 hours

Case released from isolation

*Note: Lingering cough should not prevent a case from being released from isolation.*

#### Examples:

- A case that is well on day 2, and afebrile and feeling well for 72 hours, can be released from isolation on day 10.
- A case that is well on day 6, and afebrile and feeling well for 72 hours, can be released from isolation on day 10.
- A case that is well on day 14, and afebrile and feeling well for 72 hours, can be released from isolation on day 17.

### HOUSEHOLD CONTACTS

Must be quarantined for 14 days after the case has been released from home isolation (because exposure is considered ongoing within the house).

Case's onset date



Case is released from isolation

14 days

Household contact is released from quarantine

If a household contact develops symptoms, they should be tested.

*This means that household contacts may need to remain at home longer than the initial case.*

#### Examples:

- A case is well 3 days after onset, case released from isolation on day 10, household contact must remain quarantined until day 24.
- A case is well 7 days after onset, case released from isolation on day 10, household contact must remain quarantined until day 24.
- A case is well 14 days after onset, case released from isolation on day 17, household contact must be quarantined until day 31.

### NON-HOUSEHOLD CONTACTS

Must be quarantined for 14 days from the date of last contact with the case.

Date of last contact with case



14 days

Non-household contact is released from quarantine

07/06/20



# **K-12 Schools During the COVID-19 Pandemic | Modified Isolation and Quarantine Requirements**

**July 28, 2020**

This guide specifically addresses requirements around maintaining continuity of learning in the situation where all students and staff in a classroom are exposed to COVID-19; namely the modified quarantine requirements for close contacts of a case. What this modified quarantine allows is the ability for all students and staff in the exposed classroom to continue physically attending school during their quarantine period but remaining in quarantine outside of the regular school day. Ideally, any students or staff that have been identified as close contacts of a case would be able to continue lessons remotely. However, in the case where this is not possible, a school district, in working with their local health department, might consider this option for modified quarantine. This guide includes some specific engineering and administrative controls that must be in place before the modified quarantine of close contacts is allowed.

## **Background:**

COVID-19 is a respiratory disease caused by a coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) which spreads primarily through droplets generated when an infected person coughs or sneezes, or through droplets of saliva or discharge from the nose. Studies show that asymptomatic people and people in the pre-symptomatic phase (2-3 days before symptoms begin) can also be a source of infection.

The most common symptoms of COVID-19 are fever and lower respiratory symptoms including coughing, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing. However, there are many other symptoms that may be associated with COVID-19 including chills, fatigue, muscle aches or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and diarrhea. The elderly and people with underlying medical problems such as high blood pressure, heart problems or diabetes, or chronic respiratory conditions, are at a greater risk of serious illness from COVID-19.

Schools are an important part of the infrastructure of communities, as they provide safe, supportive learning environments for students, employ teachers and other staff, and enable parents, guardians, and caregivers to work. The unique and critical role that schools play makes them a priority for opening and remaining open, enabling students to receive both academic instruction and support as well as critical services.

## **Current Isolation and Quarantine Requirements:**

A Person Under Investigation (PUI) is someone who is suspected of having COVID-19 disease. A person who is being tested for COVID-19 is required to be in isolation until test results are received. Possible outcomes of the test result include: 1) If the test result is positive, then the person becomes a case or 2) If the test result is negative and the person has a known

exposure, then the person must finish their 14 day quarantine, or 3) If the test result is negative and there was no known exposure, then the person is released from isolation.

Symptomatic cases are released from isolation 10 days after symptom onset OR 72 hours fever free without the use of medication and significant improvement in symptoms, whichever is longer. Meaning, symptomatic cases are in isolation for a minimum of 10 days. Asymptomatic cases are released from isolation 10 days after their positive sample was collected, as long as they remain asymptomatic. If they become symptomatic during the 10 days, then they would begin a new isolation period using the criteria for symptomatic cases.

Close contacts of a confirmed case are in quarantine for 14 days after their last contact with a case while the case was infectious. A symptomatic case is considered infectious starting two days before the onset of their first symptom until they are released from isolation. An asymptomatic case is considered infectious starting two days before the date their positive sample was collected until they are released from isolation.

### **Defining A Close Contact:**

A close contact is someone who has been within 6 feet of a case for 10 minutes or more or had direct contact with bodily secretions (for example, being coughed or sneezed on). Any students or staff that maintained a 6-foot distance from the positive case would not be considered close contacts and would therefore not be subject to the 14-day quarantine period.

If the positive case, or close contacts, or both, wore cloth facemasks at all times this reduces the risk of developing COVID-19 disease. However, the use of cloth facemasks does not eliminate the risk completely; therefore, close contacts would still be subject to a 14-day quarantine. Any close contacts that wore appropriate PPE, either a fit-tested N95 masks with protective eyewear or a surgical mask with a face shield, would not be considered close contacts.

The time period for close contact tracing includes any day(s) the positive student or staff attended school and the preceding 48 hours prior to symptom onset (symptomatic cases) or the preceding 48 hours prior to sample collection (asymptomatic cases).

### **Modified Quarantine Requirements:**

These modified quarantine requirements are contingent on the close contacts of a case remaining asymptomatic. Students and staff who have had an exposure but remain asymptomatic should adhere to the following practices prior to and during the school day:

- Transportation: Students and staff on modified quarantine should not commute to school with anyone that is not also on modified quarantine.
- Arrival and dismissal times: Students and staff on modified quarantine must arrive and leave school on a staggered schedule without interacting with the general school population.
- Pre-screen: School administrators should measure the quarantined student and staff temperatures and assess symptoms prior to the start of the school day. Ideally, temperature checks should happen before the individual enters the school building. If an infrared device is used to check temperature, accuracy may



be an issue so anyone measuring 99.0° F or higher should receive a more accurate temperature check and in-depth symptom screening.

- Medical check-in: Quarantined students and staff should check in with medical staff at specified time periods. If the quarantined student or staff becomes sick during the day, they should be sent home immediately. Surfaces in their workspace should be cleaned and disinfected. Anyone who develops illness compatible with COVID-19 during the quarantine period should notify the school nurse or school administration who will work with the local health department to arrange for testing.
- Wear a mask: The quarantined students and staff should wear a face mask/face covering at all times while in the school.
- Physical separation: The quarantined students and staff should be physically separated from the general school population. All activities, including mealtimes and classes like art and music, should take place within the classroom.
- Bathrooms: The quarantined students and staff must have their own designated bathroom or, if feasible, common bathrooms must be cleaned after a quarantined student or staff have used them.
- School activities: Quarantined students and staff should not participate in any activities that involve interaction with non-quarantined students and staff. This includes before and after school care and all school-related activities.
- Outside of school: Quarantined students and staff should understand that they are still in quarantine outside of the normal school day. Meaning, they should remain at home when not physical in school.

### **Required Cleaning/Disinfection/Sanitation**

- Disinfect high-touch surfaces in the classroom with products meeting Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) criteria for use against SARS-CoV-2 and used according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- If materials are used by multiple people – disinfect between shared use.
- Conduct targeted and more frequent cleaning of high-touch surfaces of shared spaces (e.g., tables and chairs, railings, door handles).

There are no modifications for isolation of a PUI while awaiting test results or for a case under isolation. Local health departments and school districts can decide which approach, either the current isolation and quarantine requirements or the modified requirements, works best for their individual school.

