

# **SOCS All Elementary COVID-19 Re-Entry Plan**

## **Overview**

## **Expectations**

- School Calendar
- Health Protocols
- Social Distancing
- Special Education
- Virtual School

## **Overview**

This re-entry plan for our four elementary schools was developed from the SOCS re-entry plan and contains items specific to how each elementary school will operate within the SOCS re-entry plan to maintain the safety of our students while providing them the best education possible.

## **Expectations**

The elementary re-entry plan has been developed with the following expectations.

1. All elementaries will follow all health protocols in the [SOCS re-entry plan](#).
2. Building specific protocols:
  - a. Masks (or Face Coverings):
    - i. Nothing in this plan concerning facial coverings/masks cannot contradict any requirements described in Governor Holcomb's Executive Order 20-37 issued on July 24, 2020.
    - ii. As Orders from the Governor change, Spencer-Owen Community Schools will consult with the Owen County Health Department on matters where our discretion may be used.
    - iii. Effective July 27, 2020, mask use in schools is required for:
      1. Students in grades 3 -12
      2. Faculty and staff
      3. Volunteers and anyone else in schools.
      4. When riding a bus (including pre-kindergarten through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students)
      5. During co-curricular and extra-curricular activities, with exceptions for strenuous physical activity
    - iv. The following people are exempt from wearing a face covering but are strongly encouraged to do so if practicable and without undue risk, or alternatively, are strongly encouraged to wear a face shield:
      1. children who are over the age of two (2) years and under the age of eight (8) years unless otherwise required by a directive in the Executive Order;
      2. any person with a medical condition, mental health condition or disability which prevents wearing a face covering;
      3. any person who is deaf or hard of hearing, or communicating with a person who is deaf or hard of hearing, where the ability to see the mouth is essential for communication;
      4. any person for whom wearing a face covering would create a risk to the person related to their work, as determined by

local, state, or federal regulators or workplace safety guidelines;

- v. Individuals will be allowed to not wear a facial covering during the following situations:
    - 1. When separation from another individual is 6 feet or greater.
    - 2. During recess if social distancing can be maintained.
    - 3. When eating or drinking.
  - vi. Students in grades k-2 will not be required to wear a mask. However, all students will be required to carry a mask at all times.
    - 1. A staff member may request, in certain situations, that a student wear a mask. Examples would include if a student or employee becomes ill or needs to visit the nurse for any reason, small group activities, or abrupt changes in the school environment,
    - 2. Although individual staff have the discretion to require students in grades k-2 to wear a mask during certain activities or in certain environments, this discretion is not intended to allow any staff member to require students in grades k-2 to wear a mask throughout the day.
  - vii. Masks are now part of a school's dress code. Violations will be handled in a similar manner.
  - viii. Through arrangements with the Governor's Office, community volunteers, and corporation funds, Spencer-Owen Community Schools will be able to provide all students and employees with at least one cloth mask during the 2020-21 school year. However, students and staff should plan to provide their own masks throughout the year. Hardship situations should be addressed with the appropriate school staff.
  - ix. Please see Appendix C for guidance concerning face coverings.
  - x. All forms of bullying and/or harassment associated with masks will not be tolerated. Each teacher's classroom rules and/or procedures will prohibit bullying and/or harassment.
- b. Kindergarten through 2nd grade staff will be provided with class sets of mobile desk shields as soon as the shields are available.
- c. Water fountains at each school will be turned off and not accessible. All elementaries will provide water for students through water filling stations. Students are allowed to bring their own water bottles.

- d. Students will be assigned specific seats in the classroom and on the bus to assist with potential contact tracing as required by the Owen County Health Department.
  - e. Visitors:
    - i. As a general rule, visitors are prohibited from entering the school. The only exceptions will be individuals who are there to work with students or anyone deemed essential by the principal.
    - ii. Should you need to visit a school you should call ahead and schedule an appointment.
3. Social Distancing Guidelines:
- a. Please see school specific guidelines for social distancing at the end of this re-entry plan.
  - b. Arrival
    - i. One bus released at a time to minimize number of students in the hallways.
    - ii. Teacher in the hallways moving students along to their classrooms and reminding them to stay 4 to 6 feet apart.
  - c. Classroom
    - i. Assigned seats and students encouraged to keep “hands to self.”
    - ii. Increased hygiene practices.
    - iii. Increased classroom participation with Google Classroom/Google Meet to encourage partner/group work while maintaining social distance.
  - d. Hallways
    - i. Students will only be gathered in hallways for a short period of time.
      - 1. Breaks will be scheduled throughout the day between classrooms so that classrooms will not be in the hallway at the same time.
      - 2. Routes will be created for grade levels to move about the building.
      - 3. Special schedules will be adhered to to keep students from passing additional students in the hallway
      - 4. Classes will distance themselves when walking down the hallway as much as possible.

- e. Specials
  - i. Classes will go to specials as scheduled with cleaning between groups
  - ii. Assigned seats similar to classroom when applicable
- f. Reading/Math Intervention groups
  - i. Sanitize before leaving and re-entering the classroom
  - ii. Assigned seats while in small groups with interventionist
- g. Lunch/Breakfast
  - i. Keypads and lunch cards will not be used
  - ii. Items are served by an employee.
    - 1. Cafeteria seating will be adjusted to promote social distancing
    - 2. Students will be assigned seats
    - 3. Areas will be cleaned between groups
    - 4. Handwashing before lunch will be required
    - 5. One class at a time through each food line.
- h. Recess
  - i. Classes will be designated a playground space
  - ii. Hand washing/sanitizing before and upon returning from recess.
- i. Dismissal
  - i. Students will wear masks to all dismissal locations
  - ii. Dismissal will be staggered to avoid congestion in hallways and loading areas.
- j. Other events taking place outside the school day
  - i. Latchkey
    - 1. More outside activities or spreading out within the cafeteria (with assigned seats)
    - 2. Hand washing more often
    - 3. Parents will be signing in/out without entering the building
    - 4. All games and equipment will be disinfected, nightly.
  - ii. Tutoring
    - 1. Teachers will keep a log of who was in attendance and location for tracking purposes.
    - 2. Classroom protocol will be followed.

3. Teachers escort the students outside after tutoring to limit parents coming into the building.
4. Special Education Considerations:
  - a. The individual student's case conference committee will determine decisions affecting individual students, including transportation.
  - b. Therapists who move between buildings and/or corporations will wear masks or face shields.
5. Virtual School: Any student who has concerns about returning to school due to COVID-19 may request enrollment in the Spencer-Owen Virtual School. For more information, see the documents attached in the SOCS Re-Entry Plan.