

**Stuart Public Schools**  
**8837 4<sup>th</sup> Street**  
**Stuart, OK 74570**

<b>Superintendent</b>	<b>Principal</b>	<b>Counselor/Asst.Prin.</b>
<b>Tracy S. Blasengame</b>	<b>Chance Chapman</b>	<b>Dawn Blasengame</b>
<b>(918) 546-2474 ext. 102</b>	<b>(918) 546-2627 ext. 108</b>	<b>(918) 546-2627 ext. 111</b>

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## **A FRAMEWORK FOR KEEPING STUART PUBLIC SCHOOLS OPEN**

This framework is organized into categories essential to planning for the 2023-24 school year, with specific actions and considerations in each category. In general, the categories are intended to facilitate communication and planning to meet the challenges created by the COVID-19 Pandemic, ensuring stakeholders and school district Personnel understand how to support operations to produce the best outcomes for all, including CDC Guidelines, community health considerations and conditions for learning.

**For FY 24, Stuart Public Schools will continue with full time on campus instruction.** Any student with medical conditions requiring them to be virtual will require proper medical documentation and those students will be allowed to receive instruction virtually via distance learning. **All** other students will be on campus, unless required by the Stuart School Board of Education (The Board), the Superintendent of Stuart Public Schools (decision to close based on numbers of sick/quarantined students/staff or inclement weather or other qualifying event), the State Department of Education (SDE), State Health Department (SHD), executive order by Governor or President, or legislative action based on Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines, to close schools and use virtual/distance learning. In the event that occurs, **ALL** students will follow the FY 22 Distance Learning Plan for Stuart Public Schools.

### **Safe Return Plan**

Stuart Schools and stakeholders have developed the following as a means of providing the safest possible educational setting for students, teacher, staff, and visitors to campus.

#### **1. Universal and correct wearing of masks**

- A. Upon the Governor signing SB 658, schools are prevented from requiring mandated mask policies.
  - (1.) Elementary Students will still be instructed on how to properly wear masks during morning meetings and High School Students will receive instruction during annual handbook and policy meetings at the beginning of the school year and new students throughout the year will be instructed upon enrolling.
  - (2.) Disposable masks are made available to students, staff, and visitors. Located in

the front office where all visitors must check in upon entry to the school building.

**2. Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing**

- A. Stuart Schools has modified classrooms by spacing desks a minimum of 3 feet apart and using plastic shields on each desk.
- B. Students are socially distanced in the cafeteria and at PE.
- C. Signs are posted in high traffic areas encouraging social distancing.

**3. Hand washing and respiratory etiquette**

- A. Elementary home rooms go over hygiene and proper ways to cover coughs and sneezes at enrollment and during morning meetings.  
  
(1.) Teachers provide hand washing breaks periodically throughout the day.
- B. Grades 7-12 personal hygiene and proper ways to cover coughs and sneezes are covered at enrollment and during Morning messages.
- C. Hand sanitizing stations have been placed in each classroom and throughout the hallways for use in addition to hand washing.

**4. Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation**

- A. Cleaning has increased since the pandemic with extra staff hired to clean. New Air Scrubbers and Ultra-Violet lights in HVAC ducts have not only cleaned the air but have increase the need for dusting as the ionized particles from the air fall to surfaces.
- B. MERV-13 Air Filters are installed on return air vent for all HVAC units.
- C. Except in extreme hot or cold weather, windows and doors will be left open to allow cross ventilation to occur.

**5. Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments**

- A. When notified of a Positive COVID case by individual or Health Provider, Stuart Public Schools currently uses cameras, questioning of teachers, students and staff, seating charts (classrooms and buses) and questioning of infected person to determine who must be quarantined or isolated. We then publish those on the SDE/SHD joint web site as a database for those who are both positive and those quarantined.

**6. Diagnostic and screening testing**

- A. Temperature checks are no longer required prior to entering buses or buildings.

**7. Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities**

- A. Upon the Governor signing SB 658, schools are prevented from requiring COVID vaccinations for students or staff.

- (1.) Stuart Schools will still provide parents and staff members with information from State and Local Health officials on vaccination clinics.

**8. Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies**

- A. Any accommodations needed will be determined by IEP team and will be implemented in order to preserve the health of each individual child, while keeping them in the Least Restrictive Environment.

**9. Coordination with State and Local Health Officials.**

- A. Stuart Public Schools will work with State and County Health officials in determining the best path to safe learning for the students of Stuart Public School.
- B. Stuart Public Schools will continue to document all positive COVID cases as well as quarantined students/staff and post them to the SDE/SHD database.

**Academic Considerations**

Stuart Public Schools plans to continue full time on campus instruction, with all students on campus for in-person learning.

Exceptions:

1. Any student with medical conditions requiring them to be virtual will require proper medical documentation and those students will be allowed to receive instruction virtually via distance learning.
2. Students with Disabilities may be placed to a virtual setting dependent upon recommendation by IEP team.
3. The Stuart School Board of Education (The Board), the Superintendent of Stuart Public Schools (decision to close based on numbers of sick/quarantined students/staff or inclement weather or other qualifying event), the State Department of Education (SDE), State Health Department (SHD), executive order by Governor or President, or

legislative action based on Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines, to close schools and use virtual/distance learning.

- a. In the event that occurs, **ALL** students will follow the FY 22 Distance Learning Plan for Stuart Public Schools.

**All** other students will be on campus for in-person learning. Any other extenuating circumstance may be brought before the Principal, Counselor, and Superintendent for approval for Distance Learning. That decision may be appealed to the Board of Education at the next School Board Meeting.

### **Student Meal Considerations**

In the event Stuart Public Schools has to close for either short term quarantines or long term as a result of a full blown pandemic, student instruction will continue via Virtual/Distance learning and breakfast and lunch meal services will be provided on both a curbside pickup for those students living in town and by delivery along bus routes to all others.

### **Mental Health of Students and Staff**

All school counseling services will be provided in-person while maintaining social distancing or through phone conversations as virtual video is not necessarily private.

Scholarship information is listed on the Counselors page on the school website at <https://www.stuart.k12.ok.us/page/counselor-corner>

For all counseling services that fall out of the realm of the school counselor, referrals will be made for any student or staff member needing services as pertains to their social, emotional and mental health needs.

Teachers will apply SEL (Social Emotional Learning) 5 Core Competencies strategies within their daily instruction – (1. Self-Awareness, 2. Self-Management, 3. Social Awareness, 4. Relationship Skills, & 5. Responsible Decision Making).

The school will stay socially connected to students and parents through text message, email, the school Facebook page, web site and through notifications on the school app.