



Marietta Public Schools

Safe Return Plan

Created August 2020

Updates: June 2021

Forward

The 2020-21 school year was one for the record books! Without a doubt, it was the most stressful year in my 23 years in education; however, I am proud of our staff, families and community members who stepped up to support our efforts at every turn.

And now, although it seems the worst is behind us, we must also consider what school will look like this coming Fall and how we will continue to offer the safest learning environment possible as well as work to lessen the gaps caused by interrupted instruction and the social emotional toll taken by the pandemic. This, too, will be yet another daunting task that our education professionals must undertake.

For academic, social-emotional, and economic reasons, we are compelled to continue to provide a working in-person learning model. But we also cannot be complacent in thinking that there is no longer a threat of this virus. We must take prudent steps to keep our schools safe and be ever diligent in our efforts to maintain staff and student health.

This document presents our most current thinking using the information available to us from state and local health professionals. It represents many hours of research, scenario modeling, and work from dedicated and talented staff. We also have been and will continue to rely on input from school and community stakeholders as our plans evolve. As was the norm last school year, all plans are subject to change as necessary.

This plan for starting the 2021-22 school year should be less restrictive than that of 2020-21 with the caveat that we can return to more restrictions as necessary.

Different than last school year, this plan will have a greater focus on recovering and thriving in the aftermath of COVID. We recognize that the effect of the virus and learning loss may not be fully realized and we will have to remain diligent and flexible for years to come. We are up to the challenge and we know the children of this community deserve our best efforts each and every day.

Sincerely,

Brandi Naylor

Superintendent

Marietta Public Schools

Introduction

The Re-Entry Model is based on the following public health assumptions (subject to change):

- Public Health
 - All persons are asked to maintain 6 feet social distancing when feasible
 - Staff and student face coverings are recommended
 - Hand-washing and hygiene protocols will be posted and taught in each classroom
 - Additional cleaning protocols will be continued
- Educating Students:
 - **Traditional** - on-site delivery
 - **Distance Learning** - delivered virtually online but as a continuation of learning that normally would take place on-site.
 - **Full-Time Virtual Learning** - off-site delivery for students who qualify out of medical or social necessity at principal's discretion

The Re-Entry Model consists of three sections:

1. **School Operations**
2. **Academics and Growth**
3. **Whole Child and Family Support**

Resources:

[Operational Strategy for K-12 Schools](#)

[OSDE's COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions](#)

1. School Operations

Overview

Marietta Public Schools will continue to collaborate with the Love County and Regional Health Department to ensure a safe and healthy learning environment for our students and staff. Regardless of the in-person learning model, any person entering Marietta Public Schools property will be required to follow all public health regulations. Below is an explanation of the health regulations we anticipate based upon current information:

Key Points

1.1 Communication Plan - Marietta Public Schools communication plan aims to inform, engage, and inspire all stakeholders and the community, no matter the environment. Whether functioning in a traditional school model or implementing remote learning, the district will continue to keep Marietta Public Schools employees, its families and students, and the extended Marietta community informed for all audiences, support crisis situations, fortify the district's brand, and family engagement.

- **Situationally Responsive Crisis Communications:**

The success and safety of Marietta Public Schools students and staff, whether in an in-person or distance learning environment, is our top priority. Returning to in-person learning during the ongoing pandemic creates the potential for fluctuations in school status (open-closed) in response to virus outbreaks. This reality, together with rapidly changing health advisories drives the need to continue to utilize a system-wide school status alert mechanism. Crisis alerts as well as all pertinent external communication will be broadcasted over all of our communication channels (website, phone calls, emails, text messaging, social media and/or the Marietta School App.)

- **Internal Communications:**

Marietta Public Schools will provide crisis and regular updates to the school staff via multiple channels including website, email, newsletters, dedicated social media channels, face-to-face and virtual meetings and/or the Marietta App.

1.2 Building Traffic Guidelines and Symptom Screening

- Upon building entry all students, staff and visitors may follow a symptom screening process according to the individual site protocol. The process for students will vary by site and will be age specific and appropriate.
- A second screening will be done as necessary for anyone shown to be running a temperature or displaying symptoms.

1.3 Group Gatherings and Social Distancing Requirements

- Unnecessary group gatherings such as field trips and assemblies will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. If allowed, all protocols necessary to conduct these activities safely will be utilized.

1.4 Suspected/Confirmed COVID-19 Cases - School Decision Protocol

- **If a student or staff member becomes symptomatic during the school day** (shows signs of any of the following: cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, chills or repeated shaking with chills, loss of taste or smell, or fever or measured temperature greater than or equal to 99.5 degrees Fahrenheit) they will be required to wear a mask and will need to go to an established isolated room (with adult supervision for students) until they can safely be picked up and/or leave campus. The staff or student will be recommended to be COVID-19 tested. The staff or student will remain home for an isolation period of ten (10) days or until a documented negative COVID-19 test result comes back. If the student or staff member tests negative for COVID-19, then the school will follow the increased protocol of fever free for 48 hours without medication before returning to school/work.
- **If a student or staff member has been in close contact (within 6 ft for longer than 15 minutes) with a positive case either at school or away from school -** that student and/or staff member is expected to self-quarantine for at least ten (10) days after last exposure as required by health officials. Medical documentation may be requested. Distance learning will be utilized while on documented quarantine.
- **If a student or staff member tests positive for COVID -19 and has been at school:** If a school site has a confirmed positive case then the site principal or his/her designee will contact the superintendent immediately. Communication will be sent to affected parents as soon as possible and the building site will follow additional proper sanitation protocol. The school team will work with Love County Health Department officials to determine if there is a need to quarantine additional staff and/or students and/or close the school site. If it is determined that a closure is necessary, distance learning will be used during the closure and/or for students and staff who are required to be quarantined. School officials will work with Love County and State Health Departments to begin contact tracing. All activities involving the exposed/quarantined students and/or affected facilities will be cancelled as deemed necessary.

Resources: [Considerations for Schools: Preparing for When Someone Gets Sick](#)
[Criteria for being around others for those showing symptoms](#)

1.5 Tiered response for potential school closures

- **Closure Protocol:** Closures up to two weeks may be used in response to widespread exposure and/or illness. Distance learning protocols will be used for all closures.

- **Long Term Closure Protocol:** Closures for longer than two weeks will be used if necessary in response to widespread school or community transmission. Distance learning in combination with virtual models may be necessary over the long term.

Resource: [CDC Guidance - Unplanned School Closures](#)

1.6 Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) , Hygiene, Diagnostic & Vaccination Considerations

- It is **STRONGLY RECOMMENDED** that all staff and students wear school appropriate facial coverings/masks at all times and especially when social distancing is not possible. Disposable masks will be provided if available. If positive cases in Love County begin to increase, a mask mandate can be put in place to further protect our staff and students. The superintendent has been granted authority to make this decision in collaboration with our local health department officials.
- Students will use hand sanitizer upon entering the buildings and/or before entering classrooms. Hand washing breaks will be scheduled multiple times throughout the day including before and after recess and lunch.
- Guidance for proper mask wear and handwashing will be posted throughout the buildings.
- COVID testing and vaccination events for staff and students may be held prior to the beginning of school and throughout the school year as scheduling allows. Announcement of these events will occur using our regular modes of communication.
- COVID vaccines are available by appointment at local health departments and most physician clinics. COVID vaccines are highly suggested, but NOT required for students or staff to attend school.
- Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities will be allowed with respect to all health and safety protocols.

Resources: [Guidance for Face Coverings](#) and [Handwashing](#)

[Vaccine Information](#)

[COVID-19 Vaccines for Teachers, School Staff & Childcare Workers](#)

[COVID-19 Vaccines for Children and Teens](#)

1.7 Transmission Mitigation and Cleaning Procedures

- Consider increasing the circulation of outdoor air as much as possible by opening windows and/or doors as long as it does not pose a safety or health risk to students and staff.
- When deemed necessary, students and staff should limit sharing of all supplies, utensils, devices, toys, books, and learning aids.

- Cohorts of students in grades PK - 5th will be kept together when deemed necessary.
- Cleaning practices will be focused on cleaning for health, which includes an emphasis on frequent disinfecting of surfaces where bacteria or viruses are most likely to be transmitted. Staff will report to their supervisor when cleaning supplies need to be replenished.
- Hand sanitizer will be provided in all common areas and classrooms.
- Cleaning sprays & sanitizing wipes will be provided for each teacher to use as needed.
- The custodial staff will consult with district administrators and Love County Health Department to ensure appropriate and timely measures are taken to preserve the health and safety of our students, staff, and community.

Resource: [CDC guidance for cleaning and disinfecting facilities](#)

1.8 Outside groups use of school facilities

- Use of school facilities by non-school affiliated groups will be considered on a case-by-case basis. A facilities usage form is required for all facility usage.

Resource: [Facility Usage Form](#)

[School Policy on School Property Usage](#)

1.9 School Calendar

- The 2021-22 school calendar will remain the same as originally adopted. Calendar changes may become necessary depending on the amount and severity of school closures and/or community transmission.

Resource: [2021-22 Calendar](#)

2.0 Distance Learning

- Distance Learning will be utilized when in-person attendance is not feasible or advised.
- Distance Learning will utilize Google Classroom, See Saw, et al. for instruction.
- Students are expected to participate in online instruction and complete assignments in order to receive credit/grades and be considered present for that day.

Resource: [Marietta Online Instruction Policy](#)

2.1 Distance Learning/Full-time Virtual Attendance Policy

- Students are expected to participate and complete assignments in order to receive grades/ credit and be considered present for that day.

- If Distance Learning is implemented for a period of 5 or more days the students are permitted to have 2 days during a 7-day period in which there is no educational activity. If the student has 3 or more days without activity an unexcused absence will be documented for that and all subsequent days without active participation.
- Parents are encouraged to notify the student's teacher/administrator in advance of the need for an excused absence.

Resource: [Marietta Student Attendance Regulation](#)

2.2 School Day Routines - Social Distancing

- **Common Areas** - Student use of common areas will be allowed with social distancing encouraged at all times. The school will provide an aerosol/mist sanitizer for the libraries, gyms, computer labs, etc. to apply after use.
 - Hallways- Each site will determine their own hallway transition procedures.
 - Library will promote online services throughout the district for students to access 24/7.
 - Water Fountain usage may be limited to bottle filling stations. Students are asked to bring water bottles from home that are marked with their name.
- **Classrooms** - We will be unable to socially distance inside our classrooms; however, precautions such as frequent hand sanitizing, limited use of shared supplies, and encouraging wearing of masks or face shields when appropriate will be observed.
- **Field Trips**- Will be allowed on a case-by-case basis taking educational benefit into consideration.
- **Building Visitors** - will be allowed for mandatory school business.
- **Procedures for picking up/dropping off** of students will be determined by each site.

2.3 Transportation

- The transportation department supports students by providing safe and timely transport services for eligible riders attending on-site programs when the education model is traditional. The district continues to serve special education and out of district student needs.
 - Transportation department will open school bus windows, whenever possible, to increase flow of fresh air.
 - Marietta Public Schools will practice social distancing on buses to the greatest extent possible; however, on most routes, students will not be socially distanced. Parents are encouraged to transport their children when at all possible to help limit the number of students on buses.
 - Seating charts will be used on each bus, keeping household members seated together.
 - Each student will receive hand sanitizer as they load the bus.
 - Each driver will follow daily cleaning and disinfecting protocols.

Resource: [Guidance for bus transit operations](#)

2.4 Breakfast/Lunch Protocols

All students can eat both breakfast and lunch free for the 2021-22 school year per a USDA waiver.

Breakfast/Lunch tables may be separated into sections/by classes. Each Section will be labeled for each individual grade level. Each section (classes) will be spaced apart and sanitized properly after use. Automated hand sanitizers will be available to be used as students enter the cafeteria.

If any student at any grade level did not get to eat breakfast or lunch at times provided, school staff will call the cafeteria at 580-276-9494 Ext. 234 and we will deliver to your site office.

Sanitation stations will be placed at each entrance of the cafeteria. Masks may be worn through the line and then taken off during time of eating.

- Lunch
 - Prek-Middle School- Students will attend lunch according to individual bell schedules. Students will eat in the assigned section.
 - Middle School- Will have the option to eat in Cafeteria in an assigned section.
 - High School Students- May eat in the cafeteria in the assigned section.
- *Day care/BIG 5 & Co-op will be responsible for picking up their meals to go for breakfast (7:35am) and lunch (10:45am).*

Meals Distribution During Closing: Meals will be served in a drive through style and when feasible at drop off locations.

Meals for Full-Time Virtual or Distance Learning Students: Can be arranged by calling 580-276-9444 ext 234

Resources: [OSDE's Coronavirus/COVID-19 FAQ's for Oklahoma Public Schools](#)

2.5 Athletics and Extracurricular

- Coaches/Instructors may wear masks when in close proximity with

students/athletes when indoors without outside airflow. When applicable students will be encouraged to wear a mask.

- Daily attendance will be recorded. Numbers in groups will be limited when possible.
- Whenever possible, activities, workouts, and practices will be outdoors. When indoors, social distancing will be implemented, with possible environment changes (auditorium). Transportation needs to be organized with social distancing as a priority.
- Any surface, equipment, facility, etc. utilized by students will be sanitized before and after each session. There will be no sharing of program-based equipment without proper sanitation.
- Hand Sanitizer will be on-site and used frequently throughout the activities.
- Restrooms will be cleaned and sanitized daily.

Academics and Growth

3.1 Overview of In-Person Educational Model

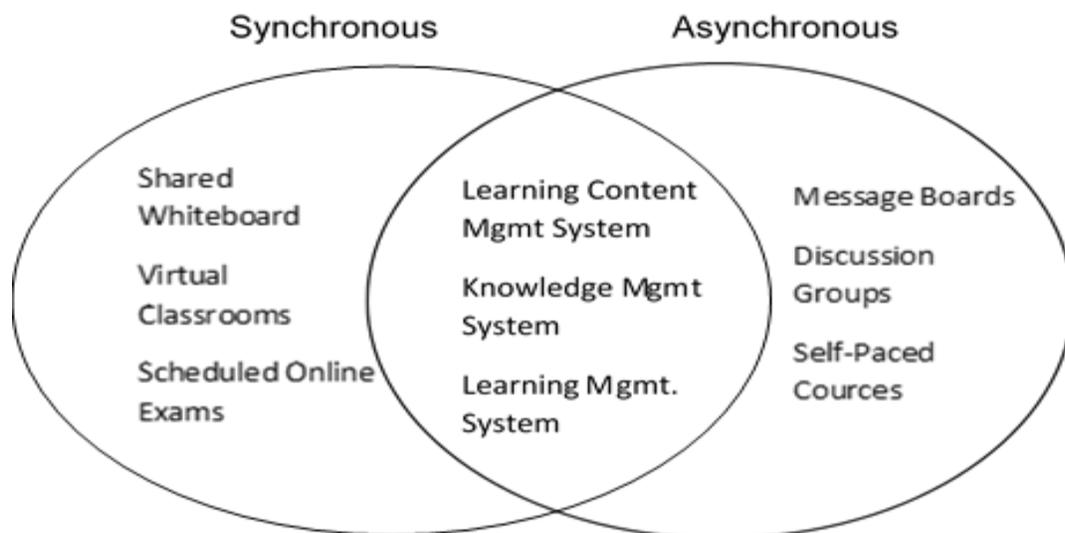
Marietta Public Schools has embraced an educational model focused on high academic standards. No matter what limitations may be imposed on our instruction by public health guidelines, high academic standards will remain in place for teaching and learning during the 2021-2022 school year. School staff will be expected to support in-person learning to the greatest extent possible and support virtual learning when necessary.

By offering a dual approach using both in-person and virtual learning for our students, Marietta Public Schools continues to focus on strong relationships and instruction for our students. Tools and systems will be in place to support teachers and staff across the district to meet the needs of all students.

If/when the need arises, virtual learning can occur asynchronously and synchronously.

Asynchronous learning is when instruction and learning do not happen at the same time for all learners. The teacher provides learning resources and tasks in Google Classroom (Grades 3-12) and SeeSaw (PreK - 2). Students access learning at a time that works for them and their families.

Synchronous learning is an approach where teachers and students are engaged online in learning at the same time. The teacher provides learning resources and tasks through video-conferencing enabled through Google Classroom/Meet or SeeSaw during a specific time. Teachers interact with students as a group and provide guidance on assigned tasks.



During in-person learning opportunities, instruction may look and be different as they will be more blended with online resources than ever before. When students come to school, they will receive instruction that is most effectively delivered in an in-person environment while still accessing online resources through Google Classroom or See Saw. In-person time with students will include focused instruction that is directly connected to student needs and the expertise of professional educators.

3.2 In Person Learning Guide

TEACHERS:

- A minimum of two grades will be taken weekly in each content area.
- Meet weekly with a collaborative team to plan instruction for all students.
- Utilize the district curriculum documents and follow the scope and sequence
- Upload weekly instructional materials into Google Classroom/See Saw.
- Be prepared to teach daily lessons.
- Take all materials and devices home each day in order to be prepared for possible school closure.

STUDENTS:

- Be prepared for learning each day and have homework completed and ready.
- Complete coursework by deadline set by teachers.
- For face-to-face learning: Take all materials and devices home each day in order to be prepared for possible school closure.
- Devices must be charged nightly.
- Become familiar with the structure of Google Classroom/See Saw and how your teacher organizes information.

PARENTS:

- For face-to-face learning: Encourage your child to have their supplies, including their device, in their backpack and ready for school and night before. Devices should be charged nightly.
- Virtual learning students must have a designated place in your home for your student to use as their remote classroom.

LEARNING & TEACHING EXPECTATIONS:**TEACHERS:**

- Teach students early and often how to access learning materials through Google Classroom/See Saw.
- Provide face-to-face or live synchronous instruction and facilitate learning throughout the day.
- Manage online and offline resources to provide consistency and routines for students.
- Provide clear learning goals for students based on individual student data.
- Follow the expectations established across the district for Google Classroom and SeeSaw.
- Check student assignments in a timely manner and give feedback in verbal or written form at a weekly minimum to provide next steps or necessary academic intervention/extension.
- Post grades in a timely manner according to district grading guidelines.

STUDENTS:

- Attend classes according to school schedule (either face-to-face or remotely) and give your best efforts in your school assignments.
- Participate in face-to-face learning activities or live synchronous virtual sessions as instructed by teachers.
- Be organized in your work and in getting projects completed.
- Ask questions and communicate with your teacher.
- Be aware of what you should be learning each day.
- Turn in assignments on time.

PARENTS:

- Access Parent Portal to view student grades.
- Check in with student(s) to monitor completion of homework and assignments.
- Discuss your child's favorite part of their day and what they learned in school.
- Facilitate academic support and encouragement as a learning partner to motivate and guide your child throughout the school year in your role as a learning coach.

- Provide your child with assistance on their day-to-day activities with the exception of designated independent work.
- Consider creating a designated learning/study space for your child at home to learn comfortably.
- Maintain communication with your child's teacher by phone, email and/or online meetings to create a learning partnership.
- Monitor and ask for evidence that your child is on track with assignments and coursework.

SUPPORT AND INTERVENTION

TEACHERS:

- Provide intervention or tutorial sessions as needed.
- Follow student IEPs/504 accommodations in all learning environments.
- Use data to pinpoint students' specific needs for enrichment and intervention.
- Monitor student progress with fidelity according to recommendations.
- Provide and communicate office hours or conference periods for student/parent support.

STUDENTS:

- Attend intervention/tutorial sessions as established by your teacher or school

PARENTS:

- Allow your child to attend intervention/tutorial sessions as needed.
- Assist in supporting your child's needs by establishing and managing the daily schedule communicated by the teacher.
- Help your child own their learning. Provide support and encouragement and expect your children to do their part.

3.2 Hotspots

- During the first week of school, each site will determine the number of students who need a hotspot for home internet access. These needs will be shared with each site principal.
- Hotspots will be distributed based on student need and the final decision will be made by the site principal.

3.3 NWEA Benchmark Testing

- NWEA/MAP Testing is one tool we will use to determine student learning loss and progress.
- NWEA/MAP Tests will be administered three (3) times per school year beginning in late August/early September.
 - a. Testing Protocols
 - i. Tests will be administered in a group setting, based on IEP/ 504/ ELL accommodations.
 - ii. Sites will designate specific testing schedules.
 - iii. Cohorts of students will be maintained when feasible
 - b. Full-Time Virtual Students
 - i. Students will be required to complete NWEA testing during school hours within the site testing window.
 - ii. Success Coaches will contact students with specific testing instructions.

3.4 Meeting the Needs of Special Populations during Distance Learning

- a. Students will receive instruction and assignments, that include IEP/ 504/ ELL accommodations and modifications, from their general education teachers.
- b. Students will be able to contact their designated resource teacher, when additional assistance is needed.
- c. Site resource teachers will provide contact information and office hours to students and/or parents to facilitate ongoing communication.

Resources: [Marietta Special Education Policy](#)

3.5 Full- Time Virtual Education

Marietta will continue to offer a full-time online virtual education option.

- Parents must make application to their site principal to enroll their child in the full-time virtual program. Once application is received, parents and/or students as appropriate must meet with the site principal to discuss and show need for approval for this option. Principal may use student records as well as consultations with teachers, school counselors and other educational staff to determine if the student will be successful in the virtual program. Students may be denied

enrollment in full-time virtual services based on past performance in both in-school or virtual classwork. Documented medical and/or social emotional needs of the student will be considered. Principal's decision regarding virtual enrollment is final and unappealable.

- If the student is accepted into the Marietta Virtual Program it is the responsibility of the parent to provide an internet connection for the online program; however, a hotspot may be available on a case-by-case basis.
- The software utilized will differ based on the student's grade level.
- Students enrolled in the program must commit for at least one semester. Re-entry due to lack of success will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- Teachers and Virtual Success Coaches will monitor virtual students and students will be required to meet weekly instructional/completion goals.
- IEP & ELL services are provided to virtual students where applicable.
- Full-Time Virtual students will not be enrolled in or allowed to participate in extracurricular activities.

Resources: [Oklahoma Academic Standards](#)

[Oklahoma Curriculum Frameworks](#)

[Marietta Online Instruction Policy](#)

Whole Child and Family Supports

Key Points

4.1 Social-Emotional Learning Plan

As part of a comprehensive Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) plan, we have developed ways for students to learn to communicate effectively, engage productively and collaborate successfully with others, and be able to offer and seek help in a traditional and/or virtual setting. The focus is on establishing and maintaining healthy relationships. This includes teaching students how to communicate clearly, resist inappropriate social pressure, resolve conflict peacefully, share their thoughts and feelings with one another appropriately, and even how to ask for help when needed. This is met by in class lessons and meetings in a traditional setting and met virtually by giving access to technological tools, zoom meetings (or other virtual meetings apps), and other virtual resources.

4.2 School-level contact to at-risk students

The district will provide devices to all students and hotspots to students without access to the internet. Each site counselor will monitor and follow up (via calls, emails, and/or home visits) to ensure that students have logged on and are able to engage.

4.3 Mental health access and support for students and staff

We will provide resources and contact information for support services for mental and behavioral health in the counseling google classroom as well as under the counseling services tab on the school website. Food service referrals will be made as needed.

Staff - An online resource will be set up for staff to access as necessary.

4.4 Virtual counseling plan

Each site counselor will set up a google/seesaw classroom specific to counseling. We will offer families a short video and discussion questions in a simple format for students to continue receiving preventive Tier 1 counseling services without being overwhelming to the parent/family member or child. We will use resources from the Oklahoma State Department of Education and American School Counselors Association to ensure that all key components of social/emotional learning are met.

4.5 Establish Crisis response team

The response team will be composed of each site counselors, site principals, maintenance/transportation director, nutritional director, and school resource officer.

4.6 Communication with families and caregivers

We will provide families and caregivers access to the virtual counselor's classroom by posting updates on the Marietta school website, school social media sites, emails to parents and mailed letters. This gives multiple lines of communication and access to ask questions and provide feedback.

Resources: [Social and Emotional Learning Roadmap to Reopening Schools](#)

[Social Emotional Learning Resources](#)

[Marietta School Counselor Policy](#)