

Dixon R-1 School District



Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan *2021-2022*

Introduction

In March 2020, the Governor of the State of Missouri issued a Proclamation declaring a State of Emergency due to an outbreak of the COVID-19 virus. In efforts to honor our commitment and dedication to the safety of all students and staff, the Dixon R-1 School District implemented every measure deemed necessary to provide safety and simultaneously provide the educational needs necessary for each individual student.

Looking forward to 2021-2022, we at Dixon R-1 plan on *opening fully seated instruction*. Significant health and safety measures are still being enforced for the well-being of staff and students. The following outline will discuss in more detail what the 21-22 school year will look like. Many participants have joined in collaboration to create this plan including but not limited to: school board members, administrators, staff and students, parents of students, alumni, local health officials and policy makers. From the beginning of COVID-19 we have not only welcomed but insisted on public comment and input. We will continue to seek out support and ideas from the community.

****Please note: The information and guidelines provided in this document are subject to change at any time based on further guidance received by the district. The plan will be reviewed at least every 6 months, with stakeholder input, to ensure adequacy in protocols and procedures. (Last Revised 08-04-21)**

I. Health and Safety Strategies

The Dixon R-I School District has developed health-related protocols and a Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan created in conjunction with the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) and the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The protocols are based on best practices from area schools and businesses; and federal, state, and local health officials. These protocols are subject to change based on revised guidance and orders received by the school district.

The goal of these protocols is to mitigate the risk of exposure to COVID-19 and other illnesses by reducing the number of personal and surface contacts students and employees experience while at school. While the reduction of risk is the goal, it is impossible to completely eliminate all contact and therefore risk of exposure.

| | Mitigation Strategy | Dixon R-I Response |
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| | Universal and correct wearing of masks | <p>Masks will be optional but highly recommended for students/staff in our buildings and only required if mandated by the Governor of the State of Missouri or the Dixon R-I School Board.</p> <p>However, per a Federal CDC mandate, drivers and all passengers on our Dixon R-I buses will be required to wear a proper face mask. This mandate includes WCC students traveling to and from Waynesville for their morning classes.</p> <p>The district will have a limited supply of masks for any student or staff member that needs one.</p> |

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| | Physical distancing (e.g., including use of cohorts/podding) | Classroom spacing between students and desks will be maximized to the greatest extent possible. When appropriate, dividers will be used between seated students. |
| | Handwashing and respiratory etiquette | Proper Handwashing technique will be taught and is expected multiple times per day. Sanitizer will be available in every classroom and common areas. Proper mouth covering will be taught and executed, including covering mouth during coughing and direct sneezing into the elbow. |
| | Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation | Cleaning/sanitizing will be completed daily and multiple times per day on frequently touched surfaces. Our custodial team will follow guidelines of the district on safe procedures to ensure healthy air quality along with disinfecting. |
| | Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments | All contract tracing and/or quarantine will be in accordance with local health agencies. |
| | Diagnostic and screening testing | We ask that all staff/students self screen prior to arrival to school. Students/staff who are symptomatic will be evaluated per guidelines and COVID protocol in the nursing area. WCC students will be screened and checked for a fever each morning before boarding the bus to Waynesville. |
| | Efforts to provide vaccinations to educators, other staff, and students, if eligible | Vaccination clinics have been provided and encouraged for all staff members. Community vaccination clinics are available through the local Health Department. |
| | Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect of the health and safety policies | Appropriate measures will be implemented. Should any individual need an accommodation with respect to health and safety policies and/or practices, the student and/or guardian should reach out |

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| | | to his/her building administration. Employees may contact their supervisor or the superintendent's office. |
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II. Continuity of Services

- Academics
 - We plan to run normal instruction Monday through Friday as the initial means of instruction.
 - Credit recovery; tutoring; and summer school will be offered to accommodate students academically that have suffered from COVID-19 due to absences or illness.
 - Individual needs of students will be assessed and evaluated with a plan to get them on track.
 - In the event of school closure, AMI (Alternate Method of Instruction) methods will be implemented and students will be taught virtually.
 - AMI plan for grades 3-12 will be implemented using district issued technology. Lessons will be uploaded to Google Classroom and live lessons will be offered through Google Meet and Zoom.
 - AMI plan for grades K-2 will be implemented by use of printed material packets.
- Transportation
 - Adequate spacing on buses will still be utilized and encouraged.
 - Parents are encouraged to bring their children to limit bus crowding.
 - Masks will be worn by drivers and all passengers
- Students' and staff social, emotional, mental health, and other needs
 - Onsite counselors will be available for any needs of staff and students
 - Resources are available to those directly affected by COVID-19.
- Cafeteria - Breakfast and Lunch
 - Adequate spacing is encouraged in our cafeterias. (Some students will eat meals in their classrooms in order to assure proper and adequate spacing.)
 - Lunch will be held in shifts to offset crowding.
 - Hand washing will be available before and after lunch and breakfast
 - Cafeterias will be sanitized after each use.
- Commons areas
 - Student gatherings in common areas (particularly before and after school) such as the cafeteria or gym will be prohibited at this time.

III. Public Comment

- Public comment is essential to any district and is encouraged through open board meetings, email, direct contact with the administration building and surveys. In July 2021, a Bulldog Alert text message was sent to the community which contained a link to this plan and a Google Form requesting feedback in the form of questions and comments. Along with the use of in-person community focus groups, this survey will be re-issued for public comment no less than every six months. Dixon R1 will continue to seek input and opinions from outside sources in the community. We value the thoughts and opinions of each and every member and will continue to encourage open communication of the processes put in place.

IV. Periodic Review Process

Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan Will be reviewed *at least every six months through September 30, 2023*. Following are the tentative dates for review. Public comment will be sought for revision and evaluation of the plan.

Dixon R1 Review/revisit Dates:

- June 23, 2021
- December 23, 2021
- June 23, 2022
- December 23, 2022
- June 23, 2023
- December 23, 2023

V. Understandable and Uniform Format

- Federal regulations require that this plan be in an understandable format, to the extent practicable; is written in a language that parents can understand or, if not practicable, orally translated.; and upon request by a parent who is an individual with a disability, provided in an alternative format accessible to that parent.