



# Ovid-Elsie Area Schools

Office of the Superintendent

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www.ovidelsie.org

July 22, 2021

Greetings and Welcome Back to the 2021-2022 School Year!

Last night the Board of Education approved our “Return to Learn” plan and we’d like to share the details with you. Below is a brief Q & A that we hope answers most of your questions. If you have any further questions, please reach out to your building principal.

I look forward to seeing your smiling faces this fall!

Yours in Education,

Dr. Ryan L. Cunningham, Superintendent, Ovid-Elsie Area Schools

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## 1. What will our instructional model look like?

- a. All students will attend school full-time five days per week following the published [school calendar](#) available at [www.ovidelsie.org](http://www.ovidelsie.org).
- b. Our first day of school for students is on Wednesday, August 25, 2021.
- c. All Back to School Open Houses will take place on the evening of Monday, August 23, 2021. Actual times will be published through building newsletters.

## 2. Will Ovid-Elsie Area Schools offer a virtual option for students?

- a. Possibly. Currently, we have little demand for our District. If you’re interested in virtual options, please contact your building principal.

## 3. Are face masks required at school?

- a. No. Face masks will be optional and provided by parents/guardians.
  - i. Note: As of today, masks are still required on public transportation, including school buses.

## 4. Will students be in cohorts in the classroom or on the playground?

- a. No. As of June 22, 2021, MMDHD has discontinued all gathering limits for residential and nonresidential settings. Thus, students will move around the building freely as in years past.

- 5. Will you separate students who are vaccinated from students who are unvaccinated?**
  - a. No. Vaccination status is a personal choice.
  
- 6. Will student-athletes need to be tested for COVID-19 to participate?**
  - a. No, MMDHD and MHSAA lifted all requirements for student testing as of June 22, 2021.
  
- 7. Will contact tracing continue?**
  - a. Schools are required to report communicable diseases to their local health department within 24 hours. Positive or probable COVID-19 cases will be reported to the Mid-Michigan District Health Department following our Communicable Disease Board Policy 8450 and Michigan Law Act No. 368 of the Public Acts of 1978. For a complete list of reportable diseases, please see the following document: [2021 Reportable Diseases](#). When there is a positive or probable case within a classroom, an exposure letter will be sent home to parent(s) just as we do with other communicable diseases such as chicken pox.
  - b. All quarantines will be issued by the student's resident health department.
  
- 8. What will Ovid-Elsie Area Schools do to mitigate COVID-19?**
  - a. Universal training for all staff on Bloodborne Pathogens and Communicable Diseases;
  - b. Cleaning and disinfecting throughout the day with deeper cleaning nightly and on weekends;
  - c. Encouraging physical distancing;
  - d. Continue to use plexiglass dividers (as needed);
  - e. Continue with increase ventilation and regular filter replacement as well as looking at the possibility of adding UV lights to our ventilators and classrooms;
  - f. Encourage universal precautions such as hand washing and personal hygiene; and,
  - g. Encourage parents, students and staff to self-monitor for any symptoms.