**Oregon-Howell R-III School District**

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

**2020 and Beyond**

**August 12, 2020**

**(Revised August 11th, 2021)**

The following guidelines and precautions will be in place at the Oregon-Howell R- School for the 2021-2022 school year.  These items and recommendations can change and update at any time depending on changes to the CDC Health Guidelines, County Health Department recommendations, and Missouri Department of Education regulations.  The Oregon-Howell R-III School District intends to take steps to mitigate the spread of the COVID-19 and implement strategies to best protect our students, staff members, and community. This plan is set for review biannually in January and July with input from students, families, administrators, teachers, school staff and board members.

**Screening**

* Parents should screen for the following symptoms at home, each day, before coming to school:
  + Fever or chills
  + Cough
  + Headache
  + Muscle aches
  + Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea
  + New loss of taste or smell
  + New runny nose or congestion
  + Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
  + Sore throat
  + Close contact with a person with COVID-19 in the last 14 days

* Students with symptoms should NOT attend school and parents should consult their healthcare provider and follow CDC considerations regarding their return to school.  For students who are diagnosed with COVID-19, return to school is permissible when the student is at least 10 days from symptom onset, has had three days with no fever (without fever reducing medication), **and** has improving symptoms.  Children with a known close contact with COVID-19 should stay home for 14 days from their last contact and until return to school is approved by the local health department in accordance with the CDC guidance.  (Students should stay home if they have been tested, tested positive, or showing COVID-19 symptoms.)
* Students will be screened for signs and symptoms of illness before they enter the school building each day.

**Staff Screening**

* School staff members will self-screen at home, following the same protocol for families screening at home.  Staff members will also be screened upon entry to the building each day.

**Visitors**

To minimize the need for people to be in the buildings other than necessary employees and students, the District requests the following:

* Parents are encouraged to call ahead if they have a need to visit the school, other than emergency situations.
* Parents will not be allowed beyond the school entryway (unless an emergency).
* Visitors will not be allowed into the buildings.  If an administrator has authorized a visitor to enter the building, the visitor must be screened and a record of the visit kept including areas visited and time spent in each area.
* Non-essential gatherings (classroom parties, assemblies, Grandparent’s Day, etc.) will be limited.

**Physical Distancing**

According to the Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS), physical distancing is one measure that has been demonstrated to reduce the spread of the coronavirus.  Distances of three to six feet may be effective in reducing viral transmission.  However, a person is considered a “close contact” of a case of COVID-19 if they are within six feet of the case for more than 15 minutes.  Close contacts of cases require quarantine for 14 days from the last exposure.  By observing physical distancing and reducing contacts, we can limit the number of children (and staff members) who will need to quarantine if a positive case occurs.  While the Oregon-Howell R- District will encourage distancing measures, it may not be feasible in all situations to maintain the optimal distances at all times.  The following measures will be attempted:

* Limit the mixing of classes of students as much as possible
* Spacing students as far apart as possible.  Six feet apart is best; when that’s not possible, efforts to ensure a minimum of three feet of space between students will be taken.
* Desks will be placed facing forward in the same direction, when possible, so students do not sit face-to-face.
* Physical distancing markers and cues will be used when appropriate which will remind and prompt students to remain six feet apart in high traffic areas.
* Hand hygiene will be required before and after students move from one space to another within the building.
* During recess and physical education, students will engage in activities within their cohort (to the extent possible) to reduce the number of contacts.
* New water bottle filling stations have been installed in each of the buildings.  Students are encouraged to bring their own clear water bottles.

**Respiratory Etiquette**

* Respiratory Hygiene/Cough Etiquette
  + Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing
  + Use the nearest waste receptacle to dispose of the tissue after use
  + Perform hand hygiene after having contact with respiratory secretions and contaminated objects/materials.

**Hand Hygiene**

* Hand Washing

1. **Wet** your hands with clean, running water (warm or cold), turn off the tap, and apply soap.
2. **Lather** your hands by rubbing them together with the soap. Lather the backs of your hands, between your fingers, and under your nails.
3. **Scrub** your hands for at least 20 seconds. Need a timer? Hum the “Happy Birthday” song from beginning to end twice.
4. **Rinse** your hands well under clean, running water.
5. **Dry** your hands using a clean towel or air dry them.

* Using Hand Sanitizer
  + Apply the gel product to the palm of one hand (read the label to learn the correct amount).
  + Rub your hands together.
  + Rub the gel over all the surfaces of your hands and fingers until your hands are dry. This should take around 20 seconds

**Transportation**

* Per a federal order issued by the CDC, masks are required on public and private school buses and other forms of public transportation for both passengers and drivers.
* Parents are encouraged to transport students to and from school when possible.  This will help reduce the number of students riding the bus.
* Students will be assigned seats on the bus.
* Siblings will be seated together.
* Buses will be sanitized on a regular basis.

**Masks/Face Coverings**

* Face coverings are an important strategy to reduce transmission of the coronavirus, primarily by reducing the spread of infection from the wearer to those around.  At this time, face coverings are recommended but not required. Each student will be provided a cloth face mask and may wear this if they choose.
* If you choose to wear a face mask, ensure that you follow the proper procedure for wearing the mask:
  + Wash your hands or use hand sanitizer before putting on your mask.
  + Put the mask over your nose and mouth and secure it under your chin.
  + Fit the mask snugly against the sides of your face, slipping the loops over your ears or tying the strings behind your head.

**Cleaning/Building Operations**

* Clean and sanitize our school environment frequently throughout the day and deep clean/sanitize school nightly with COVID 19 and district approved products
* Provide extra sanitation directed toward high contact points throughout the school day – i.e doorknobs, light switches, sink handles
* Individuals will be encouraged to sanitize hands upon entry of building
* Hand sanitizer will be available throughout our buildings and inside classrooms
* Provide disinfectant wipes or cleaning supplies to teachers for commonly used surfaces
* Regular inspections of ventilation and air handling systems to ensure normal operations
* Post signs encouraging good hand and respiratory hygiene practices
* Floor signs for social distancing Bus drivers will disinfect buses after morning routes; sanitize buses nightly
* Indoor facilities will not be available for public use/rent through first quarter; will be reevaluated
* Drinking fountains will not be operational

**Contact Tracing and Quarantine**

The Oregon-Howell R-III School District will work in conjunction with the Oregon County Health Department and the Howell County Health Department as we have students that reside in each of those counties. Currently with contact tracing and quarantines that information goes through the Superintendent and the health departments and families are notified. Whatever the current guidelines for the County Health Department are and where the student resides are the procedures that are followed.

**Vaccinations**

Through the Oregon County Health Department, the Oregon-Howell R-III School District was able to offer a vaccination clinic for employees who wanted the Covid-19 vaccine. This included any employee who worked for the district.

Through the Koshkonong School Betterment Foundation and Ozarks Health Care a vaccine clinic was held on the Oregon-Howell R-III school District Campus from 8:00-11:00 on August 11th, 2021. This was for individuals 12 years of age and up. The second round of shots will be held in the Library Media Center on September 1st, 2021.

**Learning Options**

The Oregon-Howell R-III School District will be offering the following options for learning for the 2021-2022 school year:

* Onsite/In-Seat Instruction- Students are physically present at the school under the guidance and direction of Oregon-Howell R-III teachers.
* Virtual Instruction- Students receive all instruction through technology-based delivery that meets the requirements of Section 161.670 and/or 162.1250, RSMo

**Emotional and Mental Needs of Students and Staff**

* If an interruption occurs with in-person instruction the Oregon-Howell R-III School District will continue to feed students. This will be a coordinated effort with staff and bus drivers to have meal delivery and pick up at the school two days per week.
* The School Counselor will also be utilized to work with students and staff to ensure social and emotional health is monitored during and if there is an interruption to in-person instruction.

**Accommodations for Children with Disabilities**

Special education teachers and teams will continue to provide specialized instruction and support in accordance with a student’s individualized education program (IEP). IEP teams will determine the appropriate supports needed and have protocols in place to support delivery of services in virtual and distant ways if needed.

The SRCSP has been developed with input from the Oregon-Howell R-III Board of Education, Parents, Teachers, Staff and Community Stakeholders. This plan will be reviewed and revised on a Bi-Annual Basis to ensure continuity and to address changes with CDC guidelines.

**Availability of Plan**

This plan will be available via the school’s website, the schools cellular App and paper copies will be available at school. If the need arises for the plan to be in a different language, please contact the Central Office at 417-867-5601.