

**Southwest Parke Community
School Corporation**

**Plan for Reopening Schools
in August 2020**

**Presented for Board Approval
July 8, 2020**

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Introduction

The Southwest Parke Community School Corporation operates under the authority granted by the Indiana Governor's Office, the Indiana State Department of Health, and the Indiana Department of Education. Directives from these agencies or their local affiliates (i.e. Parke County Health Department) will be followed in all matters related to school operations.

The Southwest Parke Community School Corporation understands its responsibility to the communities it serves and provides the following plan for safe reopening of schools in August 2020.

Screening Protocols

Parents/guardians are the first line of screening for students. Parents/guardians should be mindful of student general health and should be wary if the following symptoms of COVID-19 appear:

1. A fever of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or greater
2. Cough
3. Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
4. Chills
5. Repeated shaking with chills
6. Muscle pain
7. Headache
8. Sore throat
9. New loss of taste or smell

Students who exhibit any of these symptoms should not board a bus or be brought to school. They should remain at home until symptom-free.

Public Interactions With Facilities When Students Are Present

Public interactions with facilities will be limited until further notice. Parents and other members of the public will be required to be free from the following symptoms to be admitted to the building:

1. A fever of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or greater
2. Cough
3. Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
4. Chills
5. Repeated shaking with chills
6. Muscle pain
7. Headache
8. Sore throat
9. New loss of taste or smell

Access to the building will be denied if any of the above conditions are present.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for Staff and Students

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is recommended for students and staff members in situations where distancing is difficult. As such, students and staff members should have a mask or shield with them at all times. If a student or staff member wishes to wear PPE at all times throughout the day, it will be permitted. Individuals are responsible for maintaining their own PPE. Staff members whose primary role involves student health (i.e. school nurse and health aides) are encouraged to wear PPE when working with ill students. Cafeteria workers will be required to wear PPE when serving students lunches. Guidelines regarding the wearing of PPE are subject to change as conditions dictate.

Preventative Measures

Students and staff members who are ill, have someone in the home with COVID-19, or have someone in the home being tested for COVID-19 must remain home for a minimum of 72 hours (3 days) before returning to school. Students or staff members who have a fever, for any reason, must stay home and be fever free without the use of fever reducing medication for 72 hours (3 days) before returning to school.

Returning to School if Untested

Students or staff members who have been symptomatic of COVID-19 but have not received testing may return to school if the following conditions are met:

1. 10 calendar days have passed since your symptoms first appeared
2. Free from fever for at least 72 hours without the use of medications that reduce fever
3. Other symptoms have improved

Returning to School if Positive Test and Symptomatic

Students or staff members who have been symptomatic of COVID-19 and have a positive test may return to school if the following conditions are met:

1. 10 calendar days have passed since symptoms first appeared
2. Fever free without the use of medicines that reduce fevers
3. Other symptoms have improved
4. Two negative tests at least 24 hours apart

Returning to School if Positive Test and Asymptomatic

Students and staff members who have tested positive for COVID-19 but have no symptoms may return if the following conditions are met:

1. 10 calendar days have passed without symptoms
2. A healthcare provider has released the individual to return to school

Physical Barriers

Physical barriers, such as acrylic/plexiglas dividers and shields, may be used throughout the buildings and classrooms to help reduce risk of viral transmission in areas such as offices, classrooms, and cafeteria lines where distancing is problematic. Barriers will be sanitized regularly to assist with the health and well being of all students and staff members.

Sanitation Stations and Signage

Hand sanitizer dispensers will be placed adjacent to classroom entrances and students will be encouraged to sanitize frequently throughout the day. Signage related to health, safety, distancing, and sanitation will be deployed throughout the buildings.

Distancing

Distancing will be required to the extent possible within the current building capacities and building/classroom arrangements.

Managing Student Illnesses at School

Students who become symptomatic at school will be brought to the nurse or health aide office within the building. Symptomatic students will be held separated from other students in the nurse's office/health aide office in order to reduce potential exposure.

Bus Transportation

Students will be assigned to one bus only. Only students assigned to the bus will be allowed to ride the bus. Students who ride buses will be assigned a seat. The student must remain in that seat each day that he/she rides the bus. This will assist with contact tracing and exposure mapping should a student become ill. Students who ride a bus are required to wear a mask while on the school bus. There will be no sharing of PPE. Buses will be sanitized after each run for the day.

Student Entry to School

Students who arrive at school are presumed to be symptom-free per parent/guardian screening of overall student health. Students will enter the school maintaining appropriate distance between one another. Random sampling of student temperature may occur upon arrival and throughout the school day. Students who have an abnormal temperature or exhibit symptoms of COVID-19 (cough, breathing difficulty, etc.) will be directed to the nurse's office/health aide office. Each

building will determine protocols regarding entry to the buildings using multiple entrances and multiple timed bus drop-offs.

Clinic Space for Non-COVID-19 and COVID-19

Clinic spaces within the school will be established to allow for separation of students who are not symptomatic of COVID-19 and those who may be symptomatic of COVID-19. Separation efforts may include barriers within clinic spaces and/or separate room locations.

Confirmed Case of COVID-19 on School Property

If the school receives confirmation of a positive case of COVID-19 on school grounds, the corporation will notify the Parke County Health Department and the Indiana Department of Education. Decisions regarding operational condition of the school or corporation will be made in consultation with Health Department Officials. Additional cleaning measures will be undertaken to minimize spread.

Electronic Educational Delivery Option

The Southwest Parke Community School Corporation believes that the most effective teaching and learning is found in the day-to-day interaction of a regular (traditional) classroom. If parents have concerns with a student attending school in the traditional setting because of COVID-19, they should contact their building principal and discuss their concerns. An electronic educational delivery option using Curriculum Associates Ready platform (Elementary, Junior High School) or Edmentum (High School) will be available.