

# Idabel Public Schools

## “Return to Learn” Strategic Re-Entry Plan

As we begin the new school year, we are working diligently to provide a safe learning environment for our students and staff. As always, safety is our top priority. We hope you have a wonderful summer break and we look forward to the upcoming school year. Special considerations and accommodations to account for the diversity of youth should be made, especially for our vulnerable populations, including those who are medically fragile, live in poverty, have developmental challenges, or have special health care needs or disabilities, with the goal of a safe return to school.

This plan is a working document that serves as a framework for administrators and employees. This plan will be a living document that may be modified based on ongoing situational analysis and guidance from the local health authorities, the Centers for Disease Control, The American Academy of Pediatrics and the Oklahoma State Department of Education. There is nothing more important to Idabel Public Schools than the safety and health of our students, our staff and their families. If you have any questions or additional concerns about this matter, you are welcome to contact Superintendent Doug Brown at 580-286-7639. You are valued by the Warrior Nation and we are here to assist and reassure you.

The Idabel Public Schools acknowledges and understands the importance of implementing these health and safety measures for our students and staff. We also understand these protocols in no way guarantees a student or staff member will NOT transmit or contract COVID-19. In an overabundance of caution the District will continue to follow recommendations provided by medical professionals and local health officials. Idabel Public School District will always emphasize the safety and health of students, staff and the community. We are Preparing Champions for Life! GO WARRIORS!

# **Idabel Public Schools**

## **“Return to Learn”** **Strategic Re-Entry Plan**

### **Transportation**

- ❖ The District will recommend alternate transportation if possible for all bus riders to minimize the number of students on the bus. This will help with “social distancing.”
  - (Parent drop off and pick up will be encouraged.)
- ❖ We will maximize air flow by leaving windows down during transport.
- ❖ The District will double the stops at the current stops to minimize the number of riders during each transport.
  - Elementary students will ride the first route.
  - Secondary students will ride the second route.
- ❖ Parents will “self evaluate” students each day with the self screening checklist provided prior to leaving for the bus stop and school.
- ❖ School staff (bus drivers & monitors) will “self evaluate” themselves each day with the self screening checklist provided prior to leaving for work.
- ❖ Students and staff will have a temperature screening before they load the bus each morning.
  - (If they have a temperature over 100 they will not be allowed on the bus)
- ❖ Students who ride the bus must wear a face covering while on the bus.
  - (If a student has no face covering the district will provide a disposable mask for the first three weeks for bus riders.)
- ❖ Students and staff who ride a bus will use hand sanitizer when they load on the bus.
  - (Sanitizer will be provided by the district.)
  - Dispensers will be installed on each route bus
- ❖ The bus monitor will maintain a daily seating chart to aid in contact tracing in the case of a confirmed COVID19 case.
- ❖ Students who arrive at school by alternative method (car rider) will be screened (temperature with a no touch infrared thermometer) and verified with a temperature less than 100 before they are allowed to enter the building. Anyone with over a 100 temperature will be sent home immediately.

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### **Strategic Re-Entry Plan**

- ❖ Buses will be disinfected after completion of each route before they are allowed to pick up any more students or staff.
- ❖ Bus drivers and bus monitors will be screened before each route and wear a mask at all times during the route.
- ❖ The district will install sneeze guards behind drivers.

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### **Day to Day District Operations**

- ❖ All staff will “self screen” daily. If they come to work, then they are certifying they have screened themselves and are healthy, (screening checklist will be provided.)
- ❖ Staff and families with specific illnesses or health concerns should communicate with building principals to discuss possible accommodations.
- ❖ Parents will be asked to “self screen” students each day before sending them to school.
  - If students arrive at school - parents are “certifying” them healthy.
  - The screening checklist will be provided to parents.
- ❖ Students and Staff will be required to wear a face covering while in hallways and other common areas, and while standing in line for restrooms/cafeteria lines.
  - (Facial coverings may include but not limited to; disposable masks, cloth masks, gators/neck buffs, bandanas, scarves, clear plastic face shield.)
  - (Once students and staff are seated facial coverings may be removed.)
  - Students and staff with medical reasons that prevent the use of masks will be excused from wearing masks but may be asked to use a face shield.
- ❖ Facial coverings in the classroom will be at the teacher’s discretion.
- ❖ Students and staff will be strongly encouraged to wear facial coverings in all school settings where social distancing is not feasible.
- ❖ Teachers are encouraged to maximize social distancing in their classrooms as much as possible.
  - AAP recommends a minimum of 3 feet
- ❖ Classes will be encouraged to meet outdoors whenever possible.
- ❖ Classroom seating should face one direction wherever possible.
- ❖ All teachers will maintain a seating chart in each classroom to assist in contact tracing in the case of a confirmed case.

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- ❖ Any staff or student who exhibits a fever of over 100 degrees will be immediately isolated in a predetermined isolation room and immediately sent home. The building principal will follow the protocols in the “Response Guide.”
- ❖ Hand sanitizer stations will be installed in each classroom and the entrances to each campus.
- ❖ Teachers will be encouraged to leave classroom doors open to encourage ventilation and minimize touching by multiple people.
- ❖ When feasible teachers should open windows to increase ventilation of outside air.
- ❖ Teachers and administrators will stress the importance of following the CDC guidelines of social distancing, face coverings, hand washing, hand sanitizer use, if you’re sick stay home, etc.
- ❖ Teachers, administrators and the district will follow the pre-released “Response Guidelines” for responding to exposure or confirmation of a positive COVID19 case
- ❖ The identity of the exposed or positive case will be protected as much as possible.
- ❖ On campus visitors will be limited. Parents should schedule an appointment with the building office prior to visiting the campus.
- ❖ Communication with staff and families is paramount and we will continue to be as transparent and timely with all communications as possible.
  - Text (Text messaging will be encouraged as an immediate communication to parents/guardians)
  - Email
  - Social Media
  - Website
- ❖ Cafeteria times will be staggered to minimize the number of students in the cafeteria as possible. (added lunch run at high school and middle school)
- ❖ Cafeteria lines will be monitored to maintain social distancing and/or facial coverings compliance.
- ❖ Middle school and high school students will be allowed to spread out and eat in the respective courtyards as long as trash is managed appropriately.

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### **Strategic Re-Entry Plan**

- ❖ Students will be required to alternate seating at cafeteria tables leaving an empty seat between diners during meal times.
- ❖ Grab and Go meals will be provided for students unable to attend school.
- ❖ Daily on-campus learning will be available to all parents who would like their students to learn in school each day.
  - In addition, all parents will have the option to choose remote learning for their children, initially, or at any point as the year progresses. Parents who choose remote instruction for their students will be asked to commit to remote instruction for a full grading period within a two week window prior to the upcoming grading period.
- ❖ The District will use Google Classroom, Edmentum and Exact Path virtual tools along with currently used digital media for instructional purposes during face to face, blended and 100% virtual learning.

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### Cleaning and Disinfecting

#### CDC Guidelines

- ❖ We will continue routine cleaning and disinfecting.
  - Cleaning visibly dirty surfaces with soap and water prior to disinfection.
- ❖ We will continue to use the appropriate EPA recommended cleaning and disinfectant products.
- ❖ Custodians will be required to wear masks and gloves when disinfecting facilities.
- ❖ If an area has been unoccupied for 7 days or more, it will only require normal routine cleaning to reopen the area. This is because the virus that causes COVID-19 has not been shown to survive on surfaces longer than this time. (*Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfecting Public Spaces, Workplaces, Businesses, Schools and Homes*, CDC Guidance)
- ❖ Normal routine cleaning with soap and water will decrease how much of the virus is on surfaces and objects, which reduces the risk of exposure.
- ❖ Disinfection using the EPA-approved disinfectants against COVID-19 can also help reduce the risk. Frequent disinfection of surfaces and objects touched by multiple people is important.
  - Includes: tables, keyboard, doorknobs, toilets, lightswitches, faucets and sinks, countertops, handles, touch screens, desks and phones.
- ❖ Coronavirus on surfaces and objects naturally die within hours to days. Warmer temperatures and exposure to sunlight will reduce the time the virus survives on surfaces and objects.
- ❖ Consider what items can be removed from campuses, classrooms and common areas to reduce frequent handling or contact from multiple people.
- ❖ Outdoor surfaces will be cleaned with targeted use of disinfectants. Outdoor hard surfaces and objects frequently touched by multiple people.

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- ❖ Custodians will “fog” or “spray” empty classrooms thru-out the day with EPA approved disinfectant.
- ❖ Teachers will be encouraged to use disinfectant wipes and disinfectant spray in their classrooms hourly. *(Please donate wipes and spray often to help lower the costs to the district.)*