



## Champaign County Schools Common Reopening Agreements

PREFACE: All Ohio schools closed for the remainder of the school calendar year beginning on March 10, 2020, by order of the Governor and State Health Commissioner in response to the COVID 19 pandemic. In early June, little guidance was available from the Ohio Department of Education regarding guidelines for school re-opening for the 2020-21 school year. School district superintendents from each public school district in Champaign County, along with the Madison-Champaign County Educational Service Center, came together on June 17, 2020, and again on July 7, 2020, to identify common practices for school re-opening in Champaign County which comply with existing guidance and recommendations from the Ohio Department of Health and Ohio Department of Education.

These general principles will guide each school district as they move forward with reopening schools **at full capacity** throughout Champaign County:

1. Each school district will implement recommended safety protocols to the highest degree possible;
2. Each school district will work closely with the Champaign County Department of Health to promote safety in each school building;
3. Each school district will be transparent with all stakeholders that some level of risk will always be present when children and school district employees occupy school district facilities;
4. School districts recognize the need for consistency in areas of operations while recognizing that individual differences in classroom sizes, school facilities, and building operations may lead to some inconsistencies; and
5. School districts are planning to maintain their previously approved school calendars with some possible front-loading of employee professional development. Districts that intend to revise their school calendars will work directly with their boards of education.
6. County school districts will work hand in hand with the local health department, utilizing the county risk level guidelines, to determine the appropriate delivery model for learning (i.e. Face to face, hybrid learning, remote learning).
7. This plan will be re-evaluated once the pandemic designation has been lifted or as guidance is updated.

Health Advisory System	Level 1 Public Emergency	Level 2 Public Emergency	Level 3 Public Emergency	Level 4 Public Emergency
District Specific Learning Levels	100% Capacity face to face learning	100% Capacity face to face learning with increased safety protocols as needed at the local district level.	Hybrid approach to learning including reduced capacity face to face learning and remote learning.	Remote learning for all.



These principles will be common to all Champaign County public school districts:

### **Communications when a student/staff member has been diagnosed with a COVID 19 positive case**

- Communication will be developed by the Health Department, not the school district. A common template will be developed to include the following:
  - Specify to parents which classroom(s) the confirmed case was in (ex. Mr. Smith).
  - More detailed statements will be provided to building staff.
  - The school district will cooperate with the Health Department's work in contact tracing.
  - 14-day quarantine will be required of any student who tests positive with COVID 19 and
  - 14-day quarantine will be required of any staff member who is determined to have had "significant and prolonged exposure" as determined and documented by the Health Department.
  - The Champaign Health Department will provide the county school districts with documentation that explains/defines what is considered "significant and prolonged exposure" to COVID 19 that will result in Quarantine.

### **Student health issues that are NOT diagnosed as COVID 19**

- The duration of homestay for a child sent home with a fever is fever free (without medication) for 72 hours (three full days) AND improvement of all other symptoms for 72 hours. (OR a documented negative COVID 19 test OR diagnosis of something other than COVID)
- Temperatures will be taken upon return. If a student tests positive for COVID 19, they and all other students in their families will be quarantined for 14 days. The Health Department will perform all contact tracing.
- To return to school, the child must be transported to school by the parent and must be checked by the school nurse before resuming school transportation.

### **Food Service**

- All districts will offer food service. Logistics will be determined by each district in compliance with Health Department based on:
  - Limited capacity/occupancy of the school cafeteria
  - Staggering of lunch times
  - Control of traffic patterns
  - No self-service
  - Individual condiments

### **Classroom Occupancy**

- Districts will inform parents that safety protocols are in place but any student who attends school will incur some level of risk. Districts will decrease the likelihood of infection with hygiene, cleaning, and safety procedures, but being in a public place has a certain level of risk that cannot be eliminated. Districts will include a Masking Acknowledgement form in all back to school paperwork.



- Classroom occupancy will be determined based on each individual circumstance with the maximum amount of safety considerations possible. Each classroom will incorporate extra space between students as practical.
- Face coverings are strongly recommended for all students in grades 3 - 12. These coverings will be provided by the parents. Parents are required to have a completed Masking Acknowledgement form on file.
- School employees are required to wear facial coverings. If they are working in their room in isolation or in an office they are permitted to remove the covering.

### **Remote Learning**

- School districts will offer remote learning for parents who do not wish to send their child to school.
- Parents may choose two options: 1. Send their child to school (assume some level of risk), or 2. Agree to remote learning from home which will include specific timeline, grading, and work completion requirements.
- Remote learning options will be reevaluated at the semester.
- Parents and students will agree to comply with remote learning attendance guidelines or a return to face to face instruction will be required.

### **Visitors/Volunteers/Parties**

- There are different levels of school visitors and each district will make decisions for each situation.
- Visitors in the building should be limited to enrollments, student drop-off or pick-up, and/or emergency situations.
  - Visitors are generally discouraged from being in school district facilities (this excludes Higher Education, Military Recruiters, and any others given required access by statute).
  - Safety Protocols such as taking temperatures and a symptoms checklist will be implemented for all visitors.

### **Transportation**

- Champaign County Districts will allow two students per seat and in some instances three students if the children are younger and therefore smaller.
- Districts will attempt to seat siblings together.
- Seating charts are recommended to assist with contact tracing if that is needed.
- Windows will be cracked for additional ventilation when practical.
- Students will be seated from back to front to reduce the amount of contact with other students.
- Face coverings are required for students, and the district may refuse to transport a student who opts not to wear a face covering. Parents can opt to self-transport or car-pool.
- In the event State policies require school districts to use alternative schedules, districts may adopt minimum requirements for transportation to reduce the number of students who are eligible for school district transportation.
- ALL bus drivers and bus aides are required to wear facial coverings. If they are working in isolation or in or on the bus alone, they are permitted to remove the covering.



### **Recess**

- School districts will utilize playgrounds and will make every effort to maintain consistency with safety procedures and sanitization.
  - Before and after using “high touch” equipment, students would be required to use hand sanitizer.
- Districts may utilize “structured” recess activities such as nature walks that limit students’ physical contact with others.
- Students must sanitize their hands before and after recess.