

# **Aurora R-VIII School District**



**Reopening Plan for the 2020-2021  
School Year**

## Aurora R-VIII School District Reopening Plan 2020-2021 School Year

**\*Guidance in this document may be revised as additional information becomes available.**

The mission of the Aurora R-VIII School District is to “ensure that all students are successful learners.” It is also the responsibility of district personnel to “ensure that all students are safe” while attending school on campus. The purpose of this document is to help provide families an understanding of the challenges and changes taking place as the district plans to reopen for the 2020-2021 school year. This document is meant to be a guide and is not all inclusive of the plans in place. It is intended to help families understand the procedures implemented to ensure students are able to learn in a classroom environment while maintaining their health as well as the health of district personnel. The measures listed below do not guarantee the prevention of exposure to COVID-19. It is our belief that in-person learning is the most effective method to ensure student achievement. If you have further questions regarding the document, please contact personnel in your child’s building or Central Office at 417-678-3373.

**Level 1-General Procedures/Protocols-**These measures will be in place when school begins and will continue on a daily basis.

<b>Student Health</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*Parents will monitor the health of their child or children before leaving the home environment for school. This includes observing any symptoms and taking temperatures. If, for any reason, there appears to be an issue, please keep your child or children at home.</li> <li>*Student temperatures will be monitored as they enter each building with scanning equipment. If a student’s temperature is above 100.4 degrees, the student will be provided a mask and parents will be called for immediate pickup.</li> <li>*If a student becomes sick at school, the student will be sent home and his/her work area and the surrounding space will be disinfected.</li> <li>*Students who exhibit cough, shortness of breath or multiple issues of the following symptoms will be sent home: fatigue, muscle pain or body aches, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, congestion or runny nose, nausea/vomiting or diarrhea.</li> <li>*Steps outlined in the Aurora R-VIII School District Health Protocol will guide the process for reentry to the school setting.</li> <li>*Staff will train/teach students and make frequent reminders/provide supervision on healthy hygiene practices.</li> <li>*Handwashing/use of sanitizer will be promoted by all staff in the building.</li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*Students will be reminded to keep their hands away from their eyes/nose/mouth and to stay within their own personal space.</li> <li>*Personal water bottles or containers with a lid should be sent by parents/guardians and usage will be encouraged. Drinking fountains will be limited only to water bottle filling stations.</li> <li>*Face Coverings/Masks-If parents prefer their child wear a face covering/mask at school, they should provide the item and teach appropriate use prior to school. If face covering/mask usage becomes disruptive in the educational setting, the principal may contact parents/guardians.</li> </ul>
<b>Staff Health</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*Employees will monitor their health daily prior to beginning the workday including a temperature check and calling for a substitute if COVID-19 symptoms are present.</li> <li>*Employee temperatures will be monitored as they enter each building with scanning equipment. If an employee’s temperature is above 100.4 degrees, the person will be provided a mask and be sent home.</li> <li>*Employees affected will be notified in writing by the superintendent if there is an exposure to COVID-19 while at work.</li> <li>*Employees will practice hygiene health by washing their hands for at least 20 seconds.</li> <li>*Employees will be reminded to keep their hands away from their eyes, nose and mouth.</li> <li>*If an employee becomes sick at work, the employee will be sent home and his/her workspace will be disinfected.</li> <li>*Steps outlined in the Aurora R-VIII School District Health Protocol will guide the process for reentry to the school setting.</li> <li>*Promote good hygiene and social distancing practices with all employees.</li> <li>*Face Coverings/Masks-If an employee prefers to wear a face covering/mask at school; he/she should provide the item.</li> </ul>
<b>Building Operations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*Ensure adequate supplies (soap, paper towels, hand sanitizer, tissues) are in place to support healthy hygiene practices.</li> <li>*Routinely clean/disinfect surfaces and objects that are frequently touched: doorknobs, light switches, sink handles, counter tops, shared tables and lockers.</li> <li>*Use all cleaning supplies according to label directions.</li> <li>*Increase air flow/ventilation and encourage outdoor activities as weather allows.</li> </ul>
<b>Buses</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*Encourage parents/guardians to transport their child or children to and from school.</li> <li>*All students will be in assigned seats in all buses with siblings seated together.</li> <li>*Parents/guardians will check their child or children for temperature and symptoms before each school day.</li> <li>*All buses will be disinfected following each route.</li> <li>*Face Coverings/Masks-If a driver or student prefers to wear a face covering/mask during the route, they should provide the item.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Social Distancing Practices</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*Parents/guardians are expected to drop off their child or children in the carline. Parents/guardians will not be allowed to walk their child or children to the classroom/inside the building.</li> <li>*Eliminate field trips, assemblies and other large gatherings until further notice.</li> <li>*Increase space between desks/workspaces to provide social distancing.</li> <li>*During recess, students will be reminded to maintain space.</li> <li>*Avoid mixing students in common spaces.</li> <li>*Additional lunch periods and/or extra seating will be implemented in order to allow students to eat in the lunchrooms.</li> <li>*Eliminate additional individuals on campus such as visitors, volunteers, reading buddies, etc.</li> <li>*Teachers will continue to teach students about maintaining personal space and effective social distancing practices.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Attendance</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*Encourage students and staff to stay home when sick.</li> <li>*Suspend the use of attendance awards and incentives.</li> <li>*Identify critical job functions/positions and plan for alternative cross-training of staff.</li> <li>*Determine if the level of absenteeism will disrupt the continuity of teaching/learning (if the absentee rate is significantly high and continuing school would be ineffective).</li> </ul>
<p><b>Virtual Option</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*Aurora R-VIII personnel believe that the most effective way for a child to be educated is in person with social activity involving same-age peers. However, district personnel understand COVID-19 has changed what is best for some students based on health and wellness concerns.</li> <li>*If a student has a need to attend through virtual learning, this will be offered with some parameters.</li> <li>*This option will involve an application process unless a need arises due to a student being required to quarantine for a length of time.</li> <li>*A significant workload and expectations of accountability will apply if a student participates virtually.</li> <li>*If a parent/guardian chooses to have their child or children participate virtually, completion of the remainder of the semester through the virtual program will be required. This does not apply to a student who may be serving a mandated quarantine.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Action Plan if a Case is Confirmed</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*Continue to review guidance from local, state and national health officials.</li> <li>*Help identify student/staff exposure in relation to direct contact with others and facility exposure.</li> <li>*Communicate with those exposed to a positive case.</li> <li>*Perform targeted cleaning and disinfection of exposed/infected areas.</li> <li>*Inspect areas to determine readiness for reentry.</li> <li>*Monitor exposure, absenteeism and symptoms within a classroom/building to determine further action.</li> </ul>

	*Steps outlined in the Aurora R-VIII School District Health Protocol will guide the process for reentry of students and staff to the school setting.
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**Level 2-**If Community Cases Increase or Isolated Student/Staff Exposure Occurs:

- Isolated deep cleaning of exposure area.
- Communication with staff and families of exposure possibilities.
- If students are quarantined, transition into a temporary virtual setting.

**Level 3-**If Significant Community Cases Spike or Several Building-Level Cases are Confirmed:

- Mandatory masks for students (7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>) and staff.
- Meals served in classrooms.
- Communication with staff and families of exposure possibilities.

**Level 4-**School Closure:

- If the county/state issues a mandated closure, Aurora R-VIII will implement alternative methods for virtual learning.