

August 3, 2020

Executive Summary

Edna C. Stevens Elementary School

The purpose of this executive summary is to provide the most essential information to families in an easily accessible document. The full plan for ECS will be sent out on August 14, 2020.

For questions regarding the reopening of schools, please email ecs-covid19@cromwell.k12.ct.us.

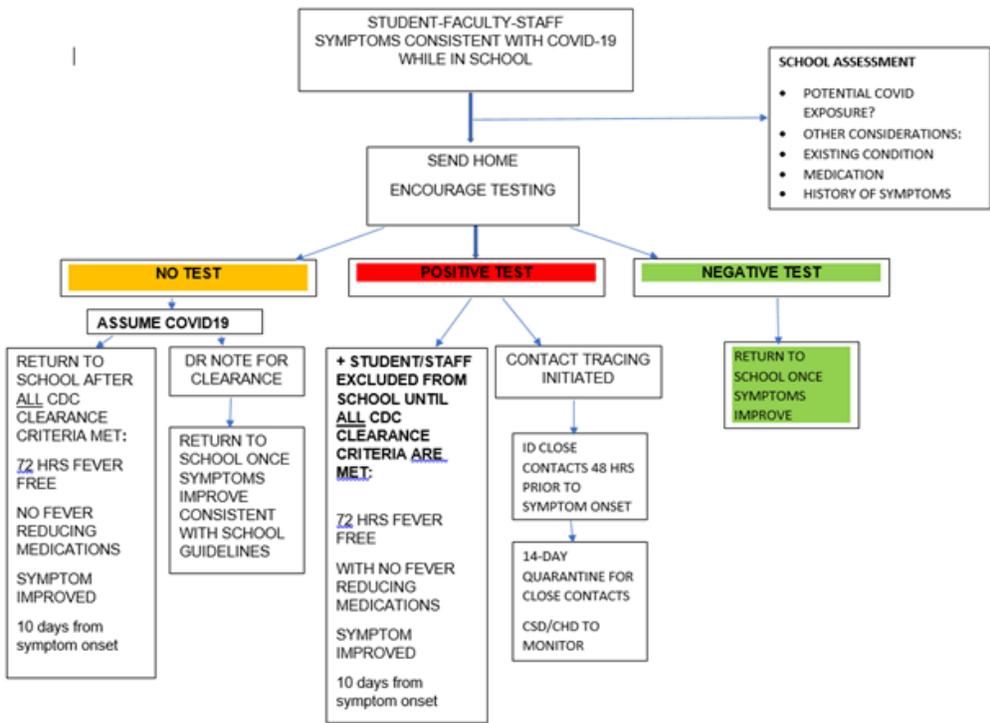
All questions will be addressed by ECS Administration which will be accessible via our Youtube channel. As circumstances around the virus change, we will continue to adapt to provide the best possible conditions for our students to access education and succeed.

Student Expectations

- Significant time will be spent reviewing new procedures and protocol for the 2020-2021 school year.
- Students and staff will be reminded of the three Ws: Wear a mask, Wash your hands, and Watch your distance.
- Academic, social and emotional needs will be addressed daily to prepare for a positive return to our learning environment.
- All students will be required to wear a face covering on the bus and in the school building. The mask must cover both the nose and mouth. A mask includes, but is not limited to, a bandana, N-95 mask, or gaiter. Students who do not have a mask will be provided one upon entry.
- Students will safely socially distance themselves by following school procedures presented by the administration and staff.
- Students will be grouped in cohorts to the greatest extent possible to minimize interactions.
- In an effort to maintain distance students will have lunch in the cafeteria by adding more lunch waves.
- Students are recommended to bring pre-filled water bottles to school to drink throughout the day. Water fountains will be closed. Water can be purchased at lunch. Water filling stations will be open in the cafeteria for refills.
- Students are expected to follow all rules and procedures as outlined in the student handbook.

Family Expectations

- Edna C. Stevens School staff and administration will continue to communicate regularly with families through email, videos, phone and eblasts to keep all stakeholders informed about student and school matters. Please check your Powerschool account to ensure we have the most up to date information.
- The office staff is always available to answer any questions that may arise. Visitor access to the buildings will be limited for safety.
- If parents need to drop off any forgotten materials for their student, there will be an area in the foyer to drop items off until the student can pick up materials.
- Parents will be responsible for providing students with face covering or masks, but schools will have backup disposable masks available for students that forget them.
- Students must wear face coverings or masks that completely cover the nose and mouth while inside the school and on the bus, with exceptions only for those students for whom it is not safe to do so due to documented medical conditions.
- "Mask Breaks" will be provided during the day.
- Please keep students home that are feeling ill.
Students that have any symptoms consistent with COVID-19, or have had any close contact with a person diagnosed with COVID-19 MUST stay at home.
- Morning health check by students/parents is required.
 - In order to prevent transmission among the school population, parents are instructed to screen students before leaving for school. Check to ensure temperature is below **100.0 degrees Fahrenheit**.
 - Observe for symptoms associated with COVID-19 outlined by public health officials.
- If students present with any symptoms associated with COVID-19, students will be placed in our isolation room to protect other students and staff until students can be picked up by parents/guardians.
- We will be following the district containment plan if a student or staff member presents symptoms. Please see the graphic below.



Special Education

We will if medically required or where services provided pursuant to an Individualized Education Program (IEP) would require it, including but not limited to for speech and language services, evaluations, language acquisition activities, etc., students and/or staff may wear face shields and clear masks, or remove masks when face coverings/masks are not appropriate for the activity. Any other possible mitigating strategy should be implemented in these cases, including but not limited to maximum social distancing.

We will hold all initial, annual and triennial reviews that did not occur during the school closure. These meetings will be scheduled by case managers as soon as possible once school resumes. Meetings will continue in a virtual format whenever possible.

We will prepare with the understanding that there has been no waiver of requirements under the IDEA for provision of a free and appropriate public education (FAPE) in the least restrictive environment (LRE).

We will under federal disability law, allow flexibility in determining how to meet the individualized needs of students receiving special education services. Also understanding that schools may not have been able to provide all services in the same manner that they are typically provided during the Spring 2020 school closure.

We will communicate with families of students with a high level of need to develop transition plans to assist special populations and special education students in their return to the school building. The use of social stories, visual cues, and other

appropriate developmental strategies should be used to reinforce these new concepts and protocols.

If students with disabilities are unable to access the reopening plan as designed, facilitate individualized and alternative means of re-entry based upon student need, present levels of functioning, developmental levels, and student/parent input. Consider blended learning schedules if needed.

Building Procedures

- Under guidance from our Central Office, ECS will follow one of three educational models:

Full Reopen / Remote Learning Parallel Track

- All students return
- Students who choose not to return will learn remotely

Hybrid Model of Instruction

- On a daily basis 50% of students are in the building and 50% are learning remotely
- Alternating schedule

Virtual Learning Plan

- All students learn from home

- Staff will be socially distanced in hallways monitoring students.
- Masks will be worn by students and staff.
- Markings at eye level on the walls will illustrate foot-traffic expectations and encourage social distancing.
- Students will walk single file using the right hand side of the hallway.
- Teachers will be stationed at the classroom doors to greet students as they arrive.
- Students will wash their hands upon entering the classroom.
- Students will have a designated place for their belongings (separated to prevent any cross contamination).
- Students will keep their lunch box and other personal items inside their backpacks. Backpacks will be kept on the back of students' chairs.
- All new building procedures will be modeled for students by staff and administration.
- All students and staff will be safely distanced in all classrooms, hallways, bathrooms, gymnasium and the cafeteria.
- Students will remain in their classrooms and the Humanities Teachers (art, music, library and science) will travel to them throughout the day. PE will take place in the gym or outside.
- The breakfast program will continue. Grab and go breakfast bags will be available at the front entrances in the school, so students may take them as they enter the building and head to their classroom.

- Students will eat lunch in the cafeteria.
- Lunch waves will be expanded from 3 to 6 waves
 - The lunch window will be expanded from 11:15 a.m.--12:55 p.m. to 10:30 a.m. -1:55 p.m.
 - Students will be allowed to have snacks in the classroom. Snack time will be determined by considering the classroom's lunch time.
 - On early dismissal days students will eat their lunch in the classroom.
- Students should bring pre-filled water bottles to school to drink throughout the day. Water fountains will be turned off. The water filling station in the cafeteria will be open for refills during lunch.
- Recess will occur with increased social distancing and sanitizing protocols. The playscape, gaga pit and swings will not be used. We are developing alternate touchless games and activities for students during recess.
- Hallways and bathrooms will be monitored throughout the day to ensure social distancing is being practiced.
- Students will sanitize desks and seats upon entering each classroom for safety.
- There will be hand sanitizer stations available for students and staff to utilize throughout the day.
- Students riding a bus in the morning will be entering the school using one of two entrances in front of the school.
- Grade 1-2 students will remain in the classrooms until their bus is called on the intercom. Kindergarten students will wait for bus dismissal in the art room, music room and gym. We will stagger the bus calls to allow for social distancing in the hallways.
- Students will exit the building to board the busses near the art room door only.
- Kids Korner will be open. The program will follow all sanitizing and social distancing guidelines.