

TECUMSEH MIDDLE SCHOOL RETURN TO LEARN PLAN

Many parents and students have had questions about our operational plans for the school year. The following information gives details about our current plans for the following areas. Please note that all of these plans are subject to change based on new guidelines that we receive.

Health and Safety

1. Health Assessments

Per the district plan, parents and students will perform a DAILY health assessment before the student arrives at school each day.

2. Masks

Per the district plan, students and staff will be required to wear masks. There will be designated times during the day and locations where students will be able to remove their mask for a brief period of time IF they cooperate with social distancing protocols.

Students must provide their own cloth nose and mouth covering. Masks must cover only the mouth and nose area of the face. Ski type masks and/or Halloween type masks will not be allowed.

3. Hygiene

Hand sanitizing stations will be placed throughout TMS buildings for students to use during the school day. Also, teachers will provide each student with hand sanitizer each time they enter a classroom at the beginning of each period and before they leave a classroom at the end of each period. Also, whole class trips to the bathrooms to wash hands will happen throughout the day. Students will be instructed to wash their hands prior to meal times as well.

4. Campus Sanitation/Cleaning

Per the district plan, the buildings will be cleaned and sanitized each evening prior to students returning the next morning. During the school day, custodians will routinely sanitize high touch areas. During a teacher's planning time, custodians will clean and sanitize high touch areas in the classroom. Teachers will perform a general sanitizing of student desktops at the beginning of the teacher's lunch period. This should take the teacher about 10 minutes.

5. Water Fountains

Tecumseh Middle School received a generous donation in August of 2019 from First United Bank in Tecumseh of 4 bottle filling water fountain stations. Beginning in August of 2020, the part of the fountain that students would use to get a drink will be disconnected until deemed safe for students to use that part. The touchless bottle filling part of the station will remain intact allowing students to fill their own personal water bottle as needed.

6. Campus Visitors

Parents/Guardians who come to school to check their child out for any reason other than an illness or injury will report to the Main Office. The secretary will use the security camera to verify identity before sending the student out to meet their parent. If a student is ill or injured, they will receive a call from the Attendance Office and will go there to check out their child.

Other visitors will report to the Main Office. They will use the security entrance cameras to communicate with the secretary. If possible, they will not enter the building. If they must enter the building, they will be required to wear a mask and their temperature will be taken and they will be asked the same health assessment questions that are asked of students and staff.

Technology

Per the district plan, all students will receive a Chromebook for daily use at school as well as use at home when students are away from school. Teachers will provide opportunities to work through our new learning management system, Canvas, on a daily basis during class. Teachers will work to ensure students are prepared to continue working through Canvas in the case of a school closure or individual quarantine.

Students will be responsible for the care of their Chromebook at all times. They will be allowed to carry their backpack with them to all classes in order to transport the Chromebook safely. Students will need to make sure they arrive at school each day with their Chromebook battery fully charged. Teachers will have limited access to charging Chromebooks in their classrooms, especially for multiple numbers of students.

Meals

The seating in the cafeteria will be marked to allow for social distancing during meal times. Seating for meals will also be available in the AP room with seats arranged to allow for social distancing.

Breakfast – When students arrive on campus, if they plan to eat breakfast they will report to the cafeteria. If seats are available, they will get their breakfast and eat. If seats are not available, they will report to the home bleachers and wait until cafeteria seats become available. A staff member will be at the door between the bleachers and cafeteria to help direct students.

If students do not plan to eat breakfast when they arrive on campus, they will report to the area designated for their grade level. Students will sit allowing for social distancing until dismissed to go to class. Staff members will be at all sites to supervise behavior.

6th Grade – the visitor section of the big gym

7th Grade – the home section of the big gym

8th Grade – the old gym

Lunch – Students will be divided in to two groups each lunch time. One group will report to the visitor bleachers, and the other group will report to the home bleachers. Students will sit allowing for social distancing. Students will be dismissed to the cafeteria for lunch. When seats in the cafeteria are not available, students will be sent to the AP room to eat. When students finish eating, they will be allowed to go outside. If students bring their lunch from home, they will report directly to the AP room to begin eating.

While students are outside during lunch, they will be instructed to practice social distancing. Masks will not be required outside as long as social distancing requests are maintained.

Basketball will not be allowed. Other games with sports balls that do not involved student contact will be allowed with school issued equipment only. For example, students will be allowed to play catch with a football and play four square.

Exact Path

Every TMS student will have an Exact Path account. They will work on their Exact Path Learning Plan at least 3 days a week during Advisory class. It may also be used during other classes as well.

Library

Students will be allowed to visit the library during specific times of the school day. Upon entering the library they will use hand sanitizer. The librarian will have books displayed and arranged in a manner that will reduce the need for students to touch multiple books. Students will be allowed to check out one book at a time.

When books are returned to the library, they will be placed in a secure location out of circulation for a minimum of three consecutive days. At the end of three days they will be sanitized in a manner that is safe for book sanitation and placed back in to circulation for students to check out.

Lockers and Backpacks

Students will not be issued lockers. This is a recommendation of the Pediatrics Association and the CDC to help eliminate multiple high touch areas. Also, due to our new movement to be 1:1 with technology, it is necessary for students to carry their Chromebook with them to each class. This will require the need for the use of their back pack throughout the day.

Back packs must be 'standard size,' school-appropriate backpacks. Due to limited space in classrooms and that students will be carrying their back pack with them the whole school day, back packs should not be excessively large or luggage style. Students should carry the bare minimum of supplies for what is needed during the school day in their back packs.

Athletes who have extra bags for their athletic clothes and equipment will be provided specific locations to keep their athletic bags during the day. These locations will be visible by one or more security camera.

Supplies

Students will use their own supplies when needed. Teachers will not provide community supplies. Supplies will be carried by the students in their backpacks or left in the classrooms which the supplies will be used. If they are left in the classroom, they will be kept separate for individual use. Supplies needed should be minimal and not add too much extra weight to the students' backpacks.

Passing Periods and Hallways

Staff will be on duty during each passing period to supervise students in hallways. Hallways will be divided to show a flow of traffic in an attempt to keep student traffic moving in common directions and reduce the crossing of multiple students. Specific doors will be used as exits and others as entrances throughout the school day. Lines will be placed in the parking lot area between the north building and main building for students to follow a flow of traffic going in a common direction. While outside between buildings, IF students practice social distancing, they will be allowed to remove their masks.

Bathrooms

During passing periods, bathroom entrances will be monitored by a staff member. A specific number of students will be allowed in the bathrooms at one time. The number will depend upon the size of the bathroom. Students will be allowed to use the bathroom during class time in accordance with the classroom teacher policy.

If a Student Becomes Ill During the School Day

If a student becomes ill in any way during the school day they will report to the Attendance Office. Their temperature will be taken. If they have a fever, and/or if they are exhibiting any of the most common signs of COVID-19, they will be placed in our isolation room which is the conference room connected to the Attendance Office. A parent or guardian will be contacted with a request to pick up the child from school as soon as possible.