

Back to School Plan 2020 – 2021

Madison Central School District Families,

As we prepare for the start of the 2020-2021 school year, we know there are many questions. As a district we have been working on developing a plan for the school year as we deal with the current Covid-19 Pandemic. This plan has been developed over the last couple months of many meetings of committees to create the following guidelines for this school year. This plan will be a “living document” and changes will be made as needed. As with every other school in the state and the country developing start of the school year plans, we know there will be no perfect plan that everyone will agree upon. This plan was developed looking at what is best for our students, staff, and community as we provide education opportunities for our students.

Depending on what “LEVEL” we may be in throughout the school year, we know just like last year, there may be daycare and/or work schedule challenges. We ask that you prepare as best you can for the different levels that may arise during this school year. Certainly, our hope is to be in Level I or II throughout the school year if possible. However, no one knows where we will be at with cases in our community at any given time so we will adjust as needed.

The School District:

- Encourage physical distancing, proper hand hygiene, increased sanitation, face coverings, staggering class release times, hallway flow directed, adjusting lunchtime and seating, and recess modifications.
- Monitor for student illness and isolate and contact parent/guardian immediately
- As with any community health concern, we will monitor and take recommendations from Madison Regional Health System and from the SD Department of Health and Education
- Adjust to the proper Level as needed in our plan
- Communicate changes to parents
- In-person instruction is our focus, we will also offer the option to take coursework on-line through an outside vendor K-12 Edgenuity for the 2020-2021 school year
- We recognize the best option for student learning and socialization is in-person, however if you choose to have your child utilize the distance only learning option – this is through Edgenuity and it is a commitment to stay with the online option for a semester at a time at the high school level, and a quarter at a time at the middle school and elementary level.

Parents/Guardians:

- Review guidelines for each Level and adjust as needed
- Conduct home health screening checklist each morning with child(ren)
- Keep your child home if they have a fever, cough or flu symptoms and have them return only when there has been a time of 24 hours with no temperature and no medication (Timeframe may change and will follow CDC/DOH guidelines)
- Create a family plan in the event your child is sent home due to a temperature or related symptoms
- Create a family plan in the event we need to move to Level III or IV during the school year
- Please reinforce the importance of students following the changes made for the safety of all during this school year

Please know that we are making every effort to provide the best educational experience possible, and we ask for your continued support as we work through the upcoming school year.

Thank you,

Madison Central Board of Education & Administration

School Phase Status – Level I & III UPDATED 9/17/2020

Level I – (Green) – Low to moderate risk, normal face-to-face instruction, minimum of 14 days of no confirmed cases in school and no pending test results of students/staff or parents, and no students/staff in quarantine and declining and/or flat confirmed cases in city, county and surrounding area, precautionary procedures per local and state health recommendations, face coverings recommended.

Level II – (Yellow) – Increased risk, normal face-to-face instruction, limited cases in school and flat or slow increase in city, county, and surrounding area, continue to follow precautionary procedures per local and state health recommendations, face coverings required.

Level III – (Red) – High risk, increasing number of cases, lack of ability to cover classrooms with substitutes, move to distance learning

Level IV – (Blue) – While in Level III, cases have consistently declined in the city, county, and surrounding area. Move to implementation of hybrid platform for transition back into in-person instruction. Students Jr. K through 12th, will be split into Group A and Group B at the beginning of the school year. Group A would resume in-person classes on Monday and Tuesday for the full day (buses will run) and Group B will attend posted online lessons during the day. On Wednesday, staff will be available for online help, and deep cleaning will take place in the facility to prepare for Group B attending onsite. Starting on Thursday, Group B would resume in-person classes on Thursday and Friday for the full day (buses will run) and Group A will attend posted online lessons during the day. While in Level IV, if cases continue to decline, a decision will be made on the need to stay in Level IV or to move back to Level II of in-person all day for all students, if cases would increase substantially, a decision will be made to move back to Level III. (The intent of this hybrid Level is simply to transition back to full time in-person instruction, and we would hopefully only be in Level IV for a 14-day timeframe.) Face coverings required.

Transportation:

- Busses will be sanitized after each use (2 times per day)
- Hand sanitizer upon entering and exiting the school bus
- Face coverings required
- Assigned seating as possible
- One family per seat
- Out-of-town routes will no longer make in-town stops (Fewer kids on each bus)
- 2 additional in-town routes (Fewer kids on each bus)
- Encourage parents to drop off and pick up students if possible, instead of riding the bus
- For activities allow parents/guardians to opt out of bussing and transport their child(ren)

- Face coverings will be worn by bus driver
- Seat behind bus driver will not be used
- Windows will be opened a little when temperature allows for better air flow

Food Service:

- Face coverings and gloves will be worn by all food service staff
- Food service workers and lunch supervisors will sanitize tables in between groups
- Students will have touchless scanner cards in MS & HS
- Food service will have a scanner sheet for each elementary class
- Hand sanitizer will be in place for students prior to entering the food service area
- Hand sanitizer will be in place for students leaving the food service area
- Decals on floors for directions – no touch lines
- No outside visitors/guests
- Social distance as much as possible
- Plexi-glass dividers on each table – provides a clear barrier between students
- Lunchroom and eating areas will be expanded where possible
- Timeframes will be adjusted
- Some meals may be prepackaged
- No self-serve salad bars
- No condiment containers (Condiments will be served by food service staff or prepackaged)
- To start the school year the Elementary will, have one hot entre option and one sack lunch option
- To start the school year the MS/HS will have two hot entre options and two cold entre options and a sack lunch option
- Online students will have the option to call in by 9 am each day to order a sack lunch
- All food service meals move back to previous requirements of Free, Reduced or Full Pay

Technology:

- All paperwork signed at the beginning of the school year
- IT Staff will wear masks and gloves

General Cleaning of Facilities:

- Additional touchless hand sanitizer stations in all buildings
- Additional hand sanitizer dispensers in all buildings
- Sneeze guards for all reception areas and office desks
- Disinfecting wipes for all buildings
- 4 handheld ionizer sanitizers and 2 backpack ionizer sanitizers
- Precautionary Covid-19 signage for all facilities
- Multiple sanitizing of bathrooms each day
- Multiple sanitizing of high usage areas each day
- Buses sanitized twice daily

Building Mitigation:

- Open House scheduled by appointment over 2 days in August
- Classrooms decluttered for maximum social distancing
- Very limited outside access to the facilities
- Social distance, hand washing signage
- Bathroom breaks staggered
- Recess staggered
- Hallway traffic signage
- No usage of water fountains
- Students and staff encouraged to bring a water bottle (Refillable at bottle filler stations)
- Additional bottle filling stations (All buildings have bottle filling stations)
- Plexi-glass shields at all administrative reception areas
- Stay healthy information provided to all students, parents, and staff
- Middle school and high school activities will be provided as possible– state guidelines SDHSAA/SDDOH
- Scheduled additional handwashing in grades Jr. K – 5th
- Face coverings required for MCSD Staff
- Touchless thermometers in all buildings
- Face coverings required for any outside deliveries (Food trucks etc.) and not provided by district
- Face coverings required for scheduled parent meetings etc. and not provided by district
- Designated area in each building for students or staff showing signs of fever or related symptoms

Communication:

- Continual communication as we move through the school year
- Communication with parents when a student has a temp or related symptoms and needs to be picked up – DOH protocols
- Communication with parents if a positive test takes place and decision on needed adjustments or changes in the current Level – student and staff privacy rights will be followed
- Partnership needed with families to self-check before school each day
- Partnership with families to transport their children when possible
- Require any student or staff member who goes home with a temp of the mandatory 24 hour period of no fever with no medication before they are allowed back (Following any changes in CDC/DOH guidelines) – if a positive case the length of time will be determined by the most recent guidelines from the CDC and MRHS

See Color Chart Companion Document