

CENTRALIA R-VI SCHOOL DISTRICT

2020-2021 ENTRY PLAN

DRAFT



Proposed for Approval August 10, 2020

Introduction

Status: Draft - To be presented for Board of Education consideration on August 10, 2020

As we approach the 2020-2021 academic year, we are all aware the school experience will be much different than before. Flexibility, adaptability and common sense will be the tools most needed to minimize distractions and allow everyone to focus on the most important priority – student learning.

This document proposes a set of conditions in which students can return to school with a reasonable amount of safety protocols. Each condition inherently comes with a degree of inconvenience when compared to previous academic years, but each provide minimal intrusion into the learning process. Further, it is reasonable to expect conditions within our state and county to change, thus requiring modifications to this plan.

With this in mind, it is worth stating the goal to be obtained is students resuming their education. Each condition cumulatively gives us the best opportunity to remain in seated school for the longest period possible.

Thank you for your continued support and commitment to education.

The Centralia R-VI School District

Collective Commitments

It Starts at Home - Screening

- Families are recommended to take temperatures daily before going to school
- Anyone with a fever of >100.0 F or higher should **NOT** come to school
- A student or staff member must be fever-free for at least 24 hours, without the aid of fever-reducing medication, before returning to school.
- Parents and caregivers should also screen for additional symptoms at home, prior to coming to school. These symptoms include the following:
 - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - Coughing
 - Fatigue
 - Muscle or body aches
 - Headache
 - New loss of taste or smell
 - Sore throat
 - Nausea or vomiting
 - Diarrhea

When to Stay Home

- Students with symptoms of any illness should not attend school and parents should consult their healthcare provider and follow CDC considerations regarding their return to school.
- For students who are diagnosed with COVID-19, either by a laboratory test or based on their symptoms, return to school is permissible when the student is at least 10 days from symptom onset, has been fever-free for at least 24 hours without the aid of fever-reducing medication and has improved symptoms.
- Students and staff who have recently had close contact with a person with COVID-19 should also stay home and monitor their health.
- Students/families who have been identified to quarantine by a county health department.

When a Positive Test is Confirmed

- According to the CDC, if you think you have or know you have COVID-19, you can be with others after the following ([CDC Information](#) as of July 22, 2020):
 - At least 10 days since symptoms first appeared and
 - At least 24 hours with no fever without fever-reducing medication and symptoms have improved
 - Depending on your healthcare provider's advice and availability of testing, you might get tested to see if you still have COVID-19. If you are tested, you can be around others when you have no fever, respiratory symptoms have improved, and you receive two negative test results in a row, at least 24 hours apart.
 - If you do not have symptoms, you will need to wait until 10 days have passed since the positive test.

The District's Role in a Positive Test:

- The district will follow the direction of the Boone County Health Department and communicate based on BCHD's recommendations and guidelines.
- For all COVID-19 exposure notifications, the district will only notify those who are deemed necessary to be notified by our local health department.
- We will not do district-wide notifications for positive or presumptive positive cases unless a child or staff member needs to be notified of the potential exposure to that positive case.
 - The only exception would be in the case of a community or school-wide event where contact tracing could not happen.
 - The district has a legal obligation not to violate HIPPA guidelines and rules, and will follow those rules and the guidance of our health department in all notifications.
- Perform targeted cleaning and disinfection of frequently touched hard, non-porous surfaces, such as counters, appliance surfaces, tabletops, doorknobs, bathroom fixtures, toilets, drinking fountains, phones, technology, and any other surfaces that are visibly necessary.

**Diagnosing COVID-19, contact tracing and assigning quarantines are not a function of the school district. These can only be done by healthcare providers and health departments. The district's role ends after identifying symptoms and providing households with recommended next steps.

Face Coverings

The District has no political motives. The ONLY motive we have is to keep students in school for the longest period possible.

- The District would like all students to have a face covering with them at school
- The face covering will be most helpful when:
 - Riding a school bus
 - Arriving at school in large groups
 - Passing periods create large groups
 - Leaving school in large groups
 - Anytime social distancing is not practical

Why Face Coverings?

- *We have learned it may keep you from quarantine – keeping students in school and parents at work longer*
 - The county Health Department determines who quarantines and for how long.
 - If your student is involved in contact tracing, having and wearing a face covering in certain situations may be the deciding factor on your student – and potentially your household – being quarantined.

- During a quarantine, your student will continue to receive instruction via Google Classroom. They will not be considered absent and cannot participate in extracurricular activities for the period determined by the Health Department.

When Will Face Coverings Be Required?

- We will follow MSHSAA guidelines for when to wear face coverings for athletics.
- By staff when social distancing cannot be maintained.
- By visitors and contractors who have scheduled and approved contact time within our schools.

Transportation | Arrival | Dismissal

Transportation

- Parents should screen for COVID-19 symptoms at home prior to getting on the bus.
- Parents should encourage hand hygiene upon boarding the bus.
- Students will be assigned seats so contacts are stable.
- Siblings will be seated together.
- Bus loading will be from back to front.
- All individuals will be encouraged to use face coverings during transport.
- Drivers will utilize personal protective equipment as long as they do not impair driving.
- Buses will be appropriately disinfected.
- Parents are encouraged to pick up/drop off their student when possible to decrease the number of students on the school bus.

Arrival

- Students should not be dropped off earlier than necessary before their scheduled start time. Schools will communicate with parents the times they are able to begin dropping off students.
- Parent drop off will be car lane only to reduce the number of people entering the building.
- All students will be visually inspected for signs and symptoms of illness as they enter the school and/or classroom.
- Students will use hand sanitizer or hand washing upon arrival into classrooms.
- Common and large group areas will be restricted where feasible.
- Social distancing will be used where possible at buildings while students are waiting to report to classes.

Dismissal

- Use of the car line for student pick-up or bus only. There will be no in-person parent pick-up to avoid parent gatherings in the school lobby or in front of school.
- Walkers will be dismissed from the building by staff member (in buildings where walkers are permitted).

- For 7th-12th, social distancing will be encouraged. Students will not be permitted to loiter in groups after school on school property.
- Hand washing/hand sanitizing will be available at dismissal.

Visitors

- Parents and visitors will have limited access to school grounds
- No walking students into the building during morning drop off
- No waiting and congregating outside of school doors during afternoon pick up.
- No visiting and eating lunch with students at school
- Parents picking up students early from school will need to call the office and let them know their estimated arrival time for student pick up. Once a parent/guardian arrives, the student will be released from the school building to meet the parent outside.
- Face coverings are required by all visitors inside the school.
- Visitors can first contact the school/office to determine whether an onsite visit is necessary.
- If entrance is determined as essential, a designated space for meeting with visitor(s) will be determined for the facility.

Meal Service

- Breakfast will be bagged and served in a grab-and-go style.
- Lunch will be picked up by students in the cafeteria and eat in classrooms.
- Hand washing/hand sanitizer will be available before and after lunch.
- Necessary precautions will be taken into account for students with food allergies.

Students

Classrooms

- Seating/desks will be spaced out with social distancing taken into account.
- Gathering in common areas will be discouraged.
- K-5 students will stay in the same classroom, with their stable group, throughout the day.
- In the event that a teacher will need to rotate in between classrooms, the teacher will maintain social distance from students.
- Students in grades 6-12 will be kept in stable groups to the greatest extent possible
- Pre-K-6th students will keep their own supplies for use in the classroom.
- Desk cleaner will be available for usage when appropriate.
- Personal water bottles will be encouraged as drinking fountains will have limited availability.

- There will be built in time during the day for frequent hand washing and sanitizing.
- Students and staff will be observed for illness prior to starting class or the school day. Those experiencing symptoms will be referred to the nurse.

Passing Periods/Classes in Hallways

- Passing periods will be limited by schedule and students will be monitored while walking in hallways.
- Movement throughout buildings will be limited or reduced.
- Hand washing/hand sanitizer will be available.

Playgrounds

- Initially, playground equipment will not be used until safety precautions can be developed and monitored.
- District staff has created a physical activity schedule that will allow for students to receive physical breaks (e.g. walking outside, use of blacktop and open areas for non-contact activities).
- Students will be monitored for social distancing while on playgrounds while still allowing interactions with each other.
- Handwashing/sanitizer will be available upon re-entry to the building.

Cleaning | Hygiene

- Regular cleaning will occur with COVID and EPA approved products. The cleaning and disinfecting will target frequently touched hard, non-porous surfaces, such as counters, tabletops, stair rails, doorknobs, bathroom fixtures, toilets, drinking fountains, and any other surfaces that are visibly necessary.
- Hand sanitizer dispensers are available for classroom and common area use.
- Water fountains will be shut down, however, the no-touch water bottle stations will be open for students to refill water bottles.
- Staff and students will be encouraged to bring their own **water bottles, filled daily**, to minimize the use and touching of water fountains.

Health Services

- School nurses will provide COVID safety training/materials to faculty and staff. They will also work to educate students in various methods.
- If you have medication for your child, please schedule a time with the school nurse to drop it off.
- Staff will be expected to self-screen daily for COVID-19 symptoms.
- Parents and students are expected to self-screen at home prior to students entering the building.

- Students or staff demonstrating symptoms will be referred to physician or virtual clinic. Prior to returning to school, consult school nurse or provide documentation from physician
- Procedures on how many days students must be quarantined will follow best practices (ex: CDC, MSBA, etc) and the guidance of our local health department.

Activities | Athletics

- [Missouri State High School Activities Association](#) (MSHSAA)/Missouri Department of Health Guidelines will be followed for student participation in activities/athletics.
- Virtual Instruction students will not participate in activities/athletics.

Large Events/Sporting Events/Performances/Field Trips

- Seating and occupancy restrictions will follow Boone County Health Department requirements.
- Events will be limited and decisions on attendance, social distancing, and other safety procedures will be made on a case-by-case basis.
- Field trips will be limited and will only be considered if proper safety procedures and social distancing can occur.

Attendance Policy

- Centralia R-VI will adjust the attendance policies to better reflect the uncertainty of this year. These will have to adhere to any requirements at the state level for various programs.
- Building-specific policies will be communicated to students prior to the start of school.
- Students and staff are encouraged to stay home when sick.

Pandemic Response – School Closure

The decision to close Centralia Schools may be made as a means to prevent further spread of an epidemic, or in response to high student and/or staff absenteeism. The Superintendent will make school closure decisions in consultation the Boone County Health Department, and neighboring school district superintendents and the Centralia R-VI Board of Education. Current CDC recommendations will help guide closure decisions.

Possible School Closure Trigger Points:

- Student absenteeism
 - When it is not economically prudent to keep the school open.

- Teacher/Staff absenteeism
 - When the number of staff available to supervise and instruct students drops below what is necessary to maintain a safe learning environment.
- Student absenteeism
 - When the daily student attendance rate drops dramatically for consecutive days.
 - Instruction would transition to virtual learning
- Confirmed case(s) of COVID-19.
- To protect the public health and safety
 - When advised to close by the Governor, state and local health authorities.
 - *Due to the fact all campuses are within Boone County, legally the district must follow orders issued by the Boone County Health Department

Authority to Close Schools:

- In a pandemic, schools may be closed and/or opened by the order of the director of the Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) or his/her designee. See *19 CSR 20-20.050 Quarantine or Isolation Practices and Closing of Schools and Places of Public and Private Assembly*. Due to the need for consistency throughout the state, school closures and/or openings to protect the public health and safety will be directed at the state level.
- The School Superintendent has the authority to close and/or open school for absenteeism due to School Closure Trigger Points, as noted above.

School Closure – Miscellaneous:

- Schools may be closed to all staff and students, or just students. If schools are closed only to students, staff members are expected to work regular schedules or use appropriate leave, unless otherwise directed by the Superintendent. When schools are closed, there may be opportunities to bring back small groups of students for specific intervention or instruction on a case by case basis.
- The superintendent may cancel all activities on district property by outside groups, even if some schools in the district remain open. When a school is closed, activities scheduled at that school, including use by community groups, may be canceled. Activities held at another location that involve students and staff from a closed school may cancel at the discretion of the building principal or Superintendent.