



Morgan County R-II School District Re-opening Plan

Letter From the Superintendent

MCR-II Families,

As you are aware, the past several months have been challenging for our district, our country and the world. We here at Morgan County R-II are beginning a process to open schools and have developed this plan based on our current reality and the needs of our community. First and foremost we believe in the value that our in-person educational program provides. We have taken your advice through our surveys and used that input while developing this plan. We know most of you want to return in person and you want us to make the environment here at school as safe as possible for everyone. This is no easy task and we must all acknowledge that returning comes with a greater risk of exposure despite our best efforts. This document is an outline (not every detail of every day) of our best effort and offers options that we hope will meet everyone's needs.

We ask that you continue to be patient and understanding during this unprecedented time. Our staff and teachers need your grace as we do our best to focus on our number one priority as educators, which is, to provide support to the young people in our community in hopes of improving their quality of life through educational opportunities. I say it specifically that way to emphasize what our focus and purpose truly is. In these trying times it is easy to lose sight of that purpose. If Morgan County R-II is going to be successful we must not lose sight of why we are here and what we do. While we have many distractions during this time our goal remains the same and it is important that we stay focused on improving the life of our young people and continue our educational programs.

One thing I want to mention that is not addressed in this plan is our Open House night. At this time we plan to continue as planned with Open House on August 20th, from 4 - 8 PM. That is something that could change. We do want to encourage the following for Open House:

- Limit family members who attend*
- Maintain social distance*
- Do not attend if you or anyone in your family may have been exposed or is not feeling well*
- We encourage mask wearing*

Open house is optional so you should not feel compelled to attend if you are concerned.

Our Re-opening Plan, made public today, July 29th, 2020, is based on what we know at this point. This is subject to change going forward. Please read through this document carefully. Things at school will look different this year. We are all learning about our new normal together and I know we will rise to the challenge as a community and a school district. I look forward to seeing your smiling faces back in our buildings and learning together about how to continue to offer you the best possible educational opportunities here at Morgan County R-II.

*Sincerely,
Dr. Barnes*



Morgan County R-II School District Re-opening Plan

Category 1 - Little to No Community Spread

Regular Classroom environment

Online options are available for families. Contact your school building for more details as plans vary depending on grade level.

Category 2 - Significant Community Transmission

School remains open with once a month alternate online learning to prepare for possible shut down.

Category 3 - Widespread Community Transmission

Online Learning Only, No face-to-face classes.

Note: These categories will be determined through collaboration with the Morgan County Health Department and are not assigned solely by the school district. Establishing a category is a complicated process that takes into account total cases in our county and surrounding counties as well as the state. It also factors things in like rates of increase and new mutations of the virus that may be more or less contagious. The Morgan County Health Department also keeps up with the latest information from the CDC and factors in that research and information when making the decision to change our category status.

PPE/Hygiene Strategies

Category 1

- Masks are encouraged but optional for students and staff. **Wearing a face mask can help in limiting exposure and possible quarantine at home.**
 - Masks or shields are mandatory for staff that cannot maintain a six foot social distance during instructional time
 - The district will provide masks but encourage staff and students to bring their own reusable masks that can be sanitized as needed
- Protective shields will be provided in high traffic areas and when social distancing or when masks do not work
- Avoid personal contact such as touching, hugs, high fives, etc.
- Students and staff frequently use hand washing and sanitation stations located around the building.

Category 2

- Masks/Face Shield required for students/staff when working inside
- Use of sneeze guards at appropriate locations

- Any person exhibiting mild symptoms must wear a mask until leaving campus
- Students and staff frequently use hand washing and sanitation stations located around the building.

Category 3

- Custodial and Maintenance staff will do deep cleaning following closure and prior to opening
- Masks will be required for all staff when social distancing is not possible

Tips to help control the spread of illness

- ★ Wash hands with soap and water for 20 seconds. Use alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available
- ★ Avoid touching your face with unwashed hands.
- ★ Cough or sneeze into your elbow or tissue. Throw tissue in the trash. Wash hands or use hand sanitizer.
- ★ Avoid contact with people who are sick and stay home if you are sick. (see screening checklist for more information on what symptoms to watch for)
- ★ Clean and disinfect frequently-touched objects.

Classroom

Category 1

- Staff and students trained in the areas of physical distancing, hand washing, respiratory etiquette and mask use to mitigate exposure.
- All classes will have assigned seating
- Will be expanding our one-to-one device program down to grade 3
- Scheduled desk sanitation during school day at appropriate transitions.
- Custodial staff routinely clean highly touched surfaces in evenings.
- Desks will be arranged to account for physical distancing as much as possible
- Integrate good hygiene practices into instruction and classroom expectations
- Limit the use of shared materials and spaces
- Keep student belongings separate.
- Avoid sharing supplies.
- Avoid sharing electronic devices, toys, books, and other games or learning aids.
- Avoid outside food in the classroom.
- Students and staff use personal water bottles/cups at filling stations (mouth pieces will not be used)

Note: We will be doing a test run for online learning on September 23, 2020. On this day all students will be working from home with the exception of our preschool and kindergarten students. Preschool and kindergarten students will attend school in person and practice online skills in the classroom. Transportation will still be available for PreK and K students as needed but pick up and drop off times may vary.

Category 2

- Masks/Face Shield required for students/staff when working inside and social distancing cannot be maintained

- Students and staff can remove masks when social distancing can be maintained or when at recess and eating lunch
- No field trips
- The 2nd Monday of the month will become an online learning day during Category 2. This will help develop skills and improve online learning in the event of an extended closure
 - Students will stay home and do work during the normal school day schedule but it will be done online only
 - Teachers will have all lessons prepared prior to the start of the online day
 - Curriculum and assessment will continue like normal
 - Student attendance expectations for online days are the same as in class days
 - Each building will work with families to assist with devices and connectivity as needed

Category 3

- No face-to-face classes
- All students and teachers will be doing online learning at home during normal school hours
- Devices will be provided for K - 12 as needed
- Preschool students will be provided resources that parents can use to continue learning
- Internet Connectivity support for families will be provided as needed

Office Strategies And Other Non-Instructional Spaces

Category 1

- Maintain 6 ft. distance when possible
- Sanitize surface areas regularly and frequently
- Hand sanitizer at each workstation
- Morning procedures established in each building to limit large groups of student gathering prior to the start of school
- Lunch procedures in each building that increase distance between students and decrease numbers in the cafeteria during each lunch shift
- Dismissal procedures in each building that limit student interaction

Category 2

- Teacher Work Rooms: No seating, custodians routinely sanitize surface areas
- Increased precautions during lunch that include most students eating in the classroom
- Grab and Go breakfast and lunch options
- Require hand sanitizing at the start of all serving lines

Category 3

- Masks required for staff when in the building if social distancing cannot be maintained
- Students and families will not be allowed on campus
- Staff that can work from home will be allowed to do so
- Provide meals for pick up and delivery

Visitors

Category 1

- COVID-19 precautionary signs at entry points to school and in highly visible areas
- No irregular/unscheduled visitors
- Each building will develop a visitation procedure for appointments
- All visitors will be screened for health concerns before entering the building

Category 2

- Parent meetings limited to phone or teleconferencing when available
- No in person parent teacher conferences
- Parents remain in vehicles when dropping off or picking up

Category 3

- Essential staff only in the buildings

Co-Curricular and Extra-Curricular Event

Category 1

- Practices, games, and performances will go on as scheduled.
- Per MSHSAA guidelines, masks will be mandatory for all players, coaches, managers, staff, and event workers.
- Players can remove mask when performing strenuous physical activity
- No limits on attendance for spectators
 - For away games, there could be restrictions on attendance, please look for announcements for away game details.
- Masks will be highly encouraged for all spectators.
- Designated seating areas for home/visiting spectators.
- Family groups should sit together and maintain social distance from other families/groups
- Spectators should avoid crowds/lines at concession stands and bathrooms
- Locker room sanitized nightly
- Concession stands will be open
 - NO outside food will be allowed until further notice
- Encourage parents to transport students home from away games

Note: Students who are full on-line learning will be not eligible for extra-curricular activities.

Category 2

- Practices, games, and performances will go on as scheduled.
- Per MSHSAA guidelines, masks will be mandatory for all players, coaches, managers, staff, and event workers.
- Players can remove mask when performing strenuous physical activity
- No spectators will be allowed at games.

Category 3

- All practices and games will be postponed/cancelled

Transportation

Category 1

- Encourage parents to bring students to school
 - School buildings will be open at 7 am to allow more parent drop-off time
- Assigned seats on all buses
- Masks strongly encouraged
- Daily bus cleaning/disinfecting
- Riders should perform screening at home prior to boarding (See Screening section for details)

Category 2

- Cleaning/disinfecting after each run
- Increased request to have parent drop off students when possible
- Students are required to sanitize hands at the end of the day before they leave their last class if they are riding the bus.
- Masks mandatory for drivers and students

Category 3

- No transportation

Screening

Screening consists of a daily check for symptoms and exposure to COVID-19. The following checklist should be used as a guide:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Headache
- Muscle aches
- Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea
- New loss of taste or smell
- New runny or stuffy nose
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Sore throat
- Close contact (without face masks for both parties in contact, within six feet, for a duration of 15 minutes or more) with a person who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 in the last 14 days

Students and staff with 2-3 symptoms or exposure should not attend school and consult with their healthcare provider. A doctor's note will be required for return to school.

Note: This list is subject to change and updates will be provided to the school community through multiple sources including website and social media. Perfect attendance incentives will be suspended at this time and learning opportunities will be provided for students that are home ill for longer periods of time.

Category 1

- Parents are required to screen their student(s) at home daily
- Staff members are required to self screen and self check temperature at home daily

- Visitors to the school should be informed of the checklist and communicate to the school that they are symptom free and have not been exposed prior to entering the school buildings

Category 2

- Parents are required to screen their student(s) at home daily
- Parents should check temperature at home daily
- Teachers are required to screen at home daily
- Staff member will have temperature checks upon arrival at school daily

Confirmed Case in School

For students diagnosed with COVID-19 by a laboratory test, returning to school is permissible when they have a doctor's note stating they can return.

Returning to school for children with a cluster or 2-3 symptoms but no official COVID-19 diagnosis is at the discretion of their doctor and are allowed to return with a note from the doctor.

Students with only a fever:

1. **Without a doctor's note** - Must remain fever free for 72 hours without the use or fever reducing medications.
2. **With a doctor's note that indicates a diagnosis not related to respiratory illness, influenza or COVID-19** - Must be fever free for 24 hours without fever reducing medications.

Contact Tracing Following a Confirmed Case in School

- An Initial short-term dismissal may be required to allow the local health officials to gain a better understanding of the COVID-19 situation impacting the school. This allows the local health officials to help the school determine appropriate next steps, including whether an extended dismissal duration is needed to stop or slow further spread of COVID-19.
- Local health officials' recommendations for the scope and duration of school dismissals will be made on a case-by-case basis.
- During an extended dismissal all activities may also be cancelled.
- During school dismissals, school facilities will be disinfected according to CDC and local public health officials guidance.

Online Resources

CDC: Coronavirus Symptoms

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>

CDC: How to Protect Yourself and Others

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention.html>

CDC: When and How to Wash Your Hands

<https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/when-how-handwashing.html>

CDC: How to Wear Cloth Face Coverings

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover-guidance.html>

CDC: Social Distancing

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/social-distancing.html>

CDC: Checklist for Parents and Teachers

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/checklist.html>

DHSS & DESE School Reopening Guidance

<https://dese.mo.gov/sites/default/files/COVID-MO-K12-Reopening-Guidance.pdf>

Morgan County Health Department COVID-19

For additional information please contact the Morgan County Health Center at 573-378-5438.

The Morgan County R-II School District's back to school plan for the 2020-2021 school year is subject to change if local conditions warrant a tightening or loosening of any of the proposed guidelines.