

St. Elizabeth R-IV School District  
Re-Entry Plan for SY 2020



**Notice: Due to current county and state COVID-19 conditions, re-entry plans could change without notice and overnight.**

Presented to Board 7/22/2020  
Revised based on current recommendations 8/7/2020  
Revised based on current recommendations 8/11/2020

## **Introduction**

As the St. Elizabeth R-IV plans for the reopening of school, our goal is to provide a safe environment for our students and staff. We understand that these recommendations will be adopted, reviewed, and revised by the guidance given by the Federal, State, and Local health officials. As a district, we understand that this plan may create some inconvenience but we are following the guidelines and recommendations to minimize the spread of communicable diseases in our district. The intent of this plan is to provide a start to school that is as normal as possible and can be modified to best address ever-changing scenarios. The district will remain open until given guidance from the county health department, Department of Health and Senior Services, and/or an executive order from Governor Parsons deems it necessary to close our doors and switch to an alternative method of instruction (AMI).

## **Health Protocols**

1. We encourage parents to take daily temperatures of students before school each morning.
  - a. In the event a student is ill or exhibits signs of COVID-19 as listed in Appendix A, we ask the parents to follow the health protocol outlined by the district.
2. School Responsibilities
  - a. Hygiene - Create an appropriate schedule to wash/sanitize hands during the day. Additional hand sanitizing stations have been installed throughout the campus.
  - b. All students will practice social distancing when feasible.
  - c. All staff will self-monitor their temperatures daily.
  - d. All staff will also visually inspect students for signs or symptoms of illness
  - e. Temperature checks will take place each morning within the individual classroom
3. Illness Protocol
  - a. Appendix A - Health Protocol for Epidemic/Pandemics
  - b. If a student is excluded from school due to COVID-19 symptoms or has had a positive COVID-19 test, his or her siblings or other students living in the same household will be excluded from school and asked to self-quarantine according to health department guidelines. More details may be found in Appendix A.

## **Physical Plant**

1. Daily Routines
  - a. Disinfecting of common areas.
  - b. Try to keep doors open in the morning at drop off times so kids do not have to touch the handles. Keep classroom doors open while students are arriving in the classroom.
  - c. Limit access to building to essential personnel. Parents are not to walk students inside the building in the morning except for signing in student(s) to Before Care/After Care or the main office.
  - d. Records of any person other than students and staff that enter the building, their reason for being there, and the location(s) in the building they traveled to will be documented. Visitors are not allowed to enter the building without a scheduled appointment.

e. Students are encouraged to bring non-spill water bottles and not use the drinking fountains. Five new water bottle fill machines have been installed to limit touching of surfaces

## 2. Food Service

- a. Students will sanitize hands before getting silverware while in the lunch line.
- b. At times, where applicable, students may be asked to use styrofoam serving trays.
- c. Lunch schedules will be staggered as much as possible to avoid larger groups of students walking by other groups of students and to allow for the cafeterias to be cleaned and sanitized between each shift.

## **Transportation**

1. School bus drivers will self monitor temperatures before beginning their morning route.
2. Students will load back to front when possible and sit in family units.
3. Assigned seats will be utilized.
4. Only one bus will unload at a time to eliminate congestion at the front door.
5. Parents are encouraged, if possible, to walk or drive their students to school to reduce the bus occupancy.

## **Positive Case Protocol**

1. In the event a positive case is confirmed, the district will take the necessary steps to assist the county health department in contact tracing.
2. Schools or the district may be temporarily closed upon the recommendation of the county health department to allow for proper cleaning and sanitation.
3. The school district will contact parents/students and employees and notify them that a person who tested positive for COVID-19 was in the building and encourage cooperation with the school district and the local health department to trace contacts within 6' of the individual for more than 15 minutes. The individual who tested positive will not be identified in communications to the school community at large but may need to be selectively identified for contact tracing by the health department. Those in close contact with a positive individual require 14 days quarantine from the last exposure.

## **Education**

The following are two plans that our school district will implement this school year. (Plans could change at any time due to current conditions.)

1. Plan A - School in Session
2. Plan B - School is Closed
  - a. AMI virtual platform
  - b. Alternative assignments if internet/wi-fi is not available

## **Academics**

1. Learning Plans
  - a. District Wide Plan
    - i. **Plan A** - School in session
      1. Implement standard operating procedures while take preventative measures such as:
        - A. Encouraging hand washing and providing sanitizer for students and staff.
        - B. Conducting cleaning of classrooms and high-touch surfaces including school buses each day.
2. Establish an academic baseline:
  - a. At the beginning of the school year formative assessments will be administered in order to obtain an academic baseline for each student.
  - b. Teachers and administrators will conduct meetings to discuss where students are academically and create a plan on how to close the academic gap.
  - c. Prepare for potential future distance/virtual learning
  - d. Review State Standards and confirm by grade level when content will be covered during the school year.
  - e. Review the current AMI plan and make necessary changes to ensure quality instruction for all students.
  - f. Integrate Google Classroom and Pear Deck
  - g. When feasible, particularly in upper grades, conduct some lessons virtually through Google. The teacher will act as a facilitator to that lesson, thus increasing familiarity with the process in case school closure occurs.
  - h. Schedule school wide training on digital learning platforms
  - i. Google certification will be encouraged for teachers
  - j. Determine student's access to devices, wifi, adult supervision, and streaming capabilities should virtual learning be necessary again
  - k. Inform and prepare parents about Plan B.

ii. **Plan B** - If School is closed;

1. Implement AMI Plan
2. Distribute Chromebooks and AMI Folders
3. Teachers will be expected to maintain weekly office hours in order to provide tutoring, class meetings, or to provide any other necessary academic resources for students.
4. Teachers will be expected to participate in weekly Team Meetings.
5. Assure an appropriate placement for student work to be dropped off.
6. Communicate the location and dates/times that student work can be dropped off.
7. Communicate consistent expectations for completing assignments and how grades will be assigned.
8. Communicate to the community the plan for the distribution of meals.

## **Appendix A - St. Elizabeth R-IV School District Health Protocol for Epidemics/Pandemics**

It is essential for the school community to work together to prevent the introduction and spread of COVID-19 in the school environment and in the community while still providing a quality education program.

State statute gives public school districts the authority to exclude students who have a contagious disease such as COVID-19 or who are liable to transmit the disease after having been exposed to it. See 167.191, RSMo. In addition, the local health department has the authority to exclude students from school and may order students and others to isolate or quarantine. (19 CSR 20-20.05) The St. Elizabeth R-IV School District will be working closely with the local health departments on a daily basis to keep all staff, students and parents informed

### **Exclusion from School**

Students and employees will be excluded from school if they test positive for COVID-19 or exhibit two or more of the symptoms of COVID-19 based on CDC Guidance that is not otherwise explained. Should students and staff exhibit two or more of these symptoms, they should consult with their family physician.

- a) A fever of 100° F or greater or a combination of the following:
- b) Cough
- c) Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- d) Chills or Repeated shaking with chills
- e) Muscle or body aches
- f) Headache
- g) Sore throat
- h) New loss of taste or smell
- i) Fatigue
- j) Congestions and runny nose
- k) Nausea or vomiting
- l) Diarrhea

### **Screening**

The current CDC guidelines do not require screening of all students or employees for COVID-19 prior to entering a school building. Each student and family unit should self-screen prior to coming to school. Employees will be required to self-screen prior to the beginning of every school day. Students and employees exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 without other obvious explanations are prohibited from coming to school, and if they do come to school, they will be sent home immediately.

### **Medical Inquiries**

Given the nature of the pandemic, the school district may make additional medical inquiries of staff and students than they otherwise would have. Please note that federal law typically limits the type of medical inquiries that can be made but given the nature of the pandemic more leeway has been given by federal agencies in this circumstance. If a parent tells the school district that a student is ill, the school district may ask the parent whether the student is exhibiting any symptoms of COVID-19. If an employee calls in sick or appears ill, the school district will inquire as to whether the employee is experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms. The school district may take the temperature of students, employees and visitors to school property on a random basis or in situations where there is reason to believe that the person may be ill. If a person is obviously ill the school district may make additional inquiries and may exclude the person from school property.

### **Wearing Masks and other Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**

Some employees may be required to wear PPE when directed to do so by the district protocol or the employee's supervisor. Any person is welcome to wear a mask or PPE in the school building unless it inhibits the person's ability to perform his or her job, inhibits a student's ability to participate in the educational process or is disruptive to the educational environment.

### **Return to School After Exclusion**

Once a student or employee is excluded from the school environment, they may return if they satisfy the recommendations of the CDC. Currently those guidelines are:

#### A. Untested

Persons who have not received a test proving or disproving the presence of COVID-19 but experience symptoms may return if the following two conditions are met:

- a. They have not had a fever for 24 hours (that is one full day of no fever without the use of medicine that reduces fevers); and
- b. Other symptoms have improved (for example, when your cough or shortness of breath have improved)

#### B. Tested with symptoms

Persons who experienced symptoms and have been tested positive for COVID-19 may return to school if the following three conditions are met:

- a. They no longer have a fever (without the use of medicine that reduces fevers); and
- b. Other symptoms have improved (for example, when your cough or shortness of breath have improved); and
- c. Released date that was provided by the County Health Department

#### C. Tested with no symptoms

Persons who have not had symptoms but test positive for COVID-19 may return when they have gone seven (7) calendar days without symptoms and have been released by a healthcare provider.

***Students and staff may also return if they are approved to do so in writing by the student's health care provider.***

### **Siblings or Other Students in the Household**

If a student is excluded from school due to COVID-19 symptoms or has had a positive COVID19 test, his or her siblings or other students living in the same household will be excluded from school and asked to self-quarantine.

### **Self-Quarantine**

If a student or employee has recently had close contact with a person with COVID-19 symptoms or diagnosed with COVID-19 or has recently traveled from somewhere considered to be a "hot spot" by the CDC, the school district may exclude the student or employee from the school building and recommend that they self-quarantine for 14 calendar days.

### **Response to Exclusion from School or Self-Quarantine**

As soon as the school district becomes aware of a student or employee that may have COVID 19 or that has been excluded from school or recommended to self-quarantine, the custodial staff will be informed so that all desks, lockers and workspaces of the person are thoroughly disinfected.

### **Separation while in School**

Each school will have a room or space separate from the nurse's office where students or employees who may have COVID-19 or another communicable disease will wait to be evaluated or for pickup. Students will be given a mask to wear. Only essential staff and students assigned to the room may enter, and the room will be disinfected several times throughout the day. Social distancing will be practiced, and staff must wear appropriate PPE. Students who are ill will be walked out of the building to their parents.