

Bowling Green R-1  
Plan for Back to School  
2020-2021

A Focus on Safety  
and Continued Student Support

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# OVERVIEW

- All decisions and recommendations made related to the COVID-19 closure and reopening have been made with the blessing of the Pike County Health Department.
- Schools are required to work with their local health departments, and we have had a productive dialogue and planning sessions.
- After a very successful full length, in person summer school and graduation ceremonies with mitigation practices in place, we have confidence moving forward with the regular start date of August 24th, with continued adjustments.
- The reason we are taking these precautions is to avoid another school closure.

# MITIGATION STRATEGIES

- **Our plan is built with mitigation strategies within the following areas:**
  - **Daily Screening for illness or exposure to the novel coronavirus**
  - **Social Distancing**
  - **Increased Sanitation Practices**
  - **Personal Protective Equipment**
  - **Limited Visitor Access to Buildings**
  - **Remote Learning**
  - **Contact Tracing and Procedures for COVID19 Infections**

# DAILY SCREENING FOR ILLNESS OR EXPOSURE TO THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS.

- Students and staff who experience symptoms related to COVID-19 should not come to school.
- Parents and staff are required to self evaluate using this form daily (the same form used for summer school) and are required to stay home if symptoms present: <https://tinyurl.com/y8umh577>. We are not requiring individuals to turn this form in daily, but to commit to screening themselves daily, and let us know if anything changes.
- Temp taking at the entrance of our school buildings: 100.4 degrees or higher will require the individual to be isolated and sent home. Students and staff who are home with a fever must be fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medications and may return to school with a doctor's note with a diagnosis not related to COVID-19. Students and Staff without a doctor's note will need to wait to return until the full 14 days have passed since having a fever.

# SOCIAL DISTANCING

- Desks and student work stations will be spaced as far apart as possible
- In school gatherings such as assemblies, rallies, school parties, dances, etc., will not be held until further notice.
- Our Athletic Director will release additional details regarding extra/co-curricular activities based on recent guidance from the Missouri State High School Activities Association
- Assigned seating on buses and students sitting near families when possible and loaded from the back forward. Those who live within a mile of school are asked to walk or ride your bike and those who can ride with parents to school are encouraged to do so.
- Modifications will be communicated at the building level for adjusted lunch/breakfast practices, passing schedules, and reporting locations for arriving students.

# INCREASED SANITATION PRACTICES

- Bus drivers and Classroom Teachers along with our custodial staff will be wiping and disinfecting regularly throughout each day.
- Regular handwashing/hand sanitizing and avoiding drinking fountains. Please bring a refillable bottle for water with a tight lid.
- Staff will undergo sanitation training at our back to school professional development meetings in addition to virtual trainings.
- Avoid gatherings in restrooms, and maintain cleaning logs

# PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

- Students in grades 6-12 and staff will need to wear masks anytime they are not able to stay at least three feet from another person 15 minutes at a time and during passing times. If a student cannot afford a mask, the district will provide
- Students riding a school bus will need to wear masks
- Additional PPE will be provided to staff as appropriate along with sanitation materials

# LIMITED VISITOR ACCESS TO BUILDINGS

- Visitors will be required to be screened and wear a mask when entering the building.
- For this year, in place of the meet the teacher night, parents are asked to schedule a time with their teacher during the time we would have had meet the teacher night or another agreeable time.
- These restrictions may differ slightly for evening activities, which are optional to attend.

# REMOTE LEARNING

- For those in unique situations may work with their building principal and counselor with remote learning requests. These could include alternative methods of instruction, such as packet work, working alongside their classroom through Google Classroom (or another method), or fully virtual through Fueled By Launch for a specified limited time.
- Parents have already had the option to apply for virtual learning options that are considered by the local school principal and counselor starting with the 2019-2020 school year. This process will continue.
- Teachers are given time to develop mirror lessons to be presented virtually to secondary students or through packets should a student be quarantined and need support remotely to continue learning until approved to return.
- We are purchasing enough Chromebooks to have available to every secondary student moving us to a 1-to-1 platform for grades 6-12. Additional wireless access outside the BG and Frankford campuses is available, and we are in the process of securing hot spots for needed circumstances.

# CONTACT TRACING AND PROCEDURES FOR COVID-19 INFECTIONS

- AGAIN, the reason we are taking these precautions is to avoid another school closure.
- Students or staff who display symptoms while at school will be moved to our isolation room until they go home.
- If the Health Department lets us know of an infection, we may be required to send students or staff that have been in the close area to the infected individual home to quarantine. With assigned seating in classrooms and buses, we might be able to avoid sending an entire class or bus group home.
- If a school closes, all activities at that school will be cancelled or postponed.
- Those that test positive will not be able to return until they have been cleared by the local health department.

# ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- [CDC: Coronavirus Symptoms](#)
- [CDC: How to Protect Yourself & Others](#)
- [CDC: When and How to Wash Your Hands](#)
- [CDC: How to Wear Cloth Face Coverings](#)
- [CDC: Social Distancing](#)
- [CDC: Checklist for Parents & Teachers](#)
- [DHSS & DESE School Reopening Guidance](#)
- [Missouri State High School Activities Association Reopening Guidance](#)

# IN SUMMARY

I am grateful to our local health department, area school leaders, local school administration and nurses, our school board and our state education department who provided input and collaboration on our plans, as well as our families who participated in summer school providing much needed feedback.

We ask for flexibility and patience throughout this time keeping our focus on providing a safe learning and working environment for all. Individual school buildings will be sharing more specific information on how this implementation will look at each location.

This year will be a bit different in all schools across our country. But I am committed to return to in person learning, which is in the best interest of all of our students' social, emotional, and academic needs.

# MOVING FORWARD

This can be a very exciting year with the addition of our new K-12 Project Lead the Way programming, student internship program, and Gifted program along with the completion of many construction projects.

Additionally, we have been successful in updating our bus fleet with newer buses assisted by state and federal grant monies. Our FEMA tornado room at Frankford and additional parking lot entrance improvement applications are in the process for outside funding.

More on all of these exciting updates and more will be shared in the coming days.