

Pemiscot County Special School District

Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Service Plan (SRCSP)

2021-2022

IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19

**This document was created by
PCSSD Administrative Team**

The Pemiscot County Special School District is working toward a safe return to in-person instruction for the fall of 2021.

As the past school year has ended, the administrative team at PCSSD has worked along with stakeholders of the community, staff members to develop a plan for re-entry into the 2021-2022 school year. PCSSD is prepared to receive students this coming year in the least restrictive environment safely possible.

However, we must be attentive that this public health crisis has not officially ended. Adults, particularly those who are older and those with underlying health conditions, are at increased risk of serious illness from COVID-19. Our schools will continue to be prepared to reduce the chance that anyone will acquire this infection during the school day and armed with a protocol to respond to a case of infection. Our schools must be

poised to adapt to new emerging information in order to create a safe and enriched educational experience.

The Re-entry plan has been written with the understanding that the plan will be reviewed every 6 months.

Vaccinations

The District will work with the Health Department to provide vaccinations for all eligible individuals (staff and students).

Illness

If a staff member or student becomes sick while at school, the school nurses will screen the individual and check temperature. Once the screening is done, the district will follow the protocol from the Missouri Department of Health.

Social Distancing:

Social distancing of at least 6 feet remains one of the best preventative measures for reducing the spread of COVID-19. It is recognized that this cannot be accomplished at all times, and distancing of at least 3 feet has been shown to reduce infections. While children are unlikely to exhibit serious symptoms from COVID-19, social distancing helps prevent the spread to adults, especially those who may be at high risk.

Screening:

Parents and caregivers should screen children for symptoms at home, before coming to school, in accordance with the following checklist:

- Fever or Chills
- Cough
- Headache
- Muscle Aches
- Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea
- New loss of taste or smell
- New runny nose or congestion
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Sore Throat
- Close contact with a person with COVID-19 in the last 14 days.

On-site Screening for students:

Protocols have been developed by our district nursing staff to screen students who self-refer or are referred for symptoms. The school district will not, at this time, engage in mass screenings as they create unsafe bottle necks of traffic at entry points into facilities.

Screening for Staff Members:

Health data continues to reveal that adults are much more likely to spread the virus than children, unlike other viruses like influenza which children are more likely to transmit to others.

Face Coverings:

Face coverings are recommended in all settings but are not required at this time.

Intentional Flexibility:

In developing the plans, student and staff safety is one of our major priority. We will continue to coordinate with federal, state, and local officials as we make critical decisions regarding student, staff, and community safety while also providing quality instruction to all students. We will adapt to the level of threat accordingly. Some of these adaptations may be a challenge for staff, students, parents, and community.

Visitor Restrictions

PCSSD will not allow normal visitation to our campuses until the reopening date. Only PCSSD staff are allowed on campus during preparation for reopening. Once school resumes, visitors will be limited and must check-in through the main entrance of the buildings.

Our school district will have 3 phases. Phase I being the lowest level of community spread, full in-person learning. Phase 2 being a moderate level of community spread, hybrid learning (in-person and virtual). Phase 3 being at a substantial level of community spread (virtual).

Phase 1

PCSSD

will begin the school year in our Phase 1. Which has been slightly modified to align with the current changes and decreased risk factor due to cycling down of the pandemic along with the high percentage of vaccinations being administered. Parents will also be given the option to enroll their student in the District Virtual Learning Program.

- School will start on August 23, 2021 with in person classes.

- All classes will take place in the school buildings.
- Wellness Checks will take place on campus to monitor students and staff.
- Mask are recommended but not mandated. Students and staff are allowed to wear a mask.
- Accommodations may be considered for students that are considered to be severely at risk or have special, extenuating circumstances. This program is being offered for parents who have concerns about their child attending in-person school as a result of a preexisting documented medical condition and/or administration discretion. These cases will be handled on an individual base. Please contact the school if your child has severe health concerns so, if needed, a customized plan can be developed and implemented.
- If a positive test result comes to our attention, the district will follow the Missouri Department of Health guidance.

Classroom Protocols

- Classroom seating will be structured so that all students are facing the same direction
- Student desks will be spread apart with as much distance as possible
- Assigned seating will be required in classrooms
- Administration will provide orientation regarding COVID-19 to students and staff
- Teachers will encourage and allow time for students to practice good hygiene
- Hand sanitizers are placed throughout the hallways on all campuses and frequent use will be encouraged
- Heightened emphasis will be placed on cleaning/sanitizing classrooms. This includes the frequent wiping down of desks, keyboards, fogging of rooms, etc. throughout the day.
- Signage will be placed throughout buildings to emphasize safe practices.
- The following physical accommodations will be practiced-social distancing, class transitions, sharing of school supplies, etc.

Hallway Protocols

- Movement through the hallways will be one way. Signs for directions and physical distancing will be placed throughout the building.

Bus Protocol

- Parents will be expected to screen their children prior to the children getting on the bus.
- All students riding a bus may be required to wear a mask at all times.
- Parents will be encouraged not to send a child to school who is sick or not feeling well.

- Buses will run with normal capacity but with social distancing restriction guidelines.
- Buses will be cleaned and sanitized after each route.
- Students will be assigned seats on the bus.
- Family groups will be seated together.

Facilities / Custodial / Maintenance Protocols

- Frequently touched surfaces such as door handles, light switches, stair railings and other frequently touched surfaces will be disinfected multiple times during the day.
- Restrooms will be disinfected multiple times during the day. Schedules will be posted, and employees will sign off at the time when the work is completed.
- Hand sanitizer will be available in all classrooms and throughout the buildings.
- Signs will be posted in the classrooms and restrooms with directions on how to effectively wash hands.

Breakfast and Lunch Protocol

- OVLC will have breakfast and lunch in the cafeteria.
- All tables and chairs in the cafeteria will be disinfected after breakfast and lunch.
- Times will be adjusted for cleaning purposes. Spacing of the students will be utilized.

Playground and Recess Protocol

- Hand washing/sanitizing hands upon reentry to the building after recess
- Playground surfaces will be cleaned routinely

Athletic and Extra Curricular Events

- Activities will follow each protocol as in each phase.

Health Services / Guidance Protocols

- Students and staff should not attend school if they are exhibiting symptoms of having an infectious disease, e.g. coughing, sneezing, shortness of breath, fever.
- In the event your child comes to school exhibiting signs of illness, parents will be called to pick up that child.
- Training will be provided to all staff on the signs and symptoms of any infectious disease.
- Training will be provided to all staff and students on proper personal hygiene (handwashing), illness containment practices (covering mouth and nose when sneezing) and social distancing.

- Masks are optional at this time but could be mandated based on community outbreak
- Any student or staff member exhibiting signs of illness will be sent to the nurse immediately for evaluation.
- Any student or staff member with a fever will be sent home and will remain at home until fever free for 24 hours without medication.
- Students with symptoms 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 had three days with no fever (with no fever reducing medicine) and has improving symptoms. Return to school for children with an alternate diagnosis is at the discretion of their healthcare provider and/or the school nurse. Children with a known close contact with COVID-19 (or an adult with symptoms compatible with COVID-19) should stay home for 14 days from their last contact and until return to school is approved by the local health department in accordance with the CDC guidance.
- Any student or staff member sent home with a fever must be reevaluated by the nurse before returning to the school.
- Nurse offices will maintain an adequate supply of personal protective gear (masks, gloves, disinfectant, thermometers) to evaluate for the disease and reduce the spread of the disease.
- Students and staff who may be at high risk of being infected will be identified. The nurse will work with these individuals / families to develop a preventative plan and to monitor closely.
- Should a staff member, student or visitor to the building test positive for COVID-19, it may be necessary to close the school short term (2-5 days) to deep clean and disinfect the building
- Students and staff that have need of social, emotional, and mental health services will have access to district guidance counselors, the district social worker, and the school based mental health clinic with services provided by FCC.

Health Services / Guidance Protocols will be implemented in both Phase 1 and 2.

Staffing Work Protocols

- Staff will regularly clean and disinfect workspaces.
- Workstations will be rearranged to ensure employees are properly social distanced.
- Every effort will be made to reduce the number of staff meetings held, unless social distancing can be maintained.
- Barriers and / or sneeze guards will be installed at reception areas and workspaces where the environment does not accommodate social distancing.

- Staff members will wear a mask if working in close proximity with students, another staff member or visitor.
- District will coordinate with local health facilities to provide vaccinations to staff members willing to be vaccinated.

Staffing Protocols will be implemented in both Phase 1 and 2.

Phase 2 – Blended Instruction

- The students will be able to use Google Classroom. The lesson assigned will be curriculum related lesson. OVLC students will be given educational packets for the days they are learning at home.
- Teachers will track completion of assignments on a weekly basis and provide feedback to students.
- Virtual instruction and assignments will contain the same content as in-person instruction/assignments.
- Virtual assignments will be required and graded as assigned.
- Breakfast and lunch will be available for pick up on the days a student is not in school. Locations on all meals will be announced at a later date.
- On days that students are on campus; the same Protocol will remain in place as in Phase 1.

Phase 3 – Virtual Learning / AMI

- In the event that schools may be closed for an extended amount of time: Virtual Learning and Packets will be available. Should this ever happen again, we would like our instruction to be uniform across the board. Google Classroom and Packets will be incorporated for our OVLC and Career Technology Students . Our students will receive to access this educational alternative program. Teachers will be able to assign and monitor their progress. OVLC teachers have created packets for each grade level that we would use as “Emergency Go-Packets.”. Teachers will contact students and parents to help in any way. Teachers will be available to work with students virtually if available to the student. Work must be monitored.
- Staff will report to work as normal but will be in isolation.