

PLAN FOR SAFE RETURN TO IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION AND CONTINUITY OF SERVICES

REQUIRED ELEMENTS OF A LOCAL PLAN

1. **Policies for Mitigation Strategies:** Plan for incorporating eight different mitigation strategies included in current CDC guidance.
2. **Continuity of Services:** Plan to address academic and non-academic services for students and staff.
3. **Periodic Review:** Review at least every 6 months through September 30, 2023 and revise plan as appropriate.
4. **Public Input:** Seek public input and incorporate revisions as necessary.

DEADLINE: June 24, 2021

DIRECTIONS: Post the plan to the school or district website and then email that link (URL) to: continuityplan@education.ohio.gov

RESOURCES:

[ODE American Rescue Plan: Safe Return to In-person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plans](#)

[CDC Operational Strategy for K-12 Schools through Phased Prevention](#)

School District: Olmsted Falls City School District

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UPDATED February 26, 2022 (plan changes in red)

POLICIES FOR INCORPORATING MITIGATION STRATEGIES

Describe to what extent the following policies have been adopted to incorporate the following [CDC Mitigation Strategies](#) and provide a description of any policies being implemented:

- Universal and correct wearing of masks
- Physical distancing
- Handwashing and respiratory etiquette
- Cleaning and maintaining health facilities, including improving ventilation
- Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the state and local health departments
- Diagnostic and screening testing
- Efforts to provide vaccinations to educators, other staff and eligible students
- Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to the health and safety policies

OFCS General Statement: the district has policies and guidelines for masks, physical distancing, handwashing and respiratory etiquette, cleaning and contract tracing. The requirements in this plan make it seem as though school districts have not experienced a pandemic, don't know how to operate within a pandemic and assume that the majority of districts have not followed the rules.

- Masking
 - The CDC, Ohio Dept of Health and other health care professionals “strongly recommend mask wearing for vaccinated and unvaccinated persons.” Masks work to prevent the spread of COVID19.
 - The district supports the recommendation of the CDC and other health care providers.
 - **1/21/22: the district no longer requires the implementation of Board Policy 8450.01 (masking) for students in grades PreK-12.**
 - **Effective 2/25/22 The CDC will no longer require that masks be worn on buses or vans operated by public or private schools. OFCSD will no longer require students or drivers to wear masks on district vehicles. Anyone who chooses to wear a mask may do so.**
- Physical distancing
 - The district will follow the recommendations from the CDC and the local Board of Health to the extent that it is able to do so. By having all students in school 5-days per week there will be times where we are unable to have students distanced at 3-feet in particular buildings and at particular times. Listed below are the specifics at each of the district's schools. All specific questions regarding distancing should be directed to the building administration.
 - ECC: Due to the return to all day kindergarten and a lack of physical space available, students will not be distanced at 3-feet due to a lack of overall physical space.

- Falls-Lenox: Students, in general, will be distanced at 3-feet.
- Olmsted Falls Intermediate School: Students will be distanced by at least 3-feet.
- Olmsted Falls Middle School: Due to the lack of physical space, students will not be able to be consistently distanced by 3-feet.
- Olmsted Falls High School: Due to the lack of physical space, students will not be able to be consistently distanced by 3-feet.

NOTE: During lunch time, the district will be unable to assure at least 3-feet of distancing across all buildings.

- Handwashing and respiratory etiquette
 - Signage will continue to remain in all of our facilities for proper handwashing and respiratory etiquette
 - We will encourage students and staff to cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue when not wearing a mask and immediately wash/sanitize their hands after blowing their nose, coughing, or sneezing.

- Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation
 - We will continue to implement our strategies to improve classroom ventilation.
 - The district has had consistent COVID-19 clearing protocols in place. These include:
 - High touch areas disinfected
 - Lunchroom tables wiped down and disinfected between each lunch
 - Recess equipment disinfected between each recess
 - Nightly
 - Trash removed, classrooms swept, sinks cleaned, and the entire classroom area disinfected (including desks) using advanced equipment purchased this year through COVID-19 Relief Funds.
 - Every bathroom cleaned, mopped and disinfected
 - Additional deep cleaning of all areas on rotational basis
 - Buses
 - Masks will continue to be required at all times while riding on the school bus.
 - All school buses will be disinfected between all routes and cleaning will be done on a consistent basis.
 - Our intention is to use ESSER-3 resources to purchase more efficient and updated HVAC units in our buildings to assist with ventilation.

- Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, will be in collaboration with the state and local health departments.
 - The district will continue to collaborate with healthcare partners and follow the guidance from the CDC and our local board of health with regards to contact tracing, isolation and quarantining. It should be noted that Ohio Senate Bill 22 limits the authority of both the Governor’s Office and local health boards to enforce quarantine procedures.
 - We will advise students to stay home when appropriate; isolate when medically diagnosed and we will investigate cases and contract trace as directed.

- Quarantine Guidelines for OFCS Students & Staff
 - The district will follow any direct order from the Ohio Board of Health or Cuyahoga County Board of Health.
 - The district will use discretion for decision making when it is available.

- Diagnostic and screening testing
 - The district staff will continue to be vigilant with symptom identification and will encourage those who are sick to stay home and if sickness continues, to go and see a doctor.
 - The district has taken the stance that it will not distribute tests to families or conduct our own, but we will educate and encourage testing.

- Efforts to provide vaccinations to educators, other staff and eligible students
 - Staff
 - In coordination with Giant Eagle, school district staff took part in a vaccination clinic provided by the Northeast Ohio ESC in February and March of 2021. While we don’t have a precise percentage of staff that have been vaccinated, we believe it is approximately 80%.
 - Students
 - The district coordinated a vaccination clinic for students 16+ in May and June with Discount Drug Mart. In addition, the district has pushed and it will continue to do so, vaccination opportunities for children.
 - Adults in general
 - While all vaccinations are currently under emergency approval from the FDA, our information indicates that this will change in September or October. The district strongly encourages all adults to get vaccinated to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

- Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to the health and safety policies
 - The district recognizes that there are Federal and state disability laws that require an individualized approach for students with disabilities consistent with the student’s IEP or Section 504 plan. Our staff will be reminded that we all must remain aware of their obligations under federal and state disability laws and should also consider adaptations and alternatives to prevention strategies, while maintaining efforts to protect students, teachers, and staff from COVID-19.

PLAN TO ADDRESS CONTINUITY OF ACADEMIC AND NON-ACADEMIC SERVICES

Describe how you will address continuity of services for students and staff, where needed, in the following areas:

1. Academic Services
2. Social-Emotional
3. Mental Health
4. Health
5. Food

Academic Services

Our district plan is to utilize our ESSER funds to remain open 5-days per week so that we can provide consistent services to our students. This includes--academic services, social-emotional and mental health, physical health and food services. We strongly believe that we are at our best when we are in person and will do what we need to do that is within our control to remain open so that all five of these very important components can be met.

Social-Emotional

The district addresses this area through classroom guidance and our district Positive Behavior Intervention Supports. We have incorporated the tenets of Be Safe, Respectful, Responsible and Kind throughout the system.

Mental Health

Based on feedback from our stakeholders, student mental health is a priority and the impact of COVID19 on our students' mental health is an area that needs to be addressed. We use some of our Federal COVID19 resources to partner with a local mental health provider to support our students and families over the next 3-years.

Health

We partnered with PSI for a school nurse and other ancillary health support staff and will continue to do so.

Food

The district takes part in the Federal Lunch Program and will continue to provide food support to all of our families.

Families should know that breakfast and lunch will be free again this school year thanks to a change in the Federal guidelines. In addition, the district will be participating in the Seamless Summer Option for the 2021-2022 school year. Under this option, all children in school will receive breakfast and lunch at no charge.

We believe that when we were not open 5-days per week that with the exception of Food, items 1-4 above were an issue. With the introduction of a vaccine and a significant decline in cases, we are optimistic that we will begin school in-person, 5-days per week. Again, our plan to address continuity of these services is to be open 5-days per week. Should that change, we will adjust accordingly and are in a much better position now, due to our experience.

PERIODIC REVIEW

1. Describe how you will conduct a review of your plan at least every 6 months.
2. Describe how you will revise the plan as appropriate.

Plan Review

- The plan has been reviewed with our Board of Education in a public meeting (June 17, 2021).
- The plan was reviewed with the Executive Council of our Parent-Teacher Organization in June of 2021.
- The district's Executive Cabinet will review our plan weekly.
- Our Administrative Council (consisting of all central office administrators, directors and building principals) will conduct an internal review of our plan on the fourth Wednesday of every month beginning August 25, 2021).

Plan Revisions

- Should the COVID-19 conditions change within our community, region or state we will meet and revise our plan.

PUBLIC INPUT

1. Describe how you will seek public input.
2. Describe how you will take public input into account when making revisions.
3. *Review Period:* What revisions were made and why?

The district's primary methods to obtain public input and participation will be through the creation and dissemination of a questionnaire and through word of mouth. We will provide multiple avenues for the public to provide their input.

STAKEHOLDER GROUPS

- Full community: Public Board of Education Meetings
- Booster Groups/Associations: The district has multiple stakeholder groups that it engages with. These include: our Parent-Teacher Organizations, Key Communicators, our Academic and Athletic Booster groups, the Music Association and so on. We will solicit the opinions of these groups throughout the year. Because we engage with these types of groups throughout the year, there will be on-going opportunities.
- Key Communicators: The district has had a Key Communicators group in place for approximately two years. This is a group of about 50 Olmsted Community Residents who represent a wide-array of stakeholders throughout our community. Included within this group are parents, the Presidents of many of our district student-support groups, students, a number of elected officials, residents without children in our schools and so on. Key Communicators were chosen due to their interest and ability to communicate with multiple constituent groups. Their job is to essentially be the pulse of our community at large, disseminate information and correct misinformation about the school system.

GREATER COMMUNITY

- We will specifically solicit opinions from our community members to share at our public school board meetings.
- Our survey will be disseminated broadly and we will use both printed and social media to provide notice.

This plan was reviewed and revised on February 26, 2022.