

UPDATED FOR 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR

(7/22/21)

Return to In-Person Instruction Plan

The U.S. Department of Education and the Indiana Department of Education have required each school corporation to post a general update for the start of school in 2021-2022. This will meet the requirements of the ESSER III grant

Important Points of Emphasis

- 1. Any changes in this update supersedes the original Tri-Central "Return to In-Person Instruction Plan".
- 2. It is understood that several changes in COVID-19 protocols took place during the 2020-2021. This update will address changes from the practices that were in-place at the end of Summer School on July 1, 2021.
- 3. It should be noted that changes written into this update reflect the current COVID-19 data along with the current CDC, Indiana State Department of Health, and the Tipton County Health Department Guidelines as of July 20, 2021. The school will adapt and change the plan accordingly as our federal, state, and county health departments dictate.
- 4. This document will continue to be a working document with updates and collaboration of all parties involved in the very 1st plan one year ago. Public Comment is welcome.

Updates

1. As of July 1, 2021 the plan for the start of school for the 2021-2022 school year is a "return to normal". The meaning of this is that all activities, protocols, and safety precautions will return to the same status as what was in effect before the COVID-19 Pandemic began in March of 2019. The only exception to this might be a few practices that were developed during the pandemic and will be kept in place as they were determined to be best for students even when there is no pandemic.

- 2. There will be no masks requirements for students or staff. The wearing of masks will be left totally up to the individuals and their parents. The Tri-Central School Board will be the only entity that may require students, teachers, and staff to wear masks. If masks are required at a later date, we will follow the universal and correct way of wearing masks
- 3. A federal law is mandating that all schools across the U.S. require the wearing of masks by all students, adults, and the driver when riding on a school bus. This would include to and from school, all field trips, and all extra-curricular activities. This law supersedes the rules set forth by our local school board.
- 4. The teaching and practice of hand washing along with respiratory etiquette will happen throughout the school, K-12.
- 5. Social distancing when possible will continue at all levels.
- 6. The custodial staff will continue with their current practices of cleaning and sanitizing the school. The spraying of the buses will go back to once a week and classrooms to twice a week. This replaces the practice of daily spraying.
- 7. Virtual school will not be offered at the request of the student or parent as the school will be penalized by the state for this practice.
- 8. If a student has a medical situation where they are unable to attend school, the administration may offer the option of eLearning or virtual school for the individual student. This could also happen in a situation of "contact tracing".
- 9. The school nurse will be the resource for parents, students, and staff for all testing, screening, and vaccination availability in the Tri-Central area.
- 10. Individuals should isolate for 10 days following the onset of symptoms or a positive test result of COVID-19.
- 11. Students will be Contact Traced if they have been within 6 feet of a person diagnosed with COVID-19 for a total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period.
 - a. <u>Vaccinated</u> close contacts do not have to quarantine, but should monitor for symptoms and isolate if symptoms develop
 - b. <u>Unvaccinated</u> individuals who are identified as a close contact must quarantine. Asymptomatic close contacts may return on day 8 (with specific negative testing and precautions), day 11 (with precautions), or day 15 (without testing or precautions).

Students with Disabilities

Tri-Central Community Schools will take great care and precaution of providing accommodations for our students with disabilities with respect to health and safety protocols.

Re-Evaluations

- 1. This update along with the entire plan will be re-evaluated and updated every six months.
- 2. The re-evaluation will be a collaborative effort between the administration, school board, staff, parents, and community members.
- 3. All results and changes will be updated on the school website.