## Oak Hill United School Corporation Re-Entry Plan for the 2021-22 School Year





## **Considerations and Recommendations for Oak Hill United School Corporation**

The Indiana Department of Education, in partnership with the Indiana State Department of Health, has developed guidance to support districts and communities in determining their plans and strategies for reopening schools. Indiana's Considerations for Learning and Safe Schools (IN-CLASS) COVID-19 Health and Safety Re-entry Guidance document combined with data, feedback, and input from staff and community members was used in determining our plans and strategies for reopening Oak Hill schools. The path to reentry for Oak Hill provides a tiered approach with clear, actionable steps that are advisable before students and employees return to school buildings, along with guidance that is applicable throughout the 2020-2021 school year.



This approach is built upon the guidance and recommendations of health officials; it is strongly aligned to the reopening guidelines provided by our state and federal leaders; and is designed to help Oak Hill United School Corporation prioritize the health and safety of students, teachers, and the community with opening school buildings and delivering instruction for the 2021-2022 school year.

The path for Oak Hill United School Corporation to return to school focuses heavily on the health and physical requirements necessary for reopening school buildings. The Indiana Department of Education and the Indiana State Department of Health will provide ongoing guidance and recommendations to districts and schools on navigating the

academic, social, and emotional effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on students and employees.

Path for Re-entry for OHUSC Schools provides considerations, recommendations, and best practices to ensure a safe and successful 2021-2022 school year. This guidance is not mandated, or state required. Local school districts have the authority and flexibility to meet their individual needs and be responsive to their communities.

## **Addressing Community Spread**

LEVEL OF COMMUNITY SPREAD (AS DETERMINED BY STATE AND LOCAL

**HEALTH OFFICIALS)** 

Substantial Spread	Minimal/Moderate Spread	Low/No Spread
<ul> <li>Coordinate with local and state DPH health officials</li> <li>Participate in contact tracing efforts and specimen collection efforts as directed by local health officials (to the extent feasible)</li> <li>Schools that are closed, remain closed. Implement distance/remote learning (see Serving School Meals and Supporting Teaching and Learning).</li> <li>Close off affected areas and if possible, wait 24 hours before cleaning and disinfecting.</li> <li>Consider ways to accommodate needs of children, teachers/staff, and families at higher risk for severe illness (see Protecting Vulnerable Populations for considerations)</li> <li>For additional guidance on addressing community spread, see the CDC's Considerations for Schools</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Establish and maintain communication with local and state DPH health officials</li> <li>Participate in contact tracing efforts and specimen collection efforts as directed by local health officials (to the extent feasible)</li> <li>Implement enhanced social distancing measures (see Transitioning, Large Group Gatherings, and Teaching and Learning)</li> <li>Post signage in classrooms, hallways, and entrances to communicate how to stop the spread. COVID-19 symptoms, preventative measures (including staying home when sick), good hygiene, and school/district specific protocols</li> <li>Establish a protocol for students/staff who feel ill/experience symptoms when they come to school (see When a Child, Staff Member, or Visitor Becomes Sick at School)</li> <li>Isolate and deep clean impacted classrooms and spaces</li> <li>Consider ways to accommodate needs of children, teachers/staff, and families at higher risk for severe illness (see Protecting Vulnerable Populations for considerations)</li> </ul> Districts have the authority and flexibility to close school buildings and	<ul> <li>Establish and maintain communication with local and state DPH health officials</li> <li>Participate in contact tracing efforts and specimen collection efforts as directed by local health officials (to the extent feasible)</li> <li>Post signage in classrooms, hallways, and entrances to communicate how to stop the spread. COVID-19 symptoms, preventative measures (including staying home when sick), good hygiene, and school/district specific protocols</li> <li>Establish a protocol for students/staff who feel ill/experience symptoms when they come to school (see When a Child, Staff Member, or Visitor Becomes Sick at School)</li> <li>Consider ways to accommodate needs of children, teachers/staff, and families at higher risk for severe illness (see Protecting Vulnerable Populations for considerations)</li> </ul>
	utilize distance/remote learning as needed.	1

## **Definitions**

## Face Coverings



Recommendations regarding face coverings differ based on the level of community spread and can be found throughout this document. Information should be provided to staff, students, and families on proper use, removal, and washing of cloth face coverings. Any policy regarding face coverings should be sensitive to the needs of students and staff with medical issues that make the wearing of a face covering inadvisable.

> CDC Guidance

## Hand Sanitizer



Hand sanitizers should contain at least 60% alcohol and only be used with staff and older children who can safely use hand sanitizer. Hand soap should be used for younger children.

> CDC Guidance

## Clean & Disinfect

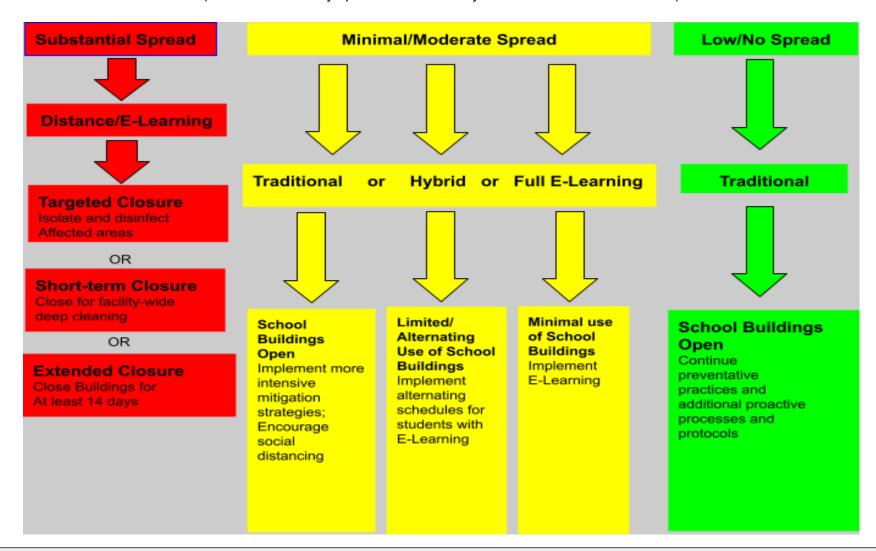


Ensure safe and correct application of disinfectants and keep out of reach of children.

> CDC Guidance

## Oak Hill United School Corporation Re-Entry Plan

(Level of community spread determined by state and local health officials)



## School District Decision Tree

OHUSC's Re-entry plan not only provides considerations for school leaders as they develop their own plans for restarting school this fall but provides a flexible framework to address challenges that may develop throughout the 2021-2022 school year. Instead of a one-size-fits-all approach, the above District Decision Tree provides a menu of instructional models and responses districts can adopt to ensure the continued success and safety of students and staff members.

## Oak Hill United School Corporation Re-Entry Plan

Level of
Community Spread
(as determined by
state and local
health officials)

## Substantial Spread

RECOMMENDATIONS

## Minimal/Moderate Spread

RECOMMENDATIONS

## Low/No Spread

RECOMMENDATIONS

## Practicing Prevention



## **District/School Considerations:**

- Use social media and other communications to inform parents, students, and staff about COVID-19 symptoms, preventative measures, good hygiene, and school/district specific protocols
- Encourage COVID-19 testing

## **CDC** Guidance

How to Protect Yourself and Others COVID-19 Symptoms COVID-19 and Children Communication Tools

Indiana State Department of Health website <a href="https://www.in.gov/isdh/">https://www.in.gov/isdh/</a> | Find COVID-19 testing sites

COVID-19 Hotline Call: 877-826-0011 Crisis Contacts

Support for people in distress, prevention and crisis resources

## Return to School

Launching a Return to School Committee Roadmap for Wellness

### District/School Considerations:

- Teach and reinforce good hygiene measures such as handwashing, covering coughs, and face coverings
- Provide hand soap and hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol, paper towels, and no-touch trash cans in all bathrooms, classrooms, and frequently trafficked areas
- Post signage in classrooms, hallways, and entrances to communicate how to stop the spread. COVID-19 symptoms, preventative measures (including staying home when sick), good hygiene, and school/district specific protocols.
- Clean/disinfect frequently touched surfaces at least daily and shared objects after each use
- Provide masks and other appropriate PPE to staff
- Allow students and staff to bring hand sanitizer and face masks/coverings to use from home
- Take steps to ensure all water systems and features are safe
- Turn off water fountains and provide bottled water or allow students and staff to bring water bottles from home
- Ensure ventilation systems operate properly and increase circulation of outdoor air as much as possible, as long as this does not pose a safety or health risk to students or staff
- Conduct deep cleaning of schools prior to students/staff returning; schedule additional cleanings during weekends or school holidays/breaks

### CDC Guidance

Reopening Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfecting Schools Guidance for Reopening Buildings After Prolonged Shutdown

### **District/School Considerations:**

- Teach and reinforce good hygiene measures such as handwashing, covering coughs, and face coverings
- Provide hand soap and hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol, paper towels, and no-touch trash cans in all bathrooms, classrooms, and frequently trafficked areas
- Post signage in classrooms, hallways, and entrances to communicate how to stop the spread. COVID-19 symptoms, preventative measures (including staying home when sick), good hygiene, and school/district specific protocols.
- Clean/disinfect frequently touched surfaces at least daily and shared objects after each use
- Allow students and staff to bring hand sanitizer and face masks/coverings to use from home
- Allow staff to wear face masks/covering, and other appropriate PPE as desired
- Take steps to ensure all water systems and features are safe
- Ensure ventilation systems operate properly and increase circulation of outdoor air as much as possible
- Conduct deep cleaning of schools prior to students/staff returning; schedule periodic cleanings during weekends or school holidays/breaks

### CDC Guidance

Reopening Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfecting Schools Guidance for Reopening Buildings After Prolonged Shutdown

## Return to School

Roadmap for Facilities

## **Transporting Students**



## School buildings are closed; buses used to deliver meals to

students and families

## **District/School Considerations:**

Reduce contact by delivering a week's worth of meals during a designated time (ex: delivering a week's worth of meals every Monday)2

<sup>2</sup>Subject to future USDA meal waiver approval

## **District/School Considerations:**

- Provide hand sanitizer for students and bus drivers
- Provide face masks for bus drivers: allow students to wear face masks/coverings
- Screen students and bus drivers for symptoms of illness and utilize spaced seating (to the extent practicable)
- Eliminate field trips
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces on the bus at least daily
- Establish protocols for bus stops. loading/unloading students to minimize congregation of children from different households

CDC Guidance

What Bus Operators Need to Know

## **District/School Considerations:**

- Implement standard operating procedures while taking preventative measures such as:
  - Providing hand sanitizer for students and bus drivers
  - Allowing bus drivers and students to wear face masks/coverings
  - Limiting field trips (to areas of limited/low transmission)
  - Inspecting buses prior to students returning and as part of a regular rotation
  - Cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched surfaces on the bus at least daily
  - Airing out buses when not in use

## **Entering** School Buildings<sup>3</sup>



## essential staff report in-person to carry out functions that are absolutely necessary. **District/School Considerations:**

School buildings are closed:

districts should require only that

District/school leaders must remain vigilant and purposeful as they determine roles. responsibilities, and reporting requirements for staff, refraining from blanket reporting requirements District/school leaders should leverage virtual tools and platforms wherever possible to conduct essential business and keep in-person reporting to an absolute minimum during school closures

## **District/School Considerations:**

- Post signage in classrooms, hallways, and entrances to communicate how to stop the spread. COVID-19 symptoms, preventative measures (including staying home when sick), good hygiene, and school/district specific protocols.
- Establish a protocol for students/staff who feel ill/experience symptoms when they come to school
- Mark spaced lines to enter the building and designate entrance and exit flow
- Screen students and staff (to the extent practicable):
  - Take temperatures ideally before entering buildings
  - Isolate and send home if internal temperature over 100.4°F (38°C)
  - Consider safety and privacy concerns (confidentiality should be maintained)
- Establish a protocol for visitors: call the front office before entering, screening visitors, requesting use of face coverings/masks, etc. Restrict nonessential visitors and volunteers.
- Establish a protocol for student pick/drop up: staggered entry and release (by grade, class. or bus numbers), marked spacing for pickup

## **District/School Considerations:**

Implement standard operating procedures while taking preventative measures such as:

- Provide hand sanitizer for students and staff
- Limit unnecessary congregations of students
- Post signage in classrooms, hallways, and entrances to communicate how to stop the spread. COVID-19 symptoms, preventative measures (including staying home when sick), good hygiene, and school/district specific protocols
- Establish a protocol for students/staff who feel ill/experience symptoms when they come to school (see When a Child, Staff Member, or Visitor Becomes Sick at School)
- Establish a protocol for visitors: call the front office before entering. screening visitors, requesting use of face coverings/masks, etc.

American Health Care Association

COVID-19 Screening Checklist for Visitors

Society for Human Resources Management (SHRM) Coronavirus Warning Poster for Entrances

have authority over school calendars meaning they have full authority to set start and end dates. holidays/breaks, and school hours, provided

instructional requirements

are met.

## 3School Calendars:

Local school districts

## Serving Meals

## School buildings are closed. District/School Considerations:

Practice established social distancing protocols to the greatest extent practicable Provide PPF to participating staff Reduce contact by delivering a week's worth of meals during a designated time (ex: delivering a week's worth of meals every Monday)2 Distribute printed instructional packets/ materials and district/school communications along with meals

### **District/School Considerations:**

- Allow student hand washing before and after meal service
- Provide hand sanitizer for students and staff
- Use disposable plates, utensils, etc.
- Mark spaced lines to enter the cafeteria and serving lines (to the extent practicable); designate entrances and exit flow paths; stagger use
- Conduct cleaning of cafeterias and high-touch surfaces throughout the school day

## Alternative Serving Models:

- Serving meals in classrooms
- Serving meals in cafeterias with:
  - Spaced serving lines (marked on floors)
  - Spaced seating (utilize outdoor space as practicable and appropriate)
  - Longer meal periods for more staggered meal delivery (utilizing state seat time waiver to extend meal periods)
  - Consider pre-packaged boxes or bags for each student instead of traditional serving lines. Avoid sharing of foods and utensils.

## **District/School Considerations:**

- Implement standard operating procedures while taking preventative measures such as:
  - Providing hand sanitizer for students and staff
  - Allowing students and staff to wear face masks/coverings while in large group gatherings
  - Conducting cleaning of cafeterias and high-touch surfaces throughout the school day

## **Transitioning**



## School buildings are closed.

## **District/School Considerations:**

- Limit mixing between groups (to the extent practicable)
- For class changes and other transitions throughout the school day:
  - Provide additional time for transitions (utilizing state seat time waiver to extend transition period)
  - Designate areas of the hallway (i.e. lanes) as flow paths to keep students separated students to minimize congregation of students
  - Plan staggered class (ex: by hall, odd/even room numbers, grade/ discipline) changes to decrease number of students in hallways at one time
  - Have the same group of students stay with the same staff (all day for young children and as much as feasible for older children)

## **District/School Considerations:**

- Implement standard operating procedures while taking preventative measures such as:
  - Allowing students and staff to wear face masks/coverings while in large group gatherings
  - Conducting cleaning of hallways and high-touch surfaces throughout the school day
  - Designating areas of the hallway (i.e. lanes) to walk to keep students separated (to the extent practicable)

## Conducting Large Group Gatherings



## School buildings are closed.

 Abide by the maximum number of people allowed to congregate as defined by the Governor's current statewide Executive Order

## **District/School Considerations:**

- Abide by the maximum number of people allowed to congregate as defined by the Governor's current statewide Executive Order
- Discourage the congregation of students in parking lots and common areas
- Stagger the schedule for large group gatherings (i.e. recess and school meals)
- Identify and utilize large spaces (i.e. gymnasiums, auditoriums, outside spaces – as weather permits) for social distancing
- Follow Indiana High School Association guidelines for sporting events and practices

## **District/School Considerations:**

- Implement standard operating procedures while taking preventative measures such as:
  - Providing hand sanitizer for students and staff
  - Allowing students and staff to wear face masks/coverings
  - Limiting unnecessary congregations of students and staff
  - Follow Indiana High School Association guidelines for sporting events and practices

## Supporting Teaching and Learning



## School buildings are closed. District/School Considerations:

- Implement a robust E-Learning Plan
- American School Counselor
   Association
   School Counseling
   During COVID-19:
   Online Lessons and
   Resources
  - School Library Media Specialists
     School Media Specialists
     Can Help During Crisis
     (School Library Journal)

## **District/School Considerations:**

 Survey families to gauge which students may want to conduct their schooling virtually for the 2020- 2021 school year; OHUSC will offer their own online courses for grades K-12 through a virtual E-Learning model

## Traditional Instructional Model

- Adjust the master schedule to balance class numbers – remove unused desks and furniture in classrooms; maximize social distancing (to the extent practicable)
- Limit physical interaction through partner or group work
- Establish distance between the teacher's desk/board and students' desks
- Identify and utilize large spaces (i.e. gymnasiums, auditoriums, outside spaces – as weather permits) for social distancing
- Adjust daily routines and social interactions to address individual learning needs

## **Hybrid Instructional Models**

- Hybrid models will only be implemented if absolutely necessary and after factoring in additional logistical requirements/costs as well as childcare requirements placed on working families and unnecessary burden on staff. Consider allowing special education students to continue in person instruction as these students often rely on daily routines and social interactions to address their individual learning needs.
- A/B schedules
  - Alternating Days: students would be divided into 2 groups, likely geographically. Groups would alternate face-to-face and virtual instruction during the week. One example: Group A would attend Monday and Tuesday and work virtually the remainder of the week. Group B would attend Thursday and Friday and work virtually the other days of the week. Wednesday would be a virtual day for most employees so buildings could be cleaned during the week between groups.

### **District/School Considerations:**

- Implement standard operating procedures while taking preventative measures such as:
  - Providing hand sanitizer for students and staff
  - Conducting cleaning of classrooms and high-touch surfaces each day
  - Limiting physical interaction through partner or group work
  - Surveying families' interest in continuing online learning to reduce number of students requiring face-to- face, traditional instruction
- Establish an academic baseline:
  - Administer formative assessments toward the start of the school year
  - Conduct meetings with teachers to identify where students are academically
- Discuss the shared experience:

Helping Children Cope with
Changes
Talking to Children about COVID-19
Teaching Through a Pandemic

## Supporting Teaching and Learning (cont.)



Another example: Group A Students Monday/Wednesday and Group B Students --Tuesday/Thursday; Friday – distance learning for all students, professional

> learning for staff, 'off' day and extend school year (districts set school calendars); using certification flexibility to relocate teachers as needed and allowable

- Alternating Weeks: Group A Students – Week 1 and Group B Students Week 2; using certification flexibility to relocate teachers as needed and allowable
- Half Days: AM/PM Schedule –
   prioritize students on free and
   reduced breakfast for AM section;
   shared lunch; end of the day meal
   for PM students; using certification
   flexibility to relocate teachers as
   needed and allowable
- Targeted Distance/Remote Learning
  - Elementary Face-to-Face with Secondary Distance Learning:
     Prioritize 6-12 or 9-12 for continuous distance learning while other students have access to face-to-face instruction spread out across unused schools and classrooms; using certification flexibility to relocate teachers as needed and allowable; see Serving Meals under Substantial Spread for preparing/delivering school meals for students who are remote learning.

- Target interventions and supports:
- Provide additional instructional supports to:
  - students at-risk of not graduating on time
  - students with disabilities (compensatory services)
  - students who struggled in the prior distance/remote learning environment (i.e. early grades, English Learners, etc.)
  - other students identified as being behind academically by teachers and parents.
  - Identify essential concepts/skills grade levels and provide access to enrichment (fine arts, music, world language, CTAE, computer science, AP/IB, dual enrollment, physical education/play, STEM/STEAM, etc.)
- Prepare for potential future distance/remote learning by increasing current blended learning:
  - Develop a digital learning plan
  - Integrate virtual learning practices:
    - digitizing lessons
    - requiring a certain number of online assignments for each grading period
  - Provide virtual learning-specific professional development for educators
  - Schedule specific planned district-/school-wide digital learning days as part of the traditional school calendar

### Return to School

 Roadmap for <u>School Operations</u> and <u>Instruction</u>

## Protecting Vulnerable Populations



¹ Vulnerable
Populations -- Elderly
individuals and/or
individuals with serious
underlying health
conditions, including high
blood pressure, chronic
lung disease, diabetes,
obesity, asthma, and
those whose immune
system is compromised
such as by chemotherapy
for cancer and other
conditions requiring such
therapy.

## School buildings are closed.

See Entering School
Buildings for district/school
staff guidance.

## **District/School Considerations:**

 Employ additional nurses, health care aides, and full- time substitute employees

National Association of School Nurses

 Role of school nurses, providing care, and participating in return to school planning

## **District/School Considerations:**

- Survey at-risk staff members to gauge their intentions in returning to work while maintaining confidentiality consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and other applicable federal and state privacy laws
- Survey families with vulnerable children to gauge their intentions in returning to a traditional school setting while maintaining confidentiality consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and other applicable federal and state privacy laws
- Provide remote/distance learning opportunities for vulnerable student populations in consultation with parents and public health officials
- Consult with local board attorneys and district human resources officials to offer special accommodations (such as an alternative teaching assignment) for personnel who are members of vulnerable populations
- Adhere to FERPA and HIPAA requirements
- Adhere to state and federal employment law and extended leave allowances
- Offer an Employee Assistance Program to all staff members

## **District/School Considerations:**

- Implement standard operating procedures while taking preventative measures such as:
  - Establish a point-of-contact with the local health department
    - Identify local COVID-19 testing sites
    - Provide hand sanitizer for students and staff
    - Provide PPE to vulnerable students and staff as appropriate
    - Allow vulnerable students to complete their coursework virtually
    - Allow vulnerable students and staff to wear PPE throughout the school day (to the extent practicable)
    - Establish a process for regular check- ins with vulnerable students and staff
    - Allow an early transition for vulnerable students to go to classes
    - Limit large group gatherings/ Interactions for vulnerable students and staff



# When a Child, Staff Member, or Visitor Becomes Sick at School



## **District/School Considerations:**

- Work with school administrators, school nurses, and other healthcare providers to identify an isolation room or area to separate anyone who exhibits COVID-like symptoms.
- School nurses and other healthcare providers should use Standard and Transmission-Based Precautions when caring for sick people.
- Establish procedures for safely transporting anyone who is sick home or to a healthcare facility.
- Notify local health officials, staff, and families immediately of a
  possible case while maintaining confidentiality consistent with the
  Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and other applicable federal
  and state privacy laws.
- Close off areas used by a sick person and do not use before cleaning and disinfection. Wait 24 hours before you clean and disinfect. If it is not possible to wait 24 hours, wait as long as possible. Ensure safe and correct application of disinfectants and keep disinfectant products away from children.
- Advise sick staff members and children not to return until they have met state ISDH criteria to discontinue home isolation
- Inform those who have had close contact to a person diagnosed with COVID-19 to stay home and follow state ISDH guidance if symptoms develop. If a person does not have symptoms, follow appropriate state ISDH guidance for home quarantine.

## **CDC** Guidance

Symptoms of Coronavirus
What Healthcare Personnel Should Know About
Caring for Patients with Confirmed or Possible
COVID-19 Infection
Standard Precautions
Transmission-based Precautions













For additional information, go to: https://www.doe.in.gov/ and/or https://www.in.gov/isdh/



