

THE CREEK

INDIAN CREEK SCHOOLS

SAFE RE-OPENING TO
2021-2022 CALENDAR YEAR
UPDATED 08/4/21

www.IndianCreekSchools.com | 317.878.2100



COMMITTED TO OUR MISSION:

To actively partner with students, staff, families, and community to ensure all students acquire and apply knowledge, attitudes, skills, and habits to be responsible citizens in American society, life-long learners, and successful participants in a global and technological society.

UPDATED GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- Schools will start on time and keep their presently approved school calendars for 2021 – 2022.
- Masks and facial coverings will be optional for students and staff in buildings.
- The Johnson County Health Department and the Indiana Department of Health state that we must comply with the CDC/USDOT mandate for masks to be worn on school buses. Students and bus drivers will be reminded of this expectation and will be provided masks if they do not have one. No student will be denied transportation due to not having a mask.
- Report positive COVID-19 results. Please **DO NOT** send sick students to school. If someone in your family has tested positive, please keep your student(s) home and contact Jill Lawalin at 317-878-2108.
- Per the Indiana Department of Health requirement, close contact tracing protocols will continue to be conducted along with specific quarantine protocols, as explained further in this document.
- Positive student and/or staff cases will require a 10-day quarantine.
- Each school building will have the option for remote learning, however, specific criteria must be met to qualify. Please see the criteria listed on our website or reach out to the building-specific principal.
- Classrooms will be in a normal configuration with a variety of different instructional strategies encouraged. Social distancing of classroom desks will be at least 3 feet apart.
- Custodial staff will continue with increased cleaning protocols.



AREAS OF EMPHASIS

ALL PLAN COMPONENTS WERE REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY THE LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT



Transportation Model
How to safely transport students



Traditional Learning Model
In-person student instruction



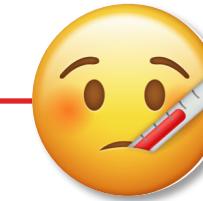
Remote Learning Model
Combination remote/e-Learning instruction



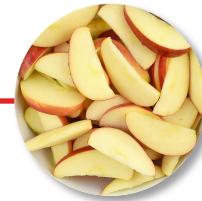
ECA/ Co-Curricular
Clubs, band, choir/athletic teams



School Day Operations
Daily student/staff procedures



School Health Model
Student illness policy



Food Services Model
Procedures for students breakfast/lunch



TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION PLAN COMPONENTS WILL INCLUDE:

- The Johnson County Health Department and the Indiana Department of Health state that we must comply with the CDC/USDOT mandate for masks to be worn on school buses. Students and bus drivers will be reminded of this expectation and will be provided masks if they do not have one. No student will be denied transportation due to not having a mask.
- Students will be assigned seats for each route. Seating charts will be kept in order to provide a record in the event that contact tracing is required by the health department.
- Parents who are uncomfortable with busing procedures are encouraged to drive/pick up their students.
- Extra cleaning of buses will occur before and after every route.
- Students should keep their hands to themselves while on the school bus.
- If bus capacity size needs reduced, the transportation department will contact out-of-district families and request that they provide their own transportation.

TRANSPORTATION PLAN COMPONENTS WILL INCLUDE:

- Consistency in daily riding of the same bus is required for safety reasons, for not overcrowding buses, and to ensure the possible need for contact tracing. For example, students need to consistently ride the same bus for their morning and afternoon routes.
- There will be no switching/moving to other buses. There will be no guest/friend riders allowed to ride buses home.
- If after school care is needed, please contact our contracted provider--*Country Kids' Daycare and After School Program*. Click on the following link for assistance: [country kids](#)



STUDENT INSTRUCTION (IN-PERSON AND REMOTE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES)

STUDENT INSTRUCTION PLAN COMPONENTS

WILL INCLUDE:

- Traditional in-person instruction will continue for K – 12 students five days per week.
- All students (K - 12) will possess and take home their own school-issued device on a daily basis.
- Social distancing in the classroom will be conducted with classroom desks at least 3 feet apart. Large areas for instruction may be used on an as needed basis.
- There will be assigned seating in all classrooms across all school buildings.
- The district will CONTINUE a strong communication plan with families to discuss the delivery method of instruction for students with disabilities and ensure that their needs are adequately met.
- Parents of students with pre-existing health conditions or other serious health considerations should contact their building level administrator to discuss remote learning opportunities. There are significant changes to this year's remote learning options. Qualifications for remote learning are to be discussed with the respective building principal.
- If a student continues with remote learning then he/she will not be able to participate in extra-curricular activities.



SCHOOL DAY PROCEDURES & OPERATIONS

SCHOOL DAY PROCEDURES AND OPERATIONS PLAN

COMPONENTS WILL INCLUDE:

- AS PREVIOUSLY MENTIONED, masks are OPTIONAL for all students and staff.
- We will limit daytime visitors in the buildings.
- Lunch time visitors will not be allowed due to social distancing in the cafeterias.
- School supplies SHOULD NOT be shared between students (toys, electronic games, etc.).
- Water fountains will remain converted to water dispensing stations. Students will be allowed/encouraged to bring their own water bottle for use.
- Library materials will operate IN A NORMAL MANNER.
- All students will take their school issued devices home daily.
- Lunchroom schedules
 - *expansion of dining areas for socially distancing (of at least 3 feet apart) students during this time.
- We will CONTINUE TO ALLOW more frequent opportunities to wash and/or sanitize hands throughout the day.



EXTRA-CURRICULAR & CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

ECA AND CO-CURRICULAR PLAN COMPONENTS WILL INCLUDE:

- NHJ will allow all extra-curricular activities and co-curricular activities to proceed under normal conditions.
- Masks will be required on buses to and from ECA events.



SCHOOL HEALTH & WELLNESS CARE

SCHOOL HEALTH AND WELLNESS CARE PLAN

COMPONENTS WILL INCLUDE:

- Students and staff ARE ENCOURAGED TO STAY HOME if they have a fever of 100 °F or higher.

*Parents shall monitor on a daily basis children and signs of possible infection. Staff will monitor themselves for possible infection as well. These include the following symptoms:

- *fever or chills
- *cough
- *shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- *fatigue
- *muscle or body aches
- *headache
- *new loss of taste or smell
- *sore throat
- *congestion or runny nose
- *nausea or vomiting
- *diarrhea

- Report positive COVID-19 results to Jill Lawalin, Director of Health and Wellness. Please **DO NOT** send sick students to school. If someone in your family has tested positive for Covid-19, please keep your student(s) home.

SCHOOL HEALTH AND WELLNESS CARE PLAN

COMPONENTS WILL INCLUDE:

- As previously mentioned, the Indiana Department of Health requires the continuation of close contact tracing. **If a student or staff member is identified as a close contact to a positive COVID-19 case, a 14-day quarantine period must happen.** The Johnson County Health Department defines a close contact as an individual who is within 3 feet or less for 15 minutes or greater regardless of the wearing of masks. Students may come back earlier than the 14-day required quarantine under specific circumstances and following enhanced protocols. Options include:

COVID-19 ASYMPTOMATIC OPTION 1:

Alternative to 14-day quarantine for asymptomatic close contacts – return on day 11 after 10 days of quarantine

- no testing needed to return to school on day 11
- must utilize enhanced precautions days 11 – 14 and monitor for symptoms of covid-19
- if symptoms develop on days 11-14, return home, isolate, and test for covid-19

COVID-19 ASYMPTOMATIC OPTION 2:

Alternative to 14-day quarantine for asymptomatic close contacts – return on day 8 after 7 days of quarantine

- obtain PCR test on days 5-7 while continuing to quarantine through day 7 or an antigen test on day 8
- if negative, may return to school on day 8 and utilize enhanced precautions days 8 – 14

SCHOOL HEALTH AND WELLNESS CARE PLAN

COMPONENTS WILL INCLUDE:

ENHANCED PRECAUTIONS WHEN RETURNING PRIOR TO FULL 14-DAY QUARANTINE

- Masked at all times on bus and during school day, no exceptions.
- Maintain distance of at least 3 feet from others at all times during the educational school day. The only time lesser distance of close contact is 3 feet is during the educational portion of the day when everyone is in the classroom and wearing a mask.
- Lunch to be eaten separately from others as mask will be off when eating. Remain 6 feet from others, no exceptions.
- Hand hygiene should be a priority.
- Symptom monitoring daily by parents, as needed by school staff, during the school day.
- If ANY signs or symptoms are identified while at home, student/teacher/staff should NOT come to school and should seek a confirmatory PCR test.
- If symptoms develop during the school day, individual should be sent home as soon as possible to get a confirmatory PCR test.
- If PCR test is positive, begin 10 days of isolation starting from the date symptoms began.
- If PCR test is negative, because individual is a close contact, must complete remainder (days 11-14) of 14-day quarantine and remain at home until symptoms improved and 24-hours fever free without the use of fever-reducing medication.

SCHOOL HEALTH AND WELLNESS CARE PLAN

COMPONENTS WILL INCLUDE:

Cases of physical contact, such as athletics or extra/co-curricular activities, will be handled on a case-by-case basis, as the need for quarantine will depend on the type of contact.

FOR ALL EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO: BAND, CHOIR, ORCHESTRA, ATHLETICS INCLUDING CHEERLEADING:

- Masks must be worn at all times, no exceptions
- If mask cannot be worn due to risk associated with mask during activity, student should not practice, compete or attend the activities until after a full 14-day quarantine is complete
- Distance at least 6 feet away from others during practice, participation or while observing.
- If distance of at least 6 feet away from others during practice, participation or while observing cannot be maintained, student should not practice, compete or attend the activities until after a full 14-day quarantine is complete
- Utilize hand sanitizer before and after playing/touching equipment.
- Stay home if symptoms appear or if feeling sick and get a PCR test.

SCHOOL HEALTH AND WELLNESS CARE PLAN

COMPONENTS WILL INCLUDE:

- Individuals who test positive for Covid-19 will have to quarantine for the required 10-day period.
- Communication of positive Covid-19 cases will be done by individual buildings. No longer will automated phone/email notifications be sent to all NHJ families.
- Immunization requirements have not changed. All immunizations will be based on the required state guidelines. Immunization requirements may be viewed at the following link: [immunization 2021 -2022](#)
- An isolation area will be established for students exhibiting symptoms in order to provide a safe area for individuals to be quarantined while awaiting parent pick up.
- Medical inquiries: federal law typically limits the type of medical inquiries that can be made, but given the nature of the pandemic more leeway has been given to schools in this circumstance to make additional medical inquiries of staff and students than would otherwise be allowed.
 - * If the parent tells the school that the student is ill, the school may ask the parent whether the student is exhibiting any symptoms of Covid-19.
 - * If an employee calls in sick or appears ill, the school can inquire as to whether the employee is experiencing any Covid-19 symptoms.
 - * If a person is obviously ill, the school may make additional inquiries and may exclude the person from school property.



FOOD SERVICES

FOOD SERVICE MODEL PLAN COMPONENTS WILL INCLUDE:

- Staff wearing of masks will be optional.
- Gloves will continue to be worn during food preparation and serving.
- Meals will be served to students, or students may pick up pre-packaged meals themselves.
- There should be no sharing of food between students.
- Sneeze guards/protective barriers will remain at cashier stands and serving areas as necessary and appropriate.
- Families are encouraged to use their online payment portal through *Infinite Campus* to deposit money. The use of cash and checks is strongly discouraged. Cash transactions that are brought to school should be placed in the cafeteria drop boxes located in each school's main office.



“Student learning and safety have always been our top priority at Indian Creek. We will strive to conduct the 2021-22 school year in as normal of a manner as possible and as permitted, because our students deserve this opportunity. We will continue to work closely with local, state and federal health officials.”

- Dr. Tim Edsell
Superintendent



SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Masks and facial coverings will be optional for students and staff in buildings.
- Students and staff must comply with the CDC/USDOT mandate for masks to be worn on school buses. Students and bus drivers will be reminded of this expectation and will be provided masks if they do not have one. No student will be denied transportation due to not having a mask.
- Per the Indiana Department of Health requirement, close contact tracing protocols will continue to be conducted along with specific quarantine protocols. Positive student and/or staff cases will require a 10-day quarantine.
- Consistency in daily riding of the same bus is required for safety reasons, for not overcrowding buses, and to ensure the possible need for contact tracing. For example, students need to consistently ride the same bus for their morning and afternoon routes. There will be no switching/moving to other buses. There will be no guest/friend riders allowed to ride buses home.
- Communication of positive Covid-19 cases will be done by individual buildings. No longer will automated phone/email notifications be sent to all NHJ families.
- Changes may become necessary based on increased or decreased spread of Covid-19 in our community and will be based on new requirements/mandates from the Johnson County Health Department and/or Indiana Department of Health and will be communicated in a timely manner.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR QUESTIONS

www.indiancreekschools.com/back-to-school

Indian Creek Elementary School questions: elong@nhj.k12.in.us

Indian Creek Intermediate School questions: kgrant@nhj.k12.in.us

Indian Creek Middle School questions:

szachery1@nhj.k12.in.us or kdavis@nhj.k12.in.us

Indian Creek High School questions:

lskobel@nhj.k12.in.us or bwallace@nhj.k12.in.us

