



EAST ALLEN COUNTY SCHOOLS

Office of the Superintendent  
1240 State Road 930 East  
New Haven, Indiana 46774-1732  
Phone: (260) 446-0100  
Fax: (260) 446-0107  
Marilyn S. Hissong, Superintendent

Dear EACS Families,

East Allen County Schools (EACS) is committed to the safety and health of our students, staff, and community. Working collaboratively with the Allen County Department of Health (ACDH), Indiana Department of Health (IDOH), and the Center for Disease Control (CDC), we have updated the East Allen County Schools' Reopening Plan at a Glance for 2021 - 2022. **This document is fluid and know that information is changing daily that might alter the current plan of action. EACS plans to work collaboratively with our students, parents, staff, and the community to continue to prevent the spread of COVID-19.**

In the Plan you will see safety protocols and procedures that will continue to be in place to help mitigate the spread of COVID-19 while providing a safe and orderly learning environment for our students and staff. The staff and I are extremely excited to be with our students again and look forward to seeing them in the fall. The schools will continue to provide engaging activities that will inspire our students to continue in their learning process. All students will attend in-person for the 2021-22 school year.

Our goal is to get our students back into the school routine where learning is at its optimal level. We will do our very best to support our students and parents. We are so appreciative of the patience, kindness, and support that you have given over the last school year. In the weeks/months ahead, please continue to support us as we walk through this together with you.




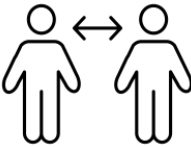


To access the "Reopening Plan at a Glance", please visit the EACS main website ([www.eacs.k12.in.us](http://www.eacs.k12.in.us)). Please look for the "button" labeled "EACS Reopening at a Glance 2021-2022" and click on it. You will find the plan and resources from the ACDH, CDC, and the IDOH. We will continue to place important information in this location. As always, if you have questions, please contact your child's school or call the main administration building at 260-446-0100.

Sincerely,




Marilyn Hissong  
Superintendent

# EAST ALLEN COUNTY SCHOOLS REOPENING PLAN *at a Glance*

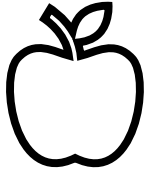





## COVID-19 Information

<b>Face Coverings</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>East Allen County Schools will be mask-optional for the 2021-2022 school year. However, if masks are required by CDC, ACDH, or IDOH, due to an increase in COVID-19 cases in our area, this plan may change.</li> <li>Facial coverings will be required when staff and students are on the bus.</li> <li>Face coverings will include masks, face shields, and gaiters.</li> <li>Face coverings/masks will not be required when students, staff, and visitors are outside.</li> </ul>	<b>Hand Cleaning</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students and staff will be given adequate time and multiple opportunities to wash hands or use hand sanitizer; especially, prior to eating lunch.</li> <li>Soap and water should be used when available.</li> <li>Hand sanitizer, containing at least 60% alcohol, can be used with staff and students only when soap and water is unavailable.</li> </ul>	<b>Clean/Disinfect</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>EACS ensures safe and correct application and use of cleaners and disinfectants including the use of the static sprayer.</li> <li>Clean and disinfect infected areas or items including athletic/band equipment, restrooms, and high touch areas (i.e. door handles, light switches, computer keyboards, mouse, library tables) daily and after each use.</li> <li>EACS will provide all necessary cleaning supplies prior to, during, and after the school day.</li> <li>Each school will keep a running inventory of their supplies.</li> <li>Touch-free trash cans will be emptied and disinfected daily.</li> </ul>
<b>Social Distancing</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As practical, maximizing space between and among individuals will continue to be implemented.</li> <li>Stay out of crowded places and avoid mass gatherings.</li> <li>Plexiglass may be used in some instances to create a barrier at tables.</li> <li>When possible, students should be seated facing forward.</li> </ul>	<b>Possible COVID-19 Symptoms</b> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chills</li> <li>Fever of 100.4 or greater</li> <li>Shortness of Breath</li> <li>Fatigue</li> <li>Coughing</li> <li>Sneezing</li> <li>Aches and Pains</li> <li>Diarrhea/Vomiting</li> <li>Loss of Taste or Smell</li> <li>Sore Throat</li> </ul> <p>EACS will provide students/staff with vaccination site information.</p>	<b>Self-Monitor Checklist</b> 	<p>Ask the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fever?</li> <li>Cough?</li> <li>Sore Throat?</li> <li>Shortness of Breath?</li> <li>Close Contact or Cared for Someone with COVID-19?</li> </ul> <p>All mandated immunizations must be completed prior to the start of the school year. Please check with your family doctor for guidance.</p>

## EACS Reopening Guidelines for 2021- 2022

<b>Practicing Prevention</b>		<b>Transporting Students</b>		<b>School Building Operations</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clean/disinfect frequently touched surfaces and shared objects after each use daily.</li> <li>• Students and staff <u>will</u> have the option of wearing face masks/coverings (unless required as specified previously) which may be brought from home OR will be provided by EACS.</li> <li>• Drinking fountains will be turned off. Bottle fillers will remain on where available. Students and staff are encouraged to bring water from home in a <u>clear</u> container.</li> <li>• Bottled water may be provided with breakfast and lunch.</li> </ul>		<p>Follow standard operating procedures while taking preventative measures such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assigned seats are required and must always be followed– school day route and extra-curricular routes (i.e. athletics, band).</li> <li>• Families, siblings, and students from the same bus stops will be seated together on the bus.</li> <li>• Bus drivers/ Staff and students will wear face masks/coverings during the use of any EACS provided transportation.</li> <li>• Frequently touched surfaces will be cleaned and disinfected on the bus at the end of each route.</li> <li>• Buses will be aired out when not in use.</li> <li>• Students will have one designated pickup in the morning and one designated drop-off in the evening.</li> <li>• Social distancing on the bus will be utilized if student capacity allows it.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identified students may be required to isolate/quarantine.</li> <li>• Returning families will register online or in- person.</li> <li>• Visitors/Volunteers/Parents will be required to wear masks/face coverings OR present proof of vaccination. (At this time, visitors will not be permitted to eat meals with students.)</li> <li>• All emergency drills will be conducted following the Indiana Department of Education guidance.</li> </ul> <p>Before/after school use of facilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Building administrators will monitor the use of facilities by outside organizations in order to ensure COVID-19 protocols are being followed.</li> <li>• Athletic, sports leagues, extra-curricular activities will follow the IHSAA, ISSMA, and IDOE guidance.</li> <li>• Multiple entrances will be used for entering/exiting the building.</li> <li>• In large open areas where social distancing is possible, visitors/ spectators will be mask optional during after-school activity/events</li> </ul> <p><b>Exceptions to this will be:</b>  <b>Registration, Back to School Nights, Parent/Teacher Conferences, and Parent Nights, etc.)</b> Building administrators will communicate the details prior to the event. (Masks/face coverings will be required)</p>

**EACS Reopening Guidelines for  
2021 -2022**

<p><b>Serving Food and Beverages</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social distancing will be practiced when practical.</li> <li>• Allow student hand-washing before and after meal service.</li> <li>• Directions to enter the cafeteria and serving areas will be utilized to the extent practicable.</li> <li>• Breakfast and lunch programs may return to offer versus serve when possible.</li> <li>• Concession items will return to normal with things being served in individualized packaging.</li> <li>• When in cafeteria, students will have assigned seats or sit with their class.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Transitioning</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff may limit the number of times students are grouped with others outside of their homeroom for instructional purposes.</li> <li>• While in classrooms, seating charts will be used and updated regularly.</li> <li>• Students in the elementary grades will participate in recess, art, music, and physical education classes outside of their homeroom.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Conducting Large Group Gatherings</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discourage all contact celebrations (handshakes, team huddles, high fives) and sharing of drinks, lip balm, and gum.</li> <li>• Stagger the schedule for large group gatherings (i.e. recess, sporting events, and school meals).</li> <li>• Upon conclusion of an event people will be directed to leave the facility promptly.</li> <li>• During the school day, all visitors, volunteers, and parents are encouraged to maintain social distance from others and will wear masks/facial coverings while in the building OR present proof of vaccination.</li> </ul>
					
<p><b>Supporting Teaching and Learning</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff will limit the sharing of classroom materials and supplies and disinfect after each use.</li> <li>• Normal school routines will be followed as much as possible.</li> <li>• Physical education classes will be held outside when possible.</li> <li>• Field trips will be allowed. However, masks/face coverings may be required based on the venue of the field trip activity.</li> <li>• Families with vulnerable children need to work with their child's school.</li> <li>• Perfect attendance awards will not be distributed during the 2021-2022 school year.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Social and Emotional Resources</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Each School has its own level of counseling support that is accessible by all students and staff for emotional needs.</li> <li>• District wide Social Emotional Learning Coaches are available for staff and students for additional internal or external resources.</li> </ul>	<p><b>When a Student or Staff Member Becomes Sick</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Separate Isolation areas, aside from the clinic have been created in each building.</li> <li>• New staff will be trained on identifying COVID-19 symptoms in their students.</li> <li>• School nurses will check student/staff symptoms.</li> <li>• Advise sick staff members and children not to return until they have met state and local criteria to discontinue home isolation. <b>(See last page for isolation and quarantine information.)</b></li> <li>• Isolation: infected person must stay home for 10 days. Quarantine: based on contact tracing, identified students/staff must stay home for 10 days unless the student/staff presents proof of vaccination which then requires monitoring for symptoms for 7 days.</li> </ul>
					

*Each school will provide additional information as it pertains to daily operations.*

# EAST ALLEN COUNTY SCHOOLS

## Elementary

### Grades Pre K-6

#### In-Person, Traditional School



- Students will attend school daily with their homeroom class of students.
- Masks/face coverings will be optional except when using EACS transportation.
- Students will attend their normally scheduled classes outside of their homeroom (art, music, physical education, library, recess) with extra precautions and cleaning procedures in place.
- Breakfast and lunch programs may return to offer versus serve when possible.
- Socially distanced lunch spaces will be created, and lunch hours may be extended to accommodate the need for additional lunch periods.
- Academic engagement will still include the interaction of students with curriculum and resources to introduce, maintain, and extend learning.
- Students who may be quarantined/isolated may be able to participate with their class from home and keep up on instruction using their take home iPad **OR** work will be provided through Canvas for missing instruction/assignments.
- If all students are sent home for eLearning, specific instructions regarding learning will be sent home with adjusted guidance for participation and when work will be due based on the circumstances.
- In order to protect vulnerable students, please work with your child's school for specific considerations.

# EAST ALLEN COUNTY SCHOOLS

## Secondary

### Grades 7-12

#### In-Person, Traditional School



- Instruction will follow the East Allen County Schools Curriculum.
- Students will have seven class periods and change classes daily.
- Masks/face coverings will be optional except when using EACS transportation.
- Students attending the Anthis Career Center will follow the Fort Wayne Community Schools schedule and their COVID-19 protocol.
- Students who may be quarantined/isolated may be able to participate with their class from home and keep up on instruction using their take home iPad **OR** work will be provided through Canvas for missing instruction/assignments.
- In order to protect vulnerable students, please work with your child's school for specific considerations.
- Breakfast and lunch programs may return to offer versus serve when possible.
- Socially distanced lunch spaces will be created, and lunch hours may be extended to accommodate the need for additional lunch periods.

# EAST ALLEN COUNTY SCHOOLS

## Students and Staff

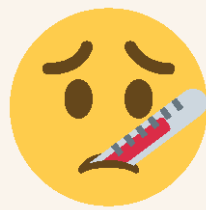
2021-2022 School Year

**Isolation:** Infected person must stay home for 10 days and return to school when symptoms have improved.

**Quarantine:** A person who has been identified as a close contact to an infected person.

### ***If fully vaccinated:***

A person will monitor 7 days for symptoms but can attend school and activities if symptom free. If symptoms develop, person must quarantine.



### ***If not vaccinated:***

- Option 1: Person must stay home for 10 days and return to school on day 11 (if symptom free) and will need to wear a mask until after day 14.
- Option 2: Person receives a negative PCR test (between days 5 and 7) and is symptom free; person may return to school on day 8 (and continue to monitor for symptoms) while wearing a mask until after day 14.

**Please work with your child's school to answer questions and address any concerns.**