



Elizabethtown Independent Schools

Safe Return to In-person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan

2021/22

The following is the Elizabethtown Independent School's plan to return to in-person classes during the school day beginning August 11, 2021. The school day will follow a schedule that includes all core classes as well as the usual student activities and services. This plan represents a return to the traditional school environment with modifications and changes to include enhanced health and safety precautions.

The district's priorities are to maintain in-person instruction 5 days per week while providing high quality teaching and learning experiences and opportunities in addition to implementing effective safeguards to protect the health and safety of students and staff to the greatest extent possible.

Face Coverings

- Per executive order and Kentucky Board of Education emergency regulation, all persons must cover their nose and mouth with a face covering when indoors at school facilities, regardless of vaccination status.
- The following are exemptions:
 - Children under the age 2
 - Any person who is sleeping or unconscious
 - Any person with a disability, or a physical or mental impairment, that prevents them from safely wearing a face covering.
 - Any person who is deaf or hard of hearing and is actively communicating, or any person who is actively communicating with someone who is deaf or hard of hearing
 - Any person who is seated and actively consuming food or beverage.
 - Any person who is obtaining a service that requires temporary removal of the face covering in order to perform the service.
 - Any person who is required to temporarily remove their face covering to confirm their identify or for security or screening purposes
 - Any person who is giving a speech or broadcast to any audience and is able to maintain a safe distance of at least six feet from all individuals who are not members of the person's household
 - Any person who is in a swimming pool or other body of water indoors
 - Any person who is actively engaged in exercise while indoors



Vaccinations

- Vaccines are currently available for all individuals age 12 and older.
- Vaccines will be offered on site through the district's partnership with Cumberland Medical.
- Information in regard to vaccines will be available.
- Flexible attendance policy for the days following a student's vaccination date. Students' will be marked with an excused absence up to 2 days.

Social Distancing

- Physical distancing among students will be 3 feet when possible and appropriate.
- There will often be times in the course of normal instruction when 3 feet distancing will not be possible. For one example, many best practice learning activities require students to work cooperatively. When this is the case, 3 feet will most likely not be maintained.
- Classroom furniture will be arranged to space students apart as much as possible

Ventilation

- When the weather allows, windows will be open in classrooms to bring in fresh outdoor air.
- Use of fans to increase circulation of fresh air will also be implemented

Handwashing and Respiratory Practices

- Protocols will be in place to allow students and staff to wash their hands frequently.
- Proper handwashing with soap and water for 20 seconds will be taught and reinforced.
- Hand sanitizers will be readily available.
- Proper coughing and sneezing etiquette will be taught and reinforced.



Illness

- Any student, faculty or staff member should stay at home if exhibiting any COVID 19 symptoms and he/she should follow up with a physician.
- Any student who becomes ill at school and is exhibiting COVID 19 symptoms, will be isolated in a health room and wear a mask while waiting for parent pick up.
- COVID symptoms include:
 - 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

Medical Services

- The EIS district has partnered with Cumberland Family Medical to provide on site medical services for students and staff each day.
- Each school will house a Healthy Kids Clinic staffed by a school nurse
- Services such as sick visits, well child exams, sports physicals, immunizations, lab services and injections will be available upon parent permission.
- Covid tests and vaccinations will also be available at the clinics.



Contact Tracing

- District personnel will work closely with local health officials to identify those persons who may have been exposed in the case of a positive COVID case and will be used to determine those who must quarantine or isolate.
- Exposure for students is defined as being within 3 feet for a total of 15 minutes within a 24 hour period UNLESS both students were wearing masks.
- Vaccinated persons who have been exposed will not be required to quarantine unless he/she is exhibiting symptoms.
- Unvaccinated persons who have been exposed will be required to quarantine.

Quarantine Procedures:

- Contact tracing protocols will be utilized to determine when a student or staff member must quarantine.
- While on quarantine, students will utilize google classroom and/or paper based make up work assignments in order to continue educational services while absent.

Transportation

- Federal mandates state that all persons using public transportations must wear a mask regardless of vaccination status.
- School buses are considered public transportation, so all individuals will be required to wear a mask when on a school bus.
- Disposable masks will be available for those who may not have their own.
- Assigned seating will be used for all bus runs to include field trips, athletic events, etc.
- Busses will be cleaned and sanitized after morning and afternoon routes.



Cleaning and Disinfecting

- Deep cleaning and disinfecting will occur once daily outside of school hours.
- Extra cleaning will occur throughout the school day on high touch surfaces such as door knobs, stairwells, restrooms, common areas, water fountains, etc.

Visitors

- Essential visitors, volunteers and service providers may choose to or choose not to wear a mask.
- Non-essential visitors will be limited and will be required to wear a mask regardless of vaccination status..

School Meals

- Handwashing will occur before and after meals
- Paper products will be utilized at meals.
- Individual portions are not mandated. Any buffet style food will be served by food service personnel.
- High contact surfaces will be cleaned regularly in the serving line

Sports and Extracurricular Activities

- Athletics will follow KHSAA guidance
- Extracurricular activities will follow school day protocols

Panther Online Learning

- EIS is committed to providing in-person learning at all schools.
- The district's faculty and staff will, however, be prepared to move to remote learning as an individual school, classroom, and/or district when the need to do so is determined based on changing conditions.
- Student and staff COVID positivity and quarantine rates will be monitored daily.



Additional Mitigation Strategies

- The district is prepared to add other mitigation measures in the schools if local conditions warrant. The district will consider the local conditions in the community and at each school when making decisions. The following strategies may be implemented as necessary to provide additional layers of mitigation.
 - Universal masking
 - Daily temperature checks
 - Increase of social distancing
 - Changes to common area and cafeteria procedures