



## Reopening Plan

As we open our doors this fall, we are taking precautions to protect our students' and staff members' health and safety. Our precautions, outlined below, come from public health officials' guidance. All these guidelines could change if we receive new instructions from officials.

### Health Precautions for School

- **Screening for Symptoms:**

Your child must stay home if they are sick. We ask that parents partner with us to screen their students each and every day before sending them to school. Specifically we are looking at the following symptoms:

- Fever  
*According to the American Academy of Pediatrics, a fever is 100.4 F or greater.*
- Cough
- Rash
- Sore throat
- Shortness of breath
- Diarrhea
- Nausea or vomiting
- Fatigue
- Headache
- Muscle pain
- Lack of appetite
- Loss of taste or smell

- **Previous Exposure:**

Students who feel healthy but have recently had close contact with a person with COVID-19, must stay home and monitor their health until 14 days after the last exposure.

- **Contact Tracing:**

Seating charts will be used in all classrooms and in the cafe to document who students are sitting near each other.

- **Physical Distancing:**

We will take steps to try to promote physical distancing, although we cannot keep everyone six feet apart. This could look different at each school; however, here are the steps that Plaza is taking:

- Plaza students will not use lockers to start the year. This is in an effort to curb student gatherings in the hallways. Students will carry belongings in their backpacks, which they will carry from class to class.
- We will rearrange furniture and equipment to move students farther apart. Teachers will be encouraged to remove non-essential furniture.
- Students arriving at Plaza everyday will report directly to their classroom beginning at 7 am. Students who elect to eat breakfast will need to grab their meal from the cafeteria or breakfast cart and report to their first class to eat. Our aim is to encourage physical distancing by eliminating traffic in the halls. Plaza staff will help supervise this process.
- Desks/chairs will be spaced apart from one another as much as possible. When students must use tables, we will discourage sitting directly across from each other.
- If possible, plexiglass dividers will be used on group tables.
- Our cafe will operate at less than 50% capacity in an effort to ensure that students are physically distanced during lunch.
- Teachers have been encouraged to use our building's open spaces as classrooms when possible, including our flex space, cafe (before and after lunch), gym (when PE is not in session), and outdoor spaces when weather permits.
- In PE classes, spots will be labeled on the gym floor for physical distancing. Direct physical contact will be avoided where possible.
- Class dismissal will be staggered by teams to ensure a limited number of students in the hall at a time.
- Our nurse will exercise social distancing where possible. Prior to caring for staff/students, he or she will wear proper PPE based on the situation.
- End of the day dismissal times will be staggered to provide for social distancing between students.

- **Masks:**

Students must wear masks at the following times:

- In classrooms
- When arriving and leaving school
- During transitions from room to room
- When visiting the bathroom
- During small-group instruction

If your child does not have a mask, we can give them one. Our staff must wear masks when physical distancing is not possible.

- **Visitors:**

Visitors are not allowed past the front office in schools during this time.

- **Cleaning:**  
We are increasing our cleaning, including sanitizing surfaces at least once a day. We will provide cleaning and sanitizing supplies throughout our school.
- **Student Training:**  
We will train students about health and safety during this COVID-19 pandemic. This will include information from public health officials about handwashing, physical distancing, covering coughs, staying home, and avoiding face-touching.
- **Sharing Food:**  
We cannot allow any food sharing, so this means we cannot have birthday or celebratory treats during this time.
- **Assemblies:**  
We will not have any assemblies during this time.
- **Safety Drills:**  
Park Hill will be conducting “talk through” emergency drills for the remainder of 2020. The Mid America Regional Council (MARC) will continue to work with the health department to determine how 2021 will look. During the “talk through” drills, the alarm will still be tested as normal.
- **Physical Education:**  
We are reorganizing PE so we can keep the students farther apart. Students will not be using gym lockers at the beginning of the school year.
- **School Nurses:**  
Our school nurse will monitor information from public health officials and track student absences.

To keep students separate from people who might have COVID-19 symptoms, we will not send students with minor health concerns to the nurse’s office. This could include paper cuts, minor headaches, minor fatigue, bug bites, and mild stomachaches. If students have anxiety, stress or other similar symptoms, we will refer them to the counselor or another professional in the school.

We will ask students not to brush their teeth in the health room during this time. If a parent needs to bring in medication for a student, we request that they call ahead of time to schedule a time to drop it off to our nurse.

- **Sharing School Supplies:**  
We will reduce sharing of school supplies and sanitize the supplies we must share.

- **Water:**

We encourage families to consider sending students to school with a full water bottle everyday. Students can refill from one of our water fill stations instead of using the water fountain.

Custodial staff will clean and disinfect water fountains during the school day and after school dismissal.

- **Food Service:**

Our Nutrition Services staff in the lunchroom will serve your child instead of offering self-serve food.

- **Handwashing and Restrooms:**

Hand sanitizer will be available for all students throughout the day in all classrooms and spaces. Classrooms will also be on an hourly rotation for restroom breaks to reduce crowding, increase hand washing, and promote physical distancing.

- **Transportation:**

We encourage families to please consider transporting students to school instead of sending them on the bus. We will not be able to provide physical distancing on the buses, but we will take as many precautions as possible:

- We encourage students to wear masks.
- Drivers will wear masks when students are boarding and getting off the bus.
- We will provide hand sanitizer.
- We will open windows when possible.
- First Student will train drivers about health and safety precautions for COVID-19
- First Student will disinfect all surfaces on the buses at the end of each route.
- First Student will create assigned seats for students riding the bus, with siblings sitting together when possible. The seat behind the driver will remain empty.
- When possible, First Student will assign drivers to a single bus and route.

- **Backpacks:**

Due to the fact we will not be using lockers at the start of the school year, students will be carrying their backpacks from class to class. We will still reinforce positive behaviors with their personal belongings such as cell phones and other electronic devices.

- **Library Books:**

Students will be able to check out library materials. Specific media center protocols have been established to allow for equitable access to materials and safety and cleaning practices.

## In Case a Student or Staff Member Shows COVID-19 Symptoms

- **Assessing Symptoms:**

The school nurse will use their nursing judgement to evaluate the person's symptoms. For example, when evaluating a student, even if the student's fever does not reach the American Academy of Pediatrics' recommendation of 100.4 F, the nurse might send the student home after considering all symptoms.

- **Safety Precautions:**

Our school nurse will use CDC-recommended personal protective equipment (PPE) when working with a student or staff member with COVID-19 symptoms and the nurse will try to keep the person with symptoms separated from everyone else until they can carefully leave the school.

- **Responding to the Person with Symptoms:**

1. Staff will notify the nurse **IMMEDIATELY**. Teachers will send the student to the nurse's office if the student is able to go safely. Teachers will call the nurse's office in case of an emergency.
2. The nurse will meet the student or staff member outside the health room to take the individual's temperature and assess all symptoms. If the individual has a fever (100.4 F or greater) the nurse will proceed with COVID-19 screening protocols.
3. The nurse will isolate students with COVID-19 symptoms by having them sit behind a curtain or in the isolation location until a family member can take them home.
4. We will ask staff members with COVID-19 symptoms to cautiously leave the building with a mask after assessment from the school nurse.

- **Guidelines:**

The nurse will send home and review the [Park Hill Respiratory Illness Guidelines](#), including information about the rules for returning to school or work.

- **Medical Care:**

The nurse will recommend the person with symptoms follow up with a licensed medical provider or the health department.

- **Cleaning:**

We will block off the areas the student or staff member has been until our custodian can clean and disinfect them. The school nurse will contact custodial staff to discuss what affected areas should be cleaned and disinfected. This could include the locker, desk, chair, and other high-touch areas.

- **If the Student or Staff Member Gets a COVID-19 Diagnosis:**

If a student or staff member has a positive COVID-19 test or a healthcare provider diagnoses a presumptive COVID-19, we will follow these guidelines:

- We will work with the Platte County Health Department and the Kansas City Health Department and we will follow CDC guidelines to determine what precautions we must take, whom we need to notify and whether we need to close.
  - The person's family members should self-quarantine for 14 days after the last day of exposure. The nurse will contact other buildings where family members attend to ensure that they are observing the self-quarantine.
- **In Case COVID-19 Spreads in Our Community:**  
If there is community spread of COVID-19 within a school, we will work directly with local health department officials to complete contact tracing and inform those who have had close contact with a sick student or staff member. We will follow public health guidelines and recommendations to determine whether to close a school or cancel activities.

### **Returning to School after Illness:**

- **If the School Nurse Sends a Student or Staff Member Home:**  
If a school nurse sends a student or staff member home with COVID-19 symptoms, they will use these guidelines to decide when the person may return to school or work:
  - Must be fever-free (<100.4°) for 24 hours without fever-reducing medication such as Tylenol or ibuprofen.
  - Must have improvement in symptoms.
  - May be asked to observe a 10 day isolation period from 1st day of symptoms.
  - May be asked to provide documentation from a licensed health care provider stating clearance to return to school/work.
  - Student/staff member may return before 10 day isolation if the physician confirms alternate diagnosis explaining symptoms.
  
- **If a Student or Staff Member Gets Diagnosed with COVID-19:**  
If a student or staff member has a positive or presumptive positive COVID-19 test from their health care provider, we will follow these guidelines to decide when the person may return to school or work:
  - Must be fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication such as Tylenol or ibuprofen.
  - Must have improvement in symptoms.
  - Must have observed a 10 day isolation period from 1st day of symptoms.
  - If asymptomatic, must stay out for 10 days after diagnosis/+ test date.
  - May be asked to provide documentation from a licensed health care provider stating clearance to return to school/work.
  - Family members of a person with + test/presumptive diagnosis need to self-quarantine for 14 days after the last day of exposure.