

Building Successful Futures • Each Student • Every Day

# SAFE RETURN TO IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION AND CONTINUITY OF SERVICES PLAN



Our Reopening Task Force created this plan, using guidance from public health officials and using input from more than 4,000 students, family members and staff members. For revisions of the plan, we work with the School Health and Wellness Advisory Committee (SHWAC), which includes students, families, teachers, staff and community partners like our health departments. The SHWAC is reviewing our plan every six months. Our most recent review was May 2023. We will continue to update this plan as changes occur.

This plan meets the state's requirements to be our "Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan."

We provide this information on the website, where it is accessible through translation and through screen readers, and we translate key communications to families who need it.

This plan could change as more information becomes available and as we continue to follow the guidance of public health officials.

### **MAINTAINING HEALTH AND SAFETY**



We are taking every precaution we can to try to keep our students and our staff safe during COVID-19.

#### UNIVERSAL AND CORRECT WEARING OF MASKS



#### Masks:

The CDC continues to recommend masks when community levels are high, but they are not required in our schools, facilities and buses.

### MODIFYING FACILITIES TO ALLOW FOR PHYSICAL DISTANCING



#### **Physical Distancing:**

We cannot keep everyone three to six feet apart.



#### **Buses:**

The CDC continues to recommend masks when community levels are high, but they are not required on our buses.

#### HANDWASHING AND RESPIRATORY ETIQUETTE



#### **Handwashing and Respiratory Etiquette:**

Throughout the day, we will encourage hand washing, and we will also supply hand sanitizer in every classroom. Students and staff members must wash hands or use hand sanitizer before and after meals and recess. We will also teach proper etiquette for preventing respiratory illness, including covering your cough and not touching your face.

## CLEANING AND MAINTAINING HEALTHY FACILITIES, INCLUDING IMPROVING VENTILATION



#### **Cleaning and Ventilation**

We are cleaning high-touch surfaces and shared objects at least once a day. We will provide wipes and spray bottles with disinfectant in every classroom.

Where feasible, the district has invested in higher-quality air filters to improve air ventilation. Additionally, we improved the flow of fresh air in our buildings by leaving all air units on, which circulates fresh air 24-hrs a day.



#### **Outside Food:**

Our Nutrition Services department can no longer provide birthday treats. See our <u>Menus and Nutrition page</u> for more information about approved treats for birthdays and classroom parties.



#### **Food Service:**

The Nutrition Services staff is keeping up with the latest federal, state, and local guidelines for preparing and serving meals.



#### Water:

We are asking students and staff members to please come to school and work with a water bottle, if possible. Our water fountains will be on.



### **Large Gatherings:**

We are holding gatherings and events without restrictions.



#### **Visitors:**

We are allowing visitors and <u>volunteers</u> in our schools. Speak to your child's school for more information.

## CONTACT TRACING IN COMBINATION WITH ISOLATION AND QUARANTINE



#### **Contact Tracing:**

The Health Departments are no longer providing contact tracing for schools.

#### **Notifications about cases:**

We will no longer send notifications about every COVID case. If we have a classroom with three or more cases identified at the same time (during the same incubation period), we will send home a Classroom Condition Alert to the parents/guardians of students in that classroom only.



#### **Assessing Symptoms:**

The school nurse will use their nursing judgement to evaluate the student's symptoms. Even if a 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.



#### **Guidelines:**

For students who are sick, the nurse will send home guidelines to the student's family, including information about the rules for returning to school.



#### Medical Care:

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



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

If a student or staff member has a positive COVID-19 test or gets a diagnosis of presumptive COVID-19 from their health care provider, we will follow these guidelines to decide about the return to school:

- Must be fever-free a minimum of 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication such as Tylenol or ibuprofen AND
- Must have an improvement in COVID-19-like symptoms AND
- Must stay home at least five days after symptoms first appear
- If symptoms resolve and fever has been gone for more than 24
  hours without fever-reducing medication, the person may return
  on the sixth day. We will ask them to wear a mask for the next
  five days, but we will not enforce mask-wearing.
- Might be asked to provide documentation from a licensed health care provider stating clearance to return to school
- If you tested positive, you are not required to re-test or have a
  negative test result before returning to school. The CDC shared
  information that indicates a person who has had and recovered
  from COVID-19 might still have low levels of the virus for up to 3
  months that will continue to result in a positive test, even though
  they are not spreading COVID-19. We are using the above
  guidelines to determine the return to school or work.



#### If the School Nurse Sends a Student Home:

If a school nurse sends a student home with COVID-19-like symptoms, they will use these guidelines to decide about the student's return to school:

- Must be fever-free a minimum of 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication such as Tylenol or ibuprofen
- Must have an improvement in COVID-19-like symptoms
- Might be asked to stay home at least five days after symptoms first appeared
- Might be asked to bring medical clearance to return to school signed by their licensed health care provider

#### DIAGNOSTIC AND SCREENING TESTING



#### Testing:

Park Hill no longer has an onsite antigen testing center. To find information about test options available in our community:

- Missouri Testing Information
  - At-home testing options
    - Order Free COVID-19 Tests
  - Testing locations
    - Free options are available
    - Missouri COVID-19 Testing Locations
- Platte County Health Department COVID-19 Testing
  - Appointments offered Monday- Friday at the Parkville office
  - Testing is free and result are available within 2 hours
  - o Appointments can be made online
- PrepareMetroKC
  - Information on COVID-19 Testing
  - Local Testing Event Calendar

## EFFORTS TO PROVIDE VACCINATIONS TO EDUCATORS, OTHER STAFF, AND STUDENTS, IF ELIGIBLE



#### **Vaccines for Adults:**

There are many opportunities for people to get the vaccine for themselves, if they choose to do so:

- Sign up for a vaccine with the Platte County Health Department.
- Sign up for a vaccine with St. Luke's.
- Sign up for a vaccine with the Missouri COVID-19 Vaccine Navigator.
- Look into opportunities with your pharmacy.

#### Vaccines for Children:

The COVID vaccine is now approved for children. There are many opportunities for people to get the vaccine for themselves or their children, if they choose to do so:

- Sign up for a vaccine with the Platte County Health Department.
- Sign up for a vaccine with St. Luke's.
- Sign up for a vaccine with the Missouri COVID-19 Vaccine Navigator.
- Look into opportunities with your pharmacy.

## APPROPRIATE ACCOMMODATIONS FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES WITH RESPECT TO HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICIES AND PRACTICES



#### Special Education, 504s and IHPs:

We are including health and safety precautions as we work with each student's IEP. We also make changes to 504 plans when necessary to meet students' needs. We will also work with families when we need to have meetings for students' individual education programs (IEPs), 504 plans and individual health plans (IHPs).

#### **COORDINATION WITH STATE AND LOCAL HEALTH OFFICIALS:**



#### **Coordination with State and Local Health Officials:**

Our mitigation strategies could change at any time. We will also continue to collaborate with our local health departments, following all their requirements.

For up-to-date information about our community's case numbers, the following dashboards are available:

- MARC KC Region COVID-19 Data Hub (site will be archived on May 11, 2023)
- o Missouri Weekly COVID-19 Activity Report
- o MHA Regional COVID-19 Dashboard
- Platte County Health Department COVID-19
   Dashboard

### **CONTINUITY OF SERVICES PLAN**





#### **Meeting Academic Needs of Students:**

Starting in August 2023, Park Hill will no longer offer full-time online services. While the district will no longer provide services for full-time online learners, families are welcome to enroll through a Missouri Course Access Program (MOCAP) online vendor. Enrollment with an approved state vendor is paid by the state and free to the family. As outlined in Missouri House Bill 1552, students who enroll as a full-time online student with a MOCAP vendor will no longer be enrolled in the Park Hill School District.

A few approved vendors are linked below:

<u>Launch</u>

<u>Missouri Connections Academy</u>

<u>Missouri Virtual Academy</u>

<u>Missouri Digital Academy</u>

Other options may be found on the DESE website: <a href="https://mocap.mo.gov">https://mocap.mo.gov</a>

Special education teachers and staff provide instruction according to the students' IEP as well as accommodations and modifications for students as they are written in the IEP. They continue to communicate with students and their families to ensure needs are being met and collect data and progress monitor student goals.

ELD teachers and staff continue to collaborate with co-teachers to support learning experiences for ELD students, provide supplementary learning opportunities for ELD students, and monitor progress of students and regularly communicate with students and their families.



#### **Professional Development for Staff:**

Professional development for staff supports each goal within the district's Comprehensive School Improvement Plan (CSIP):

- 1. Each student will graduate college, career, and life ready.
- 2. Ensure success for all students regardless of background Professional development for elementary teachers focuses on reading and language arts instruction, culturally responsive education, and Positive Behavior Incentives and Supports (PBIS). At the secondary level, professional development is focused on culturally responsive education, PBIS, and content-level instructional strategies. In addition to these whole-school professional development efforts, principals work with teachers to examine NWEA-MAP data and other formative and summative assessments on a regular basis.



#### Students and Staff Social, Emotional and Mental Health:

Our students take the Panorama Student SEL survey twice a year. Our staff uses this information to inform MTSS supports, as well as any additional interventions students may need. Additionally, all middle schools are deploying Character Strong Curriculum to support social, emotional, and mental health of students and staff. At the elementary level, we are in phase 1 of implementing Conscious Discipline programming to support social, emotional, and mental health of both students and staff.

School counselors provide support through class lessons, small MTSS groups, and individual meetings. School social workers support families by identifying and connecting them to resources to meet their needs, including, but not limited to food, housing, financial assistance applications, physical health, and mental health.

Staff have access to the Employee Assistance Program, which applies to all employees regardless of insurance participation. Services are provided by highly trained and qualified professionals in counseling, family matters, finances, well-being, and relationships. This benefit is of no cost to the staff member or immediate family members. Additionally, supervisors are focused on being visible with their staff, as well as investing time in their staff to ensure they feel cared about and listened to.



#### **Student Health and Food Services**

We continue to provide nutritious foods for our students in a safe and welcoming environment. Our health services staff continue to provide compassionate care for students and staff, as they are dedicated to each students' health and well-being.

## PERIODIC REVIEW AND PUBLIC INPUT



Our Reopening Task Force created this plan, using guidance from public health officials and using input from more than 4,000 students, family members and staff members through surveys and focus groups. For future revisions of the plan, we will work with the School Health and Wellness Advisory Committee, which includes students, families, teachers, staff, and community partners like our health departments. This will occur at least every six months through September 30, 2023.