

## 2021-22 Turner Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan

Turner Public School is proactively looking at the return to school plans for the fall of 2021-22 school year. We understand that the situation will be fluid and our plans may need to be adjusted. Changes may occur based on changing recommendations from federal, state, and local officials.

Our district's Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan will have three phases.

### **Phase 1: Total Distance Learning**

- Turner Public School will be closed to onsite instruction and all student activities, as outlined in the existing MOA.
- Turner Public School will provide remote learning opportunities.
- Turner Public Schools will provide services (in conjunction with the Special Ed Co-op) to students with disabilities, and any other services customarily provided in a school setting.
- Turner Public School will check out technology to students in need of laptop.
- Meals/food will be available for pick up and/or delivery (if allowable).
- School officials will work with appropriate persons to ensure that both technology and operational needs are adequate to meet the needs for the students and staff and to be able to conduct business as needed.

### **Phase 2: Full Capacity & Normal Schedule**

- All students will come back to campus and resume normal instruction.
- Student desks/tables should be spaced out as far apart as the room allows.
- School Assemblies and other large gathering activities will be evaluated as they occur and determine if they are practical given the current state of the pandemic at the time.
- This phase recommends social distancing, temperatures may be taken, frequent hand washing/sanitizing, extra cleaning of learning environment, etc.
- It is optional for Staff and Students to wear masks or face shields **unless there is a direct order from the Governor.**
- Staff will be vigilant in monitoring student health. **Staff and students not feeling well must stay home.** Students will be sent to the main office and temperatures will be taken when a teacher suspects a student may be ill.
- Students who become ill during the day will be isolated in a designated area in building and monitored until they can be sent home or parents can pick them up.
- Extracurricular activities/sports status will be determined by MHSAs guidelines, county health department recommendations, and local control.
- Attendees to athletic events will be encouraged to practice social distancing or watch events via the school streaming network.
- Check out technology to students in need of laptop.
- Use only the fill station portion of drinking fountains.
- During on campus learning, students may be asked to assist in cleaning duties regarding desks/tables, educational materials and technological devices.
- Encourage students to disinfect personal belongings such as backpacks on a daily basis.
- Restrict nonessential visitors, volunteers, and activities involving other groups at the same time.
- When possible, create physical distance between children on school buses.
- Monitor students for re-emergence of virus.
- Be prepared for a possible return to Phase 1.
- In the event of a positive COVID-19 test of a student or staff member, or if an infected person has been in the building, the facility will be closed immediately and the district will work with the county health officials to determine the course of action and length of closure/quarantine.

### **Phase 3: Full Capacity & Full Operations. Continued vigilance in health and best safety practices.**

- Frequent handwashing, disinfecting of surfaces and commonly touched areas, and social distancing as much as possible will be maintained.
- It is optional for Staff and Students to wear masks or face shields.
- Gatherings of larger than normal class size are allowed.
- **Any student/staff with a fever or not feeling well must stay home.**
- Hot meals will be provided in the cafeteria as normal.
- Extracurricular activities/sports status will be determined by MHSA guidelines, county health department recommendations, and local control.
- Students who become ill during the day will be isolated in a designated area in the building and monitored until they can be sent home or parents can pick them up.
- Be prepared for a possible return to Phase 2.

### **Safety Measures**

Regardless of the Phase the state is under, safety of students and staff is paramount. **Students/staff not feeling well or running a temperature must stay home.** Standard health protocols will be followed:

- Frequent handwashing and use of hand sanitizer
- Cough in elbow
- Sneeze in tissue and toss it into garbage
- Recommend social distancing as much as realistically possible
- Avoid touching face, nose, eyes, or mouth
- Intensive sanitizing of occupied spaces
- For care of minor injuries (bandaids) have students wash their hands and apply their own bandage.

### **Health Precautions for all**

- Teach and reinforce washing hands and covering coughs and sneezes among children and staff.
- Additional key times to wash hands include:
  - After blowing one's nose, coughing, or sneezing.
  - After using the restroom.
  - Before eating or preparing food.
  - After contact with animals or pets.
  - Before and after providing routine care for another person who needs assistance (e.g., a child).
- If available, hand sanitizer will be provided in each classroom and should be used frequently when hand washing cannot occur.
- Whenever possible, students will use individual, writing, reading and technology tools.
- Encourage students to bring their own clearly labeled water bottles for drinking water throughout the day as a means to reduce unnecessary contact at water drinking stations.
- At school drinking fountains, the fill station is the only recommended option.
- **The first line of defense to prevent the spread of disease is to stay home when you are feeling ill or have a temperature.** This approach may cause increased use of sick days for staff, requiring dipping into the sick pool days. This may become problematic if the district does not have enough subs on hand to cover staff absences. Many of our subs are older, which means they may not be willing to come in to cover classes. For parents, it means they will have to stay home with a sick child and not try to mask temperatures by giving the student aspirin, Tylenol, etc.

## **Cleaning**

Cleaning will be frequent using CDC approved cleaning materials or a bleach solution. Under all phases, sanitizing will occur daily:

Classrooms:

- Have Lysol wipes readily available for students/staff use.
- Desktops and table tops disinfected daily.
- Laptops will be cleaned daily by students with the following procedures
- Rooms aired out daily if weather permits or if a COVID 19 case is found in the class.
- Windows open as much as possible during fall and spring.

Buses:

- Seats sanitized frequently.
- Sanitize commonly touched areas (handrails, seat backs, etc.) daily.
- When possible, windows opened to air out the bus.
- When possible, seat students every other seat.

Restrooms:

- Sanitized frequently throughout the day
- Attention to commonly touched surfaces (handles, knobs, dispensers, switches, etc).

Technological devices:

- Must clean after each use or daily if assigned to a particular student.
- Cleaning steps:
- Completely power down and unplug the power cord if you are cleaning a Laptop.
- Disconnect any cable or peripherals that are plugged into the Laptop.

## **Signage**

- Signage at each public entrance of the facility to inform all faculty, staff and students that they should: avoid entering the facility if they have a respiratory symptom such as cough, shortness of breath, sore throat and/or a fever.
- Helpful signage within the school building for students and staff.

## **Attendance**

- Communicate with all stakeholders (staff, students, families) the importance of staying home when sick.
- Communicate with all stakeholders the procedures that will be used to send home staff and students who may display symptoms while on campus.

## **Special Education**

Students with disabilities shall receive services in accordance with the applicable Individualized Education Plan or Section 504 Plan based on methods and locations agreed upon and documented by the applicable team to meet the student's needs and goals. The building administrator shall coordinate with parents and the special education staff or cooperative to ensure all applicable statutes are followed in accordance with U.S. Department of Education guidelines.

Individualized services during periods of remote or blended learning must be constructed with parent involvement and approval, to allow a child to make progress on goals and advance in the general curriculum, based on the unique needs of the student. Such service may include:

- Alterations to IEP goals to account for revised learning demands of the general education environment.
- Alterations to direct services, provided through phone, video conference, or in-person instruction following social distancing guidelines.

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- Alterations of accommodations, taking into account the demands of technology based remote learning plans.
- Specific focus on parent training and consultation, to support students in attaining their individualized goals.
- The need for extended learning opportunities to mitigate skills lost due to gaps in instruction.

### **Plan for when a staff, child, or visitor becomes sick**

- Work with school administrators, nurses, and other healthcare providers to identify an isolation room or area to separate anyone who exhibits COVID-like symptoms.
- Establish procedures for safely transporting anyone sick home or to a healthcare facility.
- Notify local health officials, staff, and families immediately of a possible case while maintaining confidentiality as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
- Close off areas used by a sick person and do not use before cleaning and disinfection. Ensure safe and correct application of disinfectants and keep disinfectant products away from children.
- Inform those exposed to a person with COVID-19 to stay home and self-monitor for symptoms, and follow CDC guidance if symptoms develop.
- For COVID-19 tested individuals, If the test result is negative, individuals will need to provide a note from their health care provider with a return date and be symptom and fever free as per CDC guidelines.
- If a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19, it is likely we may need to close the school for a temporary period of time. Health officials will recommend the length of closure of the school based on the current status of the outbreak. Also consider the existing MOA.

### **Contact Tracing**

- When possible, teachers should ensure students are seated at the same seats.
- Cooperate with Blaine County Health Department and provide any needed information.
- Information can be shared with custodial staff to help coordinate custodial maintenance and cleaning.

### **Human Resources Considerations**

- Consider that due to staff illness and labor shortages, substitutes may be challenging to find. The district may find itself in a position where it is unable to adequately staff the building, which would force us to consider going back to online learning.
- Other duties for paras/classified staff (cleaning and other duties as assigned)

### **Transportation**

- Ensure bus staff have disinfectant wipes, sanitizers, etc.
- When possible, seating spread out.
- Busses are sanitized frequently.

### **TPS Expectations for Online Learning**

The purpose of this document is to communicate the school's expectations regarding logging in for online learning when your child needs to stay home for being sick but is well enough to stream school from home for the day. To be clear, the online learning option is not intended to be used simply because one does not wish to drive to school that day, wants to take a day off after a late basketball game or practice, or is a little tired. Its intention is for sick children to receive instruction. While there is no substitute for in person learning, we feel it is better that an ill child participates in school virtually, rather than not participating in school at all. The district also recognizes there are times when students are too sick to login and participate in online school.

### Procedure

Parents need to contact office by 7:35AM to inform the school that your child is out sick but well enough to attend school virtually. The more advanced notice, the better for all parties.

Office will count your student as present for online school and notify your child's teachers. Teachers will still be taking attendance for each class period.

Students will have a class link on their email account and in Google Classroom.

This option is available for students in grades K-12.

### Responsibilities of Students/Parents

In order to maximize the benefits of digital learning, students will need to have all of their materials with them in order to login and fully participate.

Responsibility for obtaining necessary educational materials/resources (i.e. laptops, books, handouts, etc) is on the student/parent.

If there is an Internet outage or bandwidth is not sufficient at your residence, the district will need to count your child as absent.

### Online learning expectations for students:

To be considered "present" for class, the following expectations needs to be met:

- Camera is turned on and the student is physically present at the camera.
- Full participation in all discussions and instruction.
- Materials/resources are gathered and ready for learning.

Assignments/classroom work will be graded on a normal scale.

Same due dates apply as if a student were attending school in person (digital assignment turn in option on Google Classroom/Google Meets).

Login in several minutes early to clear up any issues before the class session begins.

If you are experiencing any technical issues, contact Schoolhouse IT (406-235-7020) and/or the school immediately so that it is addressed prior to the next learning session. Please keep in mind that not every technical issue can be addressed immediately.

### Teachers

Teachers will have a regularly scheduled Zoom schedule/Google Meets schedule every Monday-Thursday. All a student and/or teacher needs to do is click to the Zoom link to begin the meeting (class). Staff will email this link to all of their students and is will be accessible on your child's Google Classroom. This will eliminate the need to continually send out invites for students.

Teachers will take online attendance each class period. This is not designed to create additional work for our teachers. It is meant to alleviate the burden of repeated student absences during COVID.

### Extracurricular Participation for Online Learners

If you are too sick to come to school for in person learning, you are too sick to participate in extracurricular activities. Specifically, for Friday or Saturday competitions or performances, participants must be recovered and physically present in school the preceding day.