Daviess/Martin County Schools Reopening Plan

Washington Community Schools Version - Updated 7/1/2020







The Daviess/Martin County Schools Reopening Plan provides a flexible framework for planning to address challenges that may develop over the course of the 2020-2021 school year. There is a menu of options depending on local community spread and the state's stages. School leaders and our local county health departments recognize that county schools could move back and forth across the continuum of options as the impact of COVID-19 in our area changes over time.

Key Factors

- 1) The school's ability to maintain a safe and healthy school environment.
- 2) The prevalence of COVID-19 in the community.

Schools will need to constantly evaluate these factors and will fluctuate between operating plans if/when conditions change.

Guiding Principles

State and County Metrics



AND/OR

School Building Metrics

% Student Absence Due to Illness	Operating Option	
≥25% student absence due to any illness; OR excessive	Red - Virtual Only	
staff absence due to illness; OR on the recommendation		
of the DCHD in response to COVID-19 cases		
≥20% but <25% absence due to any illness; OR excessive	Yellow - Hybrid	
staff absence due to illness; or on the recommendation of		
the DCHD in response to COVID-19 cases		
<20% absence due to any Illness; at the recommendation	Green - In-person or COVID Online School	
of the DCHD in response to COVID-19 cases		
All verified positive COVID cases in a school will be evaluated and areas of contact will be cleaned and		
sanitized. Intermittent closure (2-5 days) of classrooms or buildings may be necessary. In that event,		
virtual learning will be implemented.		

Addressing Community Spread in Washington Community Schools

Low/No Spread

- Establish and maintain communication with local and state health officials.
- Participate in contact tracing efforts and specimen collection efforts as directed by local health officials (to the extent feasible).
- Post signage in classrooms, hallways, and entrances to communicate how to stop the spread. COVID-19 symptoms, preventative measures (including staying home when sick), good hygiene, and school/district specific protocols.
- Establish a protocol for students/staff who feel ill/experience symptoms when they come to school (see When a Child, Staff Member Becomes Sick at School).
- Consider ways to accommodate needs of children, teachers/staff, and families at higher risk for severe illness (see Protecting Vulnerable Populations).

Minimal/Moderate Spread

- Establish and maintain communication with local and state health officials.
- Participate in contact tracing efforts and specimen collection efforts as directed by local health officials (to the extent feasible).
- Implement enhanced social distancing measures (see Transitioning, Large Groups, and Teaching and Learning).
- Post signage in classrooms, hallways, and entrances to communicate how to stop the spread. COVID-19 symptoms, preventative measures (including staying home when sick), good hygiene, and school/district specific protocols.
- Establish a protocol for students/staff who feel ill/experience symptoms when they come to school (see When a Child or Staff Member Becomes Sick at School).
- Isolate and deep clean impacted classrooms and spaces.
- Consider ways to accommodate needs of children, teachers/staff, and families at higher risk for severe illness (see Protecting Vulnerable Populations).

Definitions

Substantial Spread

- Coordinate with local and state health officials.
- Participate in contact tracing efforts and specimen collection efforts as directed by local health officials (to the extent feasible)
- Schools that are closed, remain closed.
 Implement distance/remote learning (see Food Service and Teaching and Learning).
- Close off affected areas and if possible, wait 24 hours before cleaning and disinfecting.
- Accommodate needs of children, teachers/staff, and families at higher risk for severe illness (see Protecting Vulnerable Populations).

Face Coverings



Recommendations regarding face coverings differ based on the level of community spread and can be found throughout this document. Information will be provided to staff, students, and families on proper use, removal, and washing of cloth face coverings. The use of face coverings is recommended but optional. Inappropriate symbols or messages on masks that are solicitous, profane, obscene, or advertise such things as alcohol, illegal substances, weapons, ammunition, etc. are not allowed.

Hand Sanitizer



Hand sanitizers should contain at least 60% alcohol. This will be provided to all students and staff in restrooms, classrooms, and frequently trafficked areas.



Clean/

Ensure safe and correct application of disinfectants and keep out of reach of children.

Washington Community Schools Reopening Plan Level of Community **Spread Substantial Spread** Low/No Spread Minimal/Moderate Spread (as determined by state and local health officials) **Instructional** Model In-person or COVID Online School **Virtual Learning** Hybrid (as determined Regular school hrs M-F – No early Virtual learning Regular School Hrs. M-F In-person or Virtual Regular School Hrs M-F by school release on Wednesdays districts) Response (as **Limited/Staggered Use of School School Buildings Open** determined by **Target Closure** Implement preventative practices and **Buildings** school Isolate and clean targeted area additional proactive processes/protocols Implement alternating schedules for students districts in and distance learning partnership with local Short-term health officials) Close for short-term facility wide deep cleaning **Extended Closure** As directed by the Board of Health

Level of Community Spread (as determined by state and local health officials)	Low/No Spread	Minimal/Moderate Spread	Substantial Spread
Practicing Prevention	 Parents should pre-screen their children daily based on CDC guidelines before sending their child to school. STAY HOME IF YOU ARE SICK! Anyone entering through the office will have their temperature screened. Teach and reinforce good hygiene measures such as hand washing, covering coughs, and face coverings. Hand soap and/or hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol and paper towels will be provided in all bathrooms, classrooms, and frequently trafficked areas. Post signage in classrooms, hallways, and entrances to communicate how to stop the spread. COVID-19 symptoms, preventative measures (including staying home when sick), good hygiene, and school/district specific protocols. Clean/disinfect frequently touched surfaces at least daily and shared objects after each use. The use of face masks/coverings is recommended. WCS will provide 1 cloth masks for all staff and students. Water fountain mouthpieces will be turned off. Students are encouraged to bring their own reusable water bottles. Bottle fill stations will be available. Ensure ventilation systems operate properly and increase circulation of outdoor air through our HVAC system. Conduct deep cleaning of schools prior to students/staff returning. Classrooms and all high-touched areas will be cleaned and disinfected daily and throughout the day with CDC recommended cleaners and equipment. Perfect Attendance Awards for students are suspended for the 20-21 school year. 	All steps from Green Stage plus the following: • A weekly scheduled virtual day will be implemented to allow for enhanced cleaning of our buildings.	School buildings are closed. Use school web site, Hatchet Happenings, social media and other communications to inform parents, students, and staff about COVID-19 symptoms, preventative measures, good hygiene, and school/district specific protocols.

	Low/No Spread	Minimal/Moderate Spread	Substantial Spread
Transportation	Social distancing is NOT possible. Implement standard operating procedures while taking preventative measures such as: Parents encouraged to bring/pickup children to/from school to limit bus crowding. Buses will be cleaned and disinfected after each A.M. and P.M. route is completed. Students will sit in assigned seats. Family members will sit together. We strongly recommend that drivers and students wear face masks/coverings. Buses will be aired out when not in use. Field trips will not be permitted until further notice. Establish protocols for bus stops, loading/unloading students to minimize congregation of children. Students will only be transported to their regular pickup/drop-off location.	All steps from Green Stage plus the following: Students in grades K -12 placed into a hybrid daily schedule to reduce the number of students on buses.	School buildings are closed. No transportation necessary.
Entering School Buildings	 Anyone entering through the office will have their temperature screened. Students will have a grab and go breakfast option and report to the designated area. No congregating in hallways. All students should report immediately to the designated area. Students/staff who feel ill/experience symptoms when they come to school will be isolated (see When a Child or Staff Member Becomes Sick at School). Plexiglass barriers will be installed between secretaries and public areas. NO VISITORS PERMITTED. 	All steps from Green Stage plus the following: Reduce traffic flow by implementing our hybrid class schedule.	School buildings are closed. Essential staff report in-person to carry out necessary functions. Virtual tools and platforms will be used to conduct essential business and keep in-person reporting to essential staff during school closures.

	Low/No Spread	Minimal/Moderate Spread	Substantial Spread
Food Service	Implement standard operating procedures while taking preventative measures such as: Class schedules will be adjusted to provide: Time for students to wash their hands Smaller groups in the cafeteria Some buildings will use a combination of eating in the cafeteria, and eating in the classroom to maintain social distancing. Hand sanitizer provided for students / staff. Face masks/coverings recommended for students while in transition / lunch line. Cafeteria staff required to wear face mask / covering. Students use assigned seating in cafeteria. Cleaning of cafeterias and high-touch surfaces throughout the school day. No buffet style service, i.e. salad bars. Prepackaged salads, soups, etc. only. Students not permitted to pick up food on their own. Students only use bar code card to pay for meal. NO CASH transfer in the meal line. COVID Online students will have grab and go meals available to them.	All steps from Green Stage plus the following: Pre-packaged meals will be provided to each student. Disposable utensils and plates will be included if necessary.	School buildings are closed. Grab and go meals distributed to all students.
Transitioning	 Implement standard operating procedures while taking preventative measures such as: Face masks/coverings are recommended in hallways. Gatherings of large crowds will be discouraged in the hallways during passing periods. Clean hallways / high-touch surfaces frequently during the school day. Building principals will stagger class schedules to reduce large crowding in the hallways as possible. Minimize congregation of students. 	All steps from Green Stage plus the following: Limit mixing between groups (as practicable).	School buildings are closed.
Large Groups	Implement standard operating procedures while taking preventative measures such as: Face masks/coverings are recommended. Discourage the congregation of students in parking lots, hallways, and common areas. Follow IHSAA guidelines for athletics. Class schedules will be staggered to limit group size.	All steps from Green Stage plus the following: Abide by the maximum number of people allowed to congregate as defined by the Governor's statewide Executive Order.	School buildings are closed.

	Elementary classrooms will play in "recess zones" with their own classmates. Zones will be rotated daily.		
	Low/No Spread	Minimal/Moderate Spread	Substantial Spread
Teaching and Learning	Implement standard operating procedures while taking preventative measures such as: Regular school hours Mon-Fri. No early release time on Wednesdays. Social distancing may not be possible in classrooms. Desks will be separated to the extent possible and facing one direction Efforts will be made to keep each child's belongings separated & individually labeled in storage area, container, locker, cubbies, etc. Efforts will be made to provide adequate supplies to minimize shared-use of high touch items OR limit use by one group at a time and clean/disinfect between use. Avoid contact (hand shaking, hugs, etc.) Use assigned seating Establish academic baseline of returning students Provide interventions and supports for students at-risk Hand sanitizer will be provided for students and staff Disinfectant will be available in all classrooms and in high traffic areas for wiping down desks and shared items ISDH says it is safe to remove masks when in assigned seat facing same direction Cleaning classrooms and high-touch surfaces throughout the school day Classes may utilize larger areas when possible. (Example includes outdoors when weather permits) Choir socially distanced in the auditorium Prepare for possible future virtual learning	All steps from Green Stage plus the following: Hybrid Instructional Models Regular school hours Mon-Fri. K-12 All students engage daily (direct instruction, support, and monitoring of student progress) either in-person or by remotely accessing the classroom through a digital link in real-time. Days with remote learning: A/B Schedules Alternation Days with Remote Learning Group A Students – Mon/Tues Group B Students – Thurs/Fri Wednesday – eLearning Day for all Accommodations for siblings will be considered.	School buildings are closed. Regular School Hours M-F through virtual learning platforms for all students and teachers. Distribute printed instructional packets / materials as necessary.

	Low/No Spread	Minimal/Moderate Spread	Substantial Spread
Protecting Vulnerable Populations Elderly individuals and/or individuals with serious underlying health conditions	 Implement standard operating procedures. Establish a point-of-contact with the local health department Identify local COVID-19 testing sites Hand sanitizer provided for students and staff PPE provided to vulnerable students and staff as appropriate Vulnerable students and staff allowed to wear PPE throughout the school day (to the extent practicable) Provide remote / distance learning opportunities for vulnerable student 	All steps from Green Stage	School buildings are closed. Regular check-ins with vulnerable students and staff established
When a Child, or Staff Member Becomes Sick at School	populations Limit large group gatherings/interactions for vulnerable students and staff Anyone exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms will be given a mask to put on immediately. Anyone exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms during school will be placed in a COVID isolation room. Teachers should notify the office immediately. School nurses will use Standard and Transmission-Based Precautions when caring for sick people. Parents picking up sick students will be asked to call the school when they arrive. Sick students will be sent out to the parent. Notify IDOE, local health officials, staff, and families immediately of a possible case of COVID-19 while maintaining confidentiality consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and other applicable federal and state privacy laws.		
\bigcirc	 Clean or disinfect areas or rooms used by a COVID-19 sick person. Sick staff members and children will be excluded until they have met ISDH criteria to discontinue home isolation. The health department will assist school officials to provide guidance on next steps, i.e. informing those who have had close contact to a person diagnosed with COVID-19, determining operations status, etc. 		
Health Clinic COVID-19 Symptomatic Each school will designate a COVID Isolation Room separate from the health clinic where students/employees who are feeling ill are evaluated or wait for pick-up. All waiting students/staff will be required to wear a face covering. ONLY essential staff will be allowed in the room. This includes the school nurse or designee. Appropriate PPE must be worn. A record of who enters the room will be kept. The room will be disinfected frequently. Strict social distancing (6ft) will be required. Students being picked up by parents/guardians will meet parents outside the building. Non-COVID Related Illness			

Students who do not display symptoms of COVID-19 can be seen and treated in the nurse's clinic. This includes:

- Student injuries
- Special health needs for chronic health conditions
- Medical treatments
- Medication
- Other as designated in the individual health plans

School Exclusion

State statute gives public school districts the authority to exclude students who have a contagious disease such as COVID-19 or are liable to transmit it after exposure (IC 20-34-3-9). In addition, the local health department has the authority to exclude students from school and may order students and others to isolate or quarantine (IC 16-41-9-1.6).



Students and employees should remain home if they have been in close contact with someone in the household that has COVID-19 symptoms or that is being tested for COVID-19.

Surveillance Testing: Students or staff who live in a household with individuals who are required to regularly test for COVID-19 as a result of employment (surveillance testing) are not required to isolate or quarantine.

Monitoring of Student/Staff Attendance (CREATE FORM)

- Daily health reports will be sent to the Superintendent. The report will track:
 - o Reasons for student and staff absence
 - o Immediately report any positive cases of COVID-19 (one or more) to the Superintendent and local health department.

Symptoms Impacting Consideration for Exclusion from School

Students and employees should be trained to recognize the following COVID-19-related symptoms:

- A fever of 100° F or greater
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Chills
- Repeated shaking with chills
- Muscle pain
- Headache
- Sore throat
- New loss of taste or smell

Students and staff who are called in sick will be asked if they are exhibiting any symptoms of COVID-19.

Students and employees will be excluded from school if they test positive for COVID-19 have a temperature of 100° F or greater or exhibit two or more of the symptoms of COVID-19 included in the list above. Return to school will be determined using guidance from the ISDH, which is included the "Return to School after Exclusion" section below.

Return to School after Exclusion



COVID-19: When a student, faculty or staff member can return to school

Individual	Symptomatic	No Symptoms
Not Tested with Alternate Explanation (strep, influenza, etc. as determined by a provider)	May return to school after 24 hours resolution of fever AND note (including email and fax) from provider stating the individual has an alternate diagnosis and the provider believes it's appropriate for the patient to return to school.	N/A
Not Tested Without Alternate Explanation	Must remain home for at least 10 days from the first day symptoms appeared AND 72 hours fever-free without fever-reducing medicine and with improvement of respiratory symptoms.	N/A
Tested and Negative	If no alternative explanation, <i>isolate</i> for at least 10 days from the first day symptoms appeared AND 72 hours fever-free without fever-reducing medications and with improvement of respiratory symptoms. The test may have been a false negative. The individual can return to school if tested negative AND with a note from the provider stating they believe the patient to have an alternate diagnosis and it's appropriate for the patient to return to school	May proceed with attending school. EXCEPTION: A known close contact (within 6 feet of a confirmed case for more than 15 minutes) must complete a 14-day <i>quarantine</i> , even if test results are negative for COVID-19.
Tested and Positive	Must remain home in <i>isolation</i> for at least 10 days from the date symptoms began AND 72 hours fever-free without fever-reducing medications and improvement of respiratory symptoms	Isolate at home for 10 days from the day the test was taken. *If the individual develops symptoms, then isolation time starts on day 1 of symptoms (see symptomatic tests positive.)
Close Contact (within 6 feet for more than 15 minutes of someone with confirmed COVID-19)	N/A If an individual becomes symptomatic, refer to the symptomatic scenarios. The individual must <i>quarantine</i> for 14 days after contact with the COVID-19 Positive person even if the student has an alternate diagnosis for symptoms.	Quarantine for 14 days before returning to school. Must remain symptom-free. If individual develops symptoms, then refer to the symptomatic scenarios.

Note: QUARANTINE keeps someone who was in close contact with someone who has COVID-19 away from others. ISOLATION keeps someone who is sick or tested positive for COVID-19 without symptoms away from others, even in their own home.



Updated:6/26/20



Scenarios





• Student gets tested for COVID-19 at a testing event put on by a community organization. The student was symptom-free when he got the test. The test comes back positive. The student must *isolate* and stay symptom-free for 10 days after the date he took the test.





• Student gets tested for COVID-19 at a testing event put on by a community organization. The student was symptom-free when she got the test. The test comes back positive. The student starts *isolating* for 10 days after the date she took the test. Four days into her *isolation*, she develops a fever and cough. She must now *isolate* at home for at least 10 days and 72 hours fever-free without fever-reducing medicine and with improvement in respiratory symptoms. The student ends up *isolating* at home for 14 days.



• Student tests positive and has three siblings in the home or as close contacts who attend other schools. If the siblings have symptoms, they should be tested and report to that school if results are positive. Otherwise, siblings should *quarantine* for 14 days before returning to school. Contacts of the siblings are not considered a close contact unless the siblings test positive themselves.





• Student has a fever, cough, headache and loss of taste and smell. The student goes to get tested and the test is negative. There is at least a 30% chance of having a false negative test. Therefore, it would still be required that this student *isolate* at home for at least 10 days and 72 hours fever-free without medication and with reduction in respiratory symptoms.



24 hours

• Student has a fever and sore throat and history of getting strep throat. Student sees her provider, who does a strep test and exam and believes the patient has strep throat and does not have COVID-19. The student may return to school after 24 hours fever-free with a note from her provider stating she may return to school.



10 days 72 hours • Student has fever, cough, shortness or breath, and loss of taste and smell. His parents do not want to get him tested for COVID-19. Highly recommend that the student get tested so that the proper contact tracing can be done. The student will need to isolate at home for at least 10 days and go 72 hours fever-free without use of medication and have a reduction in respiratory symptoms. Additionally, if the school is suspicious that the student has COVID-19, the school could do contact tracing and monitoring for others with symptoms..



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CONFIRMED POSITIVE COVID-19 CONTACT TRACING

Person A is diagnosed with laboratory-confirmed COVID-19. If **Person B** had contact, close or proximate, with **Person A**, **Person B** would be subject to mandatory quarantine (if close contact) or precautionary quarantine (if proximate contact).

Any individual (**Person C**) who is a contact of **Person B** (i.e., spouse, children, co-workers, etc.) is considered a "contact of a contact". **Person C** is not at risk for infection and would not be subject to quarantine unless **Person B** had or developed symptoms or tested positive for the virus causing COVID-19.

PERSON A

CONFIRMED CASE

Required to be in isolation

PERSON B

CONTACT OF CASE

Required to be in mandatory (direct contact) or precautionary (proximate contact) quarantine.

PERSON C

CONTACT OF A CONTACT

Unless Person B has or develops symptoms of COVID-19, or tests positive for COVID-19, Person C <u>is</u> <u>not</u> subject to quarantine.

<u>Close contact</u> is defined as "being within 6-feet of a person displaying symptoms of COVID-19 or someone who has tested positive of COVID-19"

Proximate contact is defined as "being in the same enclosed environment such as a classroom, office, or gatherings but greater than 6-feet from a person displaying symptoms of COVID-19 or someone who has tested positive for COVID-19"

<u>Mandatory quarantine</u> is required for a person who "has been in close contact (6-feet) with someone who is positive, but is not displaying symptoms for COVID-19; or person has traveled to China, Iran, Japan, South Korea or Italy and is displaying symptoms of COVID-19"

<u>Precautionary quarantine</u> is required for a person who "meets one or more of the following criteria: (i) has traveled to China, Iran, Japan, South Korea or Italy while COVID-19 was prevalent, but is not displaying symptoms; or (ii) is known to have had a proximate exposure to a positive person but has not had direct contact with a positive person and is not displaying symptoms"