

# 2021-2022 Return to Learn Plan



**Instruction**

The first day for 1st-12th students is Thursday, August 19th

We will dismiss at 2 p.m. for elementary and jr high students and 2:22 p.m. for high school students on THURSDAY, August 19th and FRIDAY, August 20th.

Kindergarten Orientation is THURSDAY, with students starting class on FRIDAY August 20th. (Please refer to communication from your child's school for times) TUESDAY, August 24th is the first day for PreK students.

Students will attend five (5) days a week!

**NOTE:** The school day will begin at 8 a.m. and end at 3 p.m. for PreK-8th grades. For 9th-12th grades, the day will start at 8:15 a.m. and end at 3:22 p.m.

**Alternative Learning Options**

Current ISBE guidance promotes in-person learning for ALL students. Remote learning is not an option. Exceptions can be made for extenuating circumstances. Parents wishing to discuss their situations must communicate with the building principal. Students may NOT move in and out of homebound instruction during the quarter/semester.

Remote Learning will only be temporarily available while a student is under quarantine. Students are expected to participate fully.



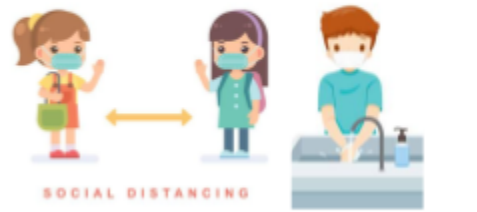
**Mitigation Practices- Masks**

The Governor's mandate effective, August 4th, requires all students PreK-12 and school employees to wear masks.

Please keep in mind everything is SUBJECT TO CHANGE depending on the metrics of the county and community. The safety and wellbeing of our students and staff are our top priority.

**Mitigation Practices- Buses**

All passengers and drivers must wear a mask on school buses. Drivers do not need to wear a mask if they are the only person on the bus. Students will have an assigned seat to assist in contact tracing.



**Mitigation Practices- General**

**SOCIAL DISTANCING:** We will continue to maintain at least 3' in all school areas to the greatest extent possible.

**SANITATION:** Buildings will continue to undergo increased cleaning/sanitizing.

**WATER FOUNTAINS:** Students will be allowed to bring a water bottle again as fountains will not be available again this year. Water filling stations are available in each school.

**HAND WASHING:** Students will continue to be greeted at the door each morning and receive hand sanitizer and will be strongly encouraged to wash and sanitize hands throughout the school day.

**Quarantine - Close Contacts**

In the event of a positive COVID-19 case at school, the District will work with Bond County Health Department to determine which students and staff are considered "close contacts" of the infected person. Unvaccinated close contacts will be asked to quarantine by the BCHD and will be excluded from in-person attendance for up to 14 days unless they opt to follow our Test to Stay protocol. Vaccinated close contacts will not be asked to quarantine as long as they are symptom free.



**Quarantine - Test to Stay**

Students may participate in our "Test to Stay" program. If the parent agrees to participate in rapid testing on days 1, 3, 5, & 7, the student may attend in-person during the 14-day watch period. The BinaxNow test will be used for this monitoring program. Conscientious masking, negative test results every other day, and remaining symptom free will result in an unvaccinated close contact being able to stay in school during the 14 days. A signed waiver must be in place prior to testing. A waiver will be available on the district website.

**Additional Information**

**MEALS:** Student meals will be free for the 2021-2022 school year in accordance with the USDA reimbursements. Meals will be served either in the cafeteria or tear classroom to allow for social distancing. Students in grades 6-12 will be allowed to purchase a la carte items for a fee. Students must have money in their account in advance to make a purchase.

**EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:** Athletic programs will run as normal with full activity fees charges and admission charged at indoor home sporting events. Students participating in indoor activities MUST wear a mask. Activities outside will NOT require a mask.

The district will be prepared to adjust education and athletic programming as necessary throughout the year and in accordance with the recommended guidance.

