

Breckenridge R-I School District
Plan for Re-opening School
2023-2024

Breckenridge R-I School District

RE: COVID 19 Emergency

Plan for Re-opening School

September 13, 2023



Purpose

The purpose of this plan for the Breckenridge R-I School District is to establish guidelines and recommendations for the reopening of the school after the COVID-19 emergency. While the district understands that no plan can foresee every set of circumstances, it is our goal to establish a set of general operating guidelines for the daily operation of the school district. The Breckenridge R-I School District has used recommendations from the Caldwell County Health Department, the Missouri School Boards Association, the Missouri Unified School Insurance Council, and the Centers for Disease Control. We acknowledge these contributors and thank them for their resources.

General

It is the intent of the Breckenridge R-I School District to function in its usual manner as long as circumstances allow it. We want to have a safe, healthy, and productive school environment. The district will do its best to ensure that the facilities are properly disinfected on a regular basis. The district will provide training to its entire staff on the proper disinfecting and cleaning of the building. The district will also provide to its staff with training on procedures for the handling of the day-to-day operation of the school district as related to the COVID-19 emergency. Training will include proper handling of materials and supplies, dealing with students who may become ill, and personal safety strategies. This training will be supplied via video presentation. All staff will have to document that they have completed this training. Documentation records will be maintained in the superintendent's office.

Day to Day Activities

The day-to-day operation of the school district during the COVID-19 emergency will have simple strategies and guidelines by which to observe.

In the classroom, students will try to be seated where there is at least three feet of distance between seats. If possible, a distance of 6 feet will be maintained. This recommendation is based on information from the American Academy of Pediatrics. Hand sanitizer will be available in all classrooms as well as other

areas in the building as it is possible. Students will be encouraged to wash their hands often during the school day. Handwashing will take place after using the restroom, before eating, or if there have been classroom activities where items have been passed amongst students. Teachers who are in a high-risk category will be encouraged to wear masks. Students who are in a high-risk category will be strongly encouraged to wear masks as well. Passing time for high school students will be conducted to limit the amount of time out of the classroom. Students may be released on a staggered release time system if that becomes necessary by rising numbers of cases.

Students who are showing signs of illness should stay at home. If a student is feverish, has a dry cough, or exhibits any other symptoms that may indicate COVID-19 symptoms he or she will not be allowed to attend school. Please refer to the section on student health services for guidance on how students will be taken care of who become sick during the school day.

Transportation

While it is always the goal of the Breckenridge School District to maintain the safest possible conditions for transporting students, this is the area for the district that appears to be the trickiest. School buses are confined spaces with a high concentration of people. The district will do its best to maintain clean buses on which students are transported. The district will attempt to make its best effort at separating students as much as possible. The recommendation is for parents who are concerned about potential risks to their students from riding district transportation and are encouraged to supply their students with masks for them to wear while riding the bus. The same procedures will be used in transportation to school activities.

Food service

The district food service operation always makes its best effort to ensure that food is served safely and in a clean environment. Food service personnel will continue to wear food service grade gloves while serving food. Additional barriers will be used in

food service areas as necessary. Options such as salad bar on Thursdays may be restricted until further notice. Students will not be allowed to trade food items amongst themselves. All eating utensils will be cleaned and sanitized in the manner prescribed by existing public health regulations. The use of disinfecting chemicals on a regular basis in the food service area will be maintained.

Student and staff health services

Students who are sick are asked not to come to school. Any student who exhibits signs of illness and attends school will be immediately isolated until an assessment of that student takes place. The assessment will consist of temperature check, student interview to assess symptoms, and if necessary, consultation with county health officials. Arrangements will be made as quickly as possible for a parent, guardian, or family member to pick this student up to take them home from school. If students are exhibiting signs of COVID-19, self-quarantine will be highly suggested. The period for self-quarantine is 14 days. Work will be provided by digital means or packets. Students will be isolated from the rest of the population until a responsible adult picks them up from school. Staff members who are ill are asked to stay home. Staff who are in a high-risk category and have concerns about their personal health should consult the superintendent as soon as possible. These circumstances will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis. The bottom line is if you're sick stay home.

Plans for alternate instruction

The plans that the district has used in the past for alternate instruction have been the basis for our new system of alternative instruction. The district has arranged for temporary internet accesses with the local internet service provider. This temporary internet service will be available to the public if, as in the past, school is asked to close down for a period of time. Students who do not have internet access at home may use the school's internet service by means of Chromebooks and or iPads from the school parking lot. This will give these students the opportunity to upload homework and download assignments. We would like to thank Greenhill's Telecommunication for their assistance with this process. This past year's shutdown was a learning experience for all of us. Distance learning has its drawbacks. As we all know,

there is still no substitute for the daily contact, encouragement, and motivation that our teachers supply their students.

Custodial maintenance

The custodial staff has been trained in proper procedures for cleaning and disinfecting the building during the COVID-19 emergency. Cleaning will include but he is not limited to several procedures which we will discuss. First, regular cleaning of restrooms will be maintained. Guidelines suggest that restrooms in a public building be cleaned once every 2 hours. This will be the same cycle used to clean drinking fountains. Commercial cleaning products, when used according to the manufacturer's directions, will maintain the proper level of cleanliness during the COVID-19. Products such as bleach, Lysol, and related products are effective at disinfecting the facilities. Custodial staff will be responsible for removing trash on a regular basis. Waste baskets will be cleaned, and bags will be replaced regularly. Disinfectant foggers will be used in classrooms as needed. Disinfectant spray will be used on no less than a daily basis on student lockers in the hallways and gym locker rooms. Common areas such as hallways, gymnasium, special's classrooms, restrooms, and cafeteria will be a target of primary concern. These areas are where higher potential of contact with an ill person could occur. Cleaning and disinfecting of the building will occur on a regular basis. Cleaning refers to the removal of dirt and associated materials. Disinfecting refers to the process by which germs are killed.

Mitigation and Prevention Strategies

Mitigation Strategy	Example Responses
Universal and correct wearing of masks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consistent with CDC • Masks mandated • Masks mandated for adults • Masks mandated for students beginning in 3rd grade and adults • Masks allowed
Physical distancing (e.g., including use of cohorts/podding)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consistent with CDC • Students in cohorts with distancing • Barriers, routing, and minimum distancing

Handwashing and respiratory etiquette	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consistent with CDC • Taught and reinforced • Sanitizer and tissue provided • No mitigation
Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consistent with CDC • Modified layouts • Increased cleaning for high-touch surfaces
Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consistent with CDC • Contact tracing by LEA • Contract tracing by the local public health authority (LPHA) • No contact tracing
Diagnostic and screening testing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Testing provided onsite • Testing available at LPHA or clinic
Efforts to provide vaccinations to educators, other staff, and students, if eligible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LEA sponsors vaccination events • LEA participates in vaccination events • Incentives provided for vaccination
Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to the health and safety policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accommodations as necessary or as mandated by IEP

Social, emotional, and mental health needs of students and staff: The disruption to the lives of staff and students during the COVID-19 pandemic has made education more challenging. Since we have provided in-building learning during the past school year and will continue to during the 2022-2023 school years, student and staff are aware of opportunities to visit with counselors or other staff members to offer support and encouragement. Counseling sessions are always available for students in a one-on-one setting, both in our building, and virtually if necessary.

Conclusions

The Breckenridge School district will make its best effort to ensure that its students and staff can gather for the purpose of education in the cleanest and healthiest environment possible. While not every scenario can be addressed in a plan such as this, our best efforts are to ensure that the school is as safe and clean as possible. Parents and community members are thanked for their cooperation in all the sets of circumstances in advance. We appreciate the cooperation. While we are living in some very

challenging times, we all should dedicate ourselves to the idea of making things as normal as possible while maintaining health and safety. The education of students should be at the forefront of our efforts. This plan was designed by the administration, board of education, county health department, counselor, and school nurse. This plan will be reviewed every six months or less.

CDC Guidelines

Know how it spreads

Everyone ages 5 years and older get a COVID-19 vaccine

- **The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus.**
- The virus is thought to spread mainly from person-to-person.
 - Between people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet).
 - Through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes or talks.
 - These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs.
 - Some recent studies have suggested that COVID-19 may be spread by people who are not showing symptoms.

Wash your hands often

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially after you have been in a public place or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- It's especially important to wash:
 - Before eating or preparing food
 - Before touching your face
 - After using the restroom

- After leaving a public place
 - After blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing
 - After handling your cloth face covering
 - After changing a diaper
 - After caring for someone sick
 - After touching animals or pets
- If soap and water are not readily available, **use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol**. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry.
 - **Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth** with unwashed hands.

Avoid close contact

- **Inside your home:** Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
 - If possible, maintain 6 feet between the person who is sick and other household members.
- **Outside your home:** Put 6 feet of distance between yourself and people who don't live in your household.
 - Remember that some people without symptoms may be able to spread virus.
 - Stay at least 6 feet (about 2 arms' length) from other people.
 - Keeping distance from others is especially important for people who are at higher risk of getting very sick.

Cover your mouth and nose with a cloth face cover when around others

- You could spread COVID-19 to others even if you do not feel sick.
- The cloth face cover is meant to protect other people in case you are infected.
- Everyone should wear a cloth face cover in public settings and

when around people who don't live in your household, especially when other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain.

- Cloth face coverings should not be placed on young children under age 2, anyone who has trouble breathing, or is unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance.
- Do NOT use a facemask meant for a healthcare worker. Currently, surgical masks and N95 respirators are critical supplies that should be reserved for healthcare workers and other first responders.
- Continue to keep about 6 feet between yourself and others. The cloth face cover is not a substitute for social distancing.

Cover coughs and sneezes

- **Always cover your mouth and nose** with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or use the inside of your elbow and do not spit.
- **Throw used tissues** in the trash.
- Immediately **wash your hands** with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not readily available, clean your hands with a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.

Clean and disinfect

- **Clean AND disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily.** This includes tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, and sinks.
- **If surfaces are dirty, clean them.** Use detergent or soap and water prior to disinfection.
- **Then, use a household disinfectant.** Most common household cleaning products will work.

Monitor Your Health Daily

- **Be alert for symptoms.** Watch for fever, cough, shortness of breath, or other symptoms of COVID-19.

- Especially important if you are running essential errands, going into the office or workplace, and in settings where it may be difficult to keep a physical distance of 6 feet.
- **Take your temperature** if symptoms develop.
 - Don't take your temperature within 30 minutes of exercising or after taking medications that could lower your temperature, like acetaminophen.
- Follow CDC guidance if symptoms develop.

People with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported - ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear **2-14 days after exposure to the virus**. People with these symptoms may have COVID-19:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

This list does not include all possible symptoms. CDC will continue to update this list as we learn more about COVID-19.

When to Seek Emergency Medical Attention

Look for **emergency warning signs*** for COVID-19. If someone is showing any of these signs, **seek emergency medical care immediately**:

- Trouble breathing
- Persistent pain or pressure in the chest
- New confusion
- Inability to wake or stay awake
- Bluish lips or face

*This list is not all possible symptoms. Please call your medical provider for any other symptoms that are severe or concerning to you.

Call 911 or call ahead to your local emergency facility: Notify the operator that you are seeking care for someone who has or may have COVID-19.

What Can Parents Do?

- Parents can provide masks, face shields, or bandanas (Optional)
- Encourage good personal hygiene
- Reinforce hand washing
- Monitor student's health
- Have a plan in place in advance if student becomes ill during the school day to deal with the student
- Keep students at home if they are not well. Ex: Running a fever of 100 or above.
- Remind students of, and reinforce social distancing guidelines
- Make sure that the school knows if your student has a medical condition that puts their health at greater risk such as asthma
- Make sure that you student lets you know if they are not feeling well
- Maintain good communication with school personnel and ask questions if you have them
- Reinforce healthy habits

What can students do?

- Wash your hands often and properly
- Use hand sanitizer
- Cough or sneeze into your elbow
- Use hand sanitizer when you cough, sneeze, or blow your nose
- Properly dispose of trash especially used tissues
- Make sure your mask, face shield, or bandana is with you and cleaned regularly (Should your parent/guardian ask you to wear one)
- Stay clean as much as you can
- Follow directions
- Don't share items
- Remember to keep social distance (3 to 6 feet with 6 feet being the ideal)
- Don't "bunch up"
- Keep your locker and work area clean

If you need or know someone who needs this plan translated or read to them, please contact Mr. Brent Skinner, Superintendent of Schools or Ms. Kadee McMillan, Principal of Schools at 660-644-5715 or by email:

Bskinner@breckenridger1.org

Kmcmillan@breckenridger1.org. Translation will be provided by Ms. Johana Ortiz, Special Education needs will

be met by Mrs. Robin Estenbaum.

Addendum

The Breckenridge School District **DOES NOT** require face mask at this time. Determination of such a need will be based on public health and board of education recommendations. At this time, this is a personal choice.

Addendum

Viral Illness Protocol Staff and Students

When dealing with viral illnesses (Type A or B Influenza, viral upper respiratory illnesses and COVID), we will observe the following protocol:

- Stay home until you have been fever free for 24 hours without fever reducing drugs such as Tylenol.
- If you have a fever stay home until the above guidance has been met.
- Stay home if you are not feeling well enough to complete duties as assigned.
 - You may return after the 24 hour obligation is met.
 - Upon return make sure to observe precautionary actions such as sneezing or coughing into you elbow or a tissue. Using hand sanitizer when appropriate is

recommended as well.

- Some COVID effects can last for a considerable period of time. Loss of taste or smell can last for several weeks for example. This may extend past your period of contagiousness.

While this is not designed to be a "come at all cost" strategy, please be sensible about absences.

Frequent handwashing or the use hand sanitizer is always appropriate. Coughs and sneezes into the elbow or a tissue are always highly recommended. The use of a mask is a matter of personal choice.

Activity Trips

Should an athlete or coach receive a message/phone call saying they have tested positive for COVID 19. The team **must** stay on the bus and contact the supervisor on duty that night Mr. Skinner/Ms. McMillan for further instruction. Should the supervisor from the opposing team say "yes" to continue the competition, the activity participants may load off of the bus and continue with scheduled activity.