

# SAFE RETURN TO LEARN, CONTINUITY OF SERVICES 2021-2022 2022-2023

Turkey Ford Public School District 23900 South 670 Road Wyandotte, OK 74370

Office: 918-786-4902

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## INTRODUCTION

This plan is to aid in navigating the reestablishment of our school were employees, students and families feel safe and to reduce the impact of COVID-9 conditions upon returning to the district. The guidelines referenced in this plan are based on guidance from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Oklahoma Health Department recommendations. Regular update will be made to this plan based upon information from the CDC and applicable federal and state and local agencies.

Turkey Ford School District plans to be 100% in-person for the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 school year.

The nine components to address in the ARP Safe Return Plan include:

- 1. Universal and correct wearing of masks;
- 2. Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);
- 3. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette;
- 4. Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation;
- 5. Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments;
- 6. Diagnostic and screening testing;
- 7. Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities;
- 8. Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and,
- 9. Coordination with State and local health officials.

# **REDUCE THE SPREAD OF COVID-19**

- Continue practicing healthy behaviors such as frequent handwashing and staying home when you feel sick. These things should be practiced anytime of the year.
- Social distancing is encouraged to the extent possible in cafeterias, hallways, gymnasiums, etc.
- The Oklahoma Health Department encourages those who are eligible to obtain their vaccination.
- Covid-19 tests are available to students and staff when requested. (Supplies are limited)

To help prevent the spread of COVID-19 and reduce the potential risk of exposure to our students and employees, Turkey Ford School District will encourage self-screening for COVID-19 related symptoms including:

- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fever
- Chills

- Muscle pain
- Sore throat
- New loss of taste or smell

This list does not include all possible symptoms. Other symptoms have been reported, including gastrointestinal symptoms like nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea (CDC, 2020).

# **Universal Precautions Recommended by the CDC**

## **Hand Washing**

Washing 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. 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.

## **Social Distancing**

Avoid close contact by staying approximately 6 feet away from others and eliminating contact. Remember that some people without symptoms may be able to spread the virus. Keeping an appropriate distance from others is especially important for people who are at higher risk of getting very sick.

### Masks and Face Shields

Oklahoma Senate Bill 658, effective July 1, 2021, restricts the mandatory enforcement of masks in school unless a State of Emergency is declared by the Governor, consultation with local and state officials, and school board consideration.

Masks will be optional for students, employees and visitors.

#### **Cover Coughs and Sneezes**

Remember to always cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or use the inside of your elbow. 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 hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.

#### **Clean and Disinfect**

Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces throughout the school day. The district custodian sanitizes commonly used areas daily and disinfectant wipes and disinfectant are provided for use in all areas.

# **School Operations**

<u>Daily Health Screenings</u> —Families are asked to partner with the school and complete a wellness assessment before sending your child to school. The daily checklist: ask if your child has a dry cough, sore throat, loss of taste or smell and a fever of 100.4 or greater which may be an indication of an active case of COVID-19. If this is the case, please keep your child home to monitor for additional symptoms and call to the school to report absence.

**Physical Distancing-** When needed, due to Ottawa/Delaware County being in the moderate to high risk level, teachers will practice socially distancing when in the cafeteria, hallways, buses, etc.

<u>Hygiene</u> – Handwashing is one of the best means of protection against infection. Teachers will help teach the importance of handwashing to students and the use of hand sanitizer. Students will be reminded to wash their hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after blowing their noses, coughing, or sneezing; going to the bathroom; and before eating. Alcohol-based hand sanitizer is also available throughout the school buildings for everyone to utilize.

**Handwashing Tip**: It is important to teach children proper hygiene all the time, but especially to remind them about good habits during a public health crisis like COVID-19. One habit is proper handwashing. According to CDC guidelines, follow these five steps every time you wash your hands.

- 1. Wet your hands with clean, running water (warm or cold), turn off the tap, and apply soap.
- 2. Lather your hands by rubbing them together with the soap.
- 3. Lather the backs of your hands, between your fingers, and under your nails.
- 4. Scrub your hands for at least 20 seconds. Need a timer? Hum the "Happy Birthday" song from beginning to end twice.
- 5. Rinse your hands well under clean, running water.

<u>Cleaning Protocols-</u> Turkey Ford School uses EPA recommended cleaning products and CDC recommended disinfecting procedures.

#### 1. Bathrooms

- Additional sanitization during the lunch time using disinfecting sprayers
- Cleaning and sanitization after school each evening

#### 2. Classrooms

- Teachers are encouraged to disinfect their own personal workspace throughout the day.
- Each classroom will be sanitized daily.
- Sanitization supplies for teachers to disinfect as needed.
- Extra PPE supplies provided for each classroom.

#### 3. Buses

- Students will have assigned seats
- Bus riders could be assigned seating by family groups (depending on the situation).
- Open windows to allow for airflow
- Daily cleaning of buses after each route.
- Mask will be available, but not mandatory.
- All field trips must be approved by the Superintendent of Schools

#### 4. Cafeteria-

• Students will practice handwashing before entering the serving line.

- Students will practice physical distancing as much as space allows.
- Serving lines will be modified, if needed to minimize the contamination of food being served and assist with social distancing.
- All leftover food will be disposed of daily.
- All tables will be sanitized after each lunch period.

<u>Training</u> – All staff have participated in COVID-19 professional development to be familiar with signs, symptoms, precautions, and responsibilities. Any new staff will attend professional development sessions at the beginning of the school year to ensure familiarity withal COVID-19 protocols. All students will be instructed in best practices for healthy habits including education on COVID-19.

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## **Morning Drop-Off**

- 1. Students will have a bus drop off point of entry and car riders will have a separate entrance. Staff will monitor students at the car drop off point.
- 2. All students will go to the gym and seat with their grade level.
- 3. Face coverings will be optional for students and staff. Available upon request.
- 4. Infrared touchless thermometer kiosks will be available at the door for students to monitor temperatures.
- 5. Locations will be established to house students who may have symptoms or a temperature of 100.4 degrees or greater.
  - a. If a student's temperature registers 100.4 the student will be placed in the office. The temperature will be taken again in 30 minutes and if it reflects 100.4 or higher the parent will be called for pick up.
  - b. Cleaning will occur upon he exit of the quarantined student and/or staff.
- 6. Parents will be notified in the student is symptomatic and schedule a pick-up time and location.

#### Visitors -

- 1. Visitors will be limited and by appointment only.
- 2. Visitors will be screened for temperatures.
- 3. Mask will be provided for any visitors upon request.

# **POSITIVE COVID-19 CASES**

Students or staff who tests positive may return to school after following the CDC guidelines:

- 1. Stay home until 5 days have passed since symptoms first appeared or date of positive test, AND
- 2. Symptoms are improving, AND

- 3. If fever is present, continue to stay home until 24 hours have passed since fever has resolved without the use of fever reducing medications.
- 4. Students and staff **should** wear a mask for the remainder of the 10 days. If you are unable to wear a mask, you should isolate yourself for 10 days.

While out of school, students will be educated through Distance Learning (Google Classroom) or family may request learning packets.

## **CONTACT TRACING**

- Students and parents/guardians will be notified if it is confirmed their student has been in **close contact** with someone who tests positive for COVID-19.
- It is recommended that the person who is a **close contact** stay home from school and start Distance Learning. This will be following CDC guidelines.
  - 1. It is recommended to stay home for 5 days from your last date of exposure and to wear a mask the next 5 days.
  - 2. If you cannot quarantine, it is recommended you wear a mask around others for 10 days from your last day of exposure.
  - 3. If possible, test on day 5 from your exposure
  - 4. We will provide free testing for those students who "optin".
- If the person chooses to come to school, he/she will report to the school nurse in his/her building each day for temperature checks and COVID-19 monitoring protocols twice daily through the full 10 days. It will be **highly recommended** that they wear a mask during this time. If symptoms occur, they will be sent home or asked to stay home and follow the CDC guidelines. **Testing will be available for those students who "opt-in"(if available).**
- If someone in your household has COVID-19, you will be asked to stay home and start Distance Learning, unless you have been vaccinated. Please follow the CDC guidelines.

# **VACCINATIONS**

In accordance with the Oklahoma law, Jay Public Schools is not requiring COVID-19 vaccines for students or staff.

# **Whole Child & Family Supports**

Our mission is to ensure all students and their families feel welcome and safe at Turkey Ford School. This is especially important during the COVID-19 public health crisis. Whether students are learning through on site face-to-face instruction or during a quarantine time at home, we work to promote a feeling of community with all students and families.

In response to the increasing needs of families, Turkey Ford will do the following:

- Teachers will create regular check-ins with students
- Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) curriculum to assist students in building skills in self-awareness, self-regulation, ad collaborative interaction.
- Provide additional training for teachers in trauma-informed practices.
- Partner with Grand Lake Mental Health to have counselors available
- Provide health, wellness, and community resources for students and families on our website and/or district Facebook page.

## **QUESTIONS**

Questions and concerns can be directed to your student's classroom teacher or the school superintendent.

Turkey Ford School 918-786-4902 Mrs. Holloway, Superintendent jholloway@turkeyford.net

## **CONCLUSION**

Turkey Ford is a great community school! Bringing students, parents, and the community together is what we do best! Our success during these challenging times will require a community mindset and strong communication between all stakeholders. We encourage parents to stay engaged as we are committed to educate all students despite these challenges. We appreciate and thank you for being flexible and understanding as we work together during these trying times. Together we will get through this!

\*This plan is subject to change based on local, state, and federal recommendations for health and safety. For any assistance with this plan, contact Julie Holloway, Superintendent at <a href="mailto:jholloway@turkeyford.net">jholloway@turkeyford.net</a>