



KELLIHER PUBLIC SCHOOL



Independent School District #36
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*“Developing leaders and life-long learners in a community that promotes
rigor, relevance, and respect”*

2022-2023 Safe Return to School Plan

** The most up-to-date COVID information can be found at [Minnesota Department of Health webpage](#) **

The KELLIHER SCHOOL DISTRICT is committed to maintaining the health and safety of students, faculty, staff and community members and will follow the safety protocols developed by the state of Minnesota, which aligns with guidance and information provided by the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) guidelines for COVID-19, Minnesota Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MNOSHA) statutes, rules and standards and Minnesota’s relevant and current executive orders.

The COVID-19 Preparedness Plan is administered by the Superintendent, who maintains the overall authority and responsibility for the plan. However, all employees are equally responsible for supporting, implementing, complying with and providing recommendations to further improve all aspects of this COVID-19 Safe Return to School Plan. The guidance addresses:

- Ensuring sick employees and students stay home;
- Ensuring employees are afforded their appropriate regulatory rights under federal

and state laws;

- Social distancing - employees and students are *encouraged* to remain at least three to six feet apart if not fully vaccinated;
- Employee and student hygiene;
- Workplace building and ventilation protocol;
- Workplace cleaning and disinfection protocol; and
- Communications and training practices and protocol

Protocols are updated as new guidance is provided by the CDC, MDH, MDE and OSHA standards related to COVID-19.

Kelliher School District has reviewed and incorporated the guidance applicable to our business provided by the state of Minnesota for the development of this plan, including the following MDH and MDE guidance related to school openings. Other conditions and circumstances included in the guidance and addressed in the plan that are specific to our business include:

- Protocols for guests and visitors;
- Additional protections and protocols for personal protective equipment (PPE)
- Additional protections and protocol for access and assignment;
- Additional protections and protocol for sanitation and hygiene; and
- Ensure sick employees and students stay home

SELF-ASSESSMENT - EMPLOYEES, STUDENTS AND VISITORS

A self-assessment is encouraged to be used by everyone before entering school grounds to self-screen for symptoms of illness, and stay home when symptomatic. This practice keeps us all safe.

As required by MDH, the district must report any positive COVID-19 cases to the state.

FACE COVERINGS

All employees, students and visitors who are not fully vaccinated are encouraged to wear face coverings. Masks will be available in the office.

VACCINATIONS

There will NOT be a requirement for vaccinations to attend face to face learning. We recognize this is a controversial topic, but we believe that it is not our place as a school district to make this decision for families. We encourage families with concerns to please

take the necessary precautions while attending school and please communicate your concerns to us.

LEARNING OPTIONS

All students will follow the regular school schedule with in-person instruction five day/week. Normal start and end times will be in place.

SOCIAL DISTANCING

There are no physical distancing requirements at this time.

EMPLOYEE, STUDENTS AND VISITOR HYGIENE

Basic infection prevention measures are being implemented at our workplace at all times. Employees are encouraged to wash their hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water frequently throughout the day, but especially at the beginning and end of their shift, prior to any mealtimes and after using the restroom. All employees, students and visitors to the building are asked to wash or sanitize their hands prior to or immediately upon entering the facility. Hand-sanitizer dispensers are at entrances and locations throughout the building so they can be used for hand hygiene in place of soap and water.

Employees, students and visitors who are not fully vaccinated are *encouraged* to wear masks at all times. Employees, students, and visitors are being instructed to cover their mouth or nose with their sleeve or a tissue when coughing or sneezing, and to avoid touching their face, particularly their mouth, nose and eyes, with their hands. Employees, students and visitors are expected to dispense tissues in provided trash receptacles and wash or sanitize their hands immediately afterwards.

- Employee and student work stations will be cleaned on a regular basis
- Employees, students and visitors will have access to hand sanitizer either through self-administration or adults supervisor for younger individuals
- Use of reusable water bottles will be encouraged
- District's food service department will implement processes as recommended by MDH, FDA and MDE.

WORKPLACE BUILDING AND VENTILATION PROTOCOL

Operation of the building in which employees and students are located, includes necessary sanitation, assessment and maintenance of building systems, including water plumbing, electrical, and heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) systems Steps are being taken to increase ventilation when students and staff are present.

- Outside recess is encouraged for elementary students
- Outside gym time if encouraged for elementary and secondary students

WORKPLACE CLEANING AND DISINFECTION PROTOCOL

Regular practices of cleaning and disinfecting have been implemented. Including a schedule for routine cleaning and disinfecting of work surfaces, equipment, tools and machinery, vehicles and areas in the work environment, including restrooms, offices, break rooms, lunch rooms, meeting rooms, classrooms, and locker rooms.

Frequent cleaning and disinfecting is being conducted of high-touch areas, including phones, keyboards, touch screens, controls, door handles, railings, copy machines, delivery equipment, etc. Appropriate and effective cleaning and disinfecting supplies have been purchased and are available for use in accordance with products labels, safety data sheets and manufacturer specifications, and are being used with required personal protective equipment for the product.

- Disinfectant is available so that cleaning can occur throughout the day
- Any contaminated area will be closed until proper cleaning and disinfection has been completed according to CDC and OSHA guidelines. Extensive, deep cleaning of all facilities is being completed this summer.

TRANSPORTATION

Transportation Services has developed procedures addressing the transportation of students on busses in accordance with guidance from MDH and MDE.

MATERIALS/MEALS

District food service and purchasing departments have established material and food procedures that meet the requirements of MDH, FDA, and social distancing guidelines.

- Kelliher Public School District Nutrition Services has established food procedures that meet the requirements of Minnesota Department of Health (MDH), Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Minnesota Department of Education (MDE).

APPROPRIATE ACCOMMODATIONS

Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies have been provided. To learn more, parents/guardians should contact his/her child's case manager.

COORDINATION WITH STATE/LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH

Kelliher School District will continue to coordinate and implement plans with State and local public health officials.

COMMUNICATIONS AND TRAINING PRACTICES AND PROTOCOL

The COVID-19 Plan, as well as changes to the plan, have been posted on the district website for all stakeholders to review and provide feedback.

Kelliher School District maintains our commitment to provide an optimal teaching and learning environment. We encourage all students, staff and families to embody our Mustang Pride when they consider the decisions and actions of others - we are all working to empower our students to learn and grow this year.