



Mingo County Schools

Health and Safety Plan for the 2021-2022 School Year



Health & Safety Plan

This is release 1.0 of the Mingo County School District's Health and Safety Plan for the 2021-2022 school year. School begins September 7 for students. Staff reports August 25.

The Mingo County School District and the Board of Education worked with the Mingo County Health Department to update strategies for safely returning to school for 2021-2022. This information addresses sanitation of school buildings and buses, as well as other personal health and safety recommendations. Since COVID-19 guidance is constantly changing, our health and safety strategies are fluid and will be updated as needed.

DAILY STRATEGIES



Social Distancing

Maintain recommended distancing in classrooms, hallways, and common areas.



Face Coverings

Highly recommended for all students and staff in schools and on buses. Families may complete a Mask Choice Form if they wish their student(s) to not wear a face covering.



Hand Washing

Restrooms will be stocked with soap and paper towels. Hand sanitizer will be available throughout the school.

IF YOU TEST POSITIVE FOR COVID 19:

If you test positive for COVID 19, please stay home and away from others. Contact your medical provider, Mingo County Schools Health Services Office or the Mingo County Health Department for instructions. Those testing positive will need to isolate for 10 days and may return to school and/or extra-curricular activities on the 11th day if symptoms are improved.

IF YOU ARE EXPOSED TO A PERSON WITH COVID 19:

If you are exposed to COVID 19, contact Mingo County School Health Services or the Mingo County Health Department for instructions. Close contacts will quarantine according to the following:

Close contacts will need to quarantine and test 5-7 days after last exposure then return to school or extra-curricular activities on the 8th day with no symptoms and a negative test result. OR...

Close contacts will need to quarantine and may return to school and/or extra-curricular activities on the 11th day after exposure and with no symptoms.

IF YOU ARE VACCINATED:

If you are vaccinated and have been exposed to COVID 19 with no symptoms you should: Test 3-5 days after exposure and wear a mask until you test negative. If you choose not to test, wear a mask around others for 14 days.

If you are vaccinated, have been exposed to COVID 19, and feel sick you should: Isolate, stay away from others, and contact your health care provider or the Mingo County Health Department for instructions.

Daily Routines

School safety teams will develop daily routines for operations based on current guidance.

Arrival & Dismissal Procedures will be implemented to best assure social distancing.

- Buses will be loaded/unloaded one by one to reduce hallway traffic.
- Parent drop-off/pick-up will be curbside.
- Temperature checks will occur upon entrance.
- Recommended health screening procedures will be followed.

Hallway Traffic will be regulated with wall/floor signage for social distancing and creating one-way traffic flow, where possible. School will use communication to allow the fewest students in halls at any time.

Common Areas will be managed to emphasize social distancing.

Restroom Breaks will be scheduled. Students will not be prohibited from visiting restrooms when needed. Water fountains will be covered/disabled. Other safe water sources will be available.



Outside Visitors will be strictly limited. Parent meetings may occur virtually, when possible. A special meeting space will be designated in each school and screening procedures required.

Waiting Areas will be established in each building and procedures implemented for persons who may exhibit symptoms of COVID-19. This is a temporary action while preparing for the person to leave the building.

Face Coverings: The Mingo County Board of Education is dedicated to the health and safety of all students and staff members and has partnered with the Mingo County Health Department to make informed decisions regarding the reduction of exposure to Covid-19. In the August 17th Board of Education meeting, members adopted a Parent Choice Option for wearing masks on school buses and in school buildings. The Board, district administration, and county health officials highly recommend wearing masks by students, staff members, and visitors.

Transportation Measures

Current guidelines will be followed for transportation by school bus.

- The Board of Education highly recommends that drivers, staff, and students wear masks while on buses. Parents may choose for their student(s) not to mask by returning a **Mask Choice Form** to the school. Extra masks are available on buses.
- No more than two students shall ride in one seat, unless all of one household.
- Overcrowding will be addressed by reconfiguring bus runs to decrease the number of passengers.
- Buses will be cleaned and disinfected between runs.



Signs will be posted on school property with the recommendation. There is no current government mandate for face coverings. Families will decide whether or not their students will be masked at school and on buses. Parents will be provided a **Mask Choice Form** to complete, sign, date and return to the school. They will be required to select one of the following options: I want my child to mask at all times during the school day, except when eating; OR I do not want my child to be required to wear a mask during the school day. Students will be required to wear a mask unless a form is submitted indicating the family choice not to mask. Masks are available on buses and at schools. Parents may choose a different option at any time by completing a new form. This district protocol is subject to change by any governmental mandates.

Sanitation Strategies

Part of our health and safety plan includes sanitation strategies for deep cleaning and daily disinfecting of our school buildings and buses.

Cleaning Routines- Our custodians and bus drivers will work from a checklist of tasks to ensure our sanitation procedures are followed each day. These checklists, as with all our strategies, are subject to change as guidances and recommendations change. Principals will also customize checklists for their buildings.

Technology for Disinfecting- The District has purchased special technology designed for efficiently and effectively applying E23 disinfectant, certified to kill the COVID-19 virus on surfaces. These machines have been purchased for each school and for each school bus.



Shown at left is the handheld battery operated device that will be kept on each school bus.

Buildings

DAILY CLEANING CHECKLIST

- Mop bathrooms twice each morning and mist with E23 disinfectant solution.
- Mop bathrooms twice in the afternoon and mist with E23 disinfectant solution.
- Supply items needed in bathrooms.
- Empty trash.
- Sweep all outside exit/entrance door areas and sidewalk/curb areas.
- Use E23 disinfectant solution and clean exit/entrance doors twice each morning and afternoon.
- Clean high-touch areas in classrooms, hallways, common areas, and restrooms with E23 disinfectant solution.
- Clean glass in assigned area.
- Sweep and mop in assigned area.
- Vacuum any rugs in in assigned area.
- Use E23 disinfectant solution to clean tops of student desk.
- Use the misting device to disinfect each classroom after normal cleaning is finished.

Buses

DAILY CLEANING CHECKLIST

- Clean/ disinfect high-touch surfaces before each route (e.g. surfaces in the drivers cockpit, hard seats, arm rests, door handles, seat belt buckles, light and air controls, doors, windows, and grab handles).
- Clean, sanitize and disinfect equipment including items such as a car seats, wheelchairs, walkers and adaptive equipment transported to schools.
- Thoroughly mist bus with E23 disinfectant before each run.
- Keep doors and windows open while cleaning to allow ventilation.
- Ensure hand sanitizer is available for students.

Shown below is the misting device assigned to each custodian to apply disinfectant over school building surfaces.



The E23 disinfectant used in both machines has been certified to kill the COVID-19 virus on contact and is safe for human beings.



Expectations for learners

5-DAY IN-PERSON LEARNING

Students are expected to attend school, in-person, Monday-Friday, unless ill, or for an excusable reason. The students will learn remotely from home on NTI (weather) days, or possibly during extended absences due to illness or quarantine. They can access assignments and content on their devices, using the **LMS**. Teachers will post times for scheduled video/audio conferencing or tutoring to provide support. It is important that students complete all assignments to stay on track for success, as the work will count toward grading.

VIRTUAL SCHOOL

Virtual students are expected to log-in to their courses each day and engage in the content and assignments. They must also respond to any teacher communications. If the student is unable to log-in, due to illness or appointments, they should send a message to their virtual teacher(s). If the student is unable to log-in, due to Internet/power outages, the student/family may notify the teacher when service is restored. Some learners will have access to live instruction following the normal school-day schedule. Others may be learning on a more flexible schedule to suit the needs of their families. Learners are to follow the live schedule or the suggested pacing of flexible-schedule courses, to stay on track for success. Families must complete and comply with the Families and Student Assurances Form to participate in virtual school. The school's Student Assistance Team may transfer a virtual student back to in-person learning if it is in the student's best interest to do so. Virtual students may choose to return as in-person learners but must first contact the school for a transfer conference.

Instruction & Learning



MINGO COUNTY STUDENTS WILL BE RETURNING TO SCHOOL FIVE DAYS PER WEEK. VIRTUAL LEARNING OPTIONS ARE STILL AVAILABLE FOR ALL GRADE LEVELS. TECHNOLOGY TOOLS WILL CONTINUE TO BE USED BY ALL LEARNERS TO ACCESS CONTENT AND ASSIGNMENTS.

Our learning devices

PK-8 students are issued **Chromebooks** for in-class work, and at-home learning.

High School students will continue to use Lenovo laptops running Windows 10. Students are permitted to take devices home daily.

Virtual students will be issued a device, appropriate for their grade level.

Our learning platforms

Students access content/assignments on our learning management system (**Open LMS**) or **Blackboard**. Teachers will load learning content, assignments, and announcements to the **LMS**. Assignments and content can also be downloaded for offline work before leaving school in case there is no Internet connection at home. **School supply kits will be distributed to all learners in all grades.**

Virtual students will also use the **LMS** to send messages and to access live tutoring, two evenings per week.