

# BLANCHARD PUBLIC SCHOOLS



## RETURN TO LEARN PLAN

## LETTER FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

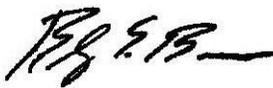
During the last two months Blanchard Public Schools' reputation of having an excellent faculty and staff has been confirmed to me. It is without a doubt that a first class education is the goal of all stakeholders here in Blanchard. Since mid-June, a group of faculty and staff members have been working on a plan to reopen school. While developing an effective plan is not easy, it must be done to ensure that we are providing the best possible education we can during these times. There are a few points that I would like to emphasize.

- The safety of our students, faculty, and staff will be prioritized.
- The absolute best education we can deliver to our students is a highly qualified, dynamic, and effective teacher in the classroom.
- Common sense and quality safety guidelines are of the utmost importance.

We have been closely monitoring the active cases in the Blanchard community for the last 5-6 weeks. These numbers have helped guide our planning procedures. This plan being set forth is organic. Based on what happens in the next few weeks, not only in our community, but also in our country could alter this plan. There is one thing for certain, school will look different this Fall.

It will be a busy year for our school. There is significant growth in Blanchard and with that comes the expansion of the school. The football field should be finished in time for the first home game. Construction will soon start on the middle school safe room and classroom expansion. Groundbreaking will happen sometime this Fall for the Blanchard Performing Arts Center.

It is an exciting time to be a Blanchard Lion. We are all looking forward to a safe and successful 2020-2021 school year!



Brady Barnes  
Superintendent, Blanchard Public Schools



## INTRODUCTION TO THE PLAN

This plan is being developed to address the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic. This plan is fluid and subject to change as needed by the superintendent and ratification at the earliest possible special board meeting.

## DAILY SCREENING

Students and staff entering school buildings are required to complete a checklist for safety guidelines each day and may be asked to produce the checklist if contact tracing is necessary. (See below.) Attendance at school will confirm whether the student or staff has answered “no” to all questions. Answering “yes” to any of the questions means the student or staff should remain off-site and take a sick day. These screenings should remain in place until the substantial end of the COVID-19 pandemic.

- 1. Does your child / Do you have a temperature of 100 degrees or more today?
- 2. Does your child / Do you have a sore throat?
- 3. Does your child / Do you have a cough?
- 4. Does your child / Do you have a loss of smell or taste?
- 5. Does your child / Do you have shortness of breath?
- 6. Does your child / Do you have close contact with a positive COVID case?

## ISOLATION PROCEDURE

A student who exhibits a temperature of 100 degrees will be immediately isolated in a predetermined room. Parents will be contacted and the student will be sent home.

Students or staff who have been sent home due to temperature must remain out of school until fever free with no fever reducing medication for at least 48 hours. During this time the student will become a distance learner according to district procedures.

## SEATING CHARTS

To help in identifying close contact in the case of a student or staff member testing positive for COVID-19, a seating chart will be established for each classroom and bus route.



## PROCEDURE FOR POSITIVE CASE OR CLOSE CONTACT AT ANY SITE

*Guidance from the State and County Health Departments*

- A student or staff member who has tested positive for COVID-19 will be placed in distance learning. The student may return to school 10 days after the symptoms first appeared, 24 hours with no fever, **AND** if symptoms have improved. The county health department will contact the student and family so they can become a part of contact tracing. Such tracing will assist the health department and the school identify any person who may have been in close contact with the positive individual. Siblings of positive tested students will also be quarantined and participate in distance learning.
- A student or staff member who has been determined to be in close contact with an individual who has tested positive for COVID-19 will be quarantined for 10 days. Parents of students will be notified and students will be placed in distance learning. Quarantine can end after Day 10 without testing and if no symptoms have been reported.
- Quarantine can end after Day 7 if a diagnostic specimen tests negative and no symptoms were reported during daily monitoring. The specimen may be collected and tested within 48 hours before the time of the planned quarantine discontinuation (e.g., in anticipation of testing delays), but quarantine cannot be discontinued earlier than Day 7.
- Students or staff members who live with someone who has tested positive for Covid-19 will be quarantined for a minimum of 14 days.
- Beginning March 22, 2021, students and teachers exposed to someone who tests positive for COVID-19 in school are no longer required to be excluded from education activities and in-person classroom instruction as long as the exposure happened in a classroom setting and everyone was wearing masks covering their nose and mouth. Other quarantine requirements remain in effect, including exclusion from social activities or other public environments.
- Individuals more than 10 days after COVID-10 vaccine completion will NOT be required to quarantine after an exposure to COVID-19.

As determined by the CDC for the purpose of COVID-19, close contact is defined as anyone who was within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes starting from 48 hours before the person began feeling sick until the time the patient was isolated. Blanchard Public Schools will determine close contact with seating charts and other criteria as needed.

Blanchard Public Schools will work under the guidance of Oklahoma State Department of Health officials to determine appropriate measures regarding quarantine of students and staff.



## MASKS

The district will use the guidelines provided by the State Department of Education to determine the requirements of faculty, staff, and students to wear masks. Students will also be required to wear masks while riding buses to and from school and for activities.

Covid-19 Alert System: <https://coronavirus.health.ok.gov/covid-19-alert-system>

OKLAHOMA SCHOOL SAFETY PROTOCOLS	GREEN LEVEL	YELLOW LEVEL	ORANGE LEVEL 1	ORANGE LEVEL 2	RED LEVEL
Masks recommended for all teachers, staff, and students	X				
Masks required for all teachers, staff and students		X	X	X	X
Pre-K -2 grade students may remove masks in class		X	X	X	X

### Why is it important to wear a cloth face covering?

Cloth face coverings may help prevent people who have COVID-19 from spreading the virus to others. Wearing a cloth face covering will help protect people around you, including those at higher risk of severe illness from COVID-19 and people who frequently come into close contact with other people (e.g., in schools and restaurants). Cloth face coverings are most likely to reduce the spread of COVID-19 when they are widely used by people in public settings. The spread of COVID-19 can be reduced when cloth face coverings are used along with other preventive measures, including social distancing, frequent handwashing, and cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched surfaces.

## BUILT IN DISTANCE LEARNING DAYS

In the possibility that Blanchard Public Schools will need to temporarily close due to an outbreak, we will assign August 21st and August 28th as Distance Learning Days. These days will be actual days of instruction, but students will have their assignments at home. This will give our students and teachers a couple days to practice and work out any issues that may arise.

## GRADING AND ATTENDANCE

In the event that Blanchard Public Schools will need to temporarily close due to an outbreak, we will enter into Distance Learning. Grading and attendance will be adhered to in the same manner as traditional school.

## CAMPUS VISITORS

During the remainder of the COVID-19 pandemic, Blanchard Public Schools will discourage visitors from coming to school. If a visitor must come to school, they will be subjected to the six question daily screening. This will include having their temperature taken. Masks will be required for all visitors.



## **TRADITIONAL vs VIRTUAL**

Blanchard Public Schools will offer a traditional and virtual model to students. If a student and their family choose virtual, that student may be required remain in that setting for at least one semester. Please check your site's plan for more information.

## **ACTIVITIES FOR VIRTUAL STUDENTS**

If a student and their parents choose the virtual model, the student will have the opportunity to participate in school activities subject to daily screenings including temperature testing upon arrival.

## **CLEANING SCHEDULES**

Effective and efficient cleaning schedules will be developed and followed to help mitigate the spread of COVID-19. As new research comes out concerning COVID-19, cleaning and disinfecting practices will be adapted if needed.

## **CHILD NUTRITION**

"Grab and Go Meals" will be provided for students who attend school virtually or those who have been quarantined due to contact tracing. Meals may be picked up at the Intermediate Cafeteria at 10:30 AM each school day and will include a lunch and breakfast for the following day.

## **BUS REQUIREMENTS FOR SAFETY**

Recommendations include:

- If possible arrange alternate transportation for students (other than school bus).
- Maximize the air flow of the bus by opening windows, if possible.
- Maintain and adhere to seating chart for each route.
- Students will be required to wear masks while riding on buses.

## **SITE PLANS**

Each site will have a plan to address safe practices. Look at each site's plan for more details.



**COVID-19**  
**ATHLETIC EVENT PROTOCOLS**  
**Fans**

**Indoor Events (HS Gym / MS Gym)**

- Masks **will be required** upon entry into the gym and we **STRONGLY** encourage fans to wear a mask when unable to social distance. This recommendation is for your safety, but mainly for the protection of our student-athletes so they may continue to compete in their chosen sport for the remainder of the season.
- Social distancing is encouraged by keeping a minimum of 2 seats between non-family groups.
- Practice social distancing when possible (ticket line, concession line, bathroom, etc) or wear a mask when unable to social distance.
- Blanchard Schools prefers fans not congregate in large groups in commons area after contests, but if you must wait on your child, we ask that you wear a mask.

**Outdoor Events (FB Stadium, Softball Field, Baseball Field)**

- Masks **will be required** upon entry into the stadium and we **STRONGLY** encourage fans to wear a mask when unable to social distance. This recommendation is for your safety, but mainly for the protection of our student-athletes, so they may continue to compete in their chosen sport for the remainder of the season.
- Practice social distancing when possible (ticket line, concession line, bathroom, etc) or wear a mask when unable to social distance.
- Please "Do Not Sit" in areas marked as such.
- While Blanchard Schools prefers you to stay off the field post game, we understand the desire to acknowledge your child, so if you must enter the playing area post game we ask that you wear a mask for the safety of our student-athletes.

We encourage all patrons to visit our Athletic Website and purchase an All Sports Season Pass or individual game tickets. You will be able to present your season pass/game ticket via your Smartphone at the Pass Gate and no exchange of money will have to take place thus helping to keep you and our gate workers safer at athletic events.

Most home events will be Live Streamed with links available on the Athletic Website for viewing by those that feel attendance at events is not prudent. (Website Link below)

A list of scheduled games for viewing will be posted at the first of each week on the athletic website.

Athletic Website - [www.blanchardathletics.com](http://www.blanchardathletics.com)

Athletic Website Ticket Link - <https://blanchardathletics.com/event-tickets>



**COVID-19  
ATHLETIC EVENT PROTOCOLS  
Athletes**

**Indoor Events (HS Gym / MS Gym)**

- We encourage visiting teams to pre-screen athletes prior to arrival (Temperature Checks).
- Masks/Face Coverings are highly recommended for participants while on bench, but **are not required during on court participation.**
- **Masks/Face Coverings are required upon entry into the gym and in stands prior to contest and can be removed when entering the playing surface.**
- Score table personnel shall wear face covering unless able to social distance.
- Water jugs/bottles will not be provided, but can be filled at the site.
- While we stress sportsmanship, we recommend no post-game handshakes, but encourage a team acknowledgement from afar to reflect said sportsmanship.
- We will not exchange benches during volleyball contests.
- Any personnel not actively involved in the contest on the playing surface will be required to wear a mask. (ie-media, guest/spectators). Officials are not required to wear masks.

**Outdoor Events (FB Stadium, Softball Field, Baseball Field)**

- Masks/Face Coverings **are recommended** for non-participants while in dugouts/sidelines, but **are not required during on field participation.**
- Only essential personnel will be allowed in pressbox and face coverings required when social distancing is not possible.
- On field personnel not actively involved in the contest will be required to wear a mask. (ie-media, guest/spectators). Officials/Umpires are not required to wear masks.

