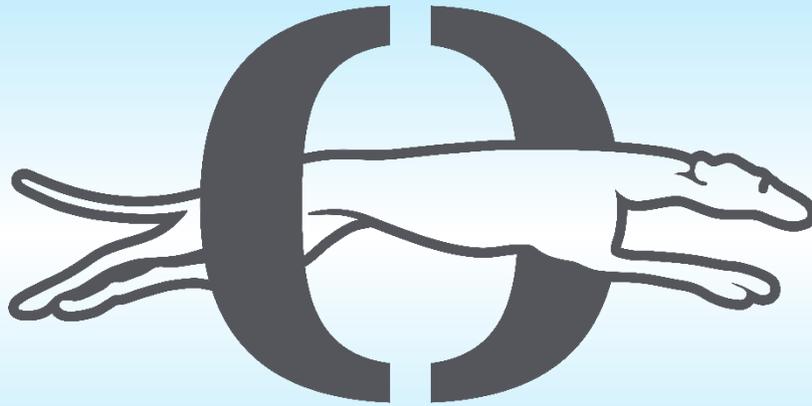


# Okeene Public Schools Reopening Plan 2021-2022



\*All plans are subject to change based on local numbers of COVID-19 cases and guidance from the state department of education, local and state health departments, and the CDC.

#### **Start Date**

Okeene Public Schools will begin classes on August 12th, 2021.

#### **Enrollment**

Enrollment will be completed in person. Enrollment forms will be posted on our school website by Monday, July 26<sup>th</sup>. These online enrollment forms are to be printed and returned to the school in person or forms will be available at the school to be filled out during enrollment. Enrollment for the Elementary School will take place on August 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> from 8:00-4:00 each day, and enrollment for the JH/HS will take place on August 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> by grade level with specific times to be determined later. Classrooms will be set aside for the enrollment process and allowances will be made for social distancing to occur.



Dear Okeene Constituents,

The administrative team at Okeene has been working diligently to prepare a return-to-school plan that will best meet the academic needs of our students along with providing the safest environment possible for students and staff members. Through this process our administration has sought input and guidance from other school districts, our school staff members, medical professionals, parent committee members, along with all stakeholders. This process was done in an effort to assure we have carried out our true diligence in preparing a plan for both a return to traditional instruction along with a plan for virtual learning should students choose to take this approach or should circumstances dictate a return to virtual learning (distance learning) for all students and staff members.

As we have all learned over the past few months we need to expect the unexpected and we know things change very rapidly. Therefore, it is nearly impossible to plan for and predict all scenarios that may come our way. The information laid out over the next several pages contain mitigation strategies that best fit the needs of our school and community at this time with regard to COVID-19. These plans we feel will allow us to best meet the academic needs of our students while offering a series of safety measures that will allow our students staff protection from the COVID-19 virus. I hope everyone understands it is our goal to protect every student, staff member, parent/guardian, family member, and community member to the very best of our abilities.

Every school year Okeene Public Schools are faced with new and different challenges that test our will and challenge our perseverance. How we respond to these challenges are what sets our district apart from others. I can assure you our staff will be prepared for the challenges that lay before us and we will confront them head-on, and together WE WILL find a way to overcome these adversities and be successful. Once again, we appreciate your never-ending support for this school and look forward to a great school year.

Yours in Education,

Mike Jinkens



# Return to Learn Advisory Team

Mike Jinkens, Superintendent

Lauren Coleman, HS/JH Principal

Mark Cox, Elementary Principal

Jeff Wardlaw, HS/JH Assistant Principal

Okeene Public School Teachers and Staff

## Parents

Angela Clester

Jim Luckie

Ron Howe

Amber Lewis

Amy Williams

Blanca Lorenz

Garen Robison

Maggie Jackson, Blaine County Health Department

Rae Johnson, Blaine County Health Department

Cayci Brickman, MD, Okeene Municipal Hospital



# **Health and Safety at School**



## **Bus Protocols**

1. Bus drivers will check each student's temperature before they get on the bus. If they register a temperature of 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit or higher, they will not be allowed to ride the bus or attend school.
2. The drivers will keep each bus's windows open as much as possible.
3. Students will only be allowed to sit in the same seat as a sibling. There will be at least one row between students sitting on the bus.
4. If a student starts showing symptoms while they are on the bus, the student will be isolated from the other students until the parent can be notified and the student can be picked up.
5. Bus drivers will disinfect seats after dropping off students at school and again after dropping off students at home.
6. Wearing masks on the bus will be optional as long as adequate social distancing is possible.

## **Entry Into the Building Each Morning**

*Elementary and HS/JH buildings:*

It is imperative that families partner with the school in monitoring the health and safety of each child. We do not intend to take temperatures upon entry into the school unless we begin to see a spike in COVID cases in our area. If your child is running a temperature, however, we ask that your child be kept at home and assignments will be assigned virtually until the child is seen by a physician and cleared or until the child is fever-free for a minimum of 24 hours without the use of medication.

## **Masks/Face Coverings**

Masks will be recommended, but not required for students, faculty, and guests.

## **Water bottles/fountains**

Students will all be encouraged to bring their own water bottles to school every day. We want to use the water fountains as little as possible (mainly to refill bottles as needed), and the water fountains and other surfaces that will be touched frequently will be cleaned often during each day.

## **Handwashing/Hand Sanitizer**

Frequent handwashing will be encouraged, and classrooms will have hand sanitizer that students and staff will be frequently encouraged to use.

## **Building Cleaning Procedures**

Hallways, classrooms, restrooms, locker rooms, exercise facilities, etc. will be sanitized at the end of each day or the beginning of each morning prior to student arrival. Highly touched surfaces such as restrooms, desks, and water stations will be cleaned periodically throughout the day by the classroom teachers and custodial staff members.



# **COVID Specific Protocols**

## Protocols for Students or Staff Members Having a Fever or Other COVID-19 Symptoms

1. The student will be isolated in a predetermined room. The staff member will be sent home.
2. The student's parents will be called to come pick the student up.
3. School staff will disinfect any areas where the student or staff member had been.
4. The student or staff member will stay home for 10 days and not return to school until fever-free for at least 24 hours without use of medication.
5. The school will encourage the parents to have the student tested for COVID-19 (or encourage the staff member to get tested).
6. If a student or staff member has documentation from a doctor that the fever or other symptoms are due to a diagnosis other than COVID-19, the student or staff member will be allowed to return before the full 10 days have elapsed if they have been fever and symptom free for at least 24 hours without the use of medication.
7. The student will continue their education via distance learning during those 10 days they are out of school. All schoolwork will be required unless the student's health is too severe for them to be able to complete the work, and if that is the case the site principal would appreciate notification from the parent. If the teacher is able to teach from home during the 10 days, they will not count as sick days or personal days.
8. Time the student spends at home for distance learning will not count against their attendance if the student completes their assigned online lessons in the allotted time frame.

### COVID-19 Symptoms to Watch For (from cdc.gov):

1. Fever or chills
2. Cough
3. Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
4. Fatigue
5. Muscle or body aches
6. Headache
7. New loss of taste or smell
8. Sore throat
9. Congestion or runny nose
10. Nausea or vomiting
11. Diarrhea

### Emergency Warning Signs for COVID-19

1. Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
2. Persistent pain or pressure in the chest
3. New confusion
4. Inability to wake or stay awake
5. Bluish lips or face

\*If your child shows any of the emergency warning signs listed above, **seek emergency medical care immediately.**

### Protocols for Students or Staff Members That Test Positive for COVID-19

1. The student or staff member will stay home for 10 days from the time symptoms first appeared or 10 days since the positive test if they do not show any symptoms.
2. The student or staff member cannot return to school until:
  - They have stayed away from school for 10 days
  - They have been without a fever for at least 24 hours without the use of medication
  - Their respiratory symptoms (if present) have improved

3. The school will contact the local health department to report the case of COVID-19 and get guidance on whether it is safe to keep the school open and on what students and staff members need to quarantine.
4. When a positive case has been confirmed in the school and we have received guidance from the local health department, notifications will be sent out with a One Call, on the school website, and on the school Facebook page.
5. If the student is able to complete his or her work during the 10 days, they will not count as sick days. If the teacher is able to teach from home during the 10 days, they will not count as sick days or personal days.

### **Protocols for Students or Staff Members That Have Been in \*Close Contact With a Person Who Has Tested Positive for COVID-19**

1. The student or staff member will stay home for 10 days (quarantine). They can return after 10 days if no symptoms have occurred.
2. The student or staff can return after 7 days of quarantine if they have had no symptoms and have a negative test done within 48 hours before the time of return.
3. The parents of the student will be encouraged to get the student tested for COVID-19 (or the staff member will be encouraged to get tested).
4. The student will continue their schoolwork via distance learning, and their time away will not count against their attendance if they complete their online lessons in the allotted time frame. If the teacher is able to teach from home during the 10 days, they will not count as sick days or personal days.
5. The student or staff member may return to school after the 10 days if they are symptom free or after 7 days if they have a negative test.
6. Any student or staff member who has had COVID in the past 90 days or who has been fully vaccinated will not have to quarantine.

\*"Close contact" is defined as any of the following:

1. Living in the same household as a sick person with COVID-19
2. Caring for a sick person with COVID-19
3. Being within about 6 feet of a person with COVID-19 for 10 minutes or more
4. Being in direct contact with secretions from a sick person with COVID-19 (e.g., being coughed on, kissing, sharing utensils, etc.)

### **On Absences Due to COVID-19 Symptoms, Positive Tests, or Quarantine**

Absences due to COVID-19 symptoms, positive tests, or quarantine will not result in students being reported to the district attorney's office for truancy.

- They have stayed away from school for 10 days
- They have been without a fever for at least 24 hours without the use of medication
- Their respiratory symptoms (if present) have improved

# Academics



## **Temporary Distance Learning**

Any students who are quarantined or in isolation due to COVID protocols will be given the opportunity to keep up with their assignments either on-line or on paper.

## **Academics - Lost Learning**

We will use diagnostic testing to assess students' learning gaps and utilize a variety of web-based resources and regular classroom materials to make up for lost learning. In addition, teachers will discuss skills and standards they were not able to adequately cover in the spring with students' new teachers in the fall so that they know what standards from the previous grade need to be covered. And, teachers will start the school year covering standards missed from the previous school year.

## **Meals**

Any student who is quarantined will be able to receive grab and go meals curbside.

## **Okeene Public School Learning Option**

After seeing firsthand the academic struggles that the majority of our students have faced after returning from distance learning our local board of education, administrators, staff members, and our parent committee feel it's imperative that our students receive in-class instruction to ensure their future success. Therefore, our plan to begin the 2021-2022 school year is to return to normal in-class instruction with the ability to have individual students, groups of students, specific building sites, or the entire school go virtual if COVID numbers spike in our area and a need to do so presents itself. Having prepared for and engaged in this process throughout the 2020-2021 school year our staff and students feel we can adequately make this a very seamless transition if circumstances require immediate change.

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- 1. Take your child's temperature before leaving for school each morning.**
  - 2. Watch for COVID-19 symptoms in your student (listed above).**
  - 3. Parents/Guardians/Family members will not be allowed to walk their student into the building or classroom at this time.**
  - 4. Communicate frequently with your child's teacher and principal with your concerns, feedback, and questions via Remind and phone calls.**
  - 5. Keep your child quarantined for 10 days if they come in contact with someone that has tested positive for COVID-19, and seek guidance from your school administrator about when your student should return to school.**



# How Can Parents Help?