

RETURN TO SCHOOL

General Guidelines for Families

Justice Public School

Protecting Our School Family and Community:

The following guidelines are shared with our school community, including students, families, and staff, in an effort to mitigate the risk of transmission of COVID-19. Our goal is to create carefully layered, flexible, and developmentally appropriate practices that will ensure the strongest advice given by the American Academy of Pediatrics: All policy considerations for the coming school year should start with a goal of having students physically present in school.

A host of reasons support this American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommendation, from the importance of in-person learning to the damage of social isolation. This goal will require all of us to work together. The information presented in this document is shared so that all of our community can begin school with a shared understanding of our responsibility in keeping our students and staff safe from COVID-19. We know we cannot eliminate the virus; but with wise choices, we can mitigate it.

Layered Mitigation Practices:

- **Daily Temperature Checks**
 - Each morning, families are asked to take their children's temperatures, as a fever of 100 or greater 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.
 - Temperatures will be checked before students will be allowed to board buses each morning. No student will be allowed to board the bus with a fever of 100° Fahrenheit or greater.
 - Temperatures will be checked before students and staff will be allowed to enter the school each morning. No student or staff will be allowed entry with a fever of 100° Fahrenheit or greater.
 - Temperatures will be checked again at midday. Any student or staff with a fever of 100° Fahrenheit or greater will be immediately taken to the isolation room and appropriate contact will be made.
- **Response to Additional Symptoms**
 - While many children will present with fever initially, many will not. Other symptoms that may develop initially include the following: chills, cough, headache, loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion, runny nose, nausea, vomiting and diarrhea.
 - Any of these are cause for keeping a child home from school.
- **Hygiene**
 - Handwashing is one of the best means of protection against infection. 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.
 - There will also be access to an alcohol-based hand sanitizer throughout the school building when hand-washing opportunities are not readily available.
- **Social Distancing**
 - While it will be difficult to maintain distance between the students at school, we will be devising plans to provide for this precaution in the common areas of hallways, classrooms, cafeteria, gyms and buses.

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- **Face Covering**
 - Evidence continues to mount on the role and importance of face coverings in interrupting the spread of COVID-19.
 - The latest indication is that the use of face coverings protects both the wearers and those with whom they come in contact.
- **Additional Information**
 - Details on the above practices and expectations for their implementation in Justice Public School are listed in the following document.

Plans above are subject to change as new information becomes available or as new situations arise related to COVID-19.

Arrival and Dismissal:

As students arrive at school in the morning, they will be directed to go to their classrooms or a general area in which social distancing is feasible. Students will not be gathered in large groups to wait for their school day to begin. Parents will not be escorting their children into the building. All parents will be asked to remain in their cars and drive through the drop-off line to ensure a safe exit from and entrance into their family vehicles. While awaiting dismissal, students will be in their classrooms, still following social distancing guidelines by not waiting in large groups.

Meal Services:

Students will wash hands prior to eating. As much as possible, the children will be seated in the cafeteria in a manner to allow for distancing. When cafeteria space is limited, students will be directed to eat in another area in order to provide for distancing. No guests will be allowed to have lunch on-site as long as the threat of COVID exposure is predominant in the community.

Supplies:

Sharing of supplies such as crayons, markers, scissors and pencils will not be allowed. Students will keep their individual supplies separated from those of others in individually labeled containers or cubbies. Any manipulatives needed for instructional purposes will be sanitized prior to use by another student.

Recess:

Each class will help develop a recess schedule that allows daily outdoor recess time for all students. Recess schedules may vary by class due to limiting the number of students in any one area.

Masks for Students:

Face masks will be determined by the current color for our county on the Oklahoma State Department of Health's COVID-19 Alert System. If our county is color coded green or yellow, wearing of masks will be optional. If our county is color coded orange, wearing of masks will be required by all students and staff and the school will prepare for a transition to virtual learning. Even if our county is color coded

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green or yellow, masks will be encouraged anytime social distancing is difficult to accomplish. Therefore, all students are expected to have a mask available at all times. To the extent possible, Justice School will promote and reinforce the use of face coverings for all students. However, masks will not be provided by the school. Practices such as mask-wearing will be more feasible the older the student, as younger students may touch their faces more than usual when wearing a mask.

COVID-19 Symptoms at School:

If a teacher suspects that a student may have COVID-19 symptoms, he/she will contact the office to arrange for an adult to come to the classroom and escort the student to an isolation room. Parents will be contacted immediately to pick up their child and seek a medical opinion.

Exposures, Diagnoses, & Return to School After COVID-19:

In regard to exposures, diagnoses, and positive tests, the CDC recommends the following:

Anyone who has had close contact with someone positive for COVID-19 should stay home for 14 days after exposure, based on the time it takes to develop the illness. Any child who tests positive or has COVID-19 symptoms may return to school after they have been fever free without fever reducing medication for at least 3 days and diminished respiratory symptoms and a minimum of 14 days since symptoms first appeared. Two consecutive negative COVID-19 tests given 24 hours apart would also indicate that a child may return to school. The negative test results should be provided to the school if the child is home for fewer than ten days. A child who tested positive for COVID-19 but had no symptoms can return to school after 14 days have passed since the test. Two consecutive negative COVID-19 tests given 24 hours apart would also indicate that a child may return to school. The negative test results should be provided to the school upon return. As always, be sure to call the school to report your child's absence and set up possible services through the Distance Learning Program (DLP). For more information, visit the following website: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus>

Water Fountains and Restrooms:

As school opens, all traditional "bubble up" water fountains will be closed. Water bottle filling stations will remain connected and available to students and faculty. Students and staff are encouraged to bring filled water bottles or other non-breakable water containers to school with them. Restrooms will be cleaned and sanitized multiple times throughout the day.

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Resources:

FY21 JPS Pandemic _ Virus Response Plan
FY21 JPS Distance Learning Program
Oklahoma State Department of Health COVID-19 Alert System