



SAFE RETURN TO IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION
& CONTINUITY OF SERVICES PLAN
FOR THE 2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR



As the Hallsville School District transitions into the 2022-2023 school year, the district's goal in creating this plan is to provide a framework for continued learning while also allowing students to develop the social and emotional connections necessary for their growth. **We all want students and employees to feel comfortable and safe in our school environments.**

Our plan for a safe return to in-seat instruction and continuity of services is built around the following commitments:

- Providing environments that are as safe as possible for our students and staff
- Ensuring access and equity for all students
- Communicating with staff, families, and community partners

Please note: The information and guidelines provided in this document are subject to change at any time based on further guidance received by the district. The plan will be reviewed at least every six months, with input from parents, teachers, administrators, other school staff, and community members, to ensure adequacy in protocols and procedures. (Last Revised 8.17.22)

The Hallsville School District has developed health-related protocols and a Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan created in conjunction with the Columbia/Boone County Public Health and Human Services (PHSS), the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) and the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The protocols are based on best practices from area schools and businesses, in addition to federal, state, and local health officials. These protocols are subject to change based on revised guidance and orders received by the school district. Accommodations to these protocols for students with disabilities will be implemented as deemed necessary or as mandated by the student’s IEP or 504 plan.

The goal of these protocols is to mitigate the risk of exposure to COVID-19 and other illnesses by reducing the number of personal and surface contacts students and employees experience while at school. While the reduction of risk is the goal, it is impossible to completely eliminate all contact and therefore risk of exposure.

Individuals who need assistance with translation of this document, please contact communications@hallsville.org.

HEALTHY FACILITIES	3
TRANSPORTATION	3
MEAL SERVICE	3
VISITORS TO CAMPUS	3
HANDWASHING & RESPIRATORY ETIQUETTE	3
FACE COVERINGS	4
HEALTH SCREENINGS	4
SYMPTOMATIC STUDENTS & EMPLOYEES	4
COVID-19 RELATED ILLNESS	6
QUARANTINE	7
COVID-19 VACCINATIONS & TESTING	7
SCHOOL NOTIFICATIONS	7

POSITIVE COVID-19 & CONTACT TRACING	7
CLOSURES	8
CONTINUITY OF SERVICES	8
ATHLETICS & ACTIVITIES	8

HEALTHY FACILITIES

- The district's custodial department is implementing a specified sanitation plan using approved cleaning products across the district. High volume areas and frequently touched surfaces will be a primary focus.
- In accordance with CDC guidance, to avoid possible exposure, students and staff may want to avoid crowded areas, or keep distance between themselves and others.
- In accordance with CDC guidance, maintaining stable student cohort groups is no longer recommended.

TRANSPORTATION

- As of February 25, 2022, masks are no longer required for students and staff on district school buses.

MEAL SERVICE

- Modifications to meal service will be made as needed.
- The USDA waiver allowing all students to have free lunch and breakfast has **expired**. The district will be returning to standard meal pricing. Forms for free and reduced lunch can be found [here](#).

VISITORS TO CAMPUS

- When [COVID-19 Community Level](#) is high, the district may limit access to campus for visitors who are not providing essential services to students.
- Unvaccinated visitors are encouraged to wear a mask while in district facilities.

HANDWASHING & RESPIRATORY ETIQUETTE

- Hand sanitizer will be available in all classrooms and at most exterior doors.
- Signage will be displayed in all district facilities to encourage proper handwashing, cover coughs and sneezes, encouraging monitoring of symptoms related to COVID-19.

- Handwashing and sanitation procedures will be taught to students by district staff and time will be taken during the day to allow for these activities.

FACE COVERINGS

- When COVID-19 Community Level is high, the district encourages individuals to wear a face covering in all district facilities and on school buses.
- Masks/face coverings must comply with district dress code requirements and must be free of any wording or advertisements that could cause a substantial disruption to the educational environment.
- Requirements are subject to change throughout the school year, based on guidance from state and local health officials, along with community and district conditions.

HEALTH SCREENINGS

Personal health screenings are an important component of helping maintain a safe and healthy school environment. Students and employees should monitor for COVID-19 symptoms prior to arriving at school. If you have experienced one of the following symptoms within the last 14 days that cannot otherwise be explained, it is recommended you not come to school facilities or events:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

Students and employees should not come to school under any circumstances if they are sick. Building level principals should be notified if a student is going to be absent if absence is potentially related to COVID-19.

SYMPTOMATIC STUDENTS & EMPLOYEES

The following information is based on current guidance from national, state, and local health officials.

Symptomatic students who become ill while at school will be treated in a precaution area that is isolated from others and asked to wear a face covering until they are sent

home. Employees with symptoms from the list below will be sent home. Students and employees will follow the return guidelines as outlined below.

The following symptoms indicate a possible illness that may decrease a person's ability to function productively, but also may put them at risk for spreading illness to others.

Please visit the CDC website for a complete list of expected symptoms.

- Temperature 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher
- Sore throat
- New, uncontrolled cough that causes difficulty breathing or speaking. (For those with chronic allergic/asthmatic cough, a change in their normal cough)
- Diarrhea, vomiting, or abdominal pain
- New onset of severe headache (especially with fever)
- Loss of taste or smell

If a student or employee develops the following symptoms during the school day, the employee/student will be sent home and excluded from school until the return criteria for close contacts who develop symptoms are met (page 7).

Symptoms for exclusion include:

- Fever
- New loss of taste or smell
- Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing

OR any combination of three or more of the following symptoms that cannot otherwise be explained:

- Cough
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose

Anyone exhibiting any one or more of these symptoms should remain home until:

- Symptoms improve
- Fever free for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications
- Upon returning to school, students and staff may be screened by the building nurse to verify recovery.

COVID-19 RELATED ILLNESS

If any of the following conditions apply, a person is considered high-risk of spreading the illness to others and should not come to school. Parents/students/employees are required to notify their building principal/supervisor if any of these conditions apply:

- A positive COVID-19 test result
- Pending results of a COVID-19 test

In order for a student or employee to return to school/work after a positive COVID-19 test, the following benchmarks must be achieved:

If the student experienced symptoms:

- Documentation from a medical doctor that the student is no longer contagious, and
- 24 hours with no fever (without the use of fever-reducing medication), and
- Other symptoms have improved (e.g. cough, shortness of breath)

OR

- 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared, and
- 24 hours with no fever (without the use of fever-reducing medication), and
- Other symptoms have improved (e.g. cough, shortness of breath)

If the student did not experience symptoms:

- Documentation from a medical doctor that the student is no longer contagious,

OR

- 10 days since the student/employee tested positive

If the employee experienced symptoms:

- 5 days have passed since symptoms first appeared, and
- 24 hours with no fever (without the use of fever-reducing medication), and
- Other symptoms have improved
- Employees will be required to wear a face-covering while at school for days six through ten after their five days of isolation.

If the employee did not experience symptoms:

- 5 days have passed since a positive test
- Employees will be required to wear a face-covering while at school for days six through ten after their five days of isolation.

QUARANTINE

If a student or employee has been in close contact with someone who has COVID-19, it is recommended that students and employees wear a face covering in school for 10 days following exposure. Families may elect to self-quarantine students at their discretion. Close contacts should self-monitored for symptoms of COVID-19 related illness for 10 days following exposure; students and employees should not come to school under any circumstances if they have symptoms of COVID-19 related illness.

For the most up to date definition of a close contact, please refer to the [CDC website](#).

COVID-19 VACCINATIONS & TESTING

The Hallsville School District encourages eligible students and staff to be vaccinated against COVID-19. For students or employees interested in receiving a vaccination, Columbia/Boone County Public Health and Human Services community vaccination clinics can be found here: <https://www.como.gov/covidvaccine/>

The Hallsville School District will not provide COVID-19 testing. For students and employees interested in COVID-19 testing, Columbia/Boone County Public Health and Human Services testing information can be found here:

https://www.como.gov/coronavirus/novel-coronavirus-2019-covid-19/#elementor-toc_heading-anchor-3

SCHOOL NOTIFICATIONS

POSITIVE COVID-19 & CONTACT TRACING

Following notification of a newly reported student *or* employee isolation status, the district will follow the protocols listed below for notifications if it is determined the positive individual was on campus during their infectious period..

- Schools: Families of students attending the same school of a confirmed COVID-19 case will be made aware of a positive case within the building. For families with students in the primary and intermediate schools, classroom notifications will also be sent.
- Bus Transportation: Families of students riding the same bus of a confirmed COVID-19 case will be made aware of a positive case within the building and/or bus via email.
- Staff: All building staff, including traveling and classified staff, will be made aware of a positive case within the building.
- In accordance with CDC guidance, case investigation and contact tracing is no longer recommended for school settings.

Due to privacy laws, personally identifiable information will not be released.

CLOSURES

- The school district will consider school closures based upon city, county, and state guidelines and community spread.
- It is possible that individual building or classroom closures are implemented, depending on the exposure risk level across the district.
- It is important to note that should a closure, change to the school schedule, and/or exposure to COVID-19 take place, the district will use various methods of communication to contact families.

CONTINUITY OF SERVICES

If it is not possible to keep the school open in response to pandemic trigger points, the district will pivot to an online learning environment. Content will be teacher generated and will resume in a timely manner from the point of paused learning. Each staff member of seated courses will familiarize students with the online learning platform prior to a required closure, and learning will move forward to ensure coverage of all 2022-2023 content to minimize student learning regression. Learning will move forward with normal grading practices in place.

Services of district counselors and community providers to support the social, emotional, and mental health needs of students are available to students in person when school is in session and through technology resources (e.g., video conferencing) during any school closure. A variety of services are available to support the needs of staff members, many of which are covered by district medical insurance; staff members should contact central office for support in accessing such services.

ATHLETICS & ACTIVITIES

The Hallsville School District recognizes the importance of providing elective opportunities for students. The primary goal during this pandemic is the health and safety of our students and instructors. We intend to provide opportunities that allow safe participation for all of our programs and allow us the greatest amount of in-person instruction during the school year.

- Students and staff will be excluded from school and activities if they test positive for COVID-19, are awaiting results of a COVID-19 test, or if they exhibit symptoms that may be COVID-19 related and cannot otherwise be explained.
- Should an instructor or athlete contract COVID-19 consistent with applicable law/privacy policies, the Hallsville School District will take appropriate measures to minimize risk and exposure to all participants. Measures will be contingent on

the circumstance, but could include such measures as a discontinuation of activity for up to 10 days or longer.

- Based on the nature of some sports and activities, social distancing will be difficult and not possible in certain areas.
- In June of 2022, MSHSAA Board of Directors accepted the recommendation from the MSHSAA Covid-19 Task Force and Sports Medicine Advisory Committee to eliminate and discontinue the use of the Covid-19 Return To Play form and Return To Play Protocols effectively immediately and for the 2022-2023 school year.