**Centerville R-I**

**COVID-19 Guidelines & Protocols**

**2020-2021 School Year**



The guidelines and protocols outlined in this document are subject to revision as needed to reflect local, state, and federal guidance.

Guidelines and protocols may also be revised as appropriate to reflect the needs of local conditions.

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**Commentary Regarding COVID-19 Guidelines & Protocols**

* The safety and well-being of Centerville students and staff is our top priority in all decisions related to conducting school and providing a quality education to all students we serve.
* The COVID-19 guidelines developed and presented below follow all applicable local, state, and federal guidelines and incorporate many best practices advocated by school associations and groups.
* The content in this document will be updated as additional guidance is provided by state, local, and federal authorities. Please refer to this document often to stay informed about the most current guidelines and protocols our district will be following.  Parents/guardians with questions or concerns are asked to call the Centerville School District at 573-648-2285 to discuss and address those concerns.

**General Information for Students & Faculty/Staff**

* Students and faculty have the option of wearing protective masks or face shields.
	+ Staff members will be provided masks and a face shield.
	+ Students may wear masks; they must be school appropriate. Masks are not recommended for young children. Masks are appropriate for middle school age students, and they will be encouraged to wear them if they are unable to properly maintain social distance. Students who have a persistent cough due to allergies will be asked to wear a mask.
	+ Availability of district-provided masks is subject to the district’s ability to procure masks (shortages of masks may limit availability).
	+ Masks must be in clean, sanitary condition.
	+ Students may not share masks, or provide masks to other students at school.
* Hand Hygiene and Respiratory Etiquette (CDC Guidance)
	+ Teach and reinforce handwashing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and increase monitoring to ensure adherence among students and staff.
		- If soap and water are not readily available, hand sanitizer that contains alcohol can be used (for staff and older children who can safely use hand sanitizer).
	+ Encourage staff and students to cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue. Used tissues should be thrown in the trash and hands washed immediately with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
	+ If soap and water are not readily available, hand sanitizer that contains alcohol can be used (for staff and older children who can safely use hand sanitizer).
	+ Students will be guided to wash hands multiple times per day.
	+ Hand sanitizer will be provided at multiple locations throughout buildings and will be located in each classroom.
* Drinking fountains will be removed from service, except for those with bottle filling capabilities.
	+ The district will provide a refillable water bottles to the students. These bottles should be sanitized twice a week.
	+ Students may bring personal water bottles from home but bottles must be plastic or metal, and in clean, sanitary, condition.
	+ Students may not share water bottles.
* Social distancing will be observed to the extent possible by all faculty, staff, and students.
* Student activities will be conducted as usual to the extent they are permissible under local, state, and federal guidance.
* Faculty/staff with diagnosed medical conditions that are related to COVID-19 susceptibility will be provided accommodations as appropriate and practicable.

**Understanding & Recognizing COVID-19**

● Faculty and staff will be trained to recognize symptoms that may be associated with COVID-19. Training will include, but not be limited to, online modules provided by the Missouri United School Insurance Council. The CDC lists the following as possible symptoms of COVID-19:

* A fever of 100.4 degrees or higher
* Cough
* Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
* Nausea or vomiting, diarrhea
* Fatigue
* Muscle pain or body aches
* Headache
* Sore throat/ congestion or runny nose
* Newly emerged loss of taste or smell

**Staying Home When Appropriate**

* Staff and families will be educated about when they/their child(ren) should stay home and when they can return to school.
	+ Attendance incentives have been removed and virtual learning and paper packet options will be utilized as feasible.
	+ Staff and students should stay home if they have tested positive for or are showing COVID-19 symptoms.
	+ Staff and students who have recently had close contact with a person with COVID-19 should also stay home and monitor their health.

**General Health Information for Students & Faculty/Staff**

* Parents and students, as well as staff members, are encouraged to self-screen for potential COVID-19 symptoms before coming to school. Anyone with symptoms of illness are expected to stay home until symptoms have subsided.
* Students at school who display health symptoms that could suggest COVID-19 concerns will be checked by the nurse. If evaluation by the nurse suggests potential for COVID-19 infection, the student will be placed in a separate room and masked (if appropriate for health) until picked up by a parent/guardian.
* Students with a temperature of 100 degrees or higher will be sent home.
* A student excluded from the school environment due to COVID-19 concerns may return to school in accordance with guidelines provided by the health department. Please understand that guidelines may change over time. At the time of this publication, the guidelines are as follows:
	+ Students not tested for COVID-19 may return if the following conditions are met:
		- **No fever for 72 hours without the use of medicine that reduces fever**. Students will be required to report to the nurse for a temperature screen upon their return.
		- Other symptoms have improved (cough or shortness of breath).
		- At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared.
	+ Students with symptoms, but that tested negative for COVID-19, may return if the following conditions are met:
		- **No fever for 24 hours without the use of medicine that reduces fever**.
		- Other symptoms have improved (cough or shortness of breath).
	+ Students that have tested positive for COVID-19 may return if the following conditions are met:
		- 14 days have passed without symptoms.
		- Released and given written approval to return by a healthcare provider.
	+ Other scenarios regarding student health will be handled according to guidance and consultation from the Reynolds County Health Department.

**Transportation Information**

* Parents/guardians are encouraged to drop students off at school instead of using bus service. Drop-off and pick-up systems will be organized to ensure social distancing to the greatest extent possible.
* Students who ride the bus will load the bus from back to front.
* Students riding the bus, from the same household, will be required to sit together.
* Students will remain seated when they arrive at the school. Each seat will be dismissed by the driver.
* Buses will be sanitized after each route.
* Hand sanitizer will be available on school buses.
* Drivers will use personal protective equipment (PPE), such as masks or face shields, throughout routes.
* Students will be assigned seats and wear masks if they are unable to social distance.
* Any student displaying symptoms of illness-cough, sneezing, etc. will be required to wear a mask.

**Arrival at school**

* **Student drop off time is 7:30**.All drop offs will enter through the left side door of the south side of the old high school. Students that arrive after 7:30 will need to be dropped off at the office to be let into the building.
* Students will be screened for a temperature, receive a grab and go breakfast and then go to their classroom.
* Parents/visitors will have limited access to the building including the district office.
* Visitors in the building will be limited and must be approved prior to arrival.

**During the School Day**

* Students will remain with their class all day
* Sharing of student supplies (art, other) will be minimized and/or eliminated.
* Equipment used by more than one student will be sanitized between uses.
* Appropriate footwear for physical education is required.
* No field trips, assemblies, or visiting presenters will be allowed at this time.

**Cafeteria/ Meal Times**

* Breakfast will be served to students when they arrive at 7:30. They will then proceed to their classrooms to eat.
* Lunch shifts will be staggered as much as possible to minimize the number of students gathered in the cafeteria.
* Students will wash hands prior to eating and prior to engaging in other activities after eating.

**Food Service**

* Food will not be shared and unopened food/drinks previously served will not be re-served.
* Use individual packets of condiments if possible. If not, district employees will serve condiments using gloves.
* Gloves will be worn when handling used utensils and removing trash bags.
* Self-serve drink stations and communal pitchers/containers will not be used.
* Kitchen surfaces will be wiped down with disinfectant before food preparation begins.
* Hands should be washed after handling soiled dishes and before handling clean dishes.
* All kitchen staff must wear gloves during meal preparation and serving.
* All tables will be cleaned thoroughly between uses.
* All non-disposable food service items will be handled with gloves and washed with dish soap and hot water. Individuals should wash their hands after removing their gloves or after directly handling used food service items.
* If food is offered at any event, only pre-packaged items will be allowed.

**Other Information**

* Attendance incentives have been removed for the regular school term. Students will be required to make-up missed work.
* Parents of students and students participating in any extracurricular activity will be required to complete a liability waiver and follow the guidelines set within the document.

**Cleaning & Disinfection**

* [Cleaning and disinfecting](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/clean-disinfect/index.html) frequently touched surfaces (e.g., playground equipment, door handles, sink handles, drinking fountains) within the school and on school buses will occur at least daily or between use as much as possible.
* Use of shared objects (e.g., gym or physical education equipment, art supplies, toys, games) should be limited when possible, or cleaned between use.
* Bus drivers should practice all safety actions and protocols as indicated for other staff (e.g., hand hygiene, etc.).

**Shared Objects**

* Sharing of items that are difficult to clean or disinfect will not be permitted.
* Each child’s belongings will be separated from others’ and in individually labeled containers, cubbies, or areas as much as possible.
* If adequate supplies cannot be acquired to minimize sharing of high touch materials to the extent possible (e.g., assigning each student their own art supplies, equipment), use will be limited to supplies and equipment by one group of children at a time, cleaning and disinfecting supplies/equipment between use will be required.
* Students will be discouraged from sharing electronic devices, toys, books, and other games.
* Library books will be sanitized prior to being re-shelved.

**Modified Layouts**

* Space seating/desks at least 6 feet apart when feasible.
* Turn desks to face in the same direction (rather than facing each other), or students will sit on only one side of tables, spaced apart.
* Create distance between children on school buses when possible.
* Assigned seating in **all** settings to assist with contact tracing as needed.

**Communal Spaces**

* Communal use of shared spaces such as the cafeteria, restrooms and playground will be staggered and disinfected between use.

**Community Events**

* Assess group gatherings and events:
	+ Consider postponing non-critical gatherings and events.
	+ Consider whether any of these events should be canceled. Speak with local health officials to help determine the best approach.
	+ Consider limiting or restricting outside organizations' use of facilities.

**Communication**

* + Signage will be displayed in all settings for:
		- Proper hand washing
		- COVID Signs & Symptoms
		- Individuals at Higher Risk
		- Social Distancing