



MINSTER LOCAL SCHOOLS

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Minster Local Schools Plan to Reopen 2020-2021

July 29, 2020 **Updated August 19, 2020**

As schools start to reopen, the health and safety of students and staff is paramount. In addition to the county wide document, Minster Local Schools will be implementing safety protocols and taking extra steps to keep our students and staff safe. The administration and reopening task force has been listening to and reviewing concerns of the parents and staff for the last 5 months. We have established guidelines to ensure the safety of the students and staff. Our main objective is to have the students return to school for face to face learning. We want to keep the students in school and our students and staff as safe as possible. This is not an all-encompassing list but follows the guidelines released by the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) and the Ohio Department of Education (ODE). **This plan may be modified at any time as new information is learned.** A Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's) will be posted on the school's website with building specific information in early August.

Minster students will be in session 5 days a week with in person instruction. School begins Wednesday, August 26, 2020. Parents choosing to **NOT** send their child to school this fall should contact the building principal to make arrangements for online learning. The school will provide access to an online program.

Assess for Symptoms

1. Parents are asked to assess for [symptoms](#) **PRIOR** to students coming to school.
2. Symptomatic students will stay home. Follow covid decision tree (symptoms link above) for return.
3. Students may be asked general screening questions upon arrival.
4. Students showing symptoms will be given a mask and sent home.
5. Staff members showing symptoms will be sent home.
6. Plans for remote learning will be in place for absent students.

Classroom Occupancy

1. Six foot distance will be kept whenever possible. When not possible the maximum distance will be kept between students.
2. Floor markers will be used to assist in social distancing.
3. Hand sanitizer will be available at each entrance and classroom.
4. Students will wash hands/sanitize upon arrival, before lunch and before/after recess.
5. Students will be grouped in ways to minimize movement between rooms and in common spaces but will attend all classes including specials at the elementary.
6. Face coverings are required for all students except the allowable exempted students. Breaks from wearing masks will take place during lunch, recess and PE classes. Additional breaks will be implemented when teachers can ensure a 6 foot distance between students is in place.
7. School employees are required to use a face covering with exceptions when it significantly interferes with instruction.
8. Outdoor classroom spaces will be available.

Clean and Sanitize School Environment to Limit Spread on Shared Surfaces

1. Water bottles are recommended. Drinking fountains have been outfitted with no touch bottle fillers and will be used only to fill bottles, not get drinks.
2. Disinfecting high traffic areas will take place throughout the day and evening.
3. Classrooms will be disinfected when class periods change.
4. Busses will be sanitized after each route.

5. Sharing of supplies will be minimized.
6. Field trips are canceled/ postponed until further notice.

Food Service

1. Limited number of students per table.
2. Tables spaced as far apart as possible.
3. Alternative locations for lunch might be determined for particular grades.
4. Ala Carte will be available for gr. 5-12 only.
5. No self-service. The salad bar will be available at the high school with portions served by school staff.
6. Individual condiments limited to pre-packaged variety.
7. Students should wash or sanitize hands prior to eating.

Transportation

1. One - two students per seat with siblings/households asked to sit together.
2. Assigned seats/seating charts will be in place.
3. Loading and unloading protocols will be in place.
4. Busses will be sanitized after each route.
5. Face coverings are strongly recommended for all bus riders.
6. Bus routes will run for out of town riders only as required by law. No in town stops will take place. Line Drive, Rosebud and Stonegate are considered in town stops.

Visitors/Volunteers

1. Visitors are generally discouraged from being in the buildings.
2. Parents are encouraged to call or use the vestibule intercom when picking up students instead of entering the building.
3. Safety protocols may be implemented for all visitors.
4. Visitors are required to wear face coverings.

Recess/Outdoor activities

1. Effort will be made to maintain consistency with other safety procedures while students are at recess.
2. Students may be limited from certain pieces of playground equipment.
3. Students must sanitize/wash their hands before and after recess.
4. Outdoor classroom spaces will be available

Remote Learning

1. Parents may choose from the following two options:
 - a. Send their child to school (assume some level of risk), or
 - b. Agree to work with the district to utilize an online learning environment
2. Parents choosing to utilize an online learning environment should contact the building administrator.
3. If there is an increase in cases of COVID-19 in Minster, there may be a need to close one or both of the buildings and return to remote learning. A remote learning plan will be in place and will begin as soon as possible from the closure date.

Parent Responsibility

1. Monitor your child's health each morning and afternoon for [symptoms](#). Please take your child's temperature in the morning before sending them to school. Students with a temperature of 100 or more should remain home.
2. Inform the school of fever or any other covid symptoms. The covid decision tree (symptoms link above) will be followed for return.
3. Make sure that you establish best practice health routines at home for your child to include regular handwashing, daily bathing, using hand sanitizer routinely, and keeping clothes clean.
4. If possible, provide hand sanitizer for your child to carry with them at school.

Student Responsibility

1. Check your body temperature each day. A temperature of 100 or higher means that you stay home.
2. If you start not feeling well with symptoms at school, apply a mask and notify a teacher.
3. Wash your hands thoroughly throughout the day and use hand sanitizer when hand-washing is not possible.
4. Remember to bring your mask with you if you do desire to wear one. Always wear a clean mask.
5. Make a conscious effort to not touch your face and social distance whenever possible.
6. Follow all health protocols in place and be respectful of others choices in regards to following health protocols.