

Salmon River Joint School District

Reopening/Pandemic Plan

Introduction

This document was prepared as a guide and communication to the schools, teachers, staff, students, and parents of Salmon River School District 243 with support and guidance from public health resources to assist school administrators and leadership teams in developing pandemic plans for their respective schools.

Background

The current coronavirus is COVID-19, which started in China and has spread to several countries around the world resulting in the first quarantines of people in over 50 years in some countries. According to the CDC, spread of COVID-19 is primarily via respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes, which is similar to how influenza and other respiratory pathogens spread (Retrieved from <https://www.gadoe.org>). COVID-19 symptoms start with a fever, followed by a dry cough and, sometimes, shortness of breath. The severity of the disease ranges from flu-like to pneumonia-like, and hospitalization is often necessary — although there is no approved treatment or vaccine just yet.

As a part of our community, the school district will do its part to provide a safe environment by following this plan so students can learn to the best of their abilities. However, it is important to note that parents, students, and other community members must follow safety guidelines to minimize the spread of Covid-19, as well as other communicable diseases in order for us to continue to teach in our buildings, offer sports events, and hold other school activities.

CDC recommends everyday preventive actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory viruses, including:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Monitor your family and student’s health daily before sending them to school
- Stay home if you are sick

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- Keep students home if they are sick or exhibit symptoms of Covid-19 (fever, cough, runny nose or congestion, headache, fatigue, etc.)
- Communicate with your school if your family has been exposed to Covid-19

At this time, our community has not reached community spread of Covid-19. Idaho County has had minimal documented cases.

Purpose of the Plan

The Reentry/Pandemic Plan has been designed as an evolving document. This document will be updated to incorporate the most recent information to assist schools in designing and updating their respective plans. The safety of our students and staff are of the utmost importance.

This is a living document subject to change as needed.

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(*NOTE: Depending on circumstances, it may be necessary to either move rapidly from one level to another or even skip levels in order to respond to event circumstances.)

Category 0: Prevention and Preparation-No stay at home orders in place, minimal cases confirmed in the community

- Schools are open (brick and mortar)
- Reentry plan approved by Board of Trustees
- A review of reopening plan in consultation with local public health officials
- Develop an alternate attendance plan (common platform/Google Classroom or hard copy packets)
 - Parents who do not feel comfortable sending their students will be given an online/distance learning option
 - Plan for vulnerable staff and students
 - Plan for staff duties that require close contact
 - Plan for special populations (Special education, 504, Homeless, Title 1, medically vulnerable, etc)
- Place posters on hand washing and infection control in schools and on the district website.
 - Students will be instructed on proper handwashing and hygiene
 - Provide information to schools, parents, and staff about hand sanitizers, cough and sneeze etiquette, signs and symptoms.
- Develop a plan for cleaning and sanitizing
 - Ensure custodial staff has appropriate training on proper cleaning and disinfecting work and play areas.
 - Ensure schools and departments have adequate supplies (soaps, hand sanitizers, etc.).
 - Check First Aid Kits and add face masks for school nurses and other staff.
- Implement physical distancing protocols (desks spaced, no shared supplies, 1:1 devices, etc)
- Have a communication plan in place
 - The superintendent is the point of contact
 - Use of automated system (phone call/ email, social media, and website
- Develop plans for operating with staff workforce reduction (sick/absent staff).
- Encourage parents to have alternative childcare plans.

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- Develop alternatives to closing schools (i.e., implement social distancing; eliminate field trips; reduce or postpone extracurricular activities; set “screeners” at school entrance to screen out students and staff with illness symptoms to prevent them from going to classes.)
- Develop plans for educational continuity if schools close:
 - Study Packets and suggested activities for students and parents
 - Web-based education (i.e., on-line classes; virtual school; education blogs; home school educational websites)
- Plan for full school district closure and partial school closure (Distance Learning Plan)
 - District wide online platform (Google Classroom)
 - Blended learning
 - Training in Google Classroom for teachers, students, and parents
 - Research and use best practice for distance learning
- Develop alternate transportation plan
- Apply all plans and procedures to after-school programs.

Category 1:

No Community Transmission

Definition- Evidence of isolated cases, case investigations underway, no evidence of exposure in a large communal setting, e.g., healthcare facility, school, mass gathering.

- School buildings open with physical distancing and sanitation
 - Cleaning Plan/Maintain infection control precautionary measures.
 - Daily cleaning/sanitizing
 - Review pandemic/closure plan for preparedness and provide ongoing communication to key staff on their roles and responsibilities.
 - Implement physical distancing protocols (desks spaced, no shared supplies, 1:1 devices, etc)
 - Consider alternate scheduling (One room schoolhouse, alternate day scheduling, etc)
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- Keep staff and parents current with updates through the school district website, social media, and automated system
 - Ensure all staff and external contact information is current, including direct lines to the local health department.
 - Alert all principals of the pandemic status and remind them that the Event Level may escalate rapidly to the next Level or Levels.
 - Monitor student and staff attendance daily
 - Busing plan (ask parents to transport)
 - Apply all procedures to after-school programs.
 - Consider cancellation of field trips, sports events, other school functions
 - Masks are optional and at the discretion of each individual teacher, staff member, parent, and student)
 - Parents are encouraged to check their children for symptoms of Covid-19 before and after school.
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Category 2:

Minimal to Moderate Community Transmission

Definition-Widespread and/or sustained transmission with high likelihood or confirmed exposure within communal settings, with potential for rapid increase in suspected cases.

- The district has been contacted by the health department that there are confirmed cases within our area
- Parents are encouraged to check their children for symptoms of Covid-19 before and after school.
- Administration will use the most current information to determine if a confirmed case has contact with the school.
- School buildings open but option of limited/staggered use of school buildings with physical distancing and sanitation
- Review Distance Learning Plan and edit as needed
- Continued communication

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- Possible cancellation of field trips, sports events, other school functions
- Close off areas used by a person who is sick.
- Deep cleaning/sanitizing

Category 3:

Substantial Community Transmission

Definition-Large-scale community transmission, healthcare staffing significantly impacted, multiple cases within communal settings like healthcare facilities, schools, mass gatherings, etc.

- Targeted, short-term, or extended building closure Distance learning may be implemented using common platform and differentiated grading procedures by school.
- Continued communication
- Deep cleaning/disinfecting
- Parents are encouraged to check their children for symptoms of Covid-19 before and after school.

Level 4: Reopening

- No stay at home orders in place
- Continued communication
- All previous plans from Level 0 are in place
- No new community cases in 7-14 days

Professional Development/Distance Learning Plan

- All teachers will use Google Classroom as the standard platform for delivering instruction to students Pre-K through 12th grade
- Teachers will be provided training in Google Classroom before the beginning of the new school year (2020-2021).
- Parents and students will be instructed on Google Classroom use in the event of a soft closure
 - Given that the school is utilizing the Google Platform as the schoolwide Learning Management System, staff will be able to monitor and assist students remotely when needed.

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- ❑ Provide resources and guidance, teachers and staff will use best practice for providing online instruction

Alternative Attendance and Vulnerable Population Plan

This is a living document, subject to change as needed

General Education Attendance

- ❑ Salmon River Joint School District will plan to open brick and mortar where students attend scheduled classes in person and follow all school rules and expectations.
 - ❑ Should a parent choose that their student attending regularly scheduled classes is not an option, they will set up an individual consultation with the administration to determine if the student can utilize IDLA as their classroom platform
 - ❑ Option 1: IDLA at home
 - ❑ Option 2: Unenroll and schooling becomes the responsibility of the parent
- ❑ Grading System
 - ❑ With both options, students will continue to be responsible for their participation in the classroom and completing tasks in a timely manner.
 - ❑ In the event of an extended soft closure, students will continue to be held to standard grading expectations
- ❑ Medically vulnerable student documentation will be listed under an individualized 504 plan.
- ❑ Medically vulnerable staff documentation will be listed under an individualized 504 plan.
- ❑ Monitor absenteeism of students and employees, cross-train staff and create a roster of trained back-up staff
- ❑ Given that the school is utilizing the Google Platform as our schoolwide Learning Management System, staff will be able to monitor and assist students remotely when needed.
- ❑ If staffing is insufficient for a short-term basis, arrangements will be made to ensure students are supervised.
- ❑ If Staff is insufficient long-term basis, we will consider shut down for a short period of time
- ❑ In the event that a staff member is asked by Salmon River JSD 243 to quarantine due to Covid 19 exposure, the staff member will be put on Administrative Leave with pay. However, a staff member who does not choose to return to school may use accumulated

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sick leave until exhausted, then apply to the sick leave bank for more days if a physician deems it necessary and provides documentation.

- ❑ Parents are asked to monitor their family and children daily for symptoms of illness and keep home if suspected exposure of Covid-19 or any symptoms are seen. See the bottom of the document for possible symptoms.

Title I Students, Student with disabilities and 504 students:

Students who fall under these categories have additional services with requirements

- ❑ A free and appropriate public education (FAPE) consistent with the need to protect the health and safety of students with disabilities and those individuals providing education, specialized instruction, and related services to these students will be in mind in developing individual plans.
- ❑ Equitable services to low-achieving students as identified by teacher recommendations and/or defined in ESEA section 1115(c) who reside in a participating Title I public school attendance area and attend a non-public school and their teachers
- ❑ In the event that Salmon River School District is in a soft closure, Title I Director and parent will collaborate to create an Individualized Learning Plan ([ILP](#)) for that student to ensure that they meet graduation requirements.
- ❑ Extended absence of services
 - ❑ An individual determination will be of whether and to what extent compensatory services are needed consistent with applicable requirements to make up any skills that may have been lost.
 - ❑ Compensatory education is defined as an appropriate equitable remedy designed to deliver services to a student that should have been received to provide FAPE. The particular form of compensatory education will vary on a case-by-case basis.
- ❑ Service and/or learning plan will be developed for students who fit the criteria of Title I, 504, students with disabilities, medically vulnerable.

Sanitation Plan

- Use of masks and face shields by staff. (Optional)
- Use of masks or face shields by students. (Optional)
- Sneeze guards/windows -- Main office space in each school.
- Mobile hand sanitizer stations in each school.
- Intentional physical distancing measures as possible.
- Disinfectant wipes available in each classroom.

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- Equipment will be sanitized daily or as deemed necessary by staff
- Tables and high use items (tables, chairs, door knobs, etc) will be sanitized at transition times (recess, lunch, end of school day)
- Safe area designated for sick individual to remain until they can vacate the school

Transportation Plan

As we reopen our school, we must consider that many children utilize the school transportation services. From the moment children leave their home and board the school bus, new safety and sanitizing considerations need to be met. Our guidance covers recommended additional cleanings and sanitizing, additional driver training and procedures to consider for the safety of your students and driver.

- Parents will be encouraged to monitor their children for symptoms before sending them to school
- Buses will be sanitized after each use
- Students will be provided instruction on bus rules and procedures
 - Students will be seated from back to front and unload from front to back
 - Siblings will be seated together
- Encourage parent transportation to and from school

Communication Plan

The Salmon River Joint School District is committed to open, honest and ongoing communication with our stakeholders. We understand that maintaining a two-way conversation with stakeholders is essential for building relationships. These relationships are the foundation for a strong school system.

During the COVID 19 crises the Superintendent will stay in close contact with Governor's office, the State Board of Education, the State Department of Education, the North Central and South West Health Departments, Idaho County Authorities, and Riggins City Authorities. Information will then be shared with the Board, staff, parents, and community as needed by e-mail, text message, phone message or by person.

Watch for symptoms

If a student is ill or exhibiting any of the following symptoms, please keep them home and contact the school. We will be depending on parents to monitor their children daily. Students and staff who begin showing symptoms at school will be isolated and sent home.

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People with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported – ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. People with these symptoms may have COVID-19:

- 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

This list does not include all possible symptoms. CDC will continue to update this list as they learn more about COVID-19.

[Materials for symptoms copied from the CDC.gov](#)