



Phases Handbook

The Republic School District has developed health-related protocols which were created in conjunction with the Springfield-Greene County Health Department in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The protocols are based on best practices from schools and businesses around the globe and recommendations from DESE and our community. They are subject to change moving forward.

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 reduction is the goal, it is impossible to completely eliminate all contact and therefore risk of exposure.

A three phased approach was taken in the creation of these protocols. Below you will find definitions of all of these phases. However, at this time we are releasing specifics about phase 1 and a brief description of phase 2, but want to emphasize that it is possible the district will see all of these phases throughout the school year. As additional information is available it will be added to this document

Due to the unpredictable nature of this pandemic we recommend securing backup childcare plans in case we are forced to quickly shift into a phase in which school would not be in session. As always, we will work to efficiently communicate with our families giving as much notice as possible.

Because of the length of this document, a **FAQ sheet** has been created to help answer the questions we most frequently hear. [CLICK HERE for that information.](#)

PHASE 1 PROTOCOLS

2020-2021

Seated school and regular work environment with additional health-related protocols implemented.

PHASE 2 PROTOCOLS

2020-2021

Seated school or a blend of seated and virtual school with a limited work environment with more restrictive health-related protocols implemented.

PHASE 3 PROTOCOLS

2020-2021

Virtual learning and working environments implemented.

PHASE 1

Below you will find an infographic summarizing phase 1 protocols. On the pages following a more descriptive outline can be found.



PHASE 1 PROTOCOLS SUMMARY

2020-2021

The protocols listed have been created in conjunction with the Springfield-Greene County Health Department and were based on best practices from schools and businesses around the globe and recommendations from DESE and our community. They are subject to change moving forward. Below is a summary of Phase 1 protocols. More details can be found in the RepMO Return to Learn Phases Handbook.

ARRIVAL & DISMISSAL

- Students and employees will self-screen prior to arrival. Those with 100 degree or higher temperatures or illness symptoms will not be permitted, and should notify the school of their absence.
- Students will use hand sanitizer or hand washing upon arrival into classrooms.
- Students report directly to classrooms/assigned areas in the mornings (unless eating breakfast at RMS or RHS) with minimal hallway interaction.
- Students will be encouraged to socially distance during arrival and dismissal.

HEALTH & HYGIENE

- Face coverings/masks are required for those in 4th grade and older entering district buildings. (Exemptions & "mask breaks" are outlined in the RepMO Return to Learn Phases Handbook.)
- ALL students riding a school bus must wear a face covering/mask.
- Although not required inside district facilities, those younger than 4th grade and over the age of 2 are recommended to wear a mask/face covering.
- Students and employees will be encouraged to social distance and will be taught appropriate hygiene practices and protocols.
- Handwashing/sanitation times will be built into the classroom schedule by teachers.
- Work spaces will be sanitized between classes/groups.
- Buses will be sanitized between and after routes.

CLEANING & SANITIZING

- Cleaning with COVID-19 and district approved products will target cleaning and sanitation of frequently touched surfaces.
- Hand sanitizer will be available throughout our buildings and inside classrooms.

CLASSROOMS & FACILITIES

- Personal, pre-filled water bottles are encouraged as drinking fountains will have limited availability. Bottle fillers are available.
- Seating assignments will be implemented in the event contact tracing is needed.
- Shared school supplies will be discouraged, and supplies (including recess equipment) that must be shared will undergo proper sanitation.
- Assemblies and class meetings will be hosted virtually through first semester and then reevaluated.
- No field trips or evening PTO events through first semester and then reevaluated.
- Elementary gyms will be available to rent on a limited basis Monday-Friday.

BREAKFAST & LUNCH

- Elementary breakfasts will be grab & go and eaten in classrooms.
- Elementary lunches will be eaten in classrooms and the cafeteria on a rotational basis.
- Secondary meals will be served in the cafeterias with additional seating available for social distancing.
- Hand washing/hand sanitizer will be available before and after meals.

VISITORS & VOLUNTEERS

- Nonessential visitors will be limited. Essential visitors must be masked and will be asked a series of health related questions and temperature checked before being permitted.
- No lunch guests or volunteers will be allowed.
- EC & elementary parties will be held at the classroom level without volunteers.

Please take note that should a COVID-19 exposure take place we have internal protocols in place which includes coordination with the Springfield-Greene County Health Department that will be implemented. This protocol includes patron communication pieces along with specific sanitation practices. Regardless of the location of the positive case, all district employees and families will be notified. Also, those directly exposed to the positive case will be individually contacted. Appropriate quarantine and isolation practices will be implemented.

Below are general district practices for phase 1. However, each building will communicate specific logistical details if applicable. As a reminder, [CLICK HERE](#) to see a list of COVID-19 symptoms according to the CDC.

BACK TO SCHOOL EVENTS & THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

Details regarding back to school events can be found at <https://www.republicschools.org/backtoschool>. Most events will be held virtually. However, social distancing efforts will be put into place for in-person events. Specific logistical and/or registration information will be distributed at the building level in mid-July through early August.

Students new to the district that would like to visit the school before the first day can set up a personal tour by contacting the school.

On the first day of school students are encouraged to ride the bus to school or to be dropped off using the car line if they are not drivers. In an effort to limit the number of visitors in our facilities, we are asking that only incoming kindergarten and EC students be walked in to school if they choose not to use the bus or car line. Kindergarten and EC students can have one adult escort them, but these adults must be masked and symptom free. Kindergarten families wanting to participate should arrive at 8:40 a.m. on the first day as this will allow all other students to be in classrooms and out of hallways. This will also help with traffic congestion. EC students can be walked in at the normal start time. This will only be permitted on the first day of school.

ACADEMICS

The Republic School District is dedicated to providing students with an exceptional learning experience. Although we believe that students learn best inside our classrooms in a seated setting, we understand that these are uncertain times and feel it's important to provide our families with learning options that best meet their individual needs.

The below learning options are available for the 2020-21 school year in phase 1, which began August 24, 2020. We asked that our families determine what option will work best and commit to that learning option for at least one semester. Those participating in 100% virtual or individual hybrid (6-12 grades) learning had to contact their school by 3:00 p.m. on August 5 to enroll in first semester and November 20 to enroll in second semester.

Take note, should the district need to operate in phase 2 the learning options would change per the below details. Also, if phase 3 would need to be implemented all students will be moved to an online learning platform and assigned district technology devices to do so.

For details about virtual learning visit <https://www.republicschools.org/virtualllearning>.

Details in regards to the district's plans for recouping lost instruction in the spring along will be shared in early August.



SEATED, IN-PERSON LEARNING

- Traditional, seated learning taking place at school for preschool-12th grade students.
- Additional safety protocols (outlined in phase 1 and 2) are in place based on recommendations from state and federal resources, feedback from our community, and best practices from across the world.
- Protocols include specialized sanitation and social distancing practices inside and outside of the classroom, and requiring masks for those 12 years of age (including all 6th grade students) and older when social distancing is not possible inside district facilities. It also includes the requirement of masks for ALL students while riding a school bus (health related exceptions excluded).



HYBRID LEARNING

- Available for 6th-12th grade students.
- Students can mix and match in-person with online courses provided through RHS or Launch (described in the 100% Virtual Learning section)
- More details on virtual learning can be found at <https://www.republicschools.org/virtualllearning>.
- For questions or to enroll in this option, please contact your student's school building.



100% VIRTUAL LEARNING

- Available for Kindergarten-12th grade students.
- Full-time virtual learning opportunities are offered through various vendors that are taught by Missouri certified teachers.
- A district device will be available for any student wanting to participate in virtual learning, and will have the option to purchase an accidental damage plan.
- Students can still participate in athletics and extracurricular activities that do not require a co-curricular class (i.e., band requires students to be enrolled in band classes).
- More details can be found at <https://www.republicschools.org/virtualllearning>.
- Online learning requires a great deal of discipline, self-motivation and commitment from both the student and parents. Please consider all of the information available very carefully before committing.
- Take note, should virtual learning need to be implemented for all students due to moving to phase 3, our 100% virtual students will continue their current course, but those in seated instruction will move to an online platform hosted by their Republic School District teacher(s).

EC & ELEMENTARY APPROACH

To help lower exposure risk, and for contact tracing (if needed in the future), when outside of the homeroom classroom the goal will be for EC and elementary students to only be exposed to other students and teachers

in their grade level. Although most of their time will be spent with their homeroom teacher and classmates, this “grade level” approach will be implemented for recess, RTI (aka Tiger Time, Win Time, etc.) and for meals.

ARRIVAL & DISMISSAL

- We are asking for everyone’s help in determining whether or not you are healthy enough to report to school or work. Therefore, we encourage all students and employees to self-screen prior to coming to school. Below is a graphic with the daily self wellness check guidelines. Those with 100 degree or higher temperatures or illness symptoms will not be permitted, and should notify the school of their absence and symptoms for contact tracing needs.

The graphic is a black rectangular poster with orange and white text. At the top, the word "Daily" is written in a cursive font, and "WELLNESS CHECK" is in a bold, outlined, sans-serif font. Below this, the text "DO YOU HAVE..." is followed by two columns of symptoms: A FEVER, A COUGH, SHORTNESS OF BREATH, DIFFICULTY BREATHING, FATIGUE, MUSCLE OR BODY ACHES, CHILLS, A HEADACHE, A NEW LOSS OF TASTE OR SMELL, A SORE THROAT, CONGESTION OR A RUNNY NOSE, and NAUSEA, VOMITING OR DIARRHEA. Underneath, "AND/OR HAVE YOU..." is followed by the question "BEEN IN CLOSE CONTACT TO A KNOWN POSITIVE COVID-19 CASE WITHIN THE LAST 14 DAYS?". At the bottom, it says "IF YOU ANSWERED 'YES' TO THESE QUESTIONS PLEASE STAY HOME!" in bold, with an illustration of a hand sanitizer bottle and a surgical mask.

- Students will be asked to use hand sanitizer or wash their hands upon arrival into classrooms.
- In the mornings, students will be asked to report directly to classrooms/assigned areas (unless they are eating breakfast at RMS or RHS) with minimal hallway interaction. Common spaces where students usually gather will not be available, and large groups of students will not be permitted. Our goal is to keep hallway traffic fluid.
- At dismissal time students will be dismissed based on travel method or activity to limit hallway traffic. Elementary students waiting for car line pick-up will be grouped into grade levels. Social distancing will be encouraged.
- We encourage students waiting at bus stops to use social distancing practices.
- It is not possible for students to properly social distance on the school bus. Therefore, masks/face-coverings are required for ALL students and employees. We also encourage student family members to share seats.
- Parents are encouraged to drop off/pick up students to decrease the number of students on the school bus.

HEALTH & HYGIENE

- ALL students and employees will be required to wear a mask while riding a school bus.
- Those in kindergarten and older entering district buildings or riding buses will be required to wear a mask.
 - Those with health conditions which make wearing a face mask unadvisable are exempt.
 - Those who are hearing impaired or who are communicating with a person who is hearing impaired (where the ability to see the mouth is essential for communication) are exempt unless a clear face mask is available.
 - Masks/face coverings should comply with district dress code requirements.
 - Masks/face coverings can be removed:
 - While consuming food and drink, playing a sport, exercising or using exercising equipment while exerting themselves.
 - While working in settings which might increase the risk of heat-related illnesses.

Tips for Mask Safety

-  **Wash and/or disinfect hands** before and after touching your mask.
-  Your mask should **always cover your nose and chin.**
-  **Do not** hang mask on one ear, around your neck or pushed to your forehead.
-  Avoid touching your mask while wearing it. **Remove a used mask by touching only the ear loops.**
-  **If mask becomes soiled or wet, replace it.** Store your mask safely if you plan to re-wear it.
-  **Remove and store** your mask somewhere it will be protected before eating and drinking (or brushing your teeth!).

Wear your mask and keep a safe social distance from others in public places



- Students and employees will be encouraged to social distance as possible and will be taught appropriate hygiene practices and protocols. Our school nurses will help lead the charge in training our students and employees on best practices in regards to hygiene. To compliment their efforts signage will be displayed in our facilities and communication with parents on these best practices will also be shared.
- Handwashing and sanitation times will be built into the classroom schedule by teachers.
- Work spaces will be sanitized between classes and/or groups. This is applicable for students changing classes at the secondary level, students switching classrooms/spaces for intervention/small groups (RTI, counseling groups, etc.) and also for specials classrooms (art, music, PE, library, iLab)
- Take note that each specials classroom also has specific protocols they will be putting into place to make sure supplies and resources are properly sanitized.
- Buses will be sanitized between and after routes.

CLEANING & SANITIZING

- 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 large focus.
- Hand sanitizer will be available throughout our buildings and inside our classrooms along with sanitation wipes. We are asking our families to help contribute to our district supply of these items by adding them on our student supply lists.

CLASSROOMS & FACILITIES

- Personal, pre-filled daily water bottles have been added to the school supply list this year for students of all ages. Drinking fountains will have limited availability, but bottle fillers are available across the district. We ask that the water bottles all be labeled with the student's name.
- Students will experience seating assignments to help with contact tracing if it's needed.
- The goal will be for hallway traffic to be as fluid as possible. Large student groups will not be permitted, hallway directional lane expectations will be enforced, doors will be propped open as appropriate to avoid handle contact, and EC/elementary buildings will implement logistical plans to avoid multiple classes in hallways/bathrooms when possible.
- Shared school supplies will be discouraged and not largely implemented at the classroom level. However, when shared supplies must be used, proper sanitation will be implemented.
- Large recess equipment will be sanitized appropriately.
- EC and kindergarten through 2nd grade students will share Chromebooks at school, and those will be properly sanitized as applicable. Students in grades 3-12 will have assigned individual Chromebooks.
- Elementary students will keep those devices at school unless phase 2 or 3 would require them to go home. At that point families would be offered an accidental protection plan for the device. Secondary students will use those devices at school and at home throughout the school year. Accidental protection plan purchase is available through the online back to school registration process.
- Assemblies and class meetings will be hosted virtually through the end of third quarter, and will then be reevaluated.
- No field trips or evening PTO events will take place through the end of third quarter, and will then be reevaluated.
- Elementary gymnasiums will be available for public use/rent in a limited capacity starting the week of November 9, 2020. Secondary gymnasiums are not available.
 - Beginning October 27 those wishing to rent our elementary gymnasiums can call the school office to determine details. Rentals will be available starting the week of November 9.

- Gyms will be available Monday-Friday only for one time slot, 7:00-8:00 p.m. Gyms will not be available during the weekends. This provides our custodial team ample time to sanitize for the school day.
- Gyms can be rented one month at a time, and groups are limited to one rental per week.
- To confirm your reservation THIS FORM will need to be completed and turned in to the building at least 10 days prior to the date requested.
- A \$10 per day of use cleaning fee will be required to rent our gyms. This will assist the district in covering additional sanitation costs. This fee must be paid at least three days prior to using the facility.

Below is an infographic sharing our expectations for using our facilities:



GYM RENTAL EXPECTATIONS

- Those with COVID19 symptoms are not permitted.
- Those who have had close contact to a known positive COVID19 case within the last 14 days (those in quarantine) will not be permitted.
- Those in 4th grade or older must mask when not being physically active.
- Those entering the facility must wash/sanitize their hands upon entry.
- Social distancing when possible is required.
- Only one parent per participant is allowed.
- No siblings are allowed to attend.
- Those participating must stay in the rented space and must only use the designated bathrooms.

Thank you for your assistance!

BREAKFAST, LUNCH & SNACKS

- Elementary breakfast will be grab & go styles that students will take to and eat in classrooms.
- Elementary lunches will be eaten in classrooms and the cafeteria on a rotational basis to reduce the number of students all together in the cafeteria.
- Secondary meals will be served in the cafeterias. Students will have additional seating space available to them which will allow for social distancing during meals.
- Hand washing/hand sanitizer will be available and encouraged before and after meals.

- Student snacks must be individually and pre-packaged. This primarily applies to EC and elementary classrooms where students are asked to supply a daily snack.

VISITORS & VOLUNTEERS

- Non-essential visitors will be limited. Therefore, we are unable to host guests to eat lunch/breakfast with students, Watch Dog programs, reading buddies, guest speakers, volunteers, etc. This will be re-evaluated on a quarterly basis.
- RHS students in the A+ program will be permitted in other buildings.
- Before any essential visitor is permitted they must be masked, and will be asked if they have a fever and any COVID-19 related symptoms. Temperature checks will also be done.
- EC & elementary parties will be held at the classroom level without volunteers. Each building will work with their PTO to develop a plan for this, but will most likely consist of classroom “party packs” that can be implemented with the teacher.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE INCENTIVES

Attendance incentives have been postponed and replaced with building specific incentives relative to student leadership and behaviors.

SPECIAL SERVICES

Special Education Services:

Case managers will contact parents/guardians of students receiving special education services before school begins to discuss specific student needs/concerns along with safety protocols put in place for all students.

English Language Learners

Teachers will continue to provide services for ELL students at their building sites and will follow safety protocols put in place for all students.

Gifted Education Services:

- Elementary students will be transported to Lyon as they have in the past.
- Elementary parents/guardians will be sent a consent form thoroughly explaining services provided, including transportation and mixing of students, and will be asked to give consent for the child to participate.
- Secondary gifted education will take place as it has in the past.

STRIPES 360

- The protocols listed previously in regards to classrooms, facilities, health and hygiene apply to the STRIPES 360 programs. This includes:
 - Students being encouraged to wash/sanitize hands prior to entering the program and throughout their time at Tiger STRIPES/TEENS/PALS.
 - Any shared supplies/equipment will undergo proper sanitation.
 - Work spaces will also be properly sanitized.
- Students will be assigned to a stable group of no more than 25.

- Students will rotate through the gym, cafeteria and playground. Sanitation will take place between groups.
- Snack time will be rotated and students will be assigned tables.
- To drop off students, the parent/guardian will escort their student(s) to the exterior STRIPES entrance where a staff member will provide the student's access to the building.
- To pick up students, the parent/guardian will ring the doorbell at the exterior STRIPES entrance or call the STRIPES cell phone (number provided at the site level), and a staff member will escort student(s) to the door to leave.

ATHLETICS & ACTIVITIES

- Any student who feels ill will be evaluated by an athletic trainer or the school nurse.
- Athletic/activity equipment will be properly sanitized before and after student use.
- No sharing of athletic lockers or towels.
- Spectators are required to practice social distancing and those in 4th grade and older must wear masks.
- Masks and gloves will be required for concession and gate workers.
- Hand sanitizer will be available in athletic facilities.
- If an opposing school reports that a student participant on a team/group has tested positive for COVID-19, the coach/supervisor and activities director will determine game/activity cancellation on a case-by-case basis. Considerations include timing, possible exposure to other team members, type of sport/activity, etc.
- The COC activities directors will make common recommendations based on guidance available as game dates approach.



ATHLETICS & ACTIVITIES GUIDELINES

WINTER 2020-21

SCREENINGS

- Temperature checks will be conducted and recorded each day before practice. If a coach or player has an elevated temperature above 100.0, he/she will be sent home immediately.

FACE COVERINGS

- Masks or face coverings are REQUIRED for participants, coaches/directors and officials/adjudicators any time they are not doing strenuous physical activity.
- Wearing masks before activities and immediately following activities is REQUIRED, especially prior to screening.
- All coaches and students should wear a mask inside the locker room while getting dressed, while riding the bus to contests, during team meetings, film, before and after practice or at any other team functions when social distancing is not possible.

CLEANING & EQUIPMENT

- Athletic equipment should be cleaned between each practice or game.
- Equipment/clothing intended for individual use should not be shared.

HYDRATION

- Students must bring their own personal water bottle or container. Containers should not be shared with anyone.
- Communal drink stations will not be available for individual use.

TRANSPORTATION

- Students and coaches/directors will be required to wear masks while in school transportation vehicles.
- Students will be asked to sit in assigned seats to help with contact tracing.

RETURN TO PLAY

- Should a student become ill with COVID19 or be exposed to a positive case, that student must follow MSHSAA protocols, quarantine requirements and the return to play progression (details available on the MSHSAA website).
- In this case, a doctor must fill out the proper MSHSAA documentation.



SPECTATORS

- Masks are REQUIRED for those in kindergarten and older.
- Social distancing is encouraged.
- Republic School District will utilize the facility capacity guidelines set by the Springfield-Greene County Health Department to determine the number of spectators allowed to attend athletic/activity events.
- This means that events held at Republic School District facilities will not be able to exceed 50% capacity. This capacity includes standing areas as well as bleachers.
 - For most events we don't foresee capacity issues, but we ask spectators to keep in mind it will be "first come first serve" in the event we reach capacity.
 - For events in which we expect larger crowds a voucher system MAY be implemented. Communication on how the vouchers will be distributed will be shared well in advance and will provide student participants with vouchers for family members.
- Take note that as students travel and compete across the region, the spectator capacity will vary by facility/community.

EMPLOYEE GENERAL EXPECTATIONS & VITAL BEHAVIORS

Employee General Expectations

- Employees must notify their supervisor if they have had recent contact with a person with a confirmed COVID-19 case that is still considered contagious. At this point a school nurse will see them to begin contact tracing and/or follow up procedures if needed.
- If an employee becomes sick at work that person will be sent home after being seen by a school nurse to begin contact tracing procedures, and a member of the Custodial Department will clean and disinfect the workspace.

Employee Vital Behaviors

- Prior to reporting to work daily, employees should self-assess their health and not report to work if they have a temperature more than 100 degrees, feel sick or have COVID-19 symptoms.
- Employee handwashing for a minimum of 20 seconds with soap and warm water is required using the following daily timeline:
 - Upon arriving at work
 - Mid-morning (or mid-shift)
 - Lunchtime
 - Mid-afternoon (or $\frac{3}{4}$ way through shift)
- Work stations should be sanitized with disinfectant spray/wipes frequently. This includes before beginning work and before leaving work daily.
- Employees should social distance, as possible, within the work environment.
- Employees should refrain from touching their eyes, mouth and nose.
- Masks are required.
- Any employee coming into a building in which they are not regularly assigned or are not currently under contract must check-in with a secretary or administrator upon arrival. In most cases this would include employees from the Maintenance, IT, and Safety & Security Departments along with Central Office/CIA employees and teachers coming on campus for trainings.

SYMPTOMATIC & POSITIVE COVID-19 STUDENTS & EMPLOYEES

Symptomatic Students

- Building secretaries will ask parents/guardians/students who speak to the office about an illness related absence if the student has COVID-19 related symptoms or has been exposed to a positive case.
- If a COVID-19 symptom is indicated by the building secretary the parent/guardians/student will be asked to speak with the school nurse for contact tracing and follow-up purposes.
- Student must be fever free (below 100 degrees without the use of fever-reducing medications) for at least 24 hours before returning to school.
- Symptomatic students who get ill while at school will be treated in a triage area that is isolated from others and asked to wear a mask until being sent home.
- If a student gets ill at school with COVID-19 related symptoms, the classroom spaces will be sanitized as appropriate.

Positive Students

- Building secretaries will ask parents/guardians/students who speak to the office about an illness related absence if the student has COVID-19 related symptoms or has been exposed to a positive case. If the parent/guardian/student confirms a positive student case, the building will request documentation of the positive test.
- When a parent/guardian/student confirms a positive COVID-19 test, the school nurse will be consulted for contact tracing and follow-up purposes.
- If a student has been COVID-19 positive, the student must be fever free (below 100 degrees without the use of fever-reducing medications) for at least 24 hours, has improving symptoms and is at least 10 days from symptom onset before returning to school. In addition, the positive student must be seen by a healthcare provider and either provide a negative COVID19 test result or a doctor note releasing the student to return to school. If the parent declines to take the child to a healthcare provider, the student could be excluded from school for 14 days.
- The district will work with GCHD regarding any communication needed for those who have been potentially exposed and the district at large. The district is committed to using our various communication tools to effectively communicate with families in the event of a potential exposure.

Symptomatic Employees

- Staff members must be fever free (below 100 degrees without the use of fever-reducing medications) for at least 24 hours before returning to school.
- Employees must notify their supervisor if they have had recent contact with a person with a confirmed COVID-19 case that is still considered contagious. At this point a school nurse will see them to begin contact tracing and/or follow up procedures if needed.
- If an employee becomes sick at work that person will be sent home after being seen by a school nurse to begin contact tracing procedures, and a member of the Custodial Department will clean and disinfect the workspace.
- Symptomatic employees who get ill while at school will be treated in a triage area that is isolated from others and asked to wear a mask until being sent home.
- If an employee gets ill at school with COVID-19 related symptoms, the classroom spaces will be sanitized as appropriate.

Positive Employees

- If an employee confirms a positive case, documentation of the positive test will be requested.
- When an employee confirms a positive COVID-19 test, the school nurse will be consulted for contact tracing and follow-up purposes.
- If an employee has been COVID-19 positive, the employee must be fever free (below 100 degrees without the use of fever-reducing medications) for at least 24 hours, has improving symptoms and is at least 10 days from symptom onset before returning to school. In addition, the positive employee must be seen by a healthcare provider and either provide a negative COVID19 test result or a doctor note releasing the employee to return to work. If the employee declines to see a healthcare provider, the employee could be excluded from work for 14 days.
- The district will work with GCHD regarding any communication needed for those who have been potentially exposed and the district at large. The district is committed to using our various communication tools to effectively communicate with families in the event of a potential exposure.

ISOLATION & QUARANTINE REQUIREMENTS

- Per the CDC and Springfield-Greene County Health Department, anyone who tests positive for COVID19 must be out of school for 10 days from the test date or the onset of symptoms. Additional “return to school” information is in the above section.

MODIFIED QUARANTINE:

The Springfield-Greene County Health Department has released information in regards to schools implementing modified quarantines. This allows students to continue attending school after a properly masked, low-risk exposure to COVID19. **In response, the Republic School District now requires all students in kindergarten and older in addition to all adults to wear masks while on campus or on our buses.**

[CLICK HERE for details on how this will impact Republic students.](#)

TRADITIONAL QUARANTINE:

- Per the CDC and Springfield-Greene County Health Department, anyone who has a high-risk exposure (unmasked) to a COVID19 positive case and/or who lives with someone who is positive (but can distance themselves) must quarantine for 14 days.
 - Only those who are directly exposed are required to quarantine. Exposures of exposures do not need to quarantine.
- Per the CDC and Springfield-Greene County Health Department, anyone who lives with someone who is positive (and CANNOT safely distance themselves) must quarantine for 24 days.
- Should the high-risk, unmasked exposure to a positive case have happened at school, a personal phone call will be received by the exposed person with instructions for quarantine and options for continuing school work remotely.
- If the person on quarantine decides to test for COVID19, a negative result does not indicate that a quarantine period is over. The full 14 day quarantine period must be served as a person can become positive at any time during that time frame.

QUARANTINE DETAILS

HOW LONG DOES MY STUDENT HAVE TO QUARANTINE?



MODIFIED QUARANTINE

If your K-12 student is exposed to COVID19 while at school and both your student and the positive individual are properly masked, your student may qualify for a modified quarantine. Students who are under a modified quarantine are allowed to continue attending school and riding the school bus. However, they are to quarantine when not at school and should not participate in any activities or athletics outside of the school day for the length of their modified quarantine.

TRADITIONAL QUARANTINE

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If a student tests positive for COVID-19, they will be out of school for 10 days from the test date or the onset of symptoms.

This time frame is based on the number of days the student is considered contagious.

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If a student has had an unmasked, high-risk exposure to a positive case (less than 6 feet for longer than 15 minutes) and/or they share a household with a positive case but CAN AVOID CLOSE CONTACT, they will be out of school for 14 days.

This time frame is longer because symptoms may appear 2 to 14 days after exposure to the virus. Therefore, a negative test during this period does not end the quarantine. The full 14 days must be served.

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If a student lives in the same home as someone who has tested positive and they CANNOT AVOID CLOSE CONTACT, they will be out of school for 24 days.

10+14=24

This time frame is longer because the 14-day quarantine begins after the household member is no longer contagious (10 days).

These are the guidelines we are required to follow by the Springfield-Greene County Health Department & CDC.

MOVING PHASES AND SCHOOL CLOSURES

- The school district will consider moving phases based upon the number of COVID19 related absences from school along with the level of community spread of the disease and guidance from health officials.
- It is possible that we could implement different phases for individual buildings or classrooms depending on the exposure risk level across the district.
- When there is confirmation a person infected with COVID-19 was in a school building, the district Health Services Director will contact Springfield Greene County Health Department immediately. The District will work with this entity to assess factors such as the likelihood of exposure to employees and students in the building, the number of cases in the community (building), and other factors that will determine when the building should close. Closure will be determined on a case by case basis depending on age level, make-up of building occupants, etc.
- Should a new phase need to be implemented, the district's goal is to communicate as soon as possible to provide ample time for families to make alternative plans. However, there could be situations that arise in which a phase change would need to be implemented very quickly. Therefore, we recommend families have alternative childcare plans ready to be implemented at a moment's notice.

PHASE 2

Below you will find an infographic summarizing phase 2 protocols along with a brief description of this phase. Specific details are still being determined for this phase, should it need to be implemented.

Phase 2 would consist of an alternating school schedule for students. While the specifics are still to be determined, this model essentially divides our student population into two groups and the groups would attend seated school using an alternating schedule. On the days not at school, students would complete required online learning with their classroom teacher using a more interactive platform with accountability measures included than was used in the spring. District devices would be available for distribution for all students. On the days at school, the health related protocols for phase 1 would be implemented. Groups would likely be divided by the alphabet (Siblings would be grouped together. See below for details.). This would essentially look like the following:

STUDENT GROUP A	STUDENT GROUP B
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Last names A-K• Seated instruction at school every Monday and Tuesday• Online instruction every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Last names L-Z• Seated instruction at school every Thursday and Friday• Online instruction every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday

ALL students would do online instruction on Wednesdays. This would allow for an extensive cleaning process every Wednesday.

Childcare with virtual learning access is a possibility through STRIPES 360. Details are TBD.

We realize this schedule would be a big change and create challenges. However, it is also a model that allows for fewer students to be at school and on buses at one time and therefore reducing the risk of exposure to COVID-19 and other illnesses. This also allows for extensive cleaning practices to take place on Wednesdays when no students will be in our buildings.

For students without reliable wifi access at home, we are working through various solutions to assist. One of those solutions is our facility wifi access being extended into the parking lots of our buildings.

Siblings with Different Last Names can Request Same Group:

Siblings with different last names can be placed in the same group based on the last name of the oldest student in the family. For families in this situation that would like to request for all of your students to be in the same group, please call the school office of the student(s) that need to be moved **BY WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16**. If we do not receive a request by this date we will assign students to a group based on their last name.

ACADEMICS:

- The following points are specific to K-12 students. A plan for our EC families is still being determined.
- Should virtual learning need to be implemented, it will be required and graded learning for all K-12 students.
- Students in kindergarten through 5th grade will utilize a more robust virtual learning platform than was utilized in the spring of 2020. Our teachers have created this new platform with the goal of it being very interactive and engaging for students. It will also allow students to learn more independently than the previous virtual option. This platform will be implemented by your student's elementary classroom teacher. Students will also be using this platform in their seated classes during phase 1 to become familiar with it.
- RMS and RHS students will utilize Canvas to learn virtually in phases 2 and 3. This learning will be hosted by their regular classroom teachers.
- Teachers will provide live instruction, recorded lessons that will be uploaded and shared with students, along with access to a variety of digital tools to support learning in a virtual setting.
- Current RMS and RHS grading guidelines and make up work policies will be in place.
- Timely feedback and communication from teachers will be provided to students that will support or extend their learning as they work through lessons.

DEVICES:

- Currently, grades 6-12 have assigned Chromebooks that go home with students. In the case of phase 2 or 3 ALL K-12 students who need a computer at home will receive district devices to utilize for virtual learning. If a student does not need a device at home it is not required.
- An Accidental Damage Protection Plan for the district Chromebook would be offered to families.
- The district is working to develop a strong plan to assist those families who indicated they do not have reliable internet connections in order to complete school work. In the case of moving to phase 2 or 3 those individuals would be contacted to develop an appropriate plan.
- It is important to note that the district's facility parking lots all have guest wifi access that can be utilized.

PHASE 3

Should the district need to implement phase 3, all students would learn 100% virtually. A district device would be provided to students in need. Students would complete required online learning with their classroom teacher using a more interactive platform with accountability measures included than was used in the spring.

[CLICK HERE FOR DETAILS REGARDING THE SHORT TERM MOVEMENT TO PHASE 3 BEGINNING NOVEMBER 20.](#)

PHASE 3 PROTOCOLS

2020-2021

Virtual learning and working environments implemented.