



## **Mad River Local Schools 2020-21 Reopening Plan**

### **Parents and Community Members:**

All schools in Ohio closed for the remainder of the school year beginning March 16, 2020, by order of the Governor and State Health Commissioner in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. In order to reopen for the 2020-21 school year, all 16 school districts in Montgomery County came up with the necessary critical conditions for students to return to school in the fall of 2020 while providing a safe place and healthy environment for students, staff, and families. Critical conditions include:

- Keeping an intentional distance between and among students during school hours to the fullest extent possible
- Installing shields in our buildings and offices where the need is most critical, to the fullest extent possible
- Allowing us to influence the use of face coverings as it relates to each situation, environment, persons involved, and activity structured
- Establish highly engineered sanitizing processes that will include, but are not limited to high touch surfaces and frequently traveled areas
- Developing an option for all or some students to learn remotely, when needed
- Training staff as it relates to hygiene practices to limit disease spread
- Advocating for staff and students to stay home when not feeling well and doing daily health assessments
- Taking temperatures, to the fullest extent possible
- Evaluating building operations, including but not limited to flow of traffic in the building, use of classrooms/cafeteria/restrooms/etc., operational times, visitor procedures, etc.

- Communicating with parents and the community in regards to COVID-19 influenced practices, safety, health practices, etc.
- Transporting students under guidelines that are similar to public transportation guidelines

In Mad River Local Schools, we strongly believe the healthiest place for our students this fall is in the school setting. COVID-19 has many effects, but one thing is for certain, it has shown the important role each of our schools plays within the community. We understand COVID-19 has changed the world, and as a result, it will change the way in which we operate moving forward.

The safety and well-being of our students and staff has and continues to be our number one priority in the Mad River School District. One of the most important needs we had to address pre-COVID was a need that is certainly more vital now amidst-COVID. Specifically: we must address the whole-child aspect of our students. As we navigate through the coronavirus crisis, the physical health and safety of our our students' (and staff's) well-being will continue to be addressed; this most certainly includes their mental wellness and their academic development. These concerns and needs can be most effectively monitored and addressed in the presence of our trained staff and within our school settings. Clearly, this pandemic has had a more dramatic and long-term impact than any other social occurrence that has surfaced in our community in recent memory.

We recognize the long-term impact of the virus and are committed to monitoring the COVID-19 situation in order to act responsibly in this very fluid time. We are committed to working with you when COVID-19 cases impact our district, buildings, or classrooms. We are also committed to providing a remote learning environment when necessary. **If you are interested in remote learning for the 2020-21 school year, please contact Assistant Superintendent, Mrs. Krista Wagner, at [krista.wagner@madriverschools.org](mailto:krista.wagner@madriverschools.org) or (937)259-6600 Option 1.**

We will continue to update the community via our website and our mass notification system when there is updated information to share; we remain committed to keeping our parents and community informed about our plans to reopen schools this fall.

Sincerely,

Mr. Wyen  
Superintendent  
Mad River Local Schools

## 2020-21 Reopening Plan:

### Absolutes:

- No field trips
- No visitors except for what is described in the visitor portion of the plan
- An identified quarantine room in each building
- Teaching and modeling for students healthy and safe habits (i.e., proper handwashing, physical distancing, cough and sneeze etiquette)
- Assigned seats in the classroom
- Daily health assessments – students and staff must self-check temperatures prior to reporting to school
  - a. Students and staff with a temperature above 100 degrees F must stay home**
- Daily sanitizing of touch surfaces
- Face coverings **required** for all staff, and students' grades PK-12 (i.e., face masks, face shields, etc.).
  - a. Data shows that face coverings reduce transmission by 50-75%.**
  - b. Students grades PK-12 not able to wear face coverings due to health issues will need to provide a note from their doctor**
  - c. All face coverings must be school appropriate**
- Drinking fountains in each building will be off limits except for the water bottle filling stations
  - a. Students will need to bring individual water bottles to school**
- Safe social and physical distancing where applicable
- Contingency plan for distance or remote learning
- MRLS Reopening Plan communicated and available for all students, staff, and families through the district website
- COVID-19 hotline will be set up for the district

### Proactive Measures for School Reopening:

- 10-month GermStop non-chemical microbe disinfectant treatment program which provides protection against viruses (including COVID-19) on touch surfaces in all buildings and buses <https://aobuildingservices.com/services/>
- Daily sanitizing of buildings
- Sneeze guards installed at each building secretary's desk
- Hand sanitizing stations installed at all main building entrances and high touch point entrances
- Outside drop boxes installed at each building for paperwork return
- Five Rivers Health Services Telehealth available in each building's clinic between 7:30 AM-4:30 PM (for families who give consent)

- Five Rivers Health Services will provide a brick and mortar health services (for families who give consent) who do not have a primary care provider
- Children’s Hospital will provide real-time assistance for any health issues
- Children’s Hospital will provide a regional testing hub accessible to families
- Children’s Hospital will provide a respiratory clinic or walk-ins for families who do not have a primary care provider
- Thermoscan thermometers available to staff to take student temperatures if necessary (strategically placed throughout each building)
- Emergency instructional resources available for distance or remote learning accessible on the district website

**Communications – when a student/staff member has been diagnosed with a COVID-19 positive case:**

- Communications will be developed in collaboration with the Health Department

**Student health issues that are NOT diagnosed as COVID-19:**

- The duration of the homestay (or stay at home) for a child sent home with a fever is fever free (without medication) for 72 hours (3 full days) AND improvement of all other symptoms for 72 hours AND at least 10 days have passed since the symptoms started
- Temperatures will be taken upon return. If a student tests positive for COVID-19, they and their families will be quarantined for 14 days. The Health Department will perform all contact tracing.
- To return to school: the student must be transported to school by the parent and must be checked by the school nurse

**Visitors, Volunteers, and Meetings:**

- There are different levels of school visitors, and each school will make decisions for each situation
  - Visitors are generally discouraged from being in school district facilities
  - Safety protocols such as taking temperatures will be implemented for all visitors
  - All visitors will be **required** to wear face coverings
  - No visitors will be allowed during lunch
  - In-person meetings must be pre-arranged by invitation or appointment only
  - Meetings by phone or video conferencing are encouraged

### **Classroom Occupancy:**

- Although the district and each school building have safety protocols in place, students who attend school will incur some level of risk (just as they would during a typical cold and flu season). The district and buildings will decrease the likelihood of infection with hygiene, cleaning, and safety procedures, but being in a public place has a certain level of risk that cannot be eliminated.
- Classroom occupancy will be determined based on each individual circumstance with the maximum amount of safety considerations as possible
- Face coverings will be **required** for all students grades PK-12 and all staff

### **Transitions:**

- Every effort will be made to practice safe social and physical distancing during class changes or transition times in each building
- Face coverings will be **required** during transition times for all students grades PK-12 and all staff

### **Recess:**

- Each building will make every effort to maintain consistency with other safety procedures
- Some playground equipment may be limited and restricted if considered “high touch” and difficult to clean or maintain social distancing
- Students must sanitize their hands after recess
- Face coverings will be **required** for all students grades PK-8 and all staff

### **Food Service:**

- The district will provide food service, and logistics will be determined by each building in compliance with the Health Department based on:
  - 50% capacity/occupancy of the school cafeteria
  - No self-service
  - Individual condiments

### **Transportation:**

- Due to the restrictions, we are required to follow because of COVID-19, we will not be able to approve any special transportation requests for the first 30 days of school. This timeline may change based on the guidelines; the state will provide school districts throughout the 2020-21 school year, which will determine if and when we will be able to approve any requests. We will only route students this year at the address you currently reside within the district, and this will be the only bus stop issued to students.
- Face coverings are **required** for all students grades PK-12 and all drivers
- Seating charts are required to assist with contact tracing if needed
- Two students will be permitted per seat
- In the event state policies require school districts to use alternative schedules, Mad River may adopt minimum requirements for transportation to reduce the number of students who are eligible for school district transportation
- Specific arrival and dismissal procedures will be determined by each school building
- Buses will be sanitized after each morning and afternoon route

***\*This plan is subject to change based on directives from the Governor of the State of Ohio, the Ohio Department of Health, or the Montgomery County Health Department***

***\*Building specific plans will be communicated out to families in August***