

COLBERT PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Return to Learn Plan

2021-2022

The return to learn plan for Colbert Public Schools has been created using the latest instruction and guidance from the Center for Disease Control, local health officials and administrators of each school. Consideration of the educational practices required in the 2020-2021 school year were studied and outcome learning data was also collected. The lack of needed in person learning was evident in measured reading scores and the lack of typical learning progression of lower elementary students. The social well-being of students was also observed and considered. At the high school level, similar results occurred and included a lower graduation rate believed to be the result of lack of in-person instruction and school attendance. Although the previous 2020-2021 plan was supported by research, and teachers provided the very best instruction possible with advanced technology support, it is to be determined the most effective instruction is in-person learning. Therefore, the students for the 2021-2022 school year will return to in-person instruction. The details and exceptions are provided below in the Return to Learn Plan. In an effort to Bridge the Gap of learning, the middle school students will be provided Academic Intervention classes as needed for recovery of loss of academic skills. The lower elementary school will work toward academic support for those students who are not quite ready for grade transition as supported by academic data. In the high school, academic credits and completion of those credits are monitored at all times.

Overview for consideration:

Public Health

Group Gatherings and social distancing - Facemasks within the building will not be required, unless a change in the degree of the virus cases. At that time, notifications will be sent to parents and students for needed protocols.

Number of students and staff requirements

Classrooms – Classroom space will be maximized to the greatest extent possible; however, seating charts will remain a requirement. Charts are required for contact tracing if needed.

Cafeteria – Cafeteria assigned seating will also be required to provide contact tracing as needed.

Playground – Outdoor spaces will have traditional rules of open space.

Weights – Weight classes will chart station groups to provide contact tracing if needed.

Extracurricular practices – Practices will resume traditional protocols while providing safety as much as the space allows.

Building traffic guidelines and symptom screening – School guests will be asked to be temperature screened and wear masks.

Hygiene Measures – Hand sanitizer will be available at all times. Encouragement and teaching will be provided for respiratory hygiene.

Suspected/confirmed COVID cases – Building administrators will begin any contact tracing in the event of a positive virus case. Students will be notified of quarantine and timelines for return by the office administration. Any case will be reported to the Oklahoma Health Department.

Transmission mitigation and cleaning procedures – All schools will continue the use of air cleaning and filtrations systems that are permanently installed, daily and nightly cleaning of classrooms and other needed areas throughout the school. In multiple use areas, staff will clean in between uses. Water fountains have had bottled filters installed for use in all buildings.

Academics

Traditional School setting – All schools will return to a traditional school setting with in-person attendance for all students.

At home for illness or quarantine – A learning plan will be set for students who are ill or require at-home placement.

Blended School setting – As Needed Only: At the high school level, blended learning defined as “movement on and off campus as needed”, will be a Senior privilege and only available upon approval of the building principal. A Blended School choice will stay available to the student and as long as the student is able to maintain required attendance and satisfactory grades in all classes. For concurrent college credit classes, all Juniors will be required to attend the classes in person in the counseling lab, and only Seniors with good standing will be allowed to complete classes off the campus. Work Study students will be allowed to have a blended schedule while maintaining a job that pays taxes, insurance and workman’s compensation. Students must start the first day of school with a job in place.

Virtual School – Limited Number of Seats: If there is a documented reason for off-campus virtual school, students and parents may request a meeting with the building principal for guidance and decisions. If granted on solid evidence of need, virtual learning will be granted with immediate daily monitoring for completion of coursework on a daily basis. The virtual learning status remains only if the student demonstrates daily the skills needed to be an independent learner. If the student cannot demonstrate success in the virtual setting with support from a parent or guardian, the student will return to the traditional classroom setting.

Accountability – Daily completion of work during the 8:00 a.m. to 3:20 p.m. school day.

Attendance – Recorded by daily completion of classroom work.

Request for a meeting with the principal and interview process – This meeting for virtual learning is required at all schools. Input from teachers and staff along with the parent and student will determine the ability of the student to show the necessary skills to be granted a virtual classroom.

Deliver options – These learning options will be individualized by student need.

Student promotion and earning credits – Promotion requires meeting the Oklahoma Academic Standards at each grade level except for Grade 3 when the guidelines for promotion are set by the Oklahoma State Department of Education based on reading scores. High school credits earned for graduation will continue to follow the Oklahoma Department of Education requirements.

Attendance

Daily attendance will return to normal in school guidelines. There will be excused absences: Doctor’s note, family emergencies that are pre-approved and verified by the building principal, a day for obtaining a driver’s license, two college visits per year for seniors with required verification and pre-approval from the building principal, and of course family funerals. Unexcused absences will be recorded for student completion of academics. Eight days of unexcused absences will result in a non-completion of a course at the high school level. A student whose absences exceeds eight days of unexcused absences in all grade levels will be considered truant and board policy protocol will be referenced for next steps.

Student Services

All services will remain in place for the following student needs: English Learners, Migrant, Homeless, Gifted/Talented, Native American

Operations

All areas of student services will return to normal.

Athletics/activities

Facility Maintenance Department

Food and Nutrition Services

School Safety

Transportation – A federal order requires a face mask to be worn on buses. A seating chart will also be followed on all buses including athletic and activity buses. All students must ride the same bus to and from school unless requested by school administration. Because of seating charts and needed seating for all bus-riding students NO guests or another student may ride a bus not designated as his home bus. Safety protocols must be met first.

Possible facility shutdown – Parents will be notified as soon as possible of any facility shutdown due to virus outbreak.

Workforce Management

All duties and schedules will return to normal for all staff. Board policy is to be followed for schedules, leave and evaluation. Teacher evaluation status will be reported as soon as the State Department release the guidelines for the school year.

- Employee work schedules
- Employee staffing and leave
- Operations and administration staffing flexibility and leave
- Guest teachers
- Staff safety, reporting and problem solving
- Evaluations

Technology

Digital citizenship – When using a school device or using school internet whether on a school device or personal device, the program securely monitors all student and teacher activity. All suspicious or inappropriate activity is reported, recorded, and handled in a disciplinary or supportive manner as needed.

Communications

Colbert Public Schools will continue to use the all-call, text or email system for communication to parents. The school billboard contains announcements as well as the school webpage. Schools will continue to use the advisory system and home room teachers for personal communication with parents.

- External communications
- Crisis communications
- Community outreach engagement
- Family engagement – Parent/Teacher conferences and ICAP conferences will return to in-person meetings. Please view the Colbert Public Schools 2021-2022 calendar for available P/T conference days throughout the year.
- Internet communications
- School marketing and communications support – Please contact the Colbert Public Schools website for all types of communications as well. www.colbertisd.org

Special Education

All services will continue to be provided for any special population of students

- Child find and evaluation
- Delivery of special education and related services
- Accommodations and modifications
- Confidentiality and student privacy
- IEP Meeting – IEP meetings will be provided in-person

School Management

Protocols for maintaining school operations remain intact.

- School day structures and weekly meeting patterns
- Onsite procedural guidance
- Fiscal and school accountability compliance

Health Services

Nursing services – Colbert Public Schools has a nurse on staff to oversee the health of students. However, the Bryan County Health Department along with Oklahoma Health Services are consulted and used for guidance of proper protocol for handling all student health needs.

****Public comments may be sent to Colbert School Administration**