

BURNS FLAT-DILL CITY SCHOOLS

RETURN TO LEARN

GENERAL GUIDANCE

As you are well aware, this is an extremely challenging era in our planet's history due to Covid-19. It is no less challenging for public schools. As school leaders, it is our duty to strive to make the best decisions to fit the needs of our students and community while keeping everyone safe.

Our administrators, faculty and staff have worked hard to provide a plan that makes sense and one that we can implement without causing a complete disruption to our learning environment. Our goal is to give your child the best opportunity to learn and grow from our teachers while promoting healthy and safe routines.

While making these decisions, we have to keep in mind that we have many students who live with their grandparents. We also have many staff members who are older or who have loved ones that are older or immunocompromised. Doctors tell us that our students may be less likely to suffer the symptoms of Covid-19; however, they are just as likely to spread the disease as adults.

We will be asking students to do things a little differently when they ride the bus, arrive at school, sit in class, walk during passing periods or are active at athletics and other activities. We are asking that all parents and guardians help us to remind the children of the new habits we must follow so we can stay in school for as long as possible.

The early dismissal of school last year has had a severe influence on our children's retention of knowledge. Many experts say that our kids may have lost 40 to 50 percent of their reading and math skills. It is critical that our students return to school.

Online learning is merely a stop-gap when regular classes can't be held. Records show that over 25 percent of EPIC Online school students never complete their grade level. Our kids learn more when they are at school and are being challenged by an in-person teacher.

Our teachers want to be at school, and I know all the students want to get back to school to learn and be with their friends and grow to be better students and young citizens. We have truly missed being with our students and watching them grow! We have purchased more than \$50,000 in new

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curriculum to further our elementary students' abilities in reading and grammar at Will Rogers Elementary. This curriculum will be much more successful if our students are working daily in the classroom with their teachers.

We will be following the CDC, State Department of Education and local health department guidelines to promote a healthy and safe atmosphere. We have purchased and will distribute a mask to each staff member and student. ALL BUS RIDERS ARE REQUIRED TO WEAR A MASK. Our youngest students in grades PK-3rd are strongly encouraged to wear masks. PK-3rd grade levels will be allowed to take their masks off while in their classrooms. We will do our best to follow a parent's request if they prefer their child to keep a mask on.

Grades 4-12 are required to wear masks/face coverings. Masks may be removed when students are outside or eating. Parents are welcome to send students with their own masks if they want to provide them as long as they follow appropriate dress code policies. We are also aware that some students with special needs or breathing conditions may not be able to wear a mask. All such extenuating circumstances will be taken into consideration. Please communicate with the building principal if there is a circumstance of which we need to be aware.

Please know that that we cannot foresee every possible situation that might arise. There will be modifications to our policies as they become needed. We will do our best to reduce these requirements as soon as it is safe to do so. Upon a positive diagnosis, BFDC Schools will work with local department of health officials for contact tracing and possibly suggesting students to be tested. A positive diagnosis does not necessarily mean shutting down a school site or entire district. All students, staff, and parents should be prepared for transition to distance learning at any given time. We anticipate many challenges in this new school year but with everyone's cooperation, we will have a great year. As always, we appreciate your support.

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BUSES

- We highly recommend that parents bring their children to school or allow them to walk for their own safety due to the nature of confined spacing on buses.
- All bus riders are expected to have completed a home screening and temperature check before getting on the bus. Students that have one or more of the following symptoms should remain at home:
 - a temperature of 100.0 or greater
 - currently have flu-like symptoms
 - currently have a cough or experiencing shortness of breath
 - have a sudden loss of taste or smell
- Masks will be required for the driver and all riders.
- Windows will be open for air circulation.
- Chemical foggers will be used after morning and afternoon routes.
- Hand sanitizing will be required as students enter the bus.
- Social distancing/spacing will be required when possible.
- If a bus driver suspects a child may be ill, that student will be isolated in a separate seat.
- Family members must sit together.

SCHOOL BUILDINGS

- Daily sanitizing of all rooms with electro-static foggers.
- Each classroom has hand sanitizing dispensers to be used often during the day.
- Teachers will be sanitizing desks and equipment throughout the day.
- Students are encouraged to bring clear drinking bottles for water. Water fountains may be used to fill water bottles but students may not drink from fountains. Two fountains in each building have been retrofitted to allow for water bottles to be filled.
- All visitors must make an appointment in advance and will be required to wear masks and have temperature checked to enter the buildings.
- No Open Houses or inside programs at this time.
- All parent/guardian meetings with school staff will be held over the phone.
- No visitors to buildings or classrooms unless authorized by the principal.

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ENTERING THE SCHOOL IN THE MORNING

- All students are expected to have completed a home screening with temperature check before going to school. Students that have one or more of the following symptoms should remain at home:
 - a temperature of 100.0 or greater
 - currently have flu-like symptoms
 - currently have a cough or experiencing shortness of breath
 - have a sudden loss of taste or smell
- We have purchased and will distribute a mask to all staff members and students. Students in grades PK-3rd are strongly encouraged to wear masks but will be allowed to take them off in the classroom (unless for specific health concerns, a teacher deems the wearing is necessary). Students in grades 4-12 are required to wear masks/face coverings. Masks may be removed when students are outside or eating. Teachers may remove masks when alone in their classrooms. Students may also wear their own mask from home as long as it meets the rules for school dress code (no improper language, etc.). All students are required to wear a mask while riding a bus.
- Students are not allowed in the building until 7:30 a.m. and buses may not deliver students before 7:30 a.m.
- Parents are not allowed to drop off students at school before 7:30 a.m.
- Elementary students will go directly to their classrooms and wait to be called to pick up breakfast. Breakfast will be in classrooms. Breakfast students will go by class to the cafeteria and return to the classroom to eat.
- Students in grades 6-12 who eat breakfast will enter the building and go directly to the cafeteria to pick up their breakfast. They will then go to their 1st period class to eat.
- Students in grades 6-12 that do not eat breakfast will go directly to their 1st period classroom upon entering the building.

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LUNCH ROOM

Students will be allowed to use the cafeteria in groups that have staggered schedules and maintain social distancing. Students will sit at tables by grade level with limited numbers per table.

ELEMENTARY MUSIC

Students will maintain social distancing and wear masks.

HIGH SCHOOL VOCAL

All vocal students will wear masks and large groups of students will use the gymnasium to practice.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Sharing of supplies such as crayons, markers, scissors, and pencils will be limited as much as possible. Students will keep their individual supplies separated from those of others in individually labeled containers or cubbies.

COMPUTER DEVICES & MANIPULATIVES

All technological devices and learning manipulatives needed for instructional purposes will not be shared with another student without first being sanitized. Sanitization will occur between uses.

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MEDIA CENTERS

Media Centers will be open for lessons and for checking in/out books. Books will not be shelved for 72 hours after being returned. Students will check out books with their class during their scheduled time. Hand sanitizer will be used before and after visits to the Media Center. At this time, all Book Fairs will be virtual.

SCHOOL WIDE ASSEMBLIES

School wide assemblies will only occur through a virtual setting. Grade-level assemblies, which include fewer participants, may occur with principal permission and healthy procedures followed. There will not be large gatherings in a traditional format such as weekly “Rise & Shine” assemblies, music programs, and fundraising events. Each school will develop procedures and protocols to carry on such events, when feasible, through a virtual experience or with fewer participants.

FIELD TRIPS

Principals will assess requests for field trips and will approve/deny based upon the most current information regarding COVID-19.

OUTSIDE SNACKS & BIRTHDAY PARTIES/TREATS

Prior arrangements should be made for all special snacks and birthday treats. No birthday parties in the classrooms/cafeteria. All snacks and birthday treats must be store bought and individually wrapped--no exceptions.

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LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

We are strongly encouraging that learning will occur on campus in face-to-face situations between students and teachers. Students will report to school and attend classes in a traditional setting with access to online instruction through Google Classroom. Teachers will be present with students in the classroom to guide instruction daily. On campus students may participate in school sponsored athletic and extracurricular programs. All students are enrolled in Face to Face learning unless parents request another learning option through the child's principal.

For students whose parents request at home virtual learning, students will learn from home for an extended period through Google Classroom and live video. It is important for parents to understand their child's own learning styles and commitment to the virtual learning method to ensure the best possible education for your child. Students will monitor and interact with their regular classes and teachers throughout the day (as if they were at school) through live video feeds and the use of Google Classroom. Each student's regular teacher(s) will deliver, guide, and facilitate learning.

If students choose this option, full time virtual enrollment will be for a full Nine-Week period. If students change their mind about virtual learning and wish to return to on campus learning, they will first have to complete the entire nine-week period. Full time virtual students will not participate in school sponsored athletic or extracurricular programs. Students will be counted absent if not in attendance. Completing work will be mandatory and grades will be taken. Parents must request a form from the appropriate building principal for at home virtual learning.

STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Individualized Education Plans (IEP), 504 Plans, and English Language Academic Plans will be followed with the assistance of site principals. District related services providers such as speech and OT/PT will be in contact with students and parents to arrange for continued services within the constraints of this public health crisis. IEP and 504 meetings will be held over the phone or video conference. All IEP/504 team members are required to participate. For information about IEP and 504 plans, contact Sue Hileman at hilemans@bfdc.k12.ok.us. For information about English Language Services, you may contact Lori Dixon at dixonl@bfdc.k12.ok.us.

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ACCESS TO TECHNOLOGY

If the situation occurs requiring school to be closed due to Covid-19, all students that need a device (Chrome Books or iPads) will be provided one for home use. All students, staff, and parents should be prepared for transition to distance learning at any given time.

Devices will be provided for full-time virtual students who need them. Unlike what we experienced during Distance Learning spring 2020, NEW content will be delivered this school year. Students will be counted absent if not in attendance. Completing work will be mandatory and grades will be taken.

ATHLETICS AND EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Procedures for athletics and extracurricular activities will be followed in conjunction with recommendations from OSSAA and our local health professionals. Information about practices and precautions will be posted through each activity's sponsor or department.

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SICK STUDENT/TEACHER/STAFF PROTOCOL

- Any student, who has a fever of 100.0 degrees or higher and/or symptoms of Covid-19, will be isolated until a parent can pick them up.
- Teachers or staff members who have a fever of 100.0 degrees or higher and/or symptoms of Covid-19 will go home.
- According to the CDC:
 - Anyone who has had close contact (within 6 feet for 15 or more minutes) with someone positive for Covid-19 should stay home for 14 consecutive days after exposure.
 - Patients with **severe to critical illness** or who **are severely immunocompromised** may return to school after at least 20 consecutive days have passed since symptoms first appeared AND at least 24 hours have passed since their last fever without the use of fever-reducing medications AND symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath) have improved
 - Any person who tests positive or has Covid-19 symptoms *with mild to moderate illness who are not severely immunocompromised* may return to school after 10 consecutive days have passed since symptoms first appeared AND at least 24 hours have passed *since last fever* without the use of fever-reducing medications AND have diminished symptoms.
 - Two consecutive negative Covid-19 tests given 24 hours apart would also indicate that a person may return to school. The negative test results must be provided to the school if the person is home fewer than 10 days in order to return to school. All test results must be provided to the school upon return or the person will not be admitted.

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