

Shidler Public Schools Safely Reopen Plan

June 17, 2021

Position Statement: It is the position of Shidler Public Schools that in nearly all circumstances, in-person learning with face-to-face interaction with teachers and peers offer the richest, most comprehensive, and appropriate way for students to learn and to develop healthy social and emotional skills. In keeping with this belief, every effort will be made to provide students and staff the safest possible environment in which to work and learn together in-person. The following guidelines and steps will be taken by Shidler School District, 57-1011, to safely open for in-person learning on August 23, 2021.

All buses and school vehicles will be cleaned and sanitized before the first day of school.

Custodians will have cleaned and sanitized all desk and work surfaces in all buildings prior to the start of school.

Disinfectant wipes and gloves are provided to every classroom teacher for use in their classrooms at their discretion or as instructed by principals.

Custodial staff use Vital Oxide once a week in all classrooms as an all-over room disinfectant.

Buses are sanitized after each route (am and pm).

The district employed an additional custodian for the 2021-22 school year to improve thoroughness and frequency of cleaning and sanitizing.

Every classroom, every entrance to our buildings, all offices, and all commons areas have self-serve hand sanitizer readily available.

Masks or other face coverings are OPTIONAL for students, staff, and visitors. However, masks are available on our buses and offices upon request.

Age and activity specific hand washing breaks are directed by teachers and coaches.

The district maintains a stock of PPE for any employee to draw from which includes disposable plastic gowns, hand sanitizer, and alcohol hand wipes. Additionally, available to any employee, student or visitor to our school are disposable masks, fluid shield respirators and disposable gloves.

Every old-style public drink station in the district has been replaced with ones that deliver filtered water in a touchless bottle fill option. In most areas of our buildings, students will be permitted to carry water with them in clear plastic containers.

Temperature checks were performed on everyone entering a school building during the 2020-21 school year. We realized no benefit from that screening protocol as it was not an effective screening tool for us. In fact, temperature checking students who had been outside playing or after walking to school on hot days were disruptive to the educational process. It took far too much time from staff to perform these checks, made students late for classes, and once students were given a chance to cool down from being outside, all elevated temperatures returned to normal. Therefore, going forward, temperature checks will only be performed when individuals are not feeling well. In keeping with district policy, anyone with a fever must leave campus and cannot return to school until s/he is fever-free without aid of fever reducing medication for 24 hours.

Regarding isolation, quarantine, and contact tracing:

Contact tracing is performed by school administrators with the assistance of County Health Department Officials. Our district will adjust to and follow the recommendations of the CDC and State and County Health officials throughout the year regarding who must isolate and quarantine and for what length of time.

Fully vaccinated individuals are not required to quarantine if exposed to a Covid positive individual. To be granted exemption from quarantine, PROOF OF FULL VACCINATION to the school administrator performing the contact tracing will be REQUIRED. Simply saying "I have been vaccinated," cannot be offered as proof for purposes of contact tracing. Employees and students with parents' permission MAY ELECT to provide a copy of their vaccination card during enrollment. If individuals choose to provide administration with a copy, only school administrators will have access to the cards and the information will only be used to assist with contact tracing. Providing a vaccination card is NOT REQUIRED for enrollment or employment; vaccination status is only required to be exempt from quarantine if an exposure occurs.

Persons who have recovered from Covid-19 are exempt from quarantine requirements if the exposure occurs within 90 days of exposure. A signed doctor's note stating the individual's name and date of recovery must be provided to the school/employer to qualify for quarantine exemption based on "recovery".

Per executive order of Governor Stitt, individuals who observe social distancing and always correctly wear a mask may also be exempt from quarantine.

To minimize risk of spread, our district encourages every vaccine eligible person to talk with your health care provider to see if one of the Covid-19 vaccines is appropriate for you or your child. In all instances, the choice of individuals to be or not to be vaccinated will be respected.

Social distancing recommendations will continue to be observed. And to reduce the number of people who might have to quarantine due to exposure, cohort groups and seating charts will continue to be utilized when realistically possible to do so.