

**Fredericktown R-I Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan
(COVID-19 Pandemic) Revised 9/27/21**

I. The Fredericktown R-I School District will work in cooperation with the Madison Co. Health Office to determine when to open or close school during a pandemic such as COVID-19. The District will follow guidance from the White House, Mo. Governor's Office, CDC, Missouri Dept. of Health and Senior Services, DESE, MSHSAA, the local Board of Education as well as local stakeholders, students, and other agencies. The District will make the plan available in other languages through the District's ELL instructor. Please understand the plan will be revised every six months, if needed, and as new guidance is issued. The District will plan and consider the following:

A. The District will communicate procedures through the Communications Director using various media outlets. (district social media pages, district website, local radio stations, print copies, newspaper, district notification system). We plan to implement a leveled approach for the 2021-22 school year. **The District will determine the level that the school operates within based on guidance from DESE, the local Board of Education, and the Madison Co. Health Office as well as other agencies.** Currently, the District plans to begin the 21-22 school year on LEVEL ONE. The levels are described below:

1. **Level One:** The District will run traditionally. All students will receive in person instruction by attending face to face.
2. **Level Two:** The District will have face to face attendance, but a virtual option will be available to students if requested by Parents/Guardian due to the COVID 19 pandemic. Students must indicate that they want to participate in the virtual program and commit to at least 1 semester in the program. A virtual registration form must be completed during the scheduled registration time for each building.
3. **Level Four:** The District will provide AMI (Alternative Methods of Instruction/Distance Learning) for continuity of service due to a COVID 19 or other closure.

B. The District will use a traditional schedule for the 21-22 school year to ensure student learning. A list of various methods are described below:

1. Traditional Schedule: All students attend a full day on site.
2. AMI/Distance Learning: The District will provide instruction using a variety of electronic methods such as google classroom, google hangout, zoom, and in the district AMI portal, etc. Students that were not able to participate by electronic methods will be given printed copies of material.

Instruction, feedback, continual communication, and ongoing differentiated support with students will be required.

3. MOCAP: Students are allowed to take virtual courses through a third party provider that is approved by the Fredericktown R-I School District.

Courses may be taken on campus or at home. Students may request to enroll through their school counselors.

C. Additional Information (Vaccination): COVID-19 Novel Virus: COVID-19 is classified as a novel virus . This is a virus that has not been seen before. The Fredericktown R-I School District will work with the Madison Co. Health Department and other agencies to provide staff and students (if eligible) with opportunities to receive a COVID-19 vaccine.

D. Infection: From the time a person is exposed to the virus and they become ill can be 2-14 days. Some cases are not showing symptoms but are infectious. Some cases may have very mild symptoms or develop worsening problems. People in good health and the younger population are presenting with no or lessened symptoms but are still contagious.

E. Prevention: Washing hands and being more aware of covering coughs and sneezes will help reduce the spread of the COVID virus. Using the elbow or a disposable tissue for coughing or sneezing will reduce the potential of infectious bodily fluids from being spread.

F. Cloth Masks or Face Coverings: Masks or face coverings will help decrease the spread of this virus. By wearing a mask or face covering, you limit YOUR ability to spread the virus to others you encounter even if you do not know you have the virus. When you are closer than 6 feet from someone who is not wearing a mask, they can still give you the virus even if you are wearing a mask or face covering. If both of you are wearing masks or face coverings, you are protecting each other. Students will be allowed to wear masks. [Universal and Correct Wear of Masks- CDC](#)

G. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE): Cloth Masks or face coverings are not PPE. Medical grade masks and N95 masks are PPE. If you are asked to wear a medical grade mask, the box will be labeled medical grade masks. Most disposable masks available at box stores state they are not medical grade.

H. Social-Emotional Learning and Support: The district student services team (counselors, social workers, school-based therapists, nurses, and intervention teams) will support all students through weekly whole group lessons, individual/group goals with support, and opportunities to learn coping and social skills which lead to whole child learning and goal-driven success. Classroom teachers and support

teams will be provided the necessary resources to ensure consistency and successful implementation of the SEL support program. The school will provide staff with the proper training that ensures their comfort and success as well as usable resources to meet their needs and support their efforts. Each building will implement a staff support system that focuses on building staff morale, rewarding staff efforts and growth, and supporting areas (whole building and individual) that continue to be areas of need. If in-person learning is interrupted, the SEL Learning and support needed for all students and staff will continue via virtual zoom sessions or in smaller in-person groups, if that is an option.

- I. Special Education Services: Fredericktown R-1 will use Form G for all students with IEPs within the district. Case managers and families will work together to determine the continued need for individual student instruction and overall continuity of services. Case managers and Special Education Teachers will work with families to determine frequency of communication and provide instruction to support IEP goals in content and additional areas that address special education services.

II. The Fredericktown R-I School District will strive to ensure the safety of all students, staff, and visitors. The following safety protocols will be implemented:

- A. It is essential for the school community to work together to prevent the introduction and spread of COVID-19 in the school environment and in the community while still providing a quality education program. State statute gives public school districts the authority to exclude students who have a contagious disease such as COVID-19 or who are liable to transmit the disease after having been exposed to it. See 167.191, RSMo. In addition, the local health department has the authority to exclude students from school and may order students and others to isolate or quarantine. 19 CSR 20-20.05. Isolation and quarantine help protect the public by preventing exposure to people who have or may have a contagious disease.

- **Isolation** separates sick people with a contagious disease from people who are not sick.
- **Quarantine** separates and restricts the movement of people who were exposed to a contagious disease to see if they become sick.

More info. on website if needed:

<https://www.cdc.gov/quarantine/quarantineisolation.html>

- B. **Exclusion from School:** Students and employees will be excluded from school if they test positive for COVID-19. Students and employees may be excluded from school if they exhibit symptoms of COVID-19 based on CDC Guidance that is explained in the list below.

Excluded with at least one symptom of:

- New Cough
- New loss of taste or smell.
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing

Excluded with two or more symptoms of:

- A fever of 100.4° F or greater
- Congestion/runny nose
- Muscle pain
- Headache
- Sore throat
- Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea
- Fatigue

C. **Screening:** The current CDC guidelines do not require screening of all students or employees for COVID-19 prior to entering a school building. The Fredericktown R-I School District encourages all students and staff to self screen before coming to school. Students and employees exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 without other obvious explanations are prohibited from coming to school, and if they do come to school, they will be sent home immediately. Parents should screen their children daily at home before sending them to school. A checklist will be provided to help with this process. Staff should self-screen before coming to school. A checklist will be provided for this process.

Temperature-Based Screening: Using temperature checks for screening purposes is controversial. First, most schools do not have enough staff and equipment to screen temperatures as students and staff are entering the building and there is a shortage of accurate thermometers and other medical devices to conduct the screenings. Further, many people with COVID-19 are asymptomatic or never have a fever. Even if a school has the resources to screen temperatures, these efforts will not eliminate the risk in the building and may give a false sense of security to those entering the building.

That said, these screening measures also display that the Fredericktown R-I School District is **“serious”** about infection control. Given the nature of the pandemic, the Fredericktown R-I School District will make additional medical inquiries of staff and students than they otherwise would have.

Please note that federal law typically limits the type of medical inquiries that can be made but given the nature of the pandemic more leeway has been given by federal agencies in this circumstance.

If a parent tells the Fredericktown R-I School District that a student is ill, the

Fredericktown R-I School District may ask the parent whether the student is exhibiting any symptoms of COVID-19. If an employee calls in sick or appears ill, the Fredericktown R-I School District will inquire as to whether the employee is experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms. **The Fredericktown R-I School District will provide daily surveillance (answers to questions about student illnesses) to the Madison County Health Department when requested.**

The Fredericktown R-I School District may take the temperature of students, employees and visitors to school property on a random basis or in situations where there is reason to believe that the person may be ill.

If someone is sneezing or coughing, he or she may be excluded to minimize the spread of bodily fluids, even if the person is not exhibiting signs of COVID-19. If a person is obviously ill, the Fredericktown R-I School District may make additional inquiries and may exclude the person from school property.

Wearing Masks and other Personal Protective Equipment (PPE): Some employees may be required to wear PPE when directed to do so by the Fredericktown R-I School District protocol or the employee's supervisor. In addition, persons who are coughing or sneezing due to reasons other than potential COVID-19 infections (allergies, etc.) may be asked to wear a mask or face covering while on school property to minimize dissemination of bodily fluids and may be asked to leave. Any person is welcome to wear a mask or face covering in the school building unless it inhibits the person's ability to perform his or her job, inhibits a student's ability to participate in the educational process or is disruptive to the educational environment. [Universal and Correct Wear of Masks- CDC](#)

D. Return to School After Exclusion: Once a student or employee is excluded from the school environment, they may return if they satisfy the recommendations of the CDC. Currently those guidelines are:

1. **Untested.** Persons who have not received a test proving or disproving the presence of COVID-19 but experience symptoms may return if the following conditions are met
 - a. They have not had a fever for at least 24 hours (that is one full day of no fever without the use of medicine that reduces fevers); and
 - b. Other symptoms have improved (for example, when your cough or shortness of breath have improved); and
 - c. At least ten (10) calendar days have passed since your symptoms first appeared; or
 - d. They have been released by a healthcare provider or reach the return to school date provided by the health office.

2. **Tested.** Persons who experienced symptoms and have been tested for COVID-19 or test positive for COVID-19 may return to school if the following conditions are met:
 - a. They have been fever free for 24 hours (without the use of medicine that reduces fevers); and
 - b. Other symptoms have improved (for example, when your cough or shortness of breath have improved); and
 - c. They have been released by a healthcare provider or reach the return to school date provided by the health office.

3. **Tested with no symptoms.** Persons who have not had symptoms but test positive for COVID-19 may return with a negative covid test and approval in writing by the student's health care provider.

4. **Siblings or Other Students in the Household:** If a student is excluded from school due to COVID-19 symptoms or has had a positive COVID-19 test, his or her siblings or other students living in the same household will be questioned and if they exhibit symptoms, they will also be excluded from school. If they do not exhibit symptoms, they may still be excluded from school and asked to self-quarantine for 14 days.

5. **Self-Quarantine:** If a student or employee has recently had close contact with a person with COVID-19 symptoms or has recently traveled from somewhere considered to be a "hot spot" by the CDC, the student or employee may attend school as long as they agree to wear a mask and have no symptoms. These precautionary measures along with monitoring will continue for the quarantine timeline line established by the local health department. If the exposure is a contact within the home, they will need to quarantine based on the protocol by the local health department.

6. **Fredericktown R-I School District Response to Exclusion from School or Self-Isolate:** As soon as the Fredericktown R-I School District becomes aware of a student or employee that has tested positive for COVID-19. They will be excluded from school and recommended to self-isolate. These procedures will be followed: The custodial staff will be informed so that all desks, lockers and workspaces of the person are thoroughly disinfected. If the school is not open When notification occurs, the custodial staff will wait 24 hours or as long as possible prior to disinfecting and instead will block off the area so that others do not have contact. However, if that is not possible or school is in session, the cleaning will occur immediately.

7. **Separation While in School:** Each school should have a room or space

separate from the nurse's office where students or employees who may have COVID-19 or another communicable disease will wait to be evaluated or for pickup. If no separate space is available, a portion of the nurses office will be divided to allow separation. Students will be given a medical grade mask to wear. Only essential staff and students assigned to the room may enter, all will sign in so that there is a record of the persons who entered the room, and the room will be disinfected several times throughout the day. Strict social distancing is required, and staff must wear appropriate PPE. Students who are ill will be walked out of the building to their parents.

8. **Care Rooms for Students with Physical Needs:** Each school will designate a location separate from the nurse's office (if available) for the care of students with special care needs such as suctioning, tube feeding and nebulizers to minimize exposure to students who might be ill. The room will be disinfected frequently, and all staff members present will wear appropriate PPE. The students will be provided a mask.

E. **Confirmed Case of COVID-19:** In the School Building; when there is confirmation that a person infected with COVID-19 was in a school building, the Fredericktown R-I School District will contact the local health department immediately. The Fredericktown R-I School District may close the school building and will work with the local health department to assess factors such as the likelihood of exposure to employees and students in the building, the number of cases in the community and other factors that will determine if a building should close and when the building should reopen if closed. The Fredericktown R-I School District will contact parents/students and employees and notify them that a person who tested positive for COVID-19 was in the building and encourage cooperation with the Fredericktown R-I School District and the local health department to trace contacts with the individual. The individual who tested positive will not be identified in communications to the school community at large but may need to be selectively identified for contact tracing by the health department. If the school building is closed, all school activities may be cancelled or rescheduled, regardless of whether the activity was to take place in the building or another location, including extracurricular activities, before and after-school programs, and field trips. Parents/students and employees will be encouraged to stay at home if a building is closed until more information is provided by the Fredericktown R-I School District or the health department.

III. Social Distancing: This document uses the term “social distancing” to mean physical separation of a minimum of 6 feet. Some professionals prefer to use the term “physical distancing” as it more accurately focuses on separating people regardless of whether they are socializing. Some are also concerned that the term “social distancing” implies that there should be social separation as well as physical separation, which could be

harmful to a person's health and mental health. This document uses the term "social distancing" because it is the term currently used by the Centers for Disease Control(CDC) and introducing new terminology could cause confusion. That said, readers should clearly understand that there are many methods for people to remain socially and emotionally connected while still practicing "social distancing," and these methods are particularly important as schools re-open. The following are examples of measures that the Fredericktown R-I School District will consider taking to increase social distancing (only if needed, we plan for all students to be in seats with face to face instruction for the 21-22 school year) while still maintaining face-to-face instruction on the school campus.

- A. Offer both in-person and virtual instruction so that students who do not have adequate resources may still access instruction, but the class size in one room is minimized.
- B. Reorganize P.E., choir, band, and other large classes to allow for smaller classes, social distancing and other precautions.
- C. Revise assemblies, library time and use of the media center to allow for social distancing.
- D. Alternate recess to minimize the number of students on the playground, require social distancing, and allow time to disinfect equipment in between classes.
- E. Increase space between students during in-person instruction.
- F. Move classes outdoors when possible.
- G. Rearrange desks to increase space in between students (Goal: 6 feet). Face desks in the same direction. Require students to remain seated in the classroom and assign seats. Minimize class sizes.
- H. Revise activities that combine classes or grade levels. Revise or minimize students traveling to different buildings to receive services. Revise or minimize employees from traveling between buildings.
- I. Implement a home-room stay where the teachers rotate, as opposed to the students. Only allow supervisors and staff who are required for instruction to be in the classrooms.
- J. Prohibit students from sharing items like pencils and pens.
- K. Ensure adequate art supplies or educational tools to minimize sharing. When sharing is necessary, minimize the number of students having contact and teach disinfecting

techniques.

L. Revise activities that bring large numbers of students and the public together.

M. Review nutrition services procedures to minimize exposure:

- Prevent people from self-serving food items.
- Napkins and silverware are provided directly by staff, not for individuals to grab.
- Boxed breakfast and lunches.
- Engineering controls such as sneeze guards are in place in the cafeteria.
- Require students to eat with classmates in the lunchroom and not mingle with other classes.
- Plan to serve high-risk students separately from other students.
- Put tape marks on the floor six feet apart to promote social distancing while waiting in line.
- Prohibit or limit food-sharing activities.
- As long as it is safe for staff to prepare food in the event of an in-person status interruption, the school will continue to offer meals for pickup and may deliver on an as needed basis.

N. Take measures to decrease students congregating in one location:

- Assign students to use different entrances.
- Stagger drop-off and pick-up processes.
- Stagger times students are in the cafeteria or have students eat at their desks in the classroom.
- Stagger times that classes are released.
- Require students to stay in an assigned section of the school yard or playground as opposed to mingling with other classes.
- Schedule restroom breaks to avoid overcrowding.
- Make hallways or entrances one-way.
- Rearrange furniture to avoid clustering in common areas.
- In locations where students line up, tape marks are put on the floor to indicate the appropriate social distancing.

O. Take measures to decrease employees congregating in one location:

- Close the staff/teacher's lounge.
- Encourage virtual meetings.
- Encourage employees who can effectively work from home to do so.
- Rearrange workstations to ensure they are separated by six feet.

IV. Implementation of cleaning, sanitizing, and hygiene procedures. The Fredericktown R-I School District will follow CDC and health department guidelines.

- A. All persons are required to wash hands when they come to school and every hour.
- B. Place hand hygiene stations at the entrances of the building.
- C. Encourage students and employees to sanitize their backpacks and personal items at the beginning and end of the day and separate personal items into cubbies or baskets that are not shared with other students. Do not allow students to share lockers.
- D. Require all persons to wash hands after blowing noses, coughing or sneezing or when in contact with bodily fluids.
- E. Encourage classes and employees to create their own hand signals to replace shaking hands, hugging or giving high-fives.
- F. Disinfect door handles, light switches, stair railings and other frequently touched surfaces every hour.
- G. Custodial staff will clean and disinfect all areas daily. The District purchased electro-static sprayers to disinfect all buildings and buses daily.
- H. Diluted household bleach may be used on appropriate surfaces. $\frac{1}{3}$ cup of bleach per gallon of water.
- I. We will close off any area used by individuals who may have COVID-19 and wait as long as practical before beginning cleaning and disinfection to minimize risk of exposure.
- J. The District purchased hand sanitizing stations for each building.
- K. The District has installed water bottle filling stations to eliminate the use of water fountains.
- L. Staff will be trained to identify potentially sick students and procedures to follow.
- M. All staff will be provided with necessary equipment such as face shields and masks.

V. Extracurricular activities: Sports and Clubs.

- A. Physical Facilities/Locker Rooms:
 - Clean and disinfect all locker rooms on a daily basis.
 - Athletes and coaches will self screen for symptoms before practices and contests.
 - CDC and health department guidance for cleaning will be followed.

- Gloves and face coverings will be provided to staff.
- Coaches, custodians, and other personnel will be trained on proper cleaning and disinfection methods.
- Educate students on proper hand washing and hygiene practices.
- Require sick students and staff to stay home.
- Don't allow shared use of equipment if possible.
- Sanitize sports equipment.
- Provide hand sanitizer.
- Encourage athletes to bring their own water bottles. Do not share water cups or bottles.

B. Bleachers/Gymnasium:

- Mark off social distancing guidelines.
- Install hand sanitizing stations.
- Consider limiting occupancy.
- Sanitize and disinfect after each use. Clean all door knobs, handrails, offices, bathrooms, common areas, and other surfaces.

C. Concession Stand:

- Limit items for sale.
- No re-use of cups.
- No shared condiments.
- Consider pre-packaged food only.
- Sanitize and disinfect after each use. Clean all door knobs, handrails, offices, bathrooms, common areas, and other surfaces.
- Wear face coverings and gloves if selling popcorn and other self prepared items. Follow all food code regulations.

VI. Transportation:

- A. Clean and disinfect all buses and other school vehicles. Wipe down or sanitize buses after each run.
- B. Plan for additional sanitation, possibly hand sanitizer stations.
- C. Equip buses with COVID-19 signage.
- D. Train drivers and bus monitors in proper face covering usage. Face masks, gloves and possibly eye protection.
- E. Train drivers and bus monitors on how to recognize potentially sick students.
- F. Assign seats in family groups.
- G. Consider social distancing guidelines on the bus.
- H. Have tissues available for students to cough and sneeze into while on the bus. I. Ask

parents to transport students to and from school to limit the number of students that are on a bus.

- J. Students will be asked to wear a face covering on the bus when social distancing is difficult.

VII. Review and Revision

- A. During the development of the 2020-21 SRCSP, various stakeholders including but not limited to: parents/guardians, students, staff, and leaders were surveyed for input. The plan was implemented based on the feedback of the survey and needs of the district and community. This plan was reviewed at the conclusion of the 2020-21 school year.
- B. The SRCSP plan was revised for the 2021-22 school year and adopted as part of the public board meeting on June 29, 2021. The school will survey stakeholders after six months of implementation and revise if needed at that time. This review process will continue every 6 months thereafter. Should an update from the CDC, local health department, DESE, Board of Education, or other agency warrant an immediate change, it will be revised promptly. The school will accept input from civil rights or disability rights organizations to ensure all student and staff needs are met.

VIII. Understandable Language for All Stakeholders

The SRCSP will be written in language(s) understandable to all stakeholders within the school and community. The SRCSP will be posted in the language(s) needed along with the SRCSP written in English. The same information will be provided in all language versions of the SRCSP.