

Tarkio R-I School District

Safe Return to School for In-Person Instruction 21-22

The following are the preparations the Tarkio R-I School District has implemented to assure a safe return to school for the 21-22 school year. This plan was developed according to the guidelines of the CDC and under advisement of the Atchison County Health Department for the safety of our students, staff and visitors. It is understood that these preparations are subject to change.

Mitigation Measures

Masks: Masks will not be required in district facilities or at school events, unless circumstances deem it necessary. Masks are optional. Students are expected to provide their own mask; however, masks will be available through any of the district offices or the nurse's office. Teachers are not responsible for student masks.

In the event it becomes necessary to implement a mask mandate, it is the expectation they will be worn correctly at all times. Posters throughout the building remind students and staff of correct mask wearing procedures.

Social Distancing:

Classrooms:

Classrooms will be set up with as much social distance between desks and tables as possible.

Students will be taught the importance of covering coughs and sneezes, hand hygiene, and not coming to school sick or with a fever.

Students will be taught to be conscientious of their surroundings and exhibit behaviors that take the needs of others into consideration.

The district will work to keep students 6 feet apart, but there will be times when that is not possible. The district will adhere to the 6 feet for social distancing, but accepts that it will be impossible to obtain at all times.

Transportation:

Transportation will continue to operate with the following guidelines:

Seats will be assigned to families, and families of students will sit together.

Seating will be assigned so that social distance is maintained for as long of the trip as is possible.

Families will be encouraged to transport their own children.

Apple Bus Company reserves the right to expect masks be worn on the buses.

Cafeteria:

All students will eat in the cafeteria.

The salad bar and fruit and veggie bar will be available, but will be individually packaged in clear plastic containers ahead of time, so students can grab what they want.

Silverware will be placed on trays directly by kitchen staff or plastic silverware will be used.

Food sharing will be prohibited.

Self Care:

Hand sanitizer is available throughout the facilities and in each classroom.

Students will be taught proper hand washing procedures and will be provided with multiple opportunities to wash their hands daily.

Posters in bathrooms remind students and staff of the importance of hand washing.

Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities:

The district will follow the recommendations of the manufacturer of the equipment purchased for cleaning and disinfecting purposes.

Custodial staff is trained in the guidelines issued by the CDC and the manufacturer of the cleaning supplies.

High volume/traffic areas will be disinfected throughout the school day.

Limited outside visitors during the school day. Items can be dropped off in the foyer of each building without the need to enter the main building.

Staff and students will wipe down desks, tables, and objects that are touched with a high-frequency (i.e. door knobs).

Disinfectant wipes/spray are provided should they be needed in classrooms.

Buses will continue to be disinfected after morning and afternoon routes. When possible, windows and other ventilation options will be opened.

Students are encouraged to bring their own water bottles to fill during the school day and for events. Bottle filler stations are available in each building.

Contact tracing:

Contact tracing will be handled cooperatively with the Atchison County Health Department. Information provided by our School Contact Tracing Protocol will be distributed again this year to students and parents so everyone is aware of updated and current guidelines. The Atchison County Health Department will help determine whether individuals have been vaccinated, and determine cases where students/staff are/are not required to quarantine.

Diagnostic and screening testing:

Families are expected to monitor student health symptoms at home, and are asked to not send kids to school if COVID symptoms are present.

There will not be a daily screening protocol implemented. Teachers will send students who are not feeling well to the nurse's office for evaluation.

Students with a temperature of 100.4 or higher will be sent home.

A child will not be allowed to return to school until they are fever free for 72 hours, and any other illness related symptoms are showing signs of improvement.

A child with a health care provider's note may return to school after being fever free for 24 hours.

Students will be asked to wear a mask when ill and moved to the transition room until a family member can arrive.

COVID testing will be available at the direction of the Atchison County Health Department and Fairfax Community Hospital.

Efforts to provide vaccinations:

All Tarkio R-1 employees have been given the opportunity to receive the COVID-19 vaccination by the Atchison County Health Department.

Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities: Accommodations for children with disabilities are documented in an Individual Education Plan (IEP). The modifications or accommodations are legally required, and will be followed by the school district.

Continuity of Services

Interruptions of in-person learning:

Should students have to be out of school for an extended period of time due to COVID-19, they will be able to receive instruction electronically or through paper/hard copy.

Teachers will interact with students (email, Zoom, FaceTime, recorded videos) two to three times per week to provide instruction, develop appropriate feedback (student and parents), and check for understanding during distance learning

A wide variety of learning platforms (IXL, Google meet, Google Classroom, etc) are used when students are not available for in seat instruction.

If Internet Access is not available for families, we ask that you contact the Tarkio R-I School District to make arrangements.

Devices are provided for remote learning if needed.

If packets are sent home, they will have the same types of questions or scenarios as the online portion for the students. The majority of information can be printed or scanned from the original online version so the same information is presented in both forms of instruction.

A drop off and pickup station is available in the entry way of each building. If parents do not have means of transportation, these packets can be dropped off or picked up by administration.

Feedback and Instruction can take place via FaceTime/Zoom or handwritten. PowerPoint Notes or Instructional notes may be printed off if needed.

Social, emotional, and mental health needs of students and staff:

The Tarkio R-I School District understands that the COVID crisis has caused a great deal of stress and disruption into the lives of its student body. As such, the district counselors will continue to meet one-on-one and virtually with students throughout the school year.

As is normal protocol, the district has plans in place to work with students and families who are experiencing difficult situations. As it is impossible to plan for each potential scenario, the staff of the school will work with students as the school becomes aware of situations students are dealing with.

SRCSP Plan review:

The SRCSP Plan stakeholders, which includes administrators, teachers, community members, board members, county health and parents, will meet every six months, unless circumstances warrant sooner, to discuss any needed updates/revisions to the plan. As this plan is a working document, all stakeholders understand that this plan may need to be modified/revised more frequently depending on outside factors.

This plan can be made available in another language if needed. Please contact the Superintendent's office at 660-736-4161.