

# **SAFE RETURN TO IN-PERSON LEARNING EDUCATIONAL PLAN 2021-2022**

## **In-person Learning**

**The first student day is Wednesday, August 11, 2021.**

As of 6/10/2021, factoring all relevant health and government guidelines, and taking into consideration the virus data available for Franklin County, Horizon Middle School plans to start the 2021-2022 school year with a traditional learning environment. All students will attend in-person classes 5 days a week, according to our 9 period bell schedule. Each student will continue to be assigned a school-issued Chromebook for learning activities both in and out of the physical classroom. Customary in-person after school activities are expected to resume after Labor Day. Some online extracurricular activity opportunities may continue to be offered to allow for more equitable access to these opportunities.

## **Academic Programming**

Effective June 2, 2021, Ohio Governor Mike DeWine announced that Ohio Department of Health Director Stephanie McCloud signed an order rescinding the COVID-19-related health orders. However, all schools receiving American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds are required to post written plans for the safe return to traditional, in-person learning.

Horizon Science Academy Columbus Middle School (HSACMS) will return to a traditional learning schedule beginning August 2, 2021. The State of Ohio has indicated there will be no temporary emergency use options to provide virtual classes. A school must be chartered as a digital academy in order to provide virtual classes. Therefore, all students will be required to participate in traditional, in-person classes and in all state mandated testing.

In the event that a resurgence in the COVID-19 virus would trigger the Center for Disease Control (CDC), the State of Ohio or local Department of Health to encourage or mandate school closures, HSACMS has a plan in place to provide virtual or blended learning instruction.

HSACMS will continue to administer a one-to-one Chromebook model to facilitate and enhance in-person instruction, as well as to provide continuity of instruction should the status of the global pandemic change and government agencies mandate changes in the learning environment. Each student will be provided with a school Chromebook for the school year. Students who do not have access to dependable internet services will be provided with a hot spot.

## **MASKS**

Staff and students **will follow school policy which may be more rigorous than government mandates, but not in direct conflict with government mandates.** In the event there is no order from governing agencies, the school will continue to review CDC guidelines, local health department communications, and local COVID rates and vaccination statistics to determine when masks will be required.

It will be recommended, but not required, that students and visitors enter the building with a mask. A mask will be provided, if an individual does not have one. When worn, worn over the mouth and nose.

## **PHYSICAL DISTANCING**

Students will have a space available during lunch with additional distancing measures where practical. Students opting to wear a mask during the school day will have a priority option to sit in this area.

Other physical distancing measures will be eliminated at this time. Logistics will be adjusted immediately as needed in regards to physical distancing, especially at meal times.

## **Transportation Communication**

1. Transportation is done through Columbus City Schools.
2. Busses will be monitored for the number of students boarding and disembarking for communication with parents and Columbus transportation department to ensure all parties are informed if the bus is crowded.
3. Columbus City Schools bus drivers are responsible for sanitization of yellow buses.
4. Masks are encouraged on buses, regardless of whether Columbus City Schools transportation protocols mandate them. Students are expected to arrive at school with a mask.

Expectations will be shared by the bus driver, in-person according to Columbus Public Schools (CPS) protocols, through email from CPS, and as information becomes available to the school.

## **HANDWASHING**

All rooms are equipped with touchless sanitizing stations. Students should sanitize their hands upon entry and exit from the classrooms. Students will be encouraged to wash their hands at any time they use the restroom.

## **CLEANING AND MAINTAINING HEALTHY FACILITIES**

All students will have access to sanitizing materials for their space throughout the day. Desks will be sanitized between transitions with isopropyl alcohol on the desks.

Common touch points such as doorknobs, door frames, and restroom facilities will be sanitized regularly by janitorial staff.

## **CONTACT TRACING, ISOLATION AND QUARANTINE**

### **When should students stay home**

1. Families should complete a wellness check each morning prior to reporting to the building.
  - a. Fever- Any student with a fever must stay home until there is no fever with no medication for 24 hours.
  - b. Cough- unless the student is vaccinated
  - c. Shortness of breath- unless the student is vaccinated
2. Families should seek medical care regarding these symptoms the same day as concern of symptoms.
3. Students with a fever must attempt to be tested for Covid-19.
4. Families must communicate with the administration with regards to any health concerns including confirmed exposure to COVID-19 and positive results of COVID-19 screening.

Students will be excused while staying home and are expected to make up for any missed learning opportunities and work according to the normal make up policy of the school. Prolonged absence due to illness will be reviewed on an individual case basis to make concessions as necessary.

### **District or School Hotline**

[ms.covid19@hsacm.org](mailto:ms.covid19@hsacm.org) This email address has been established as a single point of contact for notifying the school of a student's isolation or quarantine due to close contact or positive diagnosis of Covid-19. Families unable to email should call the school office at 614-428-6564.

## **TESTING**

All state and district testing will be conducted in person and in the building. All students are expected to be in attendance. Make up periods will be in place for students that are absent during testing and screening days.

## **VACCINATIONS**

We will encourage vaccinations for staff and students and assist by sharing information with all parties.

Students will be given an excused absence to facilitate vaccination and recovery from any adverse effects from vaccination. Staff supports will be based on specific circumstances for the individual and may include additional time off if needed.

## **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Accommodations for children with disabilities will be supported by adult staff in meeting the safety guidelines. Needs for individual students will be identified and addressed based on the circumstances on a case by case basis as needed.

## **CONTINUITY OF SERVICES**

All services except for the provision of food can be met through online interactions and home visits where needed. Academics, mental health, and social/emotional supports can be shared through email and google classrooms and individual electronic communication.

We have expanded our support staff to include a counselor for each grade level to support social/emotional and mental health and two aides for each grade level to support academic needs. These individuals will be utilized as appropriate to support continuity of services in individual situations.

Food can be provided through a drive through pick up service.

## **REVIEW AND SHARING OF POLICIES**

### **How Policies will be Shared**

1. Website

2. School Messenger and/or Concept SIS for email and/or phone call when contact information is accurate.
3. Notification through Google Classroom when appropriate.

This plan will be reviewed a minimum of once per quarter. Community stakeholder feedback will be collected prior to these reviews. All feedback will be considered and the plan will be adjusted as needed to address the components of this plan.