

Oneida School District School Re-entry Plan

Overview:

Oneida School District's top priority is to ensure the overall health and well-being of our students. The District intends to provide a traditional instructional model as long as it can be done while providing a relatively safe/healthy environment for students and staff. There are many advantages to having instruction delivered face to face in a classroom versus students participating in online education delivery methods. In order to have face-to-face instruction while ensuring the safest environment possible, it will be necessary to have safety and health protocols in place.

The purpose of this re-entry plan is to give an overview of the safety protocols for various school settings and activities. To help with the transition back to school, we ask parents to review these safety protocols with their children. Teachers and staff will also review and monitor these protocols as students come to school. All teachers and staff will receive training on how to implement the safety/health protocols. Some of the protocols will vary slightly from school to school to be age-appropriate and activity-specific.

You will notice that there are three contingency levels. While we are planning on returning to school at Level I, the District (in consultation with the Southeast Idaho Health Department), will determine which level will be appropriate as we go throughout the year. This plan is subject to change as conditions change, and new information becomes available.

Common Terms and Definitions:

Physical Distancing Measures: The primary mode of transmission of COVID-19 is through respiratory droplets by persons in close proximity. Physical distancing (sometimes referred to as social distancing) is simply the act of keeping people separated with the goal of limiting the spread of contagion between individuals. In many school settings, 6 feet between students is not feasible without limiting the number of students. Social distancing will be enforced to the extent possible.

Face coverings/masks: A covering that covers mouth and nose areas may be required. It should fit snugly against the face surface areas. Some school areas/activities will require face mask use. For some areas/activities, face masks will be highly encouraged. Touching masked areas is discouraged. Frequent washing (or renewal) of the mask is strongly encouraged. We ask all students to have their own masks. However, the District will provide one, if needed.

Hand Sanitizer: Hand sanitizer should contain a minimum of 70% alcohol. For classrooms with younger children, washing of hands is preferred. Hand sanitizer in lower grades should be dispensed by a teacher and kept out of the reach of children.

Contingency Level I (Low or No Spread): At this level, proactive and preventative safety and health protocols will be in place for students and employees to follow. Group activities will be held to a minimum or not take place. Social distancing will be honored to the extent possible. Face coverings/masks will be mandated in certain settings. All school employees will be trained and monitor implementation of safety/health protocols.

Contingency Level II (Minimal / Moderate Spread): Schools will move to an A/B schedule with half of the students attending school on Monday and Wednesday and the other half attending Tuesday and Thursday. This level will minimize student numbers and increase social distancing. On days when students are not physically in school, students will work on assignments from home or view recorded instruction from teachers. Working with the Southeast Idaho Health Department, the local School Board will determine when the local risk of contracting COVID-19 is significant enough to move to an A / B schedule because exposure to COVID-19 is significant enough to take additional precautions. At this level, more intensive mitigation strategies will take place. Masks may be required in most settings.

Contingency Level III (Substantial Spread): Working with the Southeast Idaho Health Department, the local School Board will determine when the local risk of contracting COVID-19 is significant enough to close schools. This will be based on the number of confirmed cases in the school and community. At this closure level, all instruction will be done online.

Infra-red “No Touch” Thermometers: These thermometers infer a person’s temperature from thermal radiation from the body, usually the forehead.

General Contingency Actions and Activities:

(Please note that each school may have a different level of contingency. For example: Stone Elementary might still be on Level I while Malad Elementary might be on Level III. This will be determined by each local situation and in consultation with the Southeast Idaho Health Department.)

Level I:

- The first line of defense is the home. We ask all parents to daily monitor the health of their children. Check for cough, fever, chills, muscle pain, shortness of breath, sore throat, or loss of taste or smell. If symptoms are present, keep your child home for 14 days or have them tested for COVID-19. They may return to school if the test is negative or all symptoms have subsided.
- All employees will receive formal training on proactive and preventative safety/health protocols.
- All students will receive instruction on proactive and preventative safety/health protocols.
- Desks will be arranged to provide physical distancing to the extent possible.

- Liquid hand soap, hand sanitizer with at least 70% alcohol, paper towels, and no-touch trash cans will be provided in all bathrooms, classrooms, and frequently trafficked areas.
- Signs will be posted in classrooms, hallways, and entrances to communicate how to stop the spread of COVID-19.
- Signage will be posted, and COVID-19 symptoms, preventative measures (including staying home when sick), good hygiene, and school/district specific protocols will be discussed with students.
- Frequently touched surfaces will be cleaned/disinfected at least daily, and shared objects will be cleaned/disinfected after each use.
- Students (depending on age appropriateness) and staff will be allowed to bring hand sanitizer.
- “No touch” temperature checks will be available and periodically take place. If a student is found to have a temperature, they will be checked a second time in 30 minutes. If he or she still has a temperature of 100.3F or greater, they will be placed in a quarantine room until parents can arrange to have the student picked up.
- We ask all students to have their own personal masks. We ask that masks be cleaned at home at the end of each day.
- Face masks/coverings will be required in some settings
- Students will be encouraged to stay 6 feet away from teachers and staff.
- Staff will be allowed to wear face masks/covering and other appropriate PPE, as desired.
- Students and employees will be allowed to bring their own personal water containers.
- Students will be allowed to eat lunch and breakfast in other locations of the school, not just in the cafeteria. Lunch times may be staggered.
- Air exchange systems will be monitored to ensure ventilation systems are operating properly. Circulation of outdoor air will be increased as much as possible, as long as this does not pose a safety or health risk to students or staff
- Deep cleaning of schools will be conducted prior to students/staff returning. Cleaning of high-touch surfaces will be scheduled during the day.
- For Special Education settings, a clear facemask, shield, gloves, portable Plexiglas shields, and additional cleaning supplies may be necessary. Attempts to meet physical distancing guidelines should meet the needs of the individual child and may require creative solutions, often on a case-by-case basis.
- Special Education speech students will use clear face shields so mouths can be seen by the teacher and students. The clear face shields will be provided by the District.

Level II:

- The School Board and District and school administrators will work closely with Southeast Idaho Health Department to determine when a shift to this level becomes necessary.
- All protocols described in Level I will be continued.
- At this level, more intensive mitigation strategies will take place. Masks may be required in more settings.
- All school campuses will be closed during lunch hours, i.e., students will not be allowed to leave school grounds.

- An A / B schedule will be implemented; this schedule will allow only one half of the students to be physically at school at any given time. Half of the students will come to school on Monday / Wednesday, and the other half will come to school Tuesday / Thursday. This schedule will allow more social distancing and minimize the risk of spread of COVID-19 due to smaller group size and less congregating.
- On days when students are not physically at school, assignments and activities will be posted on their LMS page or Google Classroom link.
- Teachers and administrators will work to design maximum classroom spacing.
- Music, PE and similar classes will use strategies to reduce transmission caused from virus-containing droplets.
- Nonessential visitors will have only limited access to the schools. The presence of volunteers for classroom activities, mystery readers, cafeteria support, and other activities will be limited.
- Recess times will be staggered, and/or separate recess areas will be assigned by class.
- Hallway use will be restricted. Access to lockers will be minimized.
- No touch temperature checks will be conducted throughout the day.
- Virtual group events, gatherings, or meetings will be encouraged in lieu of field trips, assemblies, special performances, spirit nights, etc., where possible. Social distancing of 6 feet between people will be enforced to the extent possible if/when events are held. The number of students allowed to gather at an activity may be limited to allow for social distancing.
- Special Education students may meet with aides on virtual days and attend core classes while physically at school. Elementary Special Education students may work with Special Educators when in the school setting. Secondary Special Education students may receive online instruction.
- All students requiring physical therapy will attend school on the same day at the same time.

Level III:

- School Board Members and District and school administrators will work closely with Southeast Idaho Health Department to determine when the shift to this level is necessary. We recognize that there are many limitations and problems with this delivery system. However, if it is necessary to move this direction for the safety of our students and employees, we may have to implement this plan.
- Schools will move to a soft closure with all instruction done online. Students will have Zoom instruction and find assignments on LMS and Google Classroom pages.
- All students will be issued a Chromebook with which to participate in Zoom classrooms and to complete classroom assignments online.
- In some controlled situations, students may meet with a teacher for testing or to receive specific academic or emotional support.
- Student virtual attendance is expected and will be monitored. Turning in of assignments will be one way in which student attendance will be monitored. Attendance may also be monitored during virtual classroom time. Students will be expected to attend virtual

classrooms during teacher instruction hours. In some cases, virtual instruction may be recorded so it can be viewed later.

Transportation of Students:

Level I:

- Students who can find alternate options to being transported to school by District buses will be encouraged to do so.
- Parents will be encouraged to check for symptoms of COVID-19 in their students prior to the students being dropped off at the bus stop.
- Social distancing will take place on buses to the extent possible. Students will sit every other row to the extent possible. Family members can sit together.
- Bus routes and schedules will run as in the past.
- Riders will be expected to wear face coverings while on the bus
- Bus drivers will be expected to wear masks or shields.
- Students will receive hand sanitizer when entering the bus.
- High-touch areas of the buses will be cleaned following each route.
- Field trips will be limited in scope and location.

Level II:

- The same safety / health protocols will be in place as described in Level I.
- Quarantine steps will be implemented for all students having potential COVID-19 exposure or showing any symptoms of COVID-19.
- Sport trips will follow Level I protocols. Some trips may be canceled due to high frequency of COVID-19 cases in some regions.
- Field trips will be eliminated.

Level III:

- No bus transportation will be provided.
- Delivering of meals to area drop offs may occur.

School Meals:

Level I:

- Students will be encouraged to wash hands before and after meal service.
- Standard operating procedures will be implemented while preventative measures as described in the safety/health protocols will be taken.

- Cleaning of cafeterias and high-touch surfaces will be done throughout the school day.
- Regular hot menu service will be offered in the cafeteria.
- Students will eat in the cafeteria to the extent possible.
- Lunch times may be staggered, and serving times may be expanded.
- Students may be offered the option of eating outside (weather permitting).
- Touchless hand sanitizer will be used by all students at the beginning of all serving lines.

Level II:

- All applicable Level I protocols will be implemented.
- Only disposable plates, utensils, etc., will be used.
- Spaced lines to enter the cafeteria and serving lines will be marked (to the extent practicable). Entrance and exit flow paths will be designated.
- Cleaning of cafeterias and high-touch surfaces will be conducted throughout the school day.
- Students will be allowed to eat meals in alternative areas of the school or outside, weather permitting.
- All school campuses will be closed during lunch times.

Level III:

- Meals may be offered on a pick-up basis at school or at meal drop off points.

Between Class Transitioning:

Level I:

- All general safety/health protocols will be followed, including social distancing where possible.
- All students and staff will be strongly recommended to wear face covering.
- Cleaning of hallways and high-touch surfaces will be conducted throughout the school day.
- The hallways will be marked with designated lanes to keep students separated, to the extent practicable.
- Locker use will be minimized, where possible

Level II:

- All applicable Level I protocols will be implemented.
- Face coverings will be required.
- Students will be separated, and congregating of groups of students will be minimized.

Level III

- School buildings will be closed
- In some controlled situations, students may meet with a teacher for testing or to receive specific academic or emotional support.
- Group gatherings, including sports and sport practices, will not be held

Group Gatherings

Level I

- Large group gatherings will be discouraged. When a large group gathering becomes necessary, social distancing and mask guidelines are to be followed. Event and gathering times or dates will be staggered whenever possible.
- Participation in sporting events may take place when sanctioned by the Southeast Idaho Health Department. Some events may be canceled due to the high incidence of COVID - 19 in the city/county where the event is to be held.
- Spectators will be expected to wear masks and will be encouraged to honor 6-foot spacing from those who are not immediate family members.

Level II

- Half of the student body will be at school at any given time.
- Southeast Idaho Health Department recommendations for group gatherings will be followed.
- Congregation of students in parking lots and school common areas will be discouraged.
- Groups will be encouraged to use large rooms and open spaces and maintain social distancing.
- Sporting events may occur if they meet guidelines of IHSAA and Southeast Idaho Health Department.
- Spectator numbers will be limited and will follow guideline restrictions

Level III

- Southeast Idaho Health Department guidelines regarding group gatherings will be followed.
- Sporting events will be cancelled.

Cleaning and Disinfecting Protocols:

- The main mode of COVID-19 spread is from person to person, primarily via droplet transmission. For this reason, strategies for infection prevention will center around this form of spread, including physical distancing, face coverings, and hand hygiene.
- Surfaces that are used frequently, such as drinking fountains, door handles, sinks, faucet handles, etc., will be cleaned and disinfected at least twice daily and as often as possible.

- Bathrooms will receive frequent cleaning and disinfection.
- Shared equipment, including computer equipment, keyboards, art supplies, and play or gym equipment, will be disinfected frequently.
- During the day, high-touch surface areas in classrooms, hallways, restrooms, and other commonly visited areas will be cleaned with a disinfecting spray or wiped at least three times daily.
- At the end of the day, high-touch surface areas in classrooms, hallways, restrooms, and other common school areas will be cleaned with a disinfecting spray or wipe.
- Students will be asked to wash hands a minimum of twice daily. Efforts will be made to encourage students to wash hands more frequently.
- If it is known that an exposure to COVID-19 has taken place, the area that individual visited will be closed and sanitized.
- Students will be taught safety/health protocols to follow when in the classroom, hallways, restrooms, and common areas of the school.
- Cleaning protocols will be posted in classrooms and hallways.
- Students will be expected to wear masks on the bus while traveling to and from school.
- Students will be asked to stay 6 feet from teachers and staff. In situations that might require closer proximity, employees and students may be required to wear face masks.
- Health screenings of employees and students for COVID-19 symptoms will be conducted daily upon entry to the facility, including a check for low-grade fever with no-touch thermometer and/or daily symptom checking.
- Staff and students will be encouraged to bring their own water and water containers to minimize use and touching of water fountains.

Protocol For Confirmed COVID-19 cases

If a student in a classroom is confirmed to have contracted COVID-19, parents of other students who have been in the same classroom as the student will be contacted. Students in those classrooms will be required to wear a mask while at school for two weeks, or until they can be confirmed negative for COVID-19. (Testing should only occur 5-7 days after potential exposure) Teachers in these classes will be required to wear a mask or face shield as well, for two weeks or until they have been tested and confirmed negative for COVID-19.

Vulnerable Employees and Students

- Students who are high risk or have a high-risk home setting may opt to have educational services provided online. Parents are to notify the school ASAP if they are anticipating their child accessing this option.
- Students who have been exposed to an individual in their home or who have tested positive for COVID-19 are asked to self-quarantine for a minimum of 10 days or until cleared by the health department. In cases of general exposure outside of the home, the quarantine period is 4 days if tests for COVID-19 are negative. The District asks that parents contact the school so school personnel can be aware and take necessary steps at the school as well as coordinate educational services during the quarantine period.

- The District will make every effort to create a safe environment for all employees. Employees who have high-risk situations will have needs addressed on a case-by-case basis. Three intervention levels will be considered:

Level I - School Environment: Employees who have moderate risk levels may still be able to work in classrooms with greater safety/health protocols in place. Examples of these heightened protocols may include more frequent hand washing, high touch areas cleaned more frequently, hand sanitizer readily available, and all students in that classroom being expected to wear masks throughout the day.

- Employees who have high health risks* may be assigned to an online teaching position.
- Vulnerable students may be allowed to transition to other classrooms at times other than the main transition times.

Level II – Online Teaching: Teachers and staff who have greater health risks* may have the opportunity to teach online in the IHLA program or in other assignments.

- High -risk students will have the option of participating in online schooling.

Level III – Online instruction options will be given to employees to the extent possible. Some positions may experience a layoff situation.

Unavailable Work Opportunity: Employees who have medical conditions that place them at high risk may qualify for the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA or Act), which may provide some financial compensation due to the work restrictions and high health risks.

- Some students may not be able to physically attend school due to health risks that exist with the student themselves or home health situations that would cause severe health risks to those living at the same residence. These students will be provided the opportunity to have online educational options. Parents are to contact the school ASAP if you anticipate this option.

Employees whose jobs require close student contact

- Masks (or face shields) will be required of both staff and students.
- In situations where the student may not be capable of wearing a mask, services may have to be delivered online.

Absenteeism of Students and Staff as Related to COVID-19

- Student virtual attendance is expected and will be monitored. Turning in of assignments will be one way in which student attendance will be monitored. Attendance may also be monitored during virtual classroom time. Students will be expected to attend virtual classrooms during teacher instruction hours. In some cases, virtual instruction may be recorded so it can be viewed later.
- Students will be given an excused absence if they have been exposed to COVID-19 during the quarantine period.
- Employees who have been exposed to an individual who has tested positive to COVID 19 will have a mandatory self-isolation period of 4 calendar days. They may return to work after that period of time if they have a negative COVID-19 test. These days will be covered by the District and not counted toward sick leave use.
- If an employee is tested positive for COVID-19, he or she will stay home until he or she receives clearance from the Southeast Idaho Public Health Department. Employees will use their sick leave during that time.

Communications Plan

- The Oneida School District (OSD) will work closely with the Southeast Idaho Health Department to help ensure students have safe and healthy learning environments.
- The OSD will monitor local COVID-19 trends to guide response and actions.
- The OSD will place the health and safety needs of students and staff as a priority in its decision making.
- Social media tools, such as emails, Swift Reach and Facebook, will be used to communicate with parents, students, and employees.

***Recognized Health Risk Categories:**

- People 65 years of age and older.
- Blood disorders (i.e., sickle cell disease or on blood thinners).
- Severe obesity (i.e., body mass index [BMI] of 40 or higher)
- Chronic kidney disease as defined by a doctor. Patient has been told to avoid or reduce the dose of medications because of kidney disease or is under treatment for kidney disease, including receiving dialysis.
- Chronic liver disease as defined by a doctor (i.e., cirrhosis, chronic hepatitis). Patient has been told to avoid or reduce the dose of medications because liver disease or is under treatment for liver disease.
- Compromised immune system (immunosuppression) (i.e., seeing a doctor for cancer and treatment such as chemotherapy or radiation, received an organ or bone marrow transplant, taking high doses of corticosteroids or other immunosuppressant medications, HIV or AIDS).
- Endocrine disorders (i.e., diabetes mellitus).
- Metabolic disorders (i.e., inherited metabolic disorders and mitochondrial disorders).

- Heart disease (i.e., congenital heart disease, congestive heart failure and coronary artery disease).
- Lung disease (i.e., asthma or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, chronic bronchitis or emphysema, or other chronic conditions associated with impaired lung function or that require home oxygen).
- Neurological and neurologic and neurodevelopment conditions [i.e., disorders of the brain, spinal cord, peripheral nerve, and muscle such as cerebral palsy, epilepsy (seizure disorders), stroke, intellectual disability, moderate to severe developmental delay, muscular dystrophy, or spinal cord injury].