

Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of
Services Plan (SRCSP)

June 23, 2021

Board approved July 20, 2021

Revisions approved August 19, 2021

Revisions approved October 21, 2021

Revisions approved December 16, 2021

Revisions approved January 6, 2022

Salem R-80 District Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan
(SRCSP)

Dear Salem Staff, Parents and Community Members:

Like you, school district administrators have been inundated with information regarding COVID-19 for months. We have monitored information from the CDC, Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, the Dent County Health Department, the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, MSHSAA and other professional organizations to create a plan to allow students and staff to return to school, while ensuring safety continues to be a primary concern. This plan is subject to change, based on stakeholder input and Board action.

Instructional options for 2021-2022 include seated classes with precautions or virtual instruction through Acellus, from the American Academy of Science. Students will participate in online, video-based lessons, aligned with the Missouri Learning Standards. A district staff member will monitor student progress and assign grades, with additional staff assigned to each virtual student to serve as instructional resources. Parents may indicate interest in the virtual option by completing the application form at each building.

If a student chooses the virtual learning option, they will be required to commit to that option for the entire semester (after a 5-day trial period). If a student chooses seated instruction, they can switch to virtual learning during the course of the semester. Minimal technology requirements must be guaranteed by parents in order to enroll in these virtual options. Questions about the virtual learning options may be directed to building principals or Asst. Supt. John Smith at (729-6642, john.smith@salemr80.org).

Should we have to close the entire district, students will be using Google Classroom at all grade levels to continue providing quality instruction, including normal grading practices. Teachers will begin training all students on Google Classroom prior to any school closure.

Our re-entry plan is based on a set of collective commitments that, if embraced, will allow us the flexibility to adjust as the COVID-19 situation evolves. Detailed protocols for each building and activities follow. The nurse shared detailed information regarding protocols for illness, exposure to COVID, etc.

Please be patient as we make every effort to make wise decisions for the students of Salem R-80. Our goal is to keep our students and staff safe and healthy, and to keep as many students learning in-seat as possible. We are looking forward to a wonderful 2021-2022 school year!

The Salem R-80 Administrative Team

District Commitments

- Increase intensity and frequency of cleaning and disinfecting surfaces.
- Provide training for staff on infection control, specific to COVID.
- Provide training for virtual instruction to accommodate students who choose that option.
- Ensure accessibility to hand washing and hand sanitizer for students and staff.
- Provide a virtual instruction option for students who do not choose to participate in seated classes, or who are absent due to quarantine, isolation or illness.
- Encourage the use of face coverings by staff and students, while recognizing the role of personal choice and responsibility.
- Provide face coverings for those who wish to wear them but do not have them.
- Require food service staff to wear face coverings during meal preparation and serving.
- Sanitize buses after each route
- Strongly encourage face coverings by staff and students in common areas at school.
- Provide live streaming of school events such as athletic events, board meetings, music performances, to maximize virtual participation.

Staff Commitments

- Encourage/monitor appropriate social distancing.
- Monitor symptoms in students and self.
- Participate in training regarding virtual instruction in order to be prepared for the possibility of a school closure, and to assist students who chose the virtual instruction option from Day 1.
- Encourage/model frequent hand washing and sanitizing among students.
- Clean classroom surfaces regularly.
- Create and maintain seating charts in classrooms and on buses (including trip buses).
- Listen to students' concerns and watch for signs of social-emotional issues related to the transition back to school.
- Maintain consistent virtual contact/ instruction with students if you are quarantined for exposure but not symptomatic.
- Follow board approved guidelines if quarantining or isolation becomes necessary.

Parent Commitments

- Monitor COVID symptoms in your children.
- Transport your children to and from school if at all possible.
- Limit visits to the school, agree to temperature check upon entry.
- Maintain social distancing at events.

- Follow other schools' safety protocols when at "away" events.
- Pick up your children from school promptly if they have a fever of 100.4 or above, exhibit other COVID symptoms, or have been exposed to someone with COVID, then follow the recommendations in this document regarding removal from school for the necessary number of days depending on exposure.
- If your children have a fever, keep them home until they are fever free for 24 hours, without fever-reducing medication.

Student Commitments

- Maintain social distancing to the greatest degree possible, respecting others' personal space.
- Support other students' use of masks.
- Report any COVID-like symptoms to your parents or school personnel.
- Wash hands and use hand sanitizer frequently.
- Use tissue or your elbow to cover sneezes/coughs.
- Follow all building procedures.

Mitigation Measures

Following are mitigation measures that will be utilized for the 2021-2022 school year.

Masks: ALL staff should wear masks when within 6' of other adults. To comply with the federal mandate, all students are required to wear masks on buses. Staff will instruct students on the correct wearing of masks.

Physical distancing: During the 2021-2022 school year, social distancing will be encouraged. We will continue to require mandatory seating charts in classrooms and on buses. Students at the elementary level (PreK-5) will be cohorted.

Hand and respiratory hygiene: Proper handwashing and respiratory hygiene will continue to be taught during the 2021-2022 school year, and students and staff will be encouraged to wash hands frequently. Hand sanitizer and tissues will be provided in every classroom, hallways, offices, and other common areas.

Cleaning and maintenance: Our custodians will have updated training on cleaning high-touch surfaces, and will be provided with appropriate supplies to provide a clean, safe learning environment.

Diagnostic and screening testing: Students and staff will be assessed by the school nurse and parents will be contacted to remove the child from school when necessary. Staff and students will have access to rapid COVID testing on site. Our school nurses are trained and will administer the tests.

Contact tracing/Isolation/Quarantine: Each building principal will assign individuals to identify individuals exposed to those who test positive for COVID, and quarantine appropriately.

1) Close Contacts

- a) The CDC defines a close contact to COVID-19 as someone who was within 6 feet of an infected person (laboratory-confirmed or a clinically compatible illness) for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period (for example, three individual 5-minute exposures for a total of 15 minutes).
- b) An infected person can spread SARS-CoV-2 starting from 2 days before they have any symptoms (or, for asymptomatic patients, 2 days before the positive specimen collection date), until they meet criteria for discontinuing home isolation.
- c) The CDC added an exception for students in the K-12 setting. In Missouri, students, teachers, and staff in the K-12 indoor setting who were within 3 feet of an infected person (laboratory-confirmed or a clinically compatible illness) AND if both the infected person and the exposed person(s) correctly and consistently wore well-fitting masks the entire time are not considered close contacts to a case.

- d) Students, teachers, and staff in the K-12 indoor setting who were with 6 feet, but not closer than 3 feet of an infected person (laboratory-confirmed or a clinically compatible illness) are not considered close contacts to a case IF the exposed person(s) correctly and consistently wore well-fitting masks the entire time.

Exposure risk in the K-12 setting only, for unvaccinated individuals			
	DISTANCE		
MASK USE	LESS THAN 3FEET	BETWEEN 3-6FT	GREATER THAN 6FT
BOTH PARTIES	No quarantine for exposed persons	No quarantine for exposed persons	No exposure
INFECTED ONLY	Exposed must quarantine *DESE option 3 or 4*	Exposed must quarantine *DESE option 3 or 4*	No exposure
EXPOSED ONLY	Exposed must quarantine *DESE Option 3 or 4*	No quarantine for exposed persons	No exposure
NO PARTIES	Exposed must quarantine *DESE Option 3 or 4*	Exposed must quarantine *DESE Option 3 or 4*	No exposure

2) Quarantine Required when

- a) Required for all close contacts (as defined above), except as noted below.
- b) *Exceptions:*
- i) Fully vaccinated individuals do not have to quarantine, but they should wear a mask and monitor for symptoms for 10 days. Consider testing 3-5 days after exposure.
 - ii) Persons previously infected with laboratory confirmed COVID-19 with in the past 90 days AND has recovered AND remains without COVID-19 symptoms for the full 10 days past the last date of exposure to the case, do not have to quarantine, but they should wear a mask and monitor for symptoms for 10 days. Consider testing 5 days after exposure.
 - iii) In the K-12 Setting: within 6 feet of a person diagnosed with COVID-19 AND both the case and the potentially close contact correctly and consistently wore well-fitting masks the entire time; AND remains without COVID-19 symptoms for the full 10 days past the last date of exposure to the case.
NOTE: This does not include exposures occurring during extracurricular activities such as sports
 - (1) IF only the infected person is wearing a mask, then the exposed persons must quarantine (DESE options 3 or 4 permitted).

(2) If only the exposed person is wearing a mask, and the separation was 6ft but not less than 3ft, then they do not have to quarantine.

(3) If only the exposed person is wearing a mask, and the separation was less than 3ft, the exposed person must quarantine (DESE options 3 or 4 permitted).

(4) If neither party is wearing a mask, then exposed persons must quarantine (DESE options 3 or 4 permitted).

3) **Length of Quarantine**

a) For people who are unvaccinated or are more than six months out from their second mRNA dose (or more than 2 months after the J&J vaccine) and not yet boosted, they should quarantine for 5 days followed by strict mask use for an additional 5 days, as long as they are asymptomatic and fever free for at least 24 hours.

b) Testing out of quarantine

i) On or after day 5, a quarantined individual may be tested for SARS-CoV-2 using a high-quality molecular test. Antigen tests, such as BinaxNOW, will not be accepted for these purposes due to the low sensitivity and higher likelihood of a false negative.

ii) High quality molecular tests have been in and out of availability. If at any time the Administrator determines that a sufficient shortage of these tests exists in the Dent County area, testing out of quarantine will be suspended to preserve these tests for symptomatic individuals. If an individual manages to obtain a PCR test during a shortage, it WILL NOT be used to inform quarantine length. This is to discourage the use of these limited resources for this purpose.

Note: Persons participating in the Test to Stay option who develop symptoms of COVID-19 or test positive during the test to stay period or the 10 days following the last date of exposure, should follow the proper isolation protocols, including self-isolating at home and NOT attending school or participating in extracurricular activities. In addition, quarantine outside of the school setting and outside of extracurricular activities, as outlined, is still strongly recommended for individuals participating in Test to Stay. Participation in extracurriculars such as sports or other activities that involve singing, shouting, playing instruments, and exercising that could lead to increased exhalation can increase the risk of spread of SARS-CoV-2 among persons in the K-12 setting. The prompt identification and isolation of persons with COVID-19 from

participation in these activities is very important to avoid further transmission to others. Individuals following the Test to Stay protocol may be eligible to participate in school sports and extracurricular activities provided that they comply with all criteria included in the protocol. Daily testing is recommended, though at a minimum, an additional rapid antigen test is to be taken on the day of participation throughout the duration of the 10-day quarantine period. The testing should be completed and a negative result received prior to participation in the event.

Note: It is recognized that many extracurricular events occur on weekends, holidays, or when the school is otherwise not in session. If a school cannot arrange for someone to administer the test, the close contact needs to stay in quarantine and NOT participate in the event. Alternately, the individual may participate if tested negative (diagnostic test such as PCR or antigen test) by a health care provider, pharmacy, etc. (not to include at-home tests) on the day of the event. A negative test result or a note from a healthcare provider or pharmacy indicating the completion of the test and a negative result should be provided prior to participation in the event.

4) Modified Quarantine Options

- a) DESE Option 3: Extracurricular Exclusion
 - i) Student quarantines outside of school setting, but may stay in school wearing a mask correctly and consistently. Student may not participate in extra-curricular activities.
- b) DESE Option 4: Test to Stay
 - i) Student quarantines outside of school setting, but may stay in school wearing a mask correctly and consistently. May participate in extracurricular activities.
 - ii) Does not apply to exposures outside of school setting.
 - iii) See DESE guidance for description of testing requirements.

5) Isolation Required when

- a) A person tests positive for COVID-19 and is asymptomatic, unless it is >10 days but <90 days from a symptomatic infection.
- b) A person has symptoms and tests positive for COVID-19.
- c) A person has symptoms of COVID-19 and was exposed to a known case of COVID-19 (if a person on quarantine develops symptoms).

5) Length of Isolation

People with COVID-19 should isolate for 5 days and if they are asymptomatic or their symptoms are resolving (without fever for 24 hours), follow that by 5 days of wearing a mask when around others to minimize the risk of infecting people they encounter.

Vaccinations: Information regarding vaccination clinics will be disseminated to staff, students and families.

Reasonable accommodations for those with disabilities: Reasonable accommodations will be made for students with IEPs or 504s, along with any students or staff with disabilities.

Social-Emotional and Mental Health Care Needs: The district will provide for students' academic, and students' and staff social, emotional, and mental health needs, as a result of lost instructional time, by providing research-based interventions.

The plan was originally approved by the Board at the July 20, 2021 and reviewed at each monthly board meeting. Future revisions will be discussed by the SRCSP Team, which include students, families, administrators, teachers, school leaders, school staff and representatives from teacher organizations, and approved by the Board of Education..

Please contact Central Office if you need the plan in a different language (573-729-6642 or lynne.reed@salemnr80.org)