

### CREIGHTON COMMUNITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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# Covid 19 - Return to Learn Plan - 2021-2022 Year

Message - Please read closely.

### \*Changes are in red

1.11.2022 - The CDC and our local health department have updated guidance for isolation and quarantine timelines. This updated guidance has been shared as a letter sent to all school families. Our PK-6 tiered plan has been updated to reflect these changes as well. Appendix B has been removed. We will follow the most recent guidance for exclusion from school based on symptoms. Updated guidance will continue to be shared with families.

We continue to ask students and staff to stay home if they are not feeling well.

### Rationale for Return to Learn Plan

- Our main goal is to ensure that our students, staff, and families are remaining safe and healthy.
- A second priority is ensuring that we are keeping our students in school and avoiding remote learning situations.
- 3. We are required by the American Rescue Plan of 2021 (ARP) to develop and implement a Return to

Learn plan with public input. The ARP requires 9 components for the Return to Learn Plan which is the basis for our district plan.

# Creighton Community Public Schools: 2021-22 Covid 19 Return to Learn Plan

\*Plan is divided by the components required by the American Rescue Plan

### 1. Wearing of Masks

While masks are not required at this time as a universal precaution, we <u>strongly</u> encourage students and staff to wear masks to protect themselves and others.

We also strongly encourage students and staff to closely follow the CDC guidelines which can be found at the following link:

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/ your-health/index.html

<u>Rationale</u> – Masks are proven to mitigate the spread of Covid-19.

#### 2. Physical distancing

 Desks will continue to be separated as much as possible in each classroom. Close contact group classroom activities will need to be eliminated if we see any type of school spread.

Rationale - The CDC still recommends at least 3 feet of distance where possible between each student in a classroom

## 3. Handwashing and cleanliness

 The school will continue to promote good hygiene practices and will provide hand sanitizer at entrances and in classrooms.

<u>Rationale</u> - Continued good practices in this area will not only help with Covid spread but will also help during cold/flu season.

#### 4. Healthy Facilities and ventilation

- The custodial and maintenance staff will continue with enhanced cleaning and sanitizing practices.
- The district has already made improvements to the building ventilation system.

Rationale - Enhanced sanitizing practices will continue to be beneficial to stop spread of any type of illness.

### 5. Contact Tracing/Quarantine Procedures

- The school district will comply with all current state and local health district requirements and recommendations, including symptom exclusion criteria.
   Local health departments have continued contact tracing and will inform the school of any isolation and/or quarantine recommendations and/or requirements.
- Students will be provided with opportunities to stay caught up with school work while absent and to make up school work once they return (refer to absence policy in handbook). High school students will

not be subject to a reduction in credit if absences are due to covid.

<u>Rationale</u> – Contact tracing and quarantine can help to mitigate the spread of covid in our schools and communities.

#### 6. Screening and Testing

- Students will <u>not</u> be screened upon entering the building. Families should continue to screen for symptoms before coming to school each day.
- The school district will utilize recommended Screening, Exclusion, and Re-Admittance guidelines from the local health department.
   Rationale - While screening at school can be helpful, we do not have a need at this time to continue with this practice.

### 7. Provide opportunities for vaccinations

- Vaccinations remain a family and/or individual choice.
- However, the school district will coordinate with our local health district to promote opportunities for staff and student vaccinations as needed.

<u>Rationale</u> - Vaccinations are proven to be a valuable tool in addressing our pandemic.

# 8. Accommodations for children with special needs

 The district will continue to follow all IEP and 504 plans. Individual student health needs should be addressed within these plans.

<u>Rationale</u> - The school district will always follow applicable federal and state laws.

### 9. Coordination with State and Local Health Officials

- The school district will continue to seek out and follow the advice of state and local health officials.
   Changes to our plan will be considered as needed.
- We will review and revise our plan a minimum of once every 6 months as required by the ARP.

Rationale - Covid 19 has provided a lot of unpredictability. It is important for our district to continue to seek out guidance and make changes as needed to keep our students, staff, and community safe.

# 10. Policy to address documented classroom/school Covid spread

\*\* Please see Appendix A at the end of this plan to carefully review our adopted practices to address classroom covid spread. K-6 and 7-12 will follow separate procedures.

# 11. Exclusion, Screening, and Re-Admittance Protocols

The school board has adopted the Nebraska Association of Local Health Directors recommended guidelines for exclusion, screening, and testing. \*\*Please see Appendix B at the end of this plan to carefully review our newly revised protocols for symptom screening and exclusion.

### 12. Other Components

- Every effort will be made to first approve any changes to this plan via the Creighton Board of Education (BOE). However, the Creighton BOE has authorized the superintendent the ability to make immediate changes if needed to protect our students and staff as well as to keep our schools open. Any changes to this plan or updated guidance from the CDC and health department will be communicated to all families in a timely manner.
- Food service School administration will continue to collaborate with our food service staff to provide food in a safe, sanitary manner.
- Drinking fountains will be available.
   However, Students are encouraged to bring and use their own water bottle during the school day and during school activities.
- Transportation Our school district
  will make every effort to spread
  students out on school busses to the
  greatest extent possible. If a positive
  case is documented or we have
  spread within our schools, masks
  may be required on busses and
  school vehicles.
- Schedules/Shared Classroom Use Elementary and middle level
   students will be able to travel to and
   use shared classrooms (middle level
   core subjects, PE, music, art, etc.).
   Administration will make changes as

needed with traveling classes if our situation changes.

#### 13. Plan Timeline

 All Return to Learn Plans should be posted on district websites no later than July 15th, 2021. All plans should be reviewed every 6 months for the next two years.

#### 14. Public Input Timeline

- <u>June</u> Current plan and requirements were reviewed.
- 6/29- Current draft was reviewed by district administration.
- 6/30 Current draft and a survey was shared with all school district employees.
- 7/1 Current draft and a survey was shared with families and the community (website and Facebook)
- 7/8 Committee meeting to review plan and survey feedback. The Committee includes administration, staff, BOE members, and parents.
   Members also sought out input from students prior to the meeting.
- 7/12 Plan officially board approved at July BOE meeting.
- <u>7/15</u> Plan posted to district website for public viewing.
- 8/20 Policy committee met to review new recommendations from the state and local health department
- 8/25 Covid Response Information Team (policy committee and 4 local health professionals) met to review

new recommendations from the state and local health department

- 8/26 Survey was created and shared with families and community members via our website and social media.
- 8/30 School board reviewed survey data and voted 6-0 to approve proposed changes.
- November 4th- Policy committee met to review R2L plan.
- November 5th Letter was sent to families with clarification and reminders.
- January 4th New CDC and health department guidance was reviewed by policy committee. Letter was sent home. Draft R2L plan was posted to website (tiered plan changes).
- January 10th Reviewed changes at January board meeting

### Appendix A - Creighton Return to Learn Plan

### Policy to address documented classroom/school Covid spread

### Preschool- 6th Grade

# 1st documented positive case\*\* in a classroom (student was present in the classroom during contagious period)

- Send letters/emails home to all families notifying them of a potential classroom exposure
- Monitor symptoms at school and home

### 2nd positive case in the same classroom (documented link to the first case)

- Send letters/emails home to all families notifying them of a 2nd potential exposure
- Require mask wearing in the classroom 10 days from last exposure
- Students will not rotate to different classrooms
- Students will eat lunch in an alternate location
- Continue to monitor symptoms at school and home

# 3rd positive case in the same classroom (documented link to the first 2 cases)

- Immediately communicate with families
- With guidance from the local health department for each instance, the school should strongly consider requiring the following:
  - All students should be quarantined for 5 days.
  - Students may return on day 6 if they do not have any symptoms.
  - Students will be required to mask days 6-10 and families should continue to monitor for symptoms
  - Students are strongly encouraged, but not required, to test before returning on day 6.
- School will provide remote learning during this time period.

\*\*If multiple K-6 classrooms are experiencing rapid Covid spread, we will work with the local health department and consider the following options:

- 1. K-6 mask requirement for students and staff reviewed every 10 days
- 2. At-home quarantine and remote learning for a limited time as determined by the school and health department.

### **Appendix A Continued**

### Junior High and High School Plan

The school will coordinate with the local health department and local officials to determine if we have a rapid increase in positive Covid cases or known exposures. If the school district determines that we have a documented spread of Covid in our junior high and high school, we will require the following precautions:

- Families will be notified of Covid spread at these levels. They will be asked to monitor their students for symptoms.
- 2. Masks should be worn by students and staff. This requirement will be revisited after 10 days.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Documented cases must be confirmed by a licensed healthcare provider and/or the local health department.