

Crystal City #47 School District
Re-entry Guidelines



2020-2021 School Year

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Crystal City Parents and Guardians,

The global Coronavirus pandemic has introduced a new level of risk for in-person instruction and in-person gatherings. Our schools are designed to educate students through social, face-to-face interactions, in relatively close spaces and in large groups. The benefits of this approach to education are well accepted. The Crystal City School District has heard from our community and access to school is important. We also know our community prioritizes student and staff safety and expects a thoughtful re-entry plan. As we plan for a school year likely to be continuously impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, here are our priorities:

- Providing environments that are as safe as possible for students and staff; to the best extent possible.
- Providing equitable, guaranteed, and viable rigorous curriculum that maximizes student learning.

This plan has been developed to try to minimize the opportunity for the spread of the virus, but it cannot be prevented. There is inherent risk, although minimal according to experts, for children to attend school and attend in-person classes. There are also risks for children who are not allowed to socialize or participate with their cohort. There is an increased risk of negative social and emotional behaviors that occur when isolated. And most importantly, students learn more when they are instructed in-person by a quality teacher. The plan now is to be in school face to face in August.

This plan is an evolving document that will change before August. The intent is to provide a baseline for our expectations for the beginning of school. As we move closer to that date, there may be changes to this plan and our approach. We will also be collecting data from our community and the staff about our return to school.

In-Person & Online Education

- The Crystal City School District recognizes that many parents are ready and comfortable with resuming class in-person on August 25, 2020. However, there are still some parents and students who may be cautious about attending school ‘in-person’. As a result, for the 2020-2021 school year, the Crystal City School District will offer students the choice to either attend class in-person or opt for online. At this time, our online courses will be an extension of the regular classroom and will be taught by the Crystal City Staff.
- Parents will be informed of who to contact if you would like to do our online classes. If a student opts to do online classes, they will need to commit to do them for a semester

(9-12) or a quarter (PK-8) due to staffing and credits. These decisions can be communicated during registration which will take place on a future date and will be communicated.

General Parameters and guidelines

- Students and staff will wash/sanitize hands each time upon entering the building. (sanitation stations will be available at each entrance)
- Students and staff will participate in temperature checks on an as needed basis as determined by district administration.
- All classrooms will have hand sanitizer along with disinfectant spray.
- Students and staff will be advised to wash/sanitize their hands multiple times per day.
- Large group gatherings will not be allowed during the school day.
- All school assemblies will not occur.
- We all need to be prepared to switch to a virtual or distance learning model if we see a spike in COVID-19 cases.
- An isolation area will be set up to contain any student or staff who are showing signs of illness.
- Social distancing will be observed to the extent possible by all staff and students.
- Student activities and athletics will be conducted as usual to the extent they are permissible under local, state and federal guidelines.

Social Distancing

- Social distancing will be followed to the fullest extent possible, but there are instances where social distancing cannot happen.
- We will have assigned seating in classrooms, buses, and the cafeteria (in order to accommodate contact tracing if needed).
- Recess & playground areas will be limited to reduce the number of students in close proximity.
- Parents/Guardians will have to buzz in and wait to enter the office one at a time. If others are waiting they should wait outside (in their vehicle if necessary) so there is a limited number of individuals in the space. Parents/Guardians should practice social distancing by staying 6ft apart while waiting outside.
- Non-essential visitors will not be allowed into the school.
- Military recruiters will be allowed on-campus visits; colleges must complete online informational sessions.

Administer health screening when anyone is entering the building:

- Student screenings will be the responsibility of the students' parents/guardian.
- Each staff member will be responsible for asking themselves the (7) essential questions:
 - Today or in the past 24 hours have you had any of the following symptoms?
 - a. Do you have a temperature greater than 100.4 for children and greater than 100 for adults?
 - b. Do you have a household member or close contact with someone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 in the past two weeks?
 - c. Do you have symptoms of lower respiratory illness such as a new or worsening cough, shortness of breath, or difficulty breathing?
 - d. Have you experienced any chills or repeated shaking with chills?
 - e. Have you experienced any muscle pain or headache (different than normal exercise-induced pain or your seasonal allergies or other diagnosed condition)?
 - f. Have you experienced any sore throat (different than your seasonal allergies or other diagnosed condition)?
 - g. Have you experienced any recent loss of taste or smell?
 - h. Have you experienced any recent diarrhea or vomiting?

Face Coverings - This May Change With New Information**

- Training will be provided to all staff and students on mask etiquette for face masks (or Face Shields).
- **Staff**
 - Staff members will be encouraged to wear a face mask or face shield when within 6 feet of another individual. Staff members will be provided cloth masks or may bring their own.
 - Nurses will be provided medical grade face masks, eye protection and other PPE to use when working with students who become ill at school.
- **Students**
 - Students will be strongly encouraged to wear a face covering if there are circumstances that put them in close areas. If at all possible, wearing masks when in a hallway during passing period is highly recommended, but optional at this time.
 - Younger students who are less able to comply will not be advised to wear a face covering, unless requested by a parent or guardian.
 - Students that become ill will be isolated and provided with a face covering.
 - Students who choose to wear a face mask will be required to wear them in the proper manner in which a mask should be worn.

- Masks will be treated as part of the dress code and will follow under those guidelines.

Signage

- Signs will be posted in highly visible areas (e.g., school entrances, restrooms) that promote everyday protective measures.
- Make regular announcements on the importance of handwashing, not touching your face, and social distancing.

Gloves

- **Staff (gloves not necessary for students)**
 - Gloves will be provided to any staff member who is working with sick or suspected sick individuals.
 - Staff will be required to wear a fresh pair of gloves when working with each new individual.
 - Staff will be required to use hand sanitizer before putting on gloves and then once again after removing gloves.
 - Custodians will be required to use gloves whenever cleaning.
 - Gloves and hand sanitizer will be provided, and masks will be available to staff who do not have their own.

Handwashing

- Students and staff will be encouraged to wash their hands or the use of hand sanitizer upon entering a building, before eating, after eating, after restroom usage, before any group activities and before boarding school buses.
- Hand washing/sanitizing will be recommended any time the face and/or mouth are touched (this may prove difficult with younger students).

Student and staff attendance guidelines

- Students and staff with symptoms of illness should stay home. Student grades will not be reduced from absences that are communicated as COVID related.
- Students at school who display symptoms that suggest COVID-19 concerns will be checked by a member of the staff. If the evaluation suggests potential for COVID-19, the student will be quarantined until they are able to be picked up by a parent or guardian.
- Students with a temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher will be sent home.
- A student removed from school due to COVID-19 concerns may return to school in accordance with guidelines provided by the health department. Please understand that guidelines may change over time. At the time of this publication, the guidelines are as follows:

- Students with symptoms and were not tested for COVID-19 may return if the following conditions are met:
 - At least 3 days (72 hrs) have passed since resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications and improvement in respiratory symptoms AND,
 - At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared
- Students with symptoms that were tested for COVID-19 and the test was negative, may return if the following conditions are met:
 - Resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications and
 - Improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g, cough, shortness of breath). AND,
 - Negative results of an FDA “Emergency Use Authorized COVID-19 molecular assay for detection of SARS-CoV-2 RNA from at least two respiratory specimens collected >24 hours apart.
- Students that have tested positive for COVID-19 may return if the following conditions are met:
 - 14 days have passed without symptoms.
 - Negative results of an FDA Emergency Use Authorized COVID-19 molecular assay for detection of SARS-CoV-2 RNA from at least two consecutive respiratory specimens collect >24 hours apart.”
 - Released and given written approval to return by a healthcare provider.
- Other scenarios regarding student health will be handled according to guidance and consultation from the Jefferson County Health Department.

Health Concerns or Responding to an Illness

When Someone Is Sick:

We have a culture of working or going to school when we are sick. We must work towards changing that culture and encourage staff and students to stay home when they are feeling ill. This message will continually be communicated to staff, parents and students.

The District will: (when someone is identified with symptoms):

- Send the individual home immediately.
 - If it’s a staff member, that individual will be sent home immediately.
 - If it is a student, they will be removed from the classroom until arrangements can be made for them to be picked up by a parent or guardian.

- Advise the person to contact a healthcare provider if they exhibit symptoms or answered YES to any of the screening questions.
- Request to be notified if the healthcare provider will be able to determine whether the symptoms are a result of COVID-19 infection or if there are other health issues.
- Contact one's local health agency.
 - They will assist when it is acceptable for the person to return to work or school.
- Follow the guidance of the local health department regarding contact tracing, classroom or school closure, notification of community, sanitizing protocols, etc.

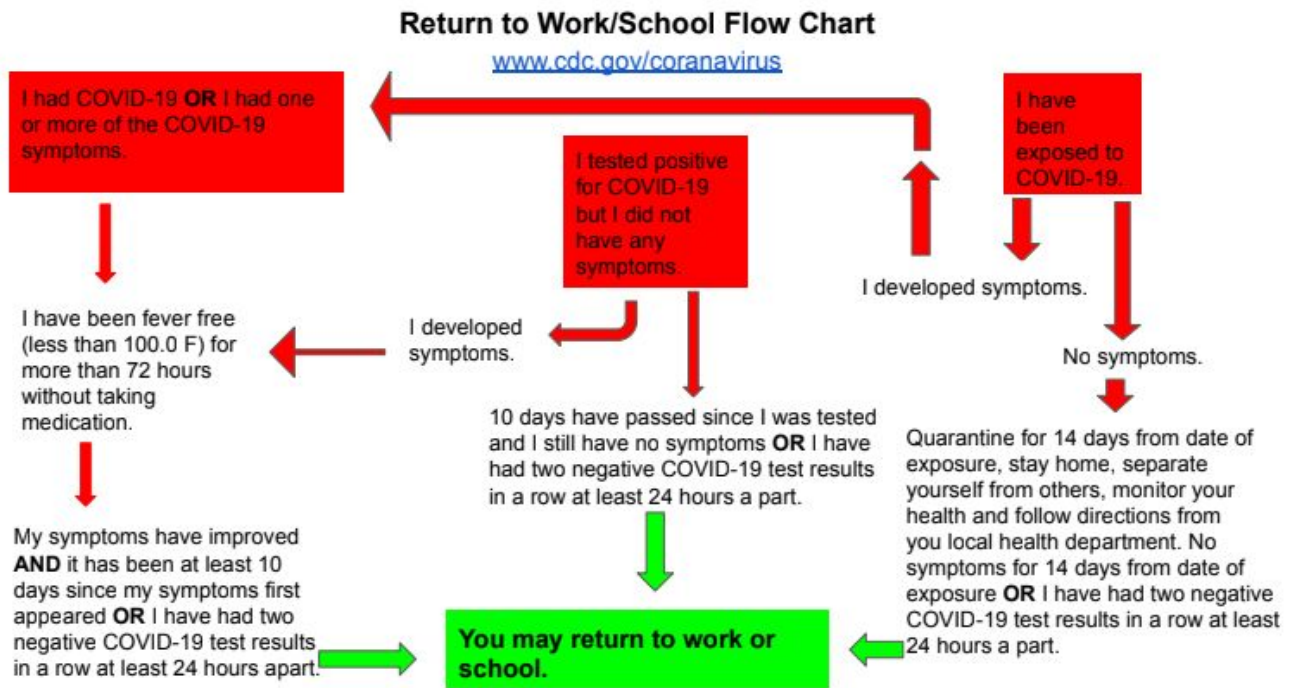
When a Case is Identified:

If an individual within a school building has tested positive for COVID-19, the district will work with the local health department but could expect some of these parameters to be put in place:

- Identify who the individual was in contact with, within a 6-foot space, for at least 15 minutes. If specific contacts cannot be identified, quarantine everyone who was in the same room, bus or other areas. Schools will need to keep room/bus logs or photos in order to assist with contact tracing. By having a seating chart, bus seating charts or photos, the number of students required to be quarantined can be minimized.
- The Jefferson County Health Department suggests that if over 5% of the student body in a building or district test positive any day, 4% test positive over 2 days in a row or 3% test positive for 3 days in a row, then that building or district closes for 10 days. (Percentages may change when better scientific data becomes available.)
- There will be an identified space to isolate a sick student or staff member until the individual can leave the building.
- In the event a person diagnosed with COVID-19 is determined to have been in the building and poses a risk to the staff or students, a school may close for 1-2 days for cleaning and disinfection of that building or exposed area if unable to clean during the nighttime closing.

When is someone allowed to return

- Use the recommended CDC flow chart to determine when an individual may return to work/school:



Cleaning and Disinfecting

- More frequent cleaning and disinfection will be required based on the level of use.
- High touch surfaces and objects (such as tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, sinks, etc) in public places will be cleaned and disinfected regularly throughout the day by EPA registered solutions.
- The custodial staff will maintain a daily cleaning log.
- Water fountains will be disinfected regularly and used to fill bottles.

Transportation

- If possible, parents are encouraged to opt out of district provided transportation to aid in increased social distancing on the buses.
- Parents/guardians must commit to utilizing or NOT utilizing district transportation for a full semester. Changes to district transportation usage may be made at the end of first semester for planning and tracing purposes.
- Students will be assigned seats to reduce transmission and assist with contact tracing if necessary.
- Students are expected to remain in their assigned seat at all times. Strict consequences will occur for those students not remaining in their seat, including being suspended from using district transportation for the remainder of the year.

- Buses will be wiped down and disinfected between every route.
- Bus Drivers will be required to wear face masks.
- Parents will only be allowed two pickup/dropoff locations per child.

Technology

- Google Classroom will be used throughout the district as our digital platform.
- Crystal City 47 is a bring your own device (BYOD) district for grades 7-12. The district is continuously working to increase the number of Chromebooks available to students at school. However, to help the District get closer to a 1:1 technology ratio, students will be allowed to bring their own devices to utilize at school.
- Grades 3-6 will have access to chromebooks while school when needed.
- If parents are interested in purchasing devices for their students, the district recommends Chromebooks because they are affordable devices with all-day batteries that will allow students to access all of their teacher-assigned resources, digital content, etc. the same way they would if they were using a school-owned device.
- For the upcoming 2020-2021 school year students (7-12) are encouraged to bring their own Chromebook or technology device for learning purposes.
- For students who do not have access to a personal device, the district will distribute Chromebooks (7-12) for use at school and home with the following protocols:
 - Students will be required to wash hands or utilize district provided hand sanitizer before the use of any district device.
 - All students will be assigned a chromebook. This device will be assigned by the educator and kept for recordkeeping.
 - Only one student will be allowed to use a device at a time.
 - Staff will wipe down machines as necessary with district-provided cleaners designed for electronics.
 - All devices will be cleaned at the end of every day.
- The High School parking lot will be opened as a hotspot for students in all grade levels if another long term closure is mandated.

Building Plans

Principals and faculty teams are working on building plans together, but will work from these district details. Those plans will be written and adjusted as we get closer to the opening of school. These plans will provide details for students and parents about day to day procedures.

