



Warren Local School District

2021-2022 School Year

**Safe Return to
In-Person
Instruction &
Continuity of
Services Plan**



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Overview

The District's 2021-2022 Continuity of Services Plan is built on guidelines from the Ohio Department of Education, the Ohio Department of Health, as well as in conjunction with the Washington County Board of Health. Warren Local Schools has a strong belief that face-to-face instruction is what is best for our students and community.

It is the District's plan to stay vigilant and continue to follow directives from all required agencies for the 2021-2022 school year. There is no doubt that the district's plan will be changed and updated throughout this school year – Please be patient and look for these updates.

The following principles will guide the plan's development

The plan will align with the recommendations and requirements for operating schools set by all Federal agencies, the Ohio Department of Education, the Ohio Department of Health, the Governor, and the Washington County's health departments.

COVID-19 safety precautions can mitigate risk and keep us in school in order to maximize student learning and emotional growth. The district will decrease the likelihood of infection with hygiene, cleaning, and safety procedures, but being in a public place has a certain level of risk that cannot be eliminated.

The district recognizes the importance of face-to-face instruction and interaction and will strive to make this a reality for our students and community.

The district will be transparent in the creation and implementation of our plan.

The situation influencing the district plan is fluid and ever changing; therefore, the plan will need to be flexible and updated as needed.

Recommendations & Mitigation

Ohio Department of Health & Ohio Department of Education

To follow are recommendations that are from the Ohio Department of Health and the Ohio Department of Education. These recommendations are made in [the COVID-19 HEALTH AND PREVENTION GUIDANCE FOR OHIO K-12 SCHOOLS](#) document.

As students are in school, the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) recommends following the same layered prevention strategies that were effective at controlling COVID-19 during the 2020-2021 school year.

- **Strongly recommend vaccination** for staff and eligible students. Vaccines are our best tool to protect students and prevent the spread of a virus like COVID-19.
- **Wearing masks.** Masks have been proven to be extremely effective in slowing the spread of the virus. Ohio researchers conducted an evaluation last year that showed that masking helped control the spread of the virus in Ohio schools. ODH strongly recommends that those who are unvaccinated wear masks while in school.
- **Regular Hand Washing and Sanitation.** Students and Staff should regularly wash their hands and use hand sanitizer, which is available throughout our schools and on our school buses.
- **Increased Cleaning of School Facilities.** The district will more frequently sanitize its school facilities, especially common areas like restrooms and cafeterias.
- **Social Distancing.** The Washington County Health Department (WCHD) recommends at least 3 feet or more of social distancing in school settings. The district will use strategies to increase social distancing when possible, but our school community should be aware that students and staff will not consistently be three feet apart while at school due to the nature of in-person schooling with all students present.
- **Symptoms.** It strongly recommended that parents keep students home if they are experiencing one or more of the following fever/chills, cough, shortness of breath, fatigue, muscle/body aches, headache, loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and/or diarrhea.

Masking

Warren Local School District is dedicated to the before listed principles. Specifically, it is the belief of our district that in-person, face-to-face instruction and interaction is what is best for the social, emotional, and instructional growth of our students.

Warren Local School Districts, starting October 26, 2021 and updated December 30, 2021, will be implementing Ohio Department of Health's [Mask to Stay/Test to Play Option](#) for masking. It should also be understood that students and staff may continue, if they so choose, to wear a mask.

Key Points – Mask to Stay

- Eligibility to participate in mask to stay/test to play is contingent on exposure being in a school setting or school-related activities. This does not apply to household exposures or exposures outside of the school setting or school-related activities.
- Direct contact, regardless of vaccination or masking status, may remain in the classroom environment if they do the following:
 - Wear a mask for 10 days after their last date of exposure.
 - Self-monitor, or parent-monitor, for symptoms of COVID-19.
 - Isolate and get tested if they start to experience symptoms associated with COVID-19.

Key Points – Test to Play

- Eligibility to participate in mask to stay/test to play is contingent on exposure being in a school setting or school-related activities. This does not apply to household exposures or exposures outside of the school setting or school-related activities.
- Asymptomatic contacts may continue to participate in extracurricular activities if they do the following:
 - Wear a mask when able – anytime the mask will not interfere with breathing, the activity, or create a safety hazard.
 - Test on initial notification of exposure to COVID-19.
 - Test again on days 5. If they are negative at this time, they will test out of masking.

The tests referenced above are SARS-CoV-2 viral (PCR or antigen) tests. They should be proctored/observed by someone and cannot be an over the counter, at-home test that was self-administered without a proctor.

Masks are required, based on federal guidelines, on school transportation. See this [LINK](#) for full Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines, as well as this document, [Requirement for Persons to Wear Masks While on Conveyances and at Transportation Hubs](#) that specifically lays out the requirements of wearing masks on school transportation.

Preparing for *When* a Student or Staff Member has COVID-19

As a member of the Warren Local family, if a student, staff member, or a close contact of a student or staff member are exposed to COVID-19 or test positive please contact Missy Kemper, School Nurse to discuss the quarantine process. Please call 740-445-5300 (Warren Elementary) extension 4807. Please leave a voice mail, even after hours, as all calls will be forwarded and voice mail is checked frequently.

Warren Local School District will follow the Ohio Department of Health and any enhancements that the Washington County Health Department require for individuals that were exposed outside of school to COVID-19 and/or are positive for COVID-19.

Individuals that are quarantined due to testing positive for COVID-19 are to follow quarantine protocols. They cannot attend in person school or participate in sports or extracurricular activities. Please see the current [guidelines](#) form the ODH, however, please know that the Washington County Health Department may place additional requirements and/or restrictions on top of these guidelines.

Responsibilities

Warrior Nation is a close community where Warren Schools focuses on the future of its students. To build a strong community both the schools, students, parents, and support agencies must work together to provide the best experience to grow our students educationally and emotionally.

To follow is an outline of these responsibilities:

District Responsibilities

- The district has designated Missy Kemper, School Nurse, as the COVID-19 Coordinator. The coordinator, along with other normal school nurse responsibilities, will be the point of contact for the coordination of effort between the district and the Washington County Health Department and will also be the point of contact to facilitate reporting of case information for students, parents, and staff. Mrs. Kemper will verify when a student has been vaccinated. Mrs. Kemper's contact information is melissa.kemper@warrenlocal.org and 740-445-5300 EXT 4807.
- The district is encouraged, by the order issued by the Ohio Department of Health, to use a website dashboard to inform the school community of the number of COVID-19 cases and number of students and staff that are close contacts. This information is available on our [website](#).

Parent Responsibilities

- Parents are encouraged to notify the district of any student who has tested positive or been diagnosed with COVID-19.

Health Department Responsibilities

- The Washington County Health Department is responsible for reporting the number of newly reported and cumulative positive tests or diagnosed COVID-19 cases in each school or school district on each Tuesday to the Ohio Department of Health. The Ohio Department of Health will in turn publish aggregate weekly and cumulative case data by school on Thursdays.

Educational Delivery Methods

In-Person / Face-to-Face

Warren Local School District recognizes that in person Face-to-Face Instruction is the most desirable educational delivery method. The district will prioritize this method above all other delivery methods and try to optimize opportunities for all students to take part in face-to-face instruction.

Blended / Hybrid

In Blended or Hybrid learning, students will not participate in face-to-face instruction every day. Instead, students will come to school some days and be expected to participate virtually on other days. Depending on the age, class, grade, and/or building students will have a variety of schedules and days in which they participate in face-to-face or virtual learning.

If this method of instruction is utilized, specific instructions will be shared explaining each student's expectations for learning. If this method of instruction is utilized for an extended time period, details and schedules will change and morph over time. These changes will be based on evolving educational best practices for blended learning.

Full Virtual

In the situation that no face-to-face instruction is possible, a full virtual delivery method will be utilized. This method of instruction would only be used in extreme cases and/or in short spurts to help mitigate severe situations. In this method of instruction, students would be expected to participate in real time, recorded, or prescribed instruction using Google Classroom or other web based educational platforms. The type of virtual instruction would be geared to your students specific age, class, or grade.