

**ONE TEAM. ONE FAMILY.**



**ONE P. L. A. N.**

*Provide Learning Access Nonstop*

# GUIDING PRINCIPLES

*Durant Schools is committed to following the guiding principles found below for the Fall 2021 continuation of school:*

**Health and Safety** – The health and safety of staff and students is the top priority when planning to open schools in fall 2021. Decisions have been made with this priority in mind.

**Academic Pathways to Success** – The overwhelming response of parents in our school community showed families would like to have options during this time to help safeguard their personal households. Pathways have been created in order to provide the best possible academic environment for students regardless if they are physically on or off campus.

**Procedures and Protocols** – Specific safety protocols will be carefully planned, implemented, monitored, and updated on a regular basis. These include, but are not limited to, health screenings, cleaning protocols, paths of travel, best practices for classrooms, outdoor recess procedures, and meal service delivery.

**Social Emotional Support** – Relationships and making personal connections are critical components of social development for students. This area is crucial to help students cope with changes due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

**Responsiveness** – Durant Schools will be proactive in responding to any questions or concerns that arise. It is our goal to be transparent about our plans and share them with all stakeholders. In this document, you will see what we plan to do in response to students or staff who may exhibit symptoms of COVID-19, as well as what will happen if a positive case for a student/staff member arises.

*Plans above are subject to change as new information becomes available or as new situations arise related to COVID-19.*

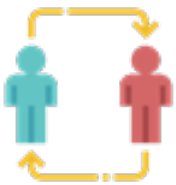
# SAFETY AT A GLANCE

## REQUIRED



Daily Health Screening of Students/Staff

Intensified Cleaning Practices



Single point of contact at each site for all things Covid-19 related

Physical distancing when possible



Practical Classroom Safeguards

Safe Meal Service



Continued Recess & Specials/Electives Participation

Effective School – Home Communication



## ALLOWABLE



Personal Protective Equipment for Students and Staff

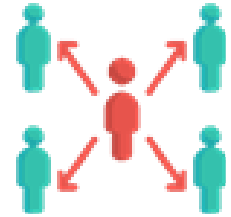


Clear water bottles



Transportation

## PROHIBITED



Schoolwide Assemblies



Off Campus Field Trips



Visitors

*These lists are subject to change as needed.*

# SAFETY PLAN DETAILS

## Required Components



**Daily Health Screening of Students/Staff** – Staff members will be required to do a daily screening of themselves before school. Parents will be required to do a daily screening of their students before school. By coming to school, staff members/parents certify this screening has been completed for the day. There will be a blank screening log available for parents to download from our website. If any answers to the following questionnaire are yes, the staff member or student should remain at home and contact school personnel! If a student/staff member is exhibiting any of the symptoms with fever, he/she should be tested. With a negative COVID-19 test, the individual can return to school in 3 days after being symptom free with no fever reducing medication. Without COVID-19 testing, the student/staff member should remain home for 10 days. Close contact (refer to definition in glossary on page 9) with a positive COVID-19 case should result in a 10 day quarantine at home.

1. Are you (or your child) experiencing a new cough that you cannot attribute to another health condition?       YES       NO
  
2. Are you (or your child) experiencing shortness of breath that you cannot attribute to another health condition?       YES       NO
  
3. Are you (or your child) experiencing a sore throat that you cannot attribute to another health condition?       YES       NO
  
4. Are you (or your child) experiencing a loss of smell or taste that you cannot attribute to another health condition?       YES       NO
  
5. Do you (or your child) have a temperature at or above 100 degrees or the sense of having a fever?       YES       NO
  
6. Within the last 14 days, have you (or has your child) had close contact, without the use of appropriate PPE, with someone who is currently sick with suspected or confirmed COVID-19?       YES       NO

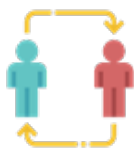
*(Note: Close contact is defined as within 6 feet for more than 15 cumulative minutes if both individuals did not consistently wear masks over their nose and mouth OR within 3 ft. of a person with COVID-19 for 15 cumulative minutes regardless of mask usage.)*



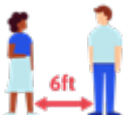
**Intensified Cleaning Practices** – The district has purchased electrostatic sprayers for every campus. This machine is designed to be sprayed once and provide a 24 hour coverage/protection time against viruses and germs. Although the mist is safe for instant contact, the protocol will be to disinfect after school. The school district has also purchased additional sprayers to be utilized in high traffic areas. Besides the sprayers, custodial staff will focus on frequently disinfecting high-touch surfaces (door handles, light switches, etc.).

*Plans above are subject to change as new information becomes available or as new situations arise related to COVID-19.*

## SAFETY PLAN DETAILS *CONTINUED*



**Single Site Point of Contact** - The district has established a district point of contact for all things related to coronavirus. The district contact is Delinda Knox. She can be reached by e-mail at [safeschools@durantisd.org](mailto:safeschools@durantisd.org) or by phone at (580) 924-1276. The main point of contact will serve as a public contact for any questions or concerns, as well as serving as the liaison with the health department if there is a positive case.



**Physical Distancing When Possible**- Although schools were not designed to physically distance, this recommendation will be practiced as much as possible. Our school lobbies, sidewalks, and hallways will likely look different whenever students enter in the fall. In addition to this, we will also post signage at each school site to serve as reminders of this recommendation.



**Practical Classroom Safeguards** – We have developed plans surrounding classrooms to make them as safe as possible for students and staff. This includes asking our teachers to maximize classroom space, use one directional seating when possible, and establish seating charts. These practices will help provide consistency and immediate information if a positive case arises. In addition, the recommendation from health officials is to limit the intermixing of groups of students. For Pre-Kindergarten through 5th grade, a single cohort, or group, of students will remain together all day. For 6th grade and beyond, this scheduling is not practical because of electives. However, other precautions in the classroom may enable close contacts of an infected individual to be immediately known. The practical safeguards mentioned above could make the difference in the size and length of a school shutdown/distance learning mandate if a positive case arises. For example, instead of a whole school having to go to a distance learning scenario, a single classroom for elementary or individuals for secondary age students might be affected. Some exceptions may apply for students requiring special services.



**Safe Meal Service** – As mentioned above, best practice is limiting the intermixing of students. Meal service may look different this school year. For elementary students, this might mean breakfast and/or lunch in the classroom. For older students, this might mean additional lunch periods or eating spaces other than the cafeteria. Each site has crafted their own plan that best meets the needs of their students. Each plan will be reviewed and made available before school starts.



**Continued Recess/Specials/Electives Participation** – In the survey of district parents, one of the overwhelming messages was the need for continued participation in these special activities for students. We agree wholeheartedly and list continued participation in these special activities as one of our required components. However, these will likely look different this fall. In elementary, recess will still occur, but in order for the intermixing of groups to be limited, recess zones will be established for classes to enjoy. Specials/electives will still occur, but it may mean additional precautions need to be taken. Each activity area of the district, especially athletics and fine arts, will communicate specific plans to students who participate in those activities. If participation in these areas are to continue, we ask for your support of the guidelines created and shared with you.



**Effective School-Home Connection** – The title of this document is *One Team, One Family, One P.L.A.N.* We cannot successfully reopen school without effective communication processes between schools and homes. We must come together to form a team. We ask you to stay informed and that you keep us informed.

# SAFETY PLAN DETAILS *CONTINUED*

## Allowable Components



***Personal Protective Equipment for Students and Staff*** – One of the other big takeaways from our district survey was that most parents did not want their students to be required to wear masks. Therefore, this is an allowable component, but not a required one. However, if the city, state or Department of Education mandates the wearing of masks, the district will adhere to those guidelines. All faculty and staff have been provided a mask and face shield, which they can choose to wear or not. All nurses will be fully equipped with personal protective equipment which they will be required to wear since they are the people that will be in close contact with students or staff members who might be exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms.



***Clear Water Bottles*** – In order to provide a safe, learning environment, all school water fountains will be equipped water bottle filler stations. Students are welcome to bring water bottles from home, but water bottles must be CLEAR.



***Transportation*** - We know bus transportation is necessary for some of our families and many of our students currently ride the bus to and from school each day. We will continue to provide this option. However, we do encourage anyone that has the ability to transport their own students, please do so. Bus safety practices are still under review and protocols will include intensified cleaning practices, assigned seating, and maximized air flow.

## Prohibited Components



***School-wide Assemblies*** – Until further notice, no school-wide assemblies will be held due to the possibility these events could expose a large part of our student body, staff, and faculty to a COVID-19 outbreak. We will closely monitor this decision and continue our support of school-wide assemblies when it is safe to do so.



***Off-campus Field Trips*** – In doing everything to keep our students safe, we will also cancel all off-campus field trips. We will closely monitor this decision and continue our support of field trips when it is safe to do so.



***Visitors*** – Limiting visitors in our building will be one more safeguard for our students and staff. Parents will remain in areas designated by each school site, which may include the front lobby or even curbside. We will resume allowing school visitors and volunteers when it is safe to do so.

*Plans above are subject to change as new information becomes available or as new situations arise related to COVID-19.*

# SAFETY PLAN GLOSSARY OF TERMS

**Close Contact** - This term describes the tracing of contact between individuals:

- Within 6 feet for more than 15 cumulative minutes if both individuals did not consistently wear masks over their nose and mouth OR
- within 3 ft. of a person with COVID-19 for 15 cumulative minutes regardless of mask usage.

**Contact Tracing** - This term describes the tracing of close contacts of students/staff who test positive for COVID-19. The Health Department will conduct contact tracing. The district will cooperate and assist the Health Department when appropriate.

**Isolation** - This term is used for students/staff who exhibit symptoms and/or have tested positive for COVID-19. For people with symptoms of COVID-19 but not sick enough to be hospitalized.

1. Stay at home in a separate room from the rest of the household members.
2. Use a separate bathroom if possible.
3. Family should avoid contact with sick person and practice self-quarantine.
4. Ill person should wear a mask and practice social distancing if they have to enter shared spaces.

**Quarantine** - This term is used for student/staff who has known close contact with an individual who has tested positive for COVID-19. These individuals may return after 10 days. For people without symptoms of COVID-19, but who have a higher potential of developing illness due to having close contact with a confirmed case.

1. Stay home 24/7 and self-monitor for 10 days after last exposure to COVID-19 case
2. Family should practice social distancing within the home.
3. If symptoms develop, self-isolate and seek testing to confirm COVID-19 illness.

*Plans above are subject to change as new information becomes available or as new situations arise related to COVID-19.*

## **Durant Public Schools Policies or Practices Regarding CDC Recommendations**

### **Universal and correct wearing of masks**

- Durant Schools is mindful of the continuing need for safety measures to respond to COVID-19. Students, employees and visitors to Durant schools/property will not be required, but will be highly encouraged to wear masks or face coverings. In accordance with local, state and federal guidelines, mask and face covering use will be allowed for all individuals choosing to continue the use of masks and/or face coverings.
- For proper protocol, please visit CDC Guidance – How to Wear Masks (5/7/21)

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/about-face-coverings.html>

### ***Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding)***

### **Social Distance Practices**

- When and if practical, classrooms, the cafeteria, and any other area should be set up for appropriate social distancing to the extent possible. In classrooms, this may include but is not limited to, modified physical layouts, desks facing the same way, and cohorts of students as much as possible.
- Avoid students congregating in common areas.
- Limit people on-site to only students and essential faculty and staff to the extent possible, during instructional hours.
- Assemblies or other congregate events are not allowed at this time, but will resume when safe to do so.
- Students should have his/her own bag/bin of supplies
- Outdoor play will follow designated school health and safety protocols, which may include, but are not limited to, recess zones.
- Classes will utilize recess equipment.

### **Handwashing and respiratory etiquette**

- Handwashing will be encouraged to practice appropriate handwashing/respiratory etiquette and will be provided modeling and reminders, as needed
- Students wash/disinfect hands before/after physical education class.
- Everyone will sanitize/wash hands before and after eating.
- Everyone will sanitize/wash hands after using the restroom.
- Everyone will cough or sneeze into a tissue or elbow, covering mouth and nose with an arm and immediately throw tissue into a trash can and wash hands with soap and water.

### **Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation**

- Each facility must follow custodial requirements for the daily cleaning and disinfection of any portion of a facility used. The building principal or facility lead is to properly train and supervise custodial staff on implementing intensified cleaning, including of frequently touched surfaces and shared objects.
- At each campus, electrostatic sprayers will be utilized to provide 24-hour coverage/protection against viruses/germs. The protocol will be to spray these every day after school.
- Routinely clean and disinfect surfaces and objects that are frequently touched (e.g., doorknobs, light switches, classroom sink handles, countertops). Using an appropriate disinfectant, wipe down items (e.g., desks, chairs) and equipment.
- Ensure heating, ventilation, and air conditioning settings are maximizing ventilation.
- Filter and /or clean the air in the school by improving the level of filtration as much as possible. Filters have all been replaced this summer.
- Water faucets will continue to be water bottle fillers.



### **Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine**

- Durant Schools will follow the Oklahoma State Department of Health requirements when reporting positive cases and contact tracing. School nurses will lead this effort.
- Students exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms will wait in a protective isolation area until picked up by a parent/guardian (within the hour). While in the isolation area the student will be physically distanced. We will follow the guidelines of the Oklahoma Department of Health, the state's leading healthcare authority.
- The principal and/or the school nurse will report all positive cases to the state COVID-19 Dashboard/ Database.

### **Diagnostic and screening testing**

- All positive results will be reported as directed.
- All individuals entering the building will not be required to have a temperature check or complete a daily health-check form. However, all individuals are required to self-monitor as a screening tool every morning before coming to school. Any individual with COVID symptoms listed below, should not report to school.
- No COVID – 19 diagnostic screening will occur at school, but information regarding free testing locations will be shared with parents.

### **Efforts to provide vaccinations to educators, other staff, and students, if eligible**

Durant Schools has/will continue to partner with the Bryan County Health Department to schedule voluntary vaccination clinics at campuses to provide the COVID-19 vaccines to students, educators, other staff, and community members who elect to receive it. Information about vaccination clinics will be shared on the district website and Facebook page.

### **Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies and practices**

- All plans will continue to be followed for Individual Health Plans, 504 Plans, and Individualized Education Plans (IEPs).
- Students will continue to receive their specialized instruction and related services (if applicable) through special education teachers and related service providers.
- School teams will follow district guidelines and safety precautions.
- In addition, schools will ensure entry and exit points are accessible to all students.
- All medical procedures must be conducted in the designated location as written into the IEP. Toileting may be conducted in designated restrooms for students with high support needs.

### **Coordination with state and local health officials**

- Durant Schools will continue to work closely with state and local health officials to ensure the most up to date guidelines and recommendations are implemented.

## **Continuity of Services**

### **Academic**

For the 2021-2022 school year, Durant Schools will be face-to-face, five days a week, for all students grades PK-12. Durant Schools will address learning loss among students and implement evidence based activities to meet the comprehensive needs of students through virtual learning option.

## **SEL**

Durant Schools will be responsive to Social and Emotional needs of students, staff and families by providing increased access to mental health personnel to respond to needs. There will be monthly checks on staff to make sure their social/emotional needs are being met.

## **Food Services**

We have provided meals to all students without interruption since the beginning of Covid-19. We will continue to provide hot meals to our students at no cost.

## **District response on ensuring periodic updates to its plan**

Durant School District will review its "Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services" plan, in accordance with federal guidelines set forth in ESSER III legislation, and will update that plan, following public input from stakeholders, every six months.

## **Public Input**

### **Overview of ESSER Requirements**

The ARP Act requires that school districts make their Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan available to the public online and that the plans be in an understandable and uniform format; to the extent practicable, are written in a language that parents can understand or, if not practicable, orally translated; and upon request by a parent who is an individual with a disability, provided in an alternative format accessible to that parent. Before making its plan publicly available, school districts must seek public comment on the plan and develop the plan after taking into account public comment.

### **District response on public input in the development of its plan**

Durant School District will, in accordance with ESSER III guidelines, seek public input on its "Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services" plan from all district stakeholders every six months. The plan will be available on the school website and input will be gathered in a combination of methods, including but not limited to a designated e-mail address for feedback ([safeschools@durantisd.org](mailto:safeschools@durantisd.org)), public comment in board meetings, and feedback in Pandemic Response Teams.



**For more information visit us at**  
[www.durantisd.org](http://www.durantisd.org)

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Virtual School Questions  
[virtual@durantisd.org](mailto:virtual@durantisd.org)

COVID-19 Questions/Concerns  
[safeschools@durantisd.org](mailto:safeschools@durantisd.org)