Hellgate Elementary School District #4 2375 Flynn Lane, Missoula, MT 59808 Board approved 6/12/2023

## Opening Plan School Year 2023/2024



The Hellgate Elementary Board of Trustees and its staff will continue to operate during the 2023/2024 school year with various additional safety protocols in place. In light of COVID-19, the Board of Trustees, at the February 14, 2022 school board meeting, found it necessary to adopt temporary procedures related to emergency school closure and/or operations, the ongoing provision of educational services to students, meetings of the Board, gatherings on school property, health and safety of students, staff and community members, human resource matters and budgetary matters, etc. To ensure clarity and transparency, the superintendent has developed and submitted for public review a School Opening Plan for the 2023/2024 school year to help guide the school district as it emerges from Covid-19 and moves toward normal operational processes for students and staff. This document lays the foundation for the school district as it continues on the path to normalcy.

#### School District Meetings, Gatherings, Events, and Visitors

The School District has adopted the protocols outlined in this procedure document, to govern during the term of potential declared public health emergency, to ensure individuals present at a school facility for events and/or other operationally related reasons honor safety protocols. The supervising teacher, principal, superintendent, and/or designated personnel are authorized to implement the procedures in coordination with state and local health officials. The Board of Trustees may authorize school district physical meetings, gatherings, and events to occur when deemed essential to district operations. Physical meetings, gatherings, and events shall not be held without prior authorization of the Superintendent and/or the Board of Trustees.

All attendees at physical meetings, gatherings, and events held on school property in an outdoor area including competition fields, baseball fields, and/or other open areas designated by the Board of Trustees shall be required to honor the applicable health and safety protocols outlined by district procedures including, but not limited to, social/physical distancing. The school district shall provide suitable space for social/physical distancing to occur and, if practicable, markings and walking routes in the area where the event shall be held will be visible to preserve a safe event setting.

All attendees at a meeting, gathering, or event authorized by the Board of Trustees, held inside the school facility, are required to honor the health and safety protocols outlined by district procedures.

Vulnerable individuals (defined by the Centers for Disease Control, at the time of this procedure/policy's adoption, as those age 65 or older or those with serious underlying health conditions, including high blood pressure, chronic lung disease, diabetes, obesity, asthma, and those whose immune system is compromised such as by chemotherapy for cancer and other conditions requiring such therapy) may attend school district meetings, gatherings, and/or events but will still be encouraged to take necessary in accordance with district procedures. The school district may continue to accommodate vulnerable individuals so they may participate in the meeting gathering or event via electronic means.

#### Visitors to Schools

Visitors to the interior of any school building shall not be permitted without the express approval of the supervising teacher, principal, superintendent, and/ or designated personnel. Visitors that are authorized to be present in any school building must adhere to all health and safety guidelines outlined by district procedures.

#### Volunteers

Volunteers utilized by the school district who have been approved in accordance with district procedures may enter the school building in accordance with the protocols outlined by district procedures.

#### **Facilities Use Agreements**

The Board of Trustees will allow limited community use of district facilities. Unless an event is specifically identified as necessary by the Superintendent and/or the Board of Trustees, Facilities Use Agreements and other similar requests submitted in accordance with adopted district procedures shall not be considered.

#### **Enforcement**

Visitors to any school building or any attendee at a meeting, gathering, and/or event authorized by the Board of Trustees, in accordance with district procedures, who fail to honor the directives of school district officials shall be asked to correct their conduct or leave the meeting, gathering, and/or event in accordance district procedure/policy.

#### Student, Staff, and Community Health and Safety

The school district has adopted procedure protocols to ensure the safe and healthy delivery of educational services provided to students on school property, a safe workplace when staff are present on school property, and to promote the safety, health and well-being of parents and community members. The supervising teacher, principal, superintendent, and/ or designated personnel are authorized to implement the procedure protocols in coordination with state and local health officials.

#### **Symptoms of Illness**

Students and staff who are ill, feeling ill, diagnosed as ill, and/or otherwise demonstrating symptoms of illness, including symptoms of Covid-19, must not come to school or work. Students who have a fever or are exhibiting other signs of illness must be isolated in a designated area until such time as parents or caregiver may arrive at the school to retrieve the ill student (see Parent Acknowledgment Form – Appendix D). All surfaces and areas should be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected once the student has vacated the area by staff utilizing safety measures in accordance with state and/or local health standards as applicable. Students may engage in alternative delivery of education services during the period of illness and/or be permitted to make up work in accordance with district procedures. Staff members will be provided access to leave in accordance with district procedures, or the applicable collective bargaining agreement, and/or by Memorandum of Understanding (if applicable).

Parents, guardians, or caregivers of students who are ill, feeling ill, diagnosed as ill, and/or otherwise demonstrating symptoms of illness should not be present at the school for any reason, including but not limited, events or gatherings and/or to drop off/pick up students except as provided by school district procedures. To avoid exposing others to illness, parents, and/ or caregivers, who are ill, should make arrangements with others to transport students to school and/or events, if at all practicable. If not practicable, parents, guardians, and/ or caregivers should not leave their vehicle during pickup or drop off and must arrange with district staff to supervise students in accordance with social/physical distancing guidelines. (See Hellgate Elementary Health and Safety Protocol Document – Appendix A)

#### **Physical Distancing**

To the extent possible, school district courses will be delivered in a traditional educational fashion consistent with Hellgate Elementary procedures prior to Covid-19. However, the school district retains the right to adjust the instructional delivery model and daily educational procedures considering the health, welfare, and safety of students and staff personnel. Recess and use of playgrounds during recess will be permitted on a schedule to maintain appropriate student groupings procedures prior to Covid-19. Transportation services will be provided in accordance with cleaning and disinfection procedures.

Middle school courses will be delivered in a traditional educational fashion consistent with Hellgate Elementary procedures prior to Covid-19. Upon arriving in a classroom, middle school students will be provided, if necessary and as needed, disinfecting wipes and/or disinfecting spray/disposable paper towels and time to clean their learning area or desk. Meal service for middle school will return to both breakfast and lunch being served in the cafeteria.

Drop off and pick up of students will be completed in a manner that seeks to limit direct contact between parents and staff members and adhere to social/physical distancing recommendations in the exterior of the building.

#### **Student Arrival**

Hand hygiene stations will be available at the entrance of any school building, so that children can clean their hands before they enter. If a sink with soap and water is not available, the school district will provide hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Hand sanitizer will be kept out of elementary students' reach and student use will be supervised by staff personnel.

A district employee will greet children outside the school as they arrive to ensure orderly compliance with the provisions of this procedure.

#### Ventilation

Custodial/maintenance personnel will review and ensure ventilation systems operate properly and increase circulation of outdoor air as much as possible. Classroom staff personnel are authorized to open windows and doors to increase air flow in a manner that does not pose a safety or health risk to students and staff. Risks to consider include but are not limited to weather, risk of falling, and triggering asthma symptoms.

#### Masks as Personal Protective Equipment

The making recommendation will be adjusted based on state/local recommendations.

#### **Water Systems**

Custodial/maintenance personnel will review water systems and features including but not limited to sink faucets, drinking fountains, and/or decorative fountains to ensure they are safe to use. Drinking fountains will be cleaned and sanitized on a regular basis. The administration may provide alternative water sources, if necessary. Staff personnel and/or students are authorized and encouraged to bring their own water to minimize use and touching of water fountains.

#### **Facility Adjustments**

Repositioning of classroom and meeting space furniture and adjusting traffic flow patterns (i.e., making of potential one-way hallways), especially in narrow hallways, may be undertaken to promote a healthy work environment. Installed Plexiglas shields, installed during the 2020/2021 school year, will remain, especially in building front office reception areas. Further, signage will continue to be posted throughout the facility referencing physical distancing, good hygiene, identifying hand sanitizing stations, etc. Moreover, anti-bacterial soap will be provided at every sink and hand sanitizer (at least 60 percent alcohol) throughout the facility will help ensure proper hygiene is practiced.

#### **Exposure-Response Plan**

Should Hellgate Elementary have a case of Covid-19 with a student, a parent, and/or a staff member, the person should follow the recommended procedures for quarantine. Hellgate Elementary will no longer complete contact tracing in order to identify and notify close contacts.

#### **Student Instruction and Services**

The school district has adopted the procedure protocols to govern during the term of any declared public health emergency to ensure the delivery of education services to students on-site at the school and/or off-site at other locations using available resources, including but not limited to, on-line methods and phasing in the event the schools need to close and then re-open. The superintendent, building principals, program directors, and/or designated personnel are authorized to implement this procedure

The school district will provide accommodations to its policies for students with disabilities as determined appropriate based upon the individual student needs and in accordance with an individual accommodation plan or individualized education plan. Students requiring accommodations should contact Mr. Brendan Brown, Hellgate Elementary Director of Student Services, to request information on plans for students with disabilities.

For the 2023-2024 school year, Hellgate Elementary will not offer off-site (distance learning) instruction to students.

#### Social/Emotional Learning

Focusing on the impact of the COVID-19 on students' social/emotional learning (SEL), in addition to focusing on academic learning (e.g., literacy and numeracy), is important. Hellgate Elementary will (1) recognize that home may not be a safe place for some students and the school district will develop a plan to identify and support students; (2) not assume that students in need will voluntarily disclose their distress or want to talk immediately and that the district must teach skills in validation, acknowledging everyone has/ had a different experience from COVID-19, and not everyone in each school will be in the same place in recovery (individual student trajectories will vary significantly); (3) build and provide opportunities for students to work cooperatively with one another to help students feel empowered and to assist others, which can prove helpful following significant disruption and collective stress; (4) recognize the potential for higher rates of certain adverse childhood experiences (ACES) and/or stressors due to Covid-19 and facilitate classroom meetings in collaboration with a school-employed mental health professional to allow students to collectively process their experience.

#### **Communication and Training**

Communication is important to implementing a well-planned return-to-work program and needs to be consistent to be trusted. Communication steps will continue to be utilized to ensure a healthy environment for employees, students, and parents that will alleviate fears and uncertainties around school operations during the 2023/2024 school year (Post Covid-19). That communication may be in the form of telephone notifications, emails, text messages, signage, and/or written/verbal communication strategies providing guidance, training, and soliciting feedback. The District will review this Plan, at least, once every six months, and will provide an opportunity for public input in association with any review of the Plan.

It is the school district's goal that all employees, in the workplace, should feel safe and confident in actions taken to provide for their safety. This begins with a robust communication strategy prior to the return. Concerns about safety precautions and work schedules in addition to offering contact information for questions will be made available to staff personnel (Summer 2021 Professional Development Institute).

All employees will receive safety training provided by the Hellgate Elementary School Nurse. Each employee must take responsibility for a safe work environment, and the training can ensure that employees are equipped to do their part. In addition to standard procedures provided by custodial staff, employees will be given supplies and directions for sanitizing their areas at determined intervals depending on the likelihood of exposure. Identifying products and giving guidance on proper use will be provided by the Hellgate Elementary Director of Facilities and Maintenance

#### **Conclusion**

The continuation of these uncertain times can be difficult to navigate, from year to year, and one person cannot be expected to have all the answers. The school district always welcomes positive suggestions and employee involvement that can lead to solutions to unforeseen problems. Moreover, as we move into and then throughout the 2023/2024 school year, the school district/school administrators will consistently monitor the work environment. Just so there is no misunderstanding, the workplace environment will continue to be a priority item as the school district recognizes that addressing issues, prior to them becoming into serious issues, is key to a successful 2023/2024 school year as the school district seeks to return to normalcy in most, if not all, areas of school operations following Covid-19.

# Appendix A HELLGATE ELEMENTARY HEALTH & SAFETY PROTOCOL



The Hellgate Elementary health and safety plan provides in-person instruction guidance for the 2023-2024 school year.

Hellgate Elementary Health and Safety expectations are based on local, state and federal guidelines.

#### **Student Health Protocols:**

- 1. Hellgate Elementary asks that every family having students attend (in-person)
- 2. Hellgate Elementary sign a Hellgate Elementary <u>Health & Safety</u> <u>Protocol Parent Acknowledgment Form,</u> affirming your commitment to keep your child home if they are sick or have been exposed to a COVID-19 positive person.
- 3. All students should do a daily self-evaluation before coming to school or boarding school transportation.
- 4. All students will be instructed on methods to protect themselves and others from COVID-19 at school.
- 5. All students should practice appropriate hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette.
- 6. All students should regularly wash their hands when reporting to school and after using the restroom.
- 7. All students will be trained on proper hand washing techniques and participate in scheduled hand washing times throughout the day.
- 8. All masks and face coverings should be free of any inappropriate images, words, political slogans.

#### **Employee Health Protocols:**

- 1. Hellgate Elementary asks that every employee commit to staying home if they are sick or choose to self-quarantine.
- 2. All Hellgate Elementary employees should do a private, daily health self-screening.
- 3. All employees will be expected to know, understand and practice methods to protect themselves and others from COVID-19 at work.
- 4. All employees must practice appropriate cleaning and disinfection, hand hygiene, and respiratory etiquette.
- 5. All employees are expected to regularly wash their hands when reporting to work and after using the restroom.
- 6. All masks and face coverings shall be free of any inappropriate images, words, political slogans.

The District will continue to implement health and safety guidance from federal, state, and local governmental agencies to ensure a safe and healthy start to school.

#### **Protocols**

To ensure a safe learning and work environment, every member of the Hellgate Elementary family is asked to monitor his/her health and conduct a daily health screening before entering school buses or facilities.

- 1. fever or chills
- 2. cough
- 3. shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- 4. fatigue muscle or body aches
- 5. headache
- 6. new loss of taste or smell
- 7. sore throat
- 8. congestion
- 9. runny nose
- 10. Nausea or vomiting

- 11. diarrhea
- 12. feeling feverish or a measured temperature greater than or equal to 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit

All staff and students are expected to stay home if they have a fever, and/or feel sick.

#### Any student who does not pass the screening:

In the case of **a student who has failed a screening** or has a positive COVID-19 diagnosis, or other suspected transmissible illnesses, the student must stay home throughout the infection period, and cannot return to campus until the school screens the student to determine if any of the below conditions for campus re-entry have been met:

- At least 1 day (24-hours) have passed since recovery (resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications) AND
- The child has improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath)

#### Any employee who does not pass the screening must:

Stay home and notify their supervisor; OR if at work, notify their supervisor, report absence into Absence Management (with a comment in the notes section), and go home.

Employees must meet the below criteria for re-entry: In the case of an employee who was diagnosed with any transmissible illness, the employee may be ready to return to work when the following criteria are met:

- At least 1 day (24 hours) have passed since recovery (resolution of fever without the use of fever- reducing medications) AND
- The employee has improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath)

#### **For Students**

We ask that every family in Hellgate Elementary recognize and review the Health & Safety Protocol Parent Acknowledgment Form, affirming their commitment to keep their child home if they are sick.

- 1. All students should do a daily self-evaluation before coming to school or boarding school transportation.
- 2. All students will be instructed on methods to protect themselves and others from transmissible illnesses at school.
- 3. All students should practice appropriate hand hygiene, and respiratory etiquette.
- 4. All students should regularly wash their hands when reporting to school and after using the restroom.
- 5. All students will be trained on proper hand washing techniques and participate in scheduled hand washing times throughout the day.
- 6. All students (age-appropriate) will have the opportunity to wear face masks/face coverings, that can cover the nose and mouth, while occupying indoor common spaces, if they so choose.
- 7. All masks and face coverings shall be free of any inappropriate images, words, political slogans.

#### For Employees

- 1. All employees will be expected to know, understand and practice methods to protect themselves and others from transmissible illnesses at work.
- 2. All Hellgate Elementary employees should do a private health self-screening daily.
- 3. All employees must practice appropriate cleaning and disinfection, hand hygiene, and respiratory etiquette.
- 4. All employees are expected to regularly wash their hands when reporting to work and after using the restroom.

- 5. All employees will have the opportunity to be wear face masks/face coverings, that can cover the nose and mouth, while occupying indoor common spaces, if they so choose.
- 6. All masks and face coverings shall be free of any inappropriate images, words, political slogans.

#### For the Community

Each member of our community can support the district's efforts to slow the spread of this infectious disease by following the CDC healthy hygiene practices:

- 1. Wash your hands often.
- 2. Use hand sanitizer if soap and water is not available.
- 3. Cover coughs and sneezes.

#### **Visitors & Volunteers**

Out of an abundance of caution, all district facilities may be closed to non-essential visitors, parents, volunteers, and activities involving external groups or organizations during the 2023/2024 school year when required by state/local governing agencies.

- 1. Parents dropping students off in the morning or picking up at dismissal will be required to wait outside.
- 2. Essential meetings will be conducted through virtual appointments and/or through limited face-to-face visits.
- 3. Public service providers, essential vendors, and contractors may be allowed into a district facility by appointment and must follow all check-in process.
- 4. To protect staff and students, visitors to a Hellgate Elementary site may be verbally screened (via questioning) for signs and symptoms of COVID-19.
- 5. Any visitor who fails to satisfactorily answer the screening questions will not be allowed to enter and will be asked to leave immediately.

#### **Notifications & Training**

#### **General Information**

- 1. Staff, students, and parents will be notified of any relevant closures for COVID-19 exposure due to confirmation of a positive COVID-19 test. The district will isolate and decontaminate the affected classroom, workplace, vehicle, equipment, etc., as necessary.
- 2. Training is essential to the plan all students and employees will have health protocol training.
- 3. The District will provide age-appropriate CDC hygiene lessons to students on hand washing, voluntary use of face coverings, how COVID spreads, respiratory etiquette and proper voluntary use of masks and face coverings.
- 4. All District employees will be trained on health safety protocols via the 'Safe Schools' online training program and the Hellgate Elementary School Nurse.
- 5. Additional CDC training modules will be made available on hand washing, voluntary face coverings, how COVID spreads, respiratory etiquette and proper use of masks and face coverings.
- 6. All district facilities will have health safety signage on health, COVID-19 symptoms, how COVID spreads, hand washing, voluntary use of face coverings, respiratory etiquette and social/physical distancing.

#### Masks

#### **General Information**

Everyone, students and adults alike, will have the opportunity to wear face masks/face coverings, that can cover the nose and mouth, while occupying indoor common spaces, if they so choose.

1. Students and employees are welcome to bring a mask/face covering from home. All masks/face coverings shall be free of any inappropriate images, words, political slogans.

#### **Physical Distancing**

#### **General Information**

- 1. Hellgate Elementary will follow CDC and/or Montana guidelines for physical distancing, as determined by state/local governing authorities.
- 2. Hellgate Elementary will space desks/tables as far apart as possible, and, if necessary, will arrange desks/tables to face in the same direction and/or position students to address social distancing criteria. If necessary, tabletop partitions will be utilized.

#### Meals

#### **General Information**

- 1. All Food Service staff personnel will practice personal hygiene standards as required while performing job duties.
- 2. Students may bring their lunch.

#### **Transportation**

#### **General Information**

[Centers for Disease Control (CDC) lifted the mandate that facial coverings be worn by all students when traveling on school buses. Specifically, the CDC stated the following:

"Effective February 25, 2022, CDC is exercising its enforcement discretion to not require that people wear masks on buses or vans operated by public or private school systems, including early care and education/child care programs. CDC is making this change to align with updated guidance that no longer recommends universal indoor mask wearing in K-12 and early education settings in areas with a low or medium COVID-19 Community Level."

As such, wearing facial coverings on school buses will be highly recommended but not required beginning this morning, February 28th.]

- 1. Hellgate Elementary encourages all families, with the ability to do so, to transport children to and from school.
- 2. Bus transportation will be offered for families wishing the service.
- 3. All students will be in assigned seats on the school bus.
- 4. All students will be encouraged to use hand sanitizer upon boarding the bus.
- 5. Each bus will be sanitized daily. Transportation staff will be trained in proper sanitation procedures.
- 6. All Hellgate Elementary vehicles will be equipped with sanitation and cleaning supplies.

#### **Cleaning & Disinfection**

#### **General Information**

Even before COVID-19, Hellgate Elementary custodial staff used hospital-grade cleaning agents, and custodians are trained to clean for health.

#### **Daily District and Campus Facilities Cleaning**

- 1. Each classroom and restroom will be sanitized daily.
- 2. All high touch areas will be sanitized daily.
- 3. Cleaning cloths will be changed for each classroom and common area to maximize room to room cleanliness.
- 4. Custodians will be encouraged, though not required, to wear masks gloves during work hours.
- 5. The cafeteria, if used, will be disinfected between lunch periods.
- 6. Staff will have access to disinfectant wipes and/or sanitizer to sanitize working surfaces and shared objects after each use and during breaks in instruction.

# Appendix B

# **HELLGATE ELEMENTARY Return to School Plan Template**



#### **What You Can Expect**

State or Local Health Directives		Safety and Health Protocols	On-site and Remote Learning	
Phase 0	Local or State Stay at home order	≤ All school facilities are closed to the public	Full-time remote learning	
Phase 1	Restricted local or state operations Limits on group size at 10-15, without social distancing, as per local or state order.	<ul> <li>Health screening for students done at home.</li> <li>Hand-washing and steps to limit germ transmission are pro-actively taught and dedicated time throughout the day.</li> <li>Student groups will be kept together in static groups (i.e., cohort groups) for contact tracing and limiting germ transmission.</li> <li>Frequent sanitizing of surfaces and bathrooms.</li> <li>Face coverings will be recommended for all school when social distancing is not possible. No public visitors to schools.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>On-site and off-site distance learning will be available.</li> <li>Learning will occur every day per week onsite, with off-site learning always available.</li> <li>Families could choose 100% remote learning.</li> <li>No extra-curricular activities.</li> <li>All school facilities closed to public rental.</li> </ul>	
Phase 2	Modified local or state operations Limits on group size at 50, without social distancing, as per local or state order	<ul> <li>Health screening for students, done at home.</li> <li>Hand-washing and steps to limit germ transmission are pro-actively taught and dedicated time throughout the day.</li> <li>Student groups will be kept together in static groups (i.e., cohort groups) for contact tracing and limiting germ transmission.</li> <li>Frequent sanitizing of surfaces and bathrooms.</li> <li>Face coverings will be recommended for middle school students when social distancing is not possible. Face coverings will be recommended at K-6 when social distancing is not possible.</li> <li>No visitors will be allowed.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>On-site learning will be every day for all students.</li> <li>Near to full capacity in schools with modified operations and school activities (modified ancillary curriculum offerings, lunch, recess, etc.).</li> <li>Modified school schedule to allow for static groupings of students and limit mixing of students during the day and eliminate large gatherings in hallways and/or cafeteria. Families could choose 100% remote learning.</li> <li>Limits or restrictions on extra-curricular activities in order to minimize mixing of groups.</li> <li>All school facilities closed to public rental in the evenings.</li> </ul>	
Phase 3	Return to normal local or state operations May be limits on group sizes and/or spectator attendance.	<ul> <li>Hand-washing and steps to limit germ transmission are pro-actively taught and dedicated time throughout the day.</li> <li>Frequent sanitizing of surfaces and bathrooms.</li> <li>Use of face coverings will be encouraged and recommended when social distancing not possible.</li> <li>Visitors will be conditionally allowed.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>On-site learning will be every day for all students.</li> <li>Students will rotate through schedules and routines as normal.</li> <li>No restrictions on extra-curricular activities.</li> <li>School facilities available for public rental. 100% remote learning available to some students based on personalized learning plan and/or needs.</li> </ul>	

This template outline represents an overview of protocols. More specific information related to protocols can be found on the Hellgate Elementary website. Please keep in mind that protocols may change over time, based on current health department/CDC guidance and school district directive. Hellgate Elementary expects to open the 2023/2024 school year in Phase #3, Monday through Friday (8:25 am to 3:00 pm and 3:32 pm) with professional schedule dismissal on Thursday (2:00 pm and 2:30 pm).

#### APPENDIX C



### EMPLOYEE (PRIVATE) COVID-19 DAILY HEALTH SELF SCREENING QUESTIONNAIRE TOOL

#### **Employee Health Screening**

1.	Have you experienced a fever of 100.4 degrees F or greater, a new cough, or shortness of breath within the past 10 days?
	$\square$ No. Go to the next question.
	$\square$ Yes. No further screening is needed. The employee may not report to work.
2.	In the past 10 days, have you gotten a positive result from a COVID-19 test that tested saliva or used a nose or throat swab? (not a blood test)
	$\square$ No. Go to the next questi on.
	$\square$ Yes. No further screening is needed. The employee may not report to work.
3.	To the best of your knowledge, in the past 14 days, have you been in close contact (within 6 feet for at least 15 minutes) with anyone while they had

COVID-19 or symptoms of COVID-19 (fever, cough, or shortness of breath).

$\square$ No.	The employee may report to work.
☐ Yes.	No further screening is needed. The employee may not report to work.
gate Eleme	entary Daily Self Screening Tool Page 1

#### APPENDIX D



# Hellgate Elementary Health & Safety Protocol Parent Acknowledgment Form

Print Student Name:	Date:
GradeLevel:	ID#:
School:	

Because we all care about the health of our students, staff and families, we are asking our parents to help us prevent the spread of COVID-19 within our schools. While it is not possible to eliminate all COVID-19 risks, we will follow and are also are requiring families to follow our health, safety and wellness protocols found in the Hellgate Elementary plan.

An important protocol is to screen your child before sending them to school each day. Do not send your child to school if he/she currently has or has had any of the following symptoms:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Headache
- New loss of smell or taste
- Sore throat

- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Feeling feverish or a measured temperature greater than or equal to 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit
- Known close contact with a person who is lab-confirmed to have COVID-19

Additional mitigation measures may include health screening of students, staff and, in some cases, parents upon entering a district facility.

Hellgate Elementary will prohibit any student or individual who fails the screening criteria, has a positive COVID-19 diagnosis, or has been directly exposed to someone who has a positive COVID-19 diagnosis from being allowed on campus or a bus until they meet any of the criteria for re-entry as follows:

- 1. In the case of a child who was diagnosed with COVID-19, the child may be ready for attending school when the following criteria is met:
  - The Health Department has verbally confirmed with parents that their child has been released from quarantine. After release from quarantine, parents will inform

the school of this notification and school nurse will clear the child to return to on campus learning.

- at least 1 day (24 hours) have passed since recovery (resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications)
- the child has improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath)
- 2. In the case of a child who has symptoms consistent with COVID-19 and does not get evaluated by a medical professional or tested for COVID-19, the child is assumed to have COVID-19, and the child should not return to school until the child has completed last two bullet point criteria listed above and spoken with the school nurse to get on campus attendance approval; or
- 3. If a child has symptoms consistent with COVID-19 and the parents want the child to return to school before completing the above self-isolation period, the child's parents must obtain a medical professional's note clearing the child for returning based on an alternative diagnosis.
- 4. If the child has been in prolonged close contact with a person who is lab- confirmed to have COVID-19, the child should notify the school and should not return to school until the end of a self-quarantine period (as determined by the most recent CDC guidance) from the last date of exposure, or a 7-day if the child does not develop any Covid-19 symptoms and received a negative test result after his/her 5<sup>th</sup> day of quarantine, or until they obtain a medical professional's note clearing the child for returning based on a COVID-19 free diagnosis.

#### In the event a student displays symptoms of COVID-19 while on campus, the campus will:

- Immediately separate the student who shows COVID-19 symptoms while at school until the student can be picked up by a parent or guardian (picked up within 30 minutes, but no later than 1 hour).
- The areas used by the individual who shows COVID-19 symptoms while at school (student, teacher, or staff) will be cleaned as soon as is feasible.
- Students who report feeling feverish will be sent to the nurse to be evaluated for COVID- 19 symptoms.

I acknowledge that I have reviewed the health & safety protocols listed above for my child to
physically be present on a school campus or at a school-sponsored event, and I commit to not
sending my child to school if he/she exhibits any COVID-19 symptom. I also understand that
Hellgate Elementary is implementing health and safety protocols but cannot eliminate all
COVID-19 risk.

Parent Signature	Date	

Additional information, including public notices, related to the COVID-19 virus can be found on the Hellgate Elementary <a href="https://www.hellgate.k12.mt.us">www.hellgate.k12.mt.us</a>