Return to In-person Instruction & CONTINUITY OF SERVICE PLAN
2023 - 2025

In-person learning has been shown to provide the greatest benefit to students, and ensuring this can happen consistently and safely during the upcoming school year has been deemed a priority for Otsego Public Schools.

The Return to In-person Learning and *Continuity of Service Plan* provides detailed guidance to ensure that COVID-19 prevention and mitigation measures are implemented in a way that fosters optimal learning environments while simultaneously ensuring health and safety for students and staff in Allegan County.

Key Points of the Return to In-person Learning and Continuity of Service Plan:

- The district will comply with any and all local, state and federal mandates/orders.
- District will consider state and local health department and CDC guidance

Notes: Periodically, but not more than every six months during the life of the ESSER III/ARP Federal Grant, this Continuity of Service Plan will be reviewed and updated, if deemed necessary.

Face Coverings (Masks)

As of February 26, 2022, no masking requirements exist in Otsego Public Schools.

The Board of Education may amend this masking requirement and/or designate other exceptions for the orderly running of the educational institution.

Vaccinations

The district strongly recommends staff and students, if eligible, become vaccinated and fully boosted. The district does NOT require staff or students to be vaccinated.

COVID Testing

COVID testing of students or staff will not be required unless mandated by a local, state, or federal agency and/or a sanctioning body. Symptomatic individuals are encouraged to seek COVID-19 PCR testing.

Staff Health Screening

Staff members should conduct a daily wellness self-check prior to reporting to work. **STAFF ARE NOT TO REPORT TO WORK IF SICK.**

Illness and Student Health Screening

Control of Communicable Diseases requires ill children to remain home to mitigate the spread of casual-contact communicable diseases. Symptomatic individuals are strongly encouraged to seek COVID-19 PCR testing. ***STUDENTS ARE NOT TO REPORT TO SCHOOL IF SICK***.

Students exhibiting the following symptoms shall remain home from school and extracurricular activities until the student has improved symptoms and is fever free for 24 hours without the aid of medication. Testing recommended.

- Fever (temperature over 100.4) or feeling feverish/chills
- Cough • Sore throat • Runny or stuffy nose (congestion) • Headaches • Fatigue (tiredness) •Vomiting and/or diarrhea
- Loss of taste or smell - COVID-19 testing strongly encouraged
- Shortness of breath - COVID-19 testing strongly encouraged

Return to In-Person Learning and CONTINUITY OF SERVICE PLAN

Isolation and Quarantine (Staff & Students)

Isolation and quarantine instructions adhere to public health requirements and operating procedures.

[CDC Summary Guidance For Schools Updated August 2022]
[CDC Isolation Guidelines]
[CDC Exposure Guidelines]



Cohorting

Mixing of students will occur with reductions or limitations in mixing implemented depending on use of other mitigation measures and/or transmission levels

Social Distancing

Additional social distancing measures may be implemented. Adjustments to school procedures, schedules, activities, etc. may be made to adhere to the social distancing requirements.

Cleaning & Disinfecting

The district will follow regular cleaning and disinfection procedures. Additional cleaning and disinfecting procedures may be implemented.

Hand Hygiene and Respiratory Etiquette

Hand hygiene and sanitation and respiratory etiquette expected. Additional opportunities for proper hand washing available throughout the day.

Instructional Format

In-person instruction is prioritized. Individual schools or classrooms may transition to remote instruction if necessary.

Please Note: This plan may change and evolve as knowledge and conditions change. Periodically, but not more than every six months during the life of the ESSER III/ARP Federal Grant, the plan will be reviewed and updates completed, if deemed necessary.

Return to In-Person Learning and CONTINUITY OF SERVICE PLAN

Remote Learning

If a classroom or school is closed, all students impacted by the closure may have to transition to remote learning opportunities.

Virtual Learning

Some students may still require or desire a virtual learning option. A student may not move back and forth between virtual and in-person learning except at the trimester or semester. Extenuating circumstances may be considered by the building principals.

Mental Health of Staff and Students

The mental and emotional well being of staff and students is a priority. Our Student Support Services team may provide periodic check-ins throughout the school year. Each building newsletter may provide monthly parent outreach around social-emotional well being.

Athletics, Extra Curriculars, & Field Trips

Athletic practices and competitions continue, but may be paused or limited if necessary (MHSAA guidelines will be followed. Decisions regarding athletic competitions/practices/testing will be based on guidance/mandates from a local, state, or federal agency and/or a sanctioning body). Extracurricular activities and field trips continue, but may be paused or limited if necessary.

Transportation

The district will comply with CDC/federal, state, or local orders for facemask requirements on public transportation.

Food Service

Normal food service operations. Additional health and safety protocols may be put in place.

Gatherings and Facility Use

Restrictions on gathering size or use of facilities may be implemented. Outside agency use of facilities may be limited.

Meetings and Conferences

In-district and out-of-district meetings and conferences permitted, but may be limited or paused if necessary.

Offices, Visitors, and Guests

District and building offices open. Prioritization of visits to minimize office visitor traffic may be implemented as needed. Additional health and safety protocols may be in place. Visitors and guests may be limited.

Please Note: This plan may change and evolve as knowledge and conditions change. Periodically, but not more than every six months during the life of the ESSER III/ARP Federal Grant, the plan will be reviewed and updates completed, if deemed necessary.