BETHEL PUBLIC SCHOOLS

RETURN TO LEARN PLAN 2023-24

Learning Options

- BPS is offering in-person learning (PK-12) & Virtual School at Bethel High School (on a case-by-case basis)
- School sites within the District will remain open for inperson instruction unless COVID-19 case numbers among staff or within a specific grade level, building site, and/or district level necessitate a transition to temporary distance learning.

Masks

- Oklahoma Senate Bill 658, effective July 1, 2021, restricts the mandatory enforcement of masks in schools unless a state of emergency is declared by the Governor, consultation with the health department, and school board considered.
- Masks will be optional for students, and visitors on BPS property.
- State and local health departments along with the CDC recommend wearing masks indoors.

Contact Tracing and Quarantine

- BPS will not require close contact quarantines if COVID-19 cases stay below 2.5% of the total building site population for two consecutive weeks (reporting ending on Thursdays).
- If positive cases increase and exceed 2.5 % of the building site population for two consecutive weeks, the district will reinstate required close contact quarantines.
- Parents will be notified if their child is within three (3) feet of a person who tests positive for Covid-19.
- It is recommended that students who come into close contact with a COVID-19 positive case quarantine.
- Students who have been fully vaccinated or have had COVID-19 in the last 90-days with documentation will not be recommended to quarantine.
- Students or employees who test positive for COVID-19 are required to stay home for ten (10) days. If symptoms persist, the person may need to stay home longer.
- BPS will continue to track positive COVID-19 cases among staff and students.

Athletics & Activities

- All school-sponsored activities and athletic teams will continue to adhere to guidelines put in place by the District.

Meals

- Students will eat in the cafeteria and resume normal lunches.
- Breakfast and lunch are free to all students during the 2021-2022 school year.

Transportation

- Buses will run as normal during times of in-person learning, and all BPS buses will have extra masks and hand sanitizer on board.
- Buses will be cleaned and sanitized after morning routes and again when afternoon routes are completed.

Strategies to Reduce Risk of Exposure

- Social distancing is encouraged to the extent possible in common areas such as cafeterias, hallways, gymnasiums, etc.
- Students will be reminded to wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds prior to eating, and especially after sneezing, coughing, and blowing their nose.
- Consistent and correct usage of masks are encouraged but not required.

Vaccinations

- Oklahoma Senate Bill 658, effective July 1, 2021, restricts school districts from requiring a COVID19 vaccine for students.
- State and local health departments and the CDC recommend COVID-19 vaccines for those eligible.

Monitor for Symptoms

- Parents/guardians are expected to screen their child for COVID-19 symptoms each day prior to sending their student to school.
- Students and staff should stay at home if experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 or any other illnesses.

Parents & Visitors

- Parents and visitors will be allowed in building lobbies or main offices for scheduled appointments.