

Ripley Public Schools

Safe Return Plan

2023-2024

We are preparing to return to school in a traditional format for the 2023-2024 school year. We will continue to monitor the spread of COVID-19 in our local and surrounding community and adjust our plan as needed or required. This plan will be reviewed at every regular board meeting. Input from stakeholders is always welcome. You can share your concerns by contacting the site principals, superintendent, or by attending any regular meeting where public comments will be allowed regarding this plan.



Ripley Public Schools
403 E Cook St.
Ripley, OK 74062
918-372-4242
ripley.k12.ok.us



Depending on community spread and spread within our school, we may be required to activate remote learning for all students during the year. This decision will be based on local factors and determined in coordination with state and county health officials, local school administrators, and the local school board.



Ripley plans to resume traditional transportation. Please know that bus transportation is an area that is very difficult to create social distancing, so please use your best judgement as if this is appropriate for your child. If we have a shortage of drivers, due to COVID, the district may need to reduce the number of routes.



It is important that families partner with us to monitor the health of your student and families. We ask that temperatures be taken on a daily basis at home. No student with a temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher, without medicine, may enter any facility at Ripley Public Schools. It is imperative for the health and safety of all students and staff that students remotely learn on days they have a fever or any symptoms of illness. Remote learning will not count against attendance if the students completes their online lessons in the allotted time frame.



Ripley will make every effort to promote healthy practices and protocols. Physical Distancing will be implemented when possible. Additional teachers have been hired in our most needed areas to help distance students within the classrooms. New classroom spaces are being created to also assist in physical distancing. Our staff will monitor reportable illnesses and work with state and local health authorities regarding quarantine/isolation during exposure or confirmed cases. Ripley will follow county, city, and state mandates.



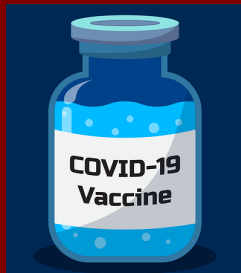
Ripley has increased its cleaning and preparation of facilities in an effort to protect our staff and students. Frequent hand-washing and other healthy protocols will be implemented and practiced. Efforts will be made to have hand sanitizer and hand sanitizer stations available. Upon notification of a positive COVID case in a building, we will follow the recommendations of the county and state health officials specifically to our situation to better determine which areas of our facilities need to be closed while sanitation takes place. If specific classrooms must be closed due to a positive case, those students will move to remote learning.



HVAC upgrades were made during last school year. Additionally, the district is replacing windows in the cafeteria and JH/HS areas to help with airflow and overall air quality/safety.



The district will assist parents, to the extent possible, in finding available testing locations if parents believe their child needs to be tested for COVID-19. Please contact you site principal if you need assistance in this area.



If you need assistance in finding a location to receive the COVID vaccine, please contact the site principal for more information on where to receive a COVID-19 Vaccine.



If your student has a disability or needs that require accommodations above and beyond what is outlined in this plan, please contact the site principal to further develop a plan for your child. Every effort will be made to ensure the health and safety of all students.



Ripley has a full time LPC and a part time FLMFT who serve all students grades PK-12. In addition, we contract with other providers to ensure all students have access to academic, social, emotional and mental health counseling. Please contact your site principal for more information on counseling services.



Ripley offers breakfast and lunch daily for all students. This includes students who are remote learning. If you need a meal for a student who is remote learning, contact 918-372-4242 to arrange for those services.

Ripley Public Schools

Learning Options

On-Campus Instruction

- All classes taken at regularly assigned school site
- In-person instruction
- Traditional academic school day

Remote Learning Days

- Determined by district, city or state in the event of an outbreak
- Can be utilized by individual students/families in the event of student exposure/illness resulting in quarantine
- Counts as a school day (not a traditional absence if student completes online lessons in the appropriate timeframe)
- Virtual coursework via Google Classroom and our virtual software
- Students will continue to learn new material with teacher support
- There will be an opportunity during the enrollment process to inform our staff of the obstacles your family specifically faces with remote learning and we will do everything we can to help with this transition
- Only transition to remote learning if required by state/local officials, or as determined necessary by administration and board of education

When will we use remote learning for all students?

Remote learning will be used when school is closed due to COVID, or other unforeseen circumstances. There may be times during the year where it is necessary, or required, to close all or some of our facilities. It is during these times when it would be necessary or required to use remote learning. The most efficient mode of remote learning is via online based technology. If you have barriers that would prevent you from accessing curriculum online, you will need to contact one of our administrators to help find a solution.

Will athletics, electives, and fine arts classes continue to be offered at all current levels and will there be restrictions?

Depending on the level of community spread and governing bodies, all athletics and activities will continue as planned with extra measures taken to ensure safety of students and staff. Additional measures may be implemented as needed and/or required.

Will the school district calendar change for 2023-2024?

It is our goal to keep calendar dates and events the same, however, the district may need to adjust throughout the year depending on the community spread of COVID and state requirements.

What determines the level of community spread?

We will work with the State Department of Health, Payne County Health Department and state epidemiologists to determine the level of community spread, low, medium or high, within our community.

Where will the information come from regarding the number of cases for community spread?

We will monitor the number of COVID cases in our community through the Oklahoma State Department of Health. We will follow any mandates set forth from the county, city or state.

Will temperatures be taken daily?

No, however, we ask that parents monitor symptoms and if their child has a temperature of 100.4 degrees, or over, please keep them home.

What will be used for hand sanitizing?

We will use current soap and water stations when possible, practice scheduled and routine handwashing times, additional hand sanitizing stations will be added throughout the building. We will have hand sanitizer stations at main entries and cafeteria, hand sanitizer in classrooms, and hand sanitizer on school buses. Students can bring their own sanitizer to utilize when appropriate.

What can I do as a parent to help the school?

- Donations of hand sanitizer, disinfectant wipes, masks, no touch thermometers, and additional school supplies would be helpful
- Taking your child's temperature daily prior to them leaving your house and keeping them home/monitor symptoms if temperature is 100.4 degrees or greater
- Keeping students home if they exhibit any symptoms of illness
- Keeping students quarantined for following the most current health department guidelines, or until cleared by health department or physician, if they have had any exposure to someone who has tested positive for COVID.
- Letting your child's principal know if you need assistance with internet access, devices or meals
- Openly communicating any concerns directly with your child's teacher or school site
- Working with the school as they change visitor protocols and the check in/out processes
- Assisting with COVID tracing through the State and Local Health Departments
- Provide transportation to and from school for your child to help with social distancing on bus routes

Additional practices to be implemented:

- Requesting that students use their own school supplies and share as little as possible
- Requesting that students bring their own water bottle and not use water fountains in a traditional way. Water fountains will be available for bottle refills only.

Mask Policy

Will students and staff be required to wear masks?

- At this time, the wearing of masks has been determined as optional by state law and recent Oklahoma County District Court injunction.
- The district will monitor community cases, work with the state and local health department, stay up to date on CDC guidelines and follow state law/executive orders regarding mask wearing in the school facilities
- If and when masks are necessary or required, students and staff will be trained on how to wear masks correctly

Questions or Concerns:

Please do not hesitate to contact our administrators if you have any questions or concerns. You can contact them by phone at 918-372-4242 and follow the prompts to speak with the appropriate administrator.