

Last Updated: November 13, 2023

This plan is based upon current data, guidance, and local decisions. It has been designed to provide us the ability to adjust if/when conditions change. Please keep in mind that portions of this plan could be revised if we receive new guidance and requirements.

Akron School District R-1

Opening Schools Plan 2022-2023



The school district continues to monitor illness, including COVID -19, amongst students, staff, and community. The district will work cooperatively with the local health department officials to address rising illness numbers amongst students and staff.

We welcome any feedback or questions!

b.christensen@akronrams.org

s.smith@akronrams.org

s.randel@akronrams.org

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November 13, 2023.**

**It has been designed to provide us the ability to adjust if/when
conditions change.**

Akron R-1 will begin classroom-based “Traditional” school with safety protocols in place.

- **Screenings**
 - Parents are expected to symptom check their student prior to sending them to school. If a student is ill, they are expected to stay home until they are symptom free.
- **Face Coverings**
 - Students and staff are welcome to wear face coverings but they are not mandatory at this time.

- **School Cohorts**
 - Students are divided by grade level and mix with other grade levels throughout the day.
- **Transportation**
 - Parent(s) are expected to symptom check their student before bus arrives for pick-up. If the student is exhibiting any of the identified symptoms, they are expected to keep them home.
 - When weather and conditions allow, consider opening windows to allow for increased ventilation in the bus.
 - Buses will be disinfected after each route
- **Extracurricular**
 - Athletic events and activities will be conducted without restriction unless health concerns dictate otherwise.
 - Field trips, assemblies, and all other student and staff events will be evaluated on a case-by-case situation.
- **Visitors**
 - Visitors are expected to symptom check before visiting the school.
- **Student Sign-In and Sign-Out**
 - Please call the office in advance to make arrangements for picking up or dropping off your student outside of the normal school start and end times.

Custodial Practices and Procedures

In this plan we highlight some key areas on which we are focusing, and additional procedures, equipment, and practices being added to ensure a safe return to school.

- Hand sanitizing stations in hallways, cafeteria, offices, etc.
- Disinfecting spray bottles and paper towels in all classrooms, gyms, shops, offices, etc. for staff interim disinfecting.
- Soap and paper towel dispensers checked and stocked regularly.
- All buildings will post signage regarding handwashing practices, proper use of face coverings, appropriate social distancing, etc.
- Removal of unnecessary furnishings and clutter from classrooms and office areas.

Daily Check-In Process for Students & Staff

- Parents and students are expected to conduct a self-check before coming to school. If a student is ill, they are expected to stay home.

Classroom Logistics and Practices

Akron School District R-1 believes that classroom-based instruction and the structure of attending school on a daily basis is critical to our students' educational and social-emotional well-being. To ensure they can continue to have that opportunity, we have implemented some of the following practices for our classroom spaces. The following serves as guidance, but each space has nuances that staff members will take into consideration as they prepare their rooms. Although classroom spaces are being cleaned and disinfected daily by custodial staff, these additional practices are designed to increase safety throughout the day.

Classroom Arrangements

- To the degree practicable, all student desks and tables should be arranged to allow for maximum student to student distancing.
- When possible, consider utilizing the outdoors rather than the classroom.
- Disinfecting supplies, hand sanitizer, and classroom plans for cleaning will be in place.
- Ensure equipment cleaning and disinfecting practices by students and staff in gyms, labs, and shops are followed.
- Classrooms need to be free of any additional or unnecessary furniture or clutter that may get in the way of distancing or disinfecting practices.

Campus Logistics and Practices

Athletic Facilities, Playgrounds, Fieldhouse, Weight Room, Shop etc.

- All gyms and workout areas will have disinfecting supplies.
- Students and staff will be provided training and guidelines to wipe down and disinfect equipment between use.

Cafeteria / Food Service

- Students will be served breakfast and lunch in the cafeteria and other designated areas of the building to help reach social distancing goals.
- Food service workers will wear appropriate personal protective equipment.

What Happens When Someone Becomes Sick?

The COVID-19 virus is likely to be active in our community and could be until either a vaccine or herd immunity ends the spread altogether. As we learn more and more about the virus, we now know that our youth are the least affected and generally recover quickly. We also know much more about how the disease spreads and for how long a person may be contagious. With that knowledge, the following are steps to take when a student or staff member exhibits symptoms or tests positive for COVID-19. ***Students, staff, and parents need to remember to self-screen daily. If they are exhibiting symptoms, they need to stay home and schedule an appointment with their health care provider to determine if they need to be tested.***

If a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19:

1. Seek medical care from your healthcare provider in accordance with CDC and County Guidelines.
 1. If a student tests positive, they must isolate until their respiratory symptoms have improved and they are fever free (without medication) for 24 hours.

If a student or staff member becomes sick while at school and exhibits any COVID-19 symptoms (fever, upper respiratory concerns):

Teacher will call the front office and send the student directly to the office where they will be held in an isolation area until a parent/guardian comes to pick them up.