## **Ready for Learning Plan and Parent Information**



Please understand the following are being put in place for the safety of our students, staff and community. Covid-19 is a serious threat to student safety therefore the following and likely more protections may be put in place to limit exposure to this virus. We are taking this seriously and ask that you do too!

- COVID-19 vaccines are the most effective strategy to protect people from getting sick and to reduce the risk of people spreading COVID-19. Students who are ages 12 and older are now eligible to receive a vaccination. Armorel will host vaccination clinics to help students ages 12 and older, their families, and all school staff with getting vaccinated. Fully-vaccinated students or staff do not need to quarantine if deemed close contacts, unless they have/develop symptoms.
- Masks are recommended due to the close nature of a bus environment. Students K-12th grade will not be required to wear a mask while on the bus. The CDC is recommending; while on buses, open or crack windows, if doing so does not pose a safety risk. Keeping windows open, even a few inches, improves air circulation. ADH and ADE also recommend maintaining as much physical distance as possible between riders on the bus. In addition, keeping siblings/household members seated together is also a helpful strategy. As updated on July 9, 2021, CDC guidance states, "consistent and correct mask use by people who are not fully vaccinated is especially important indoors and in crowded settings." Although masks or other face coverings can no longer be mandated in Arkansas public schools, as prohibited by Act 1002 of 2021, the CDC currently recommends the following regarding the wearing of masks in school settings:
  - Indoors: Mask use is recommended for people who are not fully vaccinated including students, teachers, and staff. Children under 2 years of age should not wear a mask.
  - Outdoors: In general, people do not need to wear masks when outdoors. However, particularly in areas of substantial to high transmission, the CDC recommends that people who are not fully vaccinated wear a mask in crowded outdoor settings or during activities that involve sustained close contact with other people who are not fully vaccinated.

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Individuals exposed to a confirmed case of COVID-19 will not need to be quarantined if they have no symptoms and both the infected and exposed individual consistently and correctly were wearing a mask.

- We highly recommend that every staff member and student K-12 wear a mask while on campus.
- Armorel School will continue to have hand sanitizer and/or hand washing stations with soap and water at entrances and in classrooms. Students, teachers, staff, and campus visitors will be encouraged to sanitize and/or wash hands frequently.
- Armorel School District is asking all parents to screen their child by taking their temperature. Please do this before your child arrives at school or gets on the school bus.
- Doors will open at 7:20 in the mornings. Students will be dismissed at 3:50 in the elementary and 4:00 in the high school.
- Parent contact information must be updated and accurate.
- Parents will not be allowed to eat lunch with students. Parents can drop items off for students in the school office. Please make sure to label the student's name on the lunch.
- Microwaves will not be available in the cafeteria.
- The Point of Contact (POC) for the Armorel School District is Amanda Welch. Mrs. Welch will initiate the contact tracing process when positive cases are reported at school and notify the ADH of positive cases as they occur.
- It is recommended that your child bring a water bottle daily to fill at our filling stations.
- This plan will be monitored and modified as needed.

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## Full On-Site/ Face to Face Instruction

- Armorel School District Goal: Students day to be as normal as possible while we provide as much safety as possible.
- School will begin on August 15, 2023.
- On-site student instructional hours will be daily from 7:30-4:00.
- It is recommended that unvaccinated students and staff wear facemasks in accordance with current CDC and ADH guidelines.
- Bus transportation will be provided but face coverings will be recommended.
- In the event an individual tests positive, we will follow the latest guidance from the ADH. We will be in direct contact with ADH. Students may be required to stay home and self-quarantine.