



# Jefferson Local School District Safe Return of In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan

District Name:	Jefferson Local Schools
District Address:	906 West Main Street, West Jefferson, Ohio 43162
District Contact:	Mr. William Mullett
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**Update February 27, 2022: Due to updated CDC guidance masks will be optional on school buses effective February 28, 2022.**

Pursuant to the requirements of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP), signed into law by President Biden on March 11, 2021, the Jefferson Local School District Board of Education is providing this return of in-person instruction and continuity of services plan to the community.

Per the CDC, students benefit from in-person learning, regardless of whether all of the prevention strategies can be implemented in the District, and safely returning to in-person instruction in the fall 2021 is a priority. This plan serves to inform the community of the District's plans for the 2021-2022 school year in regard to in-person instruction and allows it to receive funding from the Federal Government to aid in the implementation of the below plan. Public input on this plan is sought and appreciated by the Board of Education and Administration. The plan is subject to change based on changing circumstances.

## **Policies for Incorporating Mitigation Strategies**

The District will continue to consider state, local and federal guidance as well as the advice of medical professionals as it evaluates COVID-19 mitigation strategies moving forward and will follow all state, local and federal health orders as it evaluates the most appropriate learning model and COVID-19 mitigation strategies for students, staff and the school district community. The District will continue to monitor local community transmission and occurrence of any outbreaks to guide decisions on the level of layered preventions strategies.

- Masks Masks are recommended and optional on a voluntary basis in all indoor and outdoor areas on District grounds and on all District property. Families, students and staff should assess the benefit of wearing masks on District property and consider recommendations from health officials.
- Upon request, the District will provide students and staff with masks at no charge.

## **Contact Tracing**

- Per MCPH's directive, upon request, the District will help identify all contacts/exposures to a positive case as a result of school activities.
- MCPH issues and enforces isolation and quarantine orders, not the District.

- Students and staff should stay home when they have signs of any infectious illness and be referred to their healthcare provider for care. Upon request, the District will provide rapid COVID-19 tests to families and staff at no charge.

#### Vaccinations to Prevent COVID-19

- The District will continue to coordinate with MCPH to provide voluntary vaccinations to prevent COVID-19 and release time to students and staff. The District will provide students and families flexible options for excused absences to receive a COVID-19 vaccination and for possible side effects after vaccination.

#### Social Distancing

- The District will implement the recommended safety protocols regarding classroom occupancy. The District will determine classroom occupancy based on each individual classroom circumstance with the maximum amount of safety considerations as possible. The goal is to return to 100% in-person learning while mitigating risks associated with COVID-19.
- The District will take a common-sense approach in regard to scheduling large group gatherings with consideration given to the event, logistics, and current rate of infection in the community.

#### Hand Washing and Respiratory Etiquette

- The District will make hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol abundantly available throughout its buildings.
- The District will continue to follow and reinforce CDC guidelines for handwashing and will supply adequate handwashing supplies.
- The District will continue to follow and reinforce CDC guidelines for respiratory etiquette (covering coughs and sneezes).

#### Facilities Sanitation and Ventilation

- The District will continue to follow guidelines for regularly cleaning and, when necessary, disinfecting facilities.
- The District will review its ventilation system and conduct improvements as needed and necessary to meet best practices.

#### Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

- The District will work with families to meet the individual needs of students with disabilities.
- The District will provide accommodations, modifications and assistance for students with disabilities and other health care needs on an individual basis.

## **Plan to Address Continuity of Academic and Non-Academic Services**

Jefferson LSD will maintain the academic and non-academic services required to successfully educate our students. The plan described below is in addition to the previously published Learning Recovery and Extended Learning Plan as required by Governor DeWine.

### **Academic Services**

- The District will continue to follow the Learning Recovery and Extended Learning Plan as posted to our [Website](#).
- Utilize tutors to address specific learning loss issues, such as credit recovery for our high school students and reading interventions for our elementary students.
- Develop summer lessons to help bridge the learning loss gap caused by the pandemic and reduce the summer learning gap.
- Implement technology to help with the identification of needs for our students as well as the proper response for each individual child.
- Continue the 1:1 Chromebook program for each student.
- Refurbish classroom technology, such as Smartboards, to provide differing learning delivery methods to engage each child.
- Employ building subs so each class will have a teacher in the event of teacher absences due to the pandemic
- Student needs will be identified using products such as MAP and iReady, with the appropriate measures taken to address identified needs.
- Extended day contract have been awarded to administrators and counselors to prepare for the upcoming 2021-2022 school year and address identified learning gaps due to the pandemic.

### **Social, Emotional and Mental Health**

- The District will provide mental health services in-house through our psychologist and social worker as well as contracting with professional organizations as needed.
- Continue practices that support teacher understanding of warning signs and facilitate communication with counselors and principals.
- Continue practices that connect school counselors with students and families in need, and with community partners as warranted.
- Continue to monitor the social-emotional wellbeing of individual students and the student body as a whole. The District will utilize its existing on-site counselors for each building.

### Facilities and Food Service

- The District will conduct capital improvements to our facilities, such as roof replacements and HVAC repairs, to ensure the buildings remain safe, warm, and dry.
- The District will continue cleaning and sanitizing practices as recommended by the CDC and/or MCPH for facilities and buses.
- The District will employ building substitutes so each class will have a teacher in the event of teacher absence due to the pandemic.
- The District will promote hand washing before, after and during shifts, before and after eating, after using the toilet, and after handling garbage, dirty dishes, or removing gloves.
- All buildings will offer food service. Logistics will be determined by each building in compliance with MCPH based on the capacity of each cafeteria.
- The District will offer opportunities to increase food service participation in the summer months, holidays, and long weekends will be explored and implemented if feasible.
- The District will transport meals to students if needed due to pandemic closures or other unique circumstances.

This plan will be reviewed no less than every 6 months. The plan will be updated as needed through September 30, 2024 as needs and circumstances change at Jefferson LSD as well as changes in laws and regulations.

Public input will be gathered via email ([arpcomments@westjeff.org](mailto:arpcomments@westjeff.org)). Additionally, there will be an opportunity at board meetings to provide feedback in a public setting. The feedback received by the public will be used in evaluating the plan during each recurring review period.