



# Miami East Local School District

## Fall 2021 Continuity of Service Plan

6-21-2021

It is the intent of Miami East Local School District to open school this fall by educating our students in an environment that will be considered as close to “normal” as possible while implementing safety protocols to protect both students and staff.

Our school will follow the guidelines set forth by our Miami County Health Department. **The service plan will be updated throughout the summer as protocols and guidelines are updated by the Ohio Department of Health.**

According to the American Academy of Pediatrics, “dangers of social isolation outweigh the risks of in-person classes for most children.” Our district's plans take into consideration the health and safety of our students and families, as well as the district staff and the community as a whole. While providing effective teaching and student learning, the goal is to also support our students social, emotional, physical and behavioral health.

### **COMMUNICATION**

Please email superintendent, Dr. Todd Rappold at [trappold@miamieast.k12.oh.us](mailto:trappold@miamieast.k12.oh.us) at any time with any questions.

### **DAILY EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENTS AND PARENTS**

- Alert teachers/staff of any changes in wellness or symptoms
- Students will be asked to wash and sanitize their hands regularly through the school day
- Students are encouraged to social distance from other students and staff where practicable.
- Students will be encouraged to bring their own water bottles and use the bottle fillers to limit the use of the drinking fountains.

### **STUDENT ILLNESSES**

- Any student with a fever over 100.0 F should stay home.
- Any student that has the following symptoms of COVID-19 should stay home from school and should see their primary care provider to be assessed for COVID-19:
  - Any of the following symptoms: cough, shortness of breath, or difficulty breathing, new loss of taste or smell.

**OR**

- Two of the following symptoms: fever (measured or subjective), chills, rigors, muscle soreness, headache, sore throat, GI issues (nausea and vomiting or diarrhea).

**OR**

- Any of the following symptoms: cough, shortness of breath, or difficulty breathing, fever (measured or subjective), chills, rigors, muscle soreness, headache, sore throat, new loss of

taste or smell, GI issues (nausea and vomiting or diarrhea) **AND** an epidemiological link to a case of COVID-19.

- If a student has been diagnosed with COVID-19, the school in conjunction with the local health department will administer contact tracing to identify any students or staff who may have been exposed to the virus.

### **RETURNING TO SCHOOL AFTER ILLNESS**

- If a student is diagnosed as having COVID-19, they must meet the following criteria to return to school:

- 3 days with no fever (without using fever reducing medication) **AND**
- Other symptoms improved/gone **AND**
- 10 days since symptoms first appeared

- Students that only have a fever and no other symptoms and have not had any contact with an individual that has COVID-19 may return to school after they are fever free for 24 hours without using any fever reducing medications.

- Any other illnesses should be handled in the routine manner according to district procedures.

- To return to school the child must be transported to school by the parent and must be checked by the school nurse.

### **DAILY EXPECTATIONS OF TEACHERS AND STAFF**

- Daily wellness checks/questionnaires may be required
- Alert administration of any changes in wellness or symptoms
- Quarantining guidelines and considerations will be followed as outlined above
- Disinfect classrooms and areas in between student/group use

### **Vaccines**

All students and staff who are eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine are encouraged to do so, but the School District understands that this is a personal decision.

### **Visitors and Volunteers**

Visitors and volunteers will generally be discouraged from visiting the facilities during the school day. Safety protocols such as taking temperatures, face coverings, and a health questionnaire may be implemented for all necessary visitors.

### **Protective Measures**

Miami East has taken great measures to ensure the safety of our students and staff by creating social distancing wherever possible and being vigilant on disinfecting our school. Purchases of additional hand sanitizing stations, disinfectants and barriers have made our building much more safe for our students and staff against the COVID-19

virus. We will establish routines for students to sanitize their hands and wash them on a regular basis.

### **Lunchroom Measures**

Lunchroom protocols will reflect social distancing with no touch POS (lunch account program) operation. Students will be able to travel through the kitchen to select their food options, while keeping a distance from the other students. While most current options will remain, parents will be encouraged to use their PaySchools account or send checks with their children to minimize cash transactions.

### **Equipment**

We will encourage students to have their own supplies for class so sharing is kept to a minimum. Staff members will be provided with additional cleaning supplies to ensure every effort is made to sanitize equipment between use of different students. Water bottle filling stations are available to students to fill student containers. Upgrades to the ventilation system have been and will continue to be made to help improve air quality. These upgrades include an improved filtration system.

### **Class Transition**

Schedules are being recreated to minimize hallway traffic. Realizing that this is unavoidable, students will be asked to spend a minimal amount of time in the hallways or at their lockers.

### **Face Coverings:**

Unless it is mandated by the local, state or national authorities, face coverings will not be required for students or teachers. If a parent, student or teacher would like to continue to wear face coverings, they may do so.

### **Online option for selected/special circumstances**

We realize that there are special circumstances that each family and student faces when returning to school in a different way. If students have circumstances that would not allow them to return to school as described, please talk with your principal to explore alternative settings.

### **Continuity of Service:**

The Miami East Local School District has practiced “in-person” learning since the start of the 2020-2021 school year. The district plans to continue with in-person learning for the 2021-2022 school year. During this time, the district will provide all services to students, including health and food services to all attending students. The district staff will monitor students to determine their social and emotional health and offer services where needed. All appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities will be provided during this time.

Closing the Gap:

The district will periodically administer diagnostic assessments to determine where there is a loss of education due to the hardships of the pandemic and address this loss as needed. This will include summer school, before and after school interventions and adopting a curriculum that addresses the needs of our students.

<https://www.miamicountyhealth.net/>for Miami County Health information