

# **Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan**



**2021-2022 School Year**

**Bearcat Family,**

*This plan is in response to a mandate set forth within the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Funds. To be eligible for funding through the ARP, districts must develop such a plan.*

*From the beginning of the pandemic, it has been the intent of this administration to continue to educate our student population within the laws and guidelines set by local, state and federal agencies. We are encouraged that we were able to keep our doors open throughout the duration of the 2020-21 school year. It is certainly our hope and intent to do the same in 2021-22.*

*Please note that all provisions outlined in this document are subject to revision as needed to reflect local conditions.*

**Educationally,  
Dr. Scott Archibald  
Superintendent of Schools**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS:

- **Comment Period**
- **General (ongoing) Mitigation Strategies**
- **Continuity of Services**
- **General Health Information**
- **Transportation**
- **Communication**
- **Periodic Revision**
- **Understandable Language**
- **Use of ARP Funds**
- **Closing Remarks**

➤ **Commentary regarding COVID-19 guidelines and protocols**

- Parents/guardians with questions or concerns are asked to call the Orrick R-XI School District at 816-770-0094 to discuss and address those concerns with district or building administration.
- As well, public commentary was made available during the development of this plan.

➤ **General Mitigation Measures for Students and Faculty/Staff**

*Masks:*

- Students and staff have the option to wear masks if they are not experiencing Covid symptoms.
- Per CDC and state guidelines, students who are exposed in the school setting may continue to attend classes given that they wear a mask and are not experiencing any Covid-like symptoms.
- Orrick R-XI School District staff have been deemed Essential Workers by the CDC and state and therefore may return to work after 7 days of quarantine if not experiencing Covid symptoms. They must wear a mask for 14 days from the first day of quarantine.

*Physical Distancing:*

- Social distancing will be encouraged to the extent possible by all faculty, staff and students.
- Rooms have been organized and seating arranged to accommodate distancing where possible.

*Hand Washing/Sanitation:*

- Students will be guided to wash hands multiple times per day.
- Hand sanitizer has been provided at multiple locations throughout the school.

*Cleaning/Sanitation Practices:*

- Daily sanitizing and disinfecting will be a priority at all district facilities. Equipment has been purchased that enables the complete sanitation of all surfaces, to include classrooms (desks, tables, etc.), hallways (interior and exterior doors/doorways), lockers and locker rooms.
- Busses are also fogged/sanitized on a daily basis at the conclusion of routes.

*Diagnostic/Screening of Students:*

- While students and staff will not be required to have their temperature taken upon arrival, vigilance of the recognition and reporting of symptoms has been part of staff training.

*Vaccination Assistance:*

- The district has partnered with area health organizations to provide on-site and off-site vaccination opportunities.

*Ventilation/Air Quality:*

- Prior to the 2021 school year, the district installed air sanitation equipment to all HVAC systems, as well as the installation of fresh air components to all facilities in the summer of 2019.

*Other Mitigation Measures:*

- Students will be encouraged to bring personal water bottles from home, rather than use the drinking fountains. They should be labeled with the student name, and in clean, sanitary condition. Drinking fountains with bottle fillers have been installed throughout the district.
- Student activities and athletics will be conducted as usual to the extent they are permissible under local, state, and federal guidelines. These are voluntary activities where students and parents have a choice to participate or not.
- MS/HS students will report directly to their 1st hour class rather than meeting in common areas/hallways
- Attendance incentives for students and staff will cease. Staff and/or students who are sick need to stay home. Absences due to COVID will be excused under the attendance policy.

➤ **Continuity of Services**

- The Orrick R-XI School District is committed to providing education for our students. Students who are not able to or choose not to attend because of Covid related concerns will be provided ongoing instruction that will be designed by district staff. This process will be facilitated via the building principal.

➤ **General health information for students and faculty/staff**

- Parents and students, as well as staff members, are encouraged to self-screen for potential COVID-19 symptoms before coming to school. Anyone with symptoms of illness should stay home.
- Students at school who display health symptoms that could suggest COVID-19 concerns will be checked by the nurse. If evaluation by the nurse suggests potential for COVID-19 infection, the student will be masked (if the student does not have one) and isolated until picked up by a parent/guardian.
- Students with a temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher will be sent home per our regular policy. If the student presents no other COVID symptoms and has no known exposure, they can return after being fever free for 24 hours.
- A student excluded from the school environment due to COVID-19 concerns may return to school in accordance with guidelines provided by the health department. These guidelines are fluid and change as deemed necessary by the HD as a result of many variables.

Other scenarios regarding student health will be handled according to guidance from and consultation with the Ray County Health Department.

➤ **Transportation information**

- Students will continue to be transported as necessary and seating will accommodate social distancing when possible.
- All surfaces of the busses interior will be disinfected daily.
- Students who must be sent home because of illness or quarantine by health/district officials must be picked up by parents/guardians; they cannot be transported by bus or other district transportation.

➤ **Communication Procedures**

- Administration will share information with students, staff and community on an as needed basis through text, email and other avenues of communication.
- Weekly posts will not be provided as they were last year as the present situation does not necessitate it.

➤ **Understandable Language**

- This communication has will be provided in the spoken language of ELL students/families, if the need arises.

➤ **Periodic Revision**

- This document may be revised periodically to adjust to the often-changing variables.

➤ **Use of ARP Funds**

- Revenue received via the ARP will be used within the guidelines ([https://oese.ed.gov/files/2021/03/FINAL\\_ARP-ESSER-FACT-SHEET.pdf](https://oese.ed.gov/files/2021/03/FINAL_ARP-ESSER-FACT-SHEET.pdf)) provided by the federal government of the United States and the State of Missouri. At the time of this publication, monies have not yet been allocated and the district has until September, 2023 to obligate its allocation of funds. Therefore, district administration will take time to evaluate and prioritize its needs and use these proceeds in a way that will most benefit the students and the district as a whole.

➤ **Closing Remarks**

In closing, the district would like to thank our students, staff and patrons for their part in making the 2020-21 school year a successful one. Moving forward, I am confident that 2021-22 will be even more successful. Our mission will continue to be supporting our students in becoming good people who are ready to serve the communities in which they live. I am optimistic that this (ARP) funding will prove to benefit our students and district in the future. Should you have any questions that I can attempt to clarify, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully,

**Dr. Scott Archibald**  
**Superintendent, Orrick R-XI School District**

**DISCLAIMER: We ask that all students, parents, and local patrons be flexible with the district as we continue to navigate the constant changes of the Covid-19 pandemic. All of the information provided in this communication is subject to change as continued guidance and health data are released on a local, state, and national level. We greatly appreciate your patience as we are truly doing our best to ensure the most impactful learning experience for all students in the Orrick R-XI School District.**