

Return to Learn Handbook

Canton School District

Last Updated 8/11/20

HOME HEALTH SCREENING

The absolute most critical component of our Return to School Plan is a Cooperative Partnership with parents/guardians, staff, and students, where all individuals commit to:

- 1.) Stay home when they are feeling sick.
- 2.) Practice good hygiene (wear a mask, wash hands frequently, cough into elbow or tissue paper, etc..)
- 3.) Practice Physical (Social) Distancing whereas possible.

DAILY QUESTIONS:

Parents are asked to complete the following individual health screening process at home with their children each day prior to sending them on the bus or to any Canton School District facilities.

- Does your child have a temperature over 100⁰F?
- Does your child have a new or worsening cough?
- Does your child have new or worsening shortness of breath?
- Does your child have a headache which is unrelated to a known health condition (migraines)?
- Does your child have diarrhea, vomiting or abdominal pain?
- Has your child recently lost their sense of taste or smell?
- In the past 14 days, has your child been in close contact with an individual that has tested positive for Covid-19 or an individual that is self-quarantined due to Covid-19 symptoms and/or awaiting results?



If you answered “YES” to any of the questions above, STOP!

Do not send your child to school. Contact your healthcare provider. Contact your child’s school to inform them of your child’s symptoms. You may also contact the SD Dept of Health with any COVID-19 questions at 1-800-997-2880.



If you answered “NO” to all the questions above, please send your child to school.

STUDENT ILLNESS DURING THE SCHOOL DAY

Isolation Area

- Each respective school will be required to maintain an Isolation Area for students experiencing COVID-19 symptoms.
- Each Isolation Area will be separate from the Nurse's Office and cannot be utilized for general Student Health Services.
- Individuals exhibiting symptoms will be directly placed in the Isolation Area and held there until released to the parent.

Protocol for Individuals Exhibiting Symptoms

1. Any individual exhibiting symptoms of illness during the school day will be referred to the main office for an evaluation by the School Nurse.
2. Staff Members are required to contact the Main Office prior to sending a student to the Building Office or Isolation Area.
3. The student must wear a mask while in the Isolation Area.
4. The School Nurse will be responsible for assessing any student that is exhibiting symptoms.
5. If the School Nurse determines that the student is at risk, the parent/guardian will be contacted and the child will be sent home.
6. The School Nurse will record any referrals in the building's Health Log and provide information to the building administration.
7. The classroom teacher will sanitize the student desk, chair, locker, or any space used by the student.
8. The Custodial Staff will sanitize the Isolation Area following each usage.
9. It is critical that the all District employees maintain confidentiality related to any student/staff health information.
10. The School Nurse will provide follow-up with the parent/guardian.

RETURN TO SCHOOL CRITERIA

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Persons with COVID-19 symptoms who were sent home by the District and directed to care for themselves may return to school under the following conditions:
 - Temperature has been below 100⁰ F for the past 72 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications; **and**
 - There has been an improvement in symptoms (able to control cough, sneezing, nasal drainage, etc.); **or**
 - A note from a licensed medical provider informing the school of the date when the individual can return to school.

2. Persons with laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 may return to school when:
 - At least 14 days have passed since the onset of the first symptoms or a positive COVID-19 diagnostic test **and**;
 - Temperature has been below 100⁰ F for the past 72 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications; and
 - Have had no subsequent illness and are asymptomatic.

3. Individuals who have been exposed to someone with a confirmed case of COVID-19 or has been in close contact with someone who is currently being quarantined may return to school:
 - After 14 days have been passed since last being in contact with the confirmed or quarantined individual; **and**
 - Is not experiencing any COVID-19 related symptoms.

**It is important to remember that anyone who has had close contact with someone with COVID-19 or is being quarantined should stay home for 14 days after exposure based on the time it takes to develop illness (incubation period).*

On-Campus Instructional Plan

GREEN PLAN: Traditional Instruction

- Students and staff will be required to wear masks when in the building. This practice and other mitigation strategies may be amended by the Administration based upon CDC recommendations. Masks will not be required during lunch or outdoor activities (PE, recess, Marching Band, etc....). Athletes will not be required to use a mask during practice.
- Traditional learning environment where students are transported using district bussing and/or student transportation to the attendance centers.
- The district will use traditional scheduling with accommodations in place to reduce the risk of pathogen transfer.
- This is the highest risk method and provides the greatest reward for the education of the student.
- Teachers WILL incorporate online learning tools into daily instruction to prepare students and parents for any transition needed.
- All teachers will spend the first few weeks focused on the tools the district uses to facilitate instruction
- Classrooms will be arranged to promote social distancing.
- Students will be allowed to store materials in their hallway lockers.

YELLOW PLAN: Classroom Pod Instruction

- Students and staff will be required to wear masks when in the building. This practice and other mitigation strategies may be amended by the Administration based upon CDC recommendations. Masks will not be required during lunch or outdoor activities (PE, recess, Marching Band, etc....). Athletes will not be required to use a mask during practice but will while on a bus.
- All students in grades K-12 will be assigned to a classroom pod where they will spend the majority of their school day.
- Middle and High School Students will receive a majority of their instruction through an online format in the classroom. Elementary students will receive their instruction in their classroom.
- Staggered lunch dismissals with students eating in their classroom pod.
- Students will no longer be allowed access to their lockers and are encouraged to bring a back-pack to school. All materials will be stored in their classroom.
- The School Day for students would be shortened to 8:45 AM – 2:45 PM to provide for planning time for teachers at the start and end of the day.

RED PLAN: Online Instruction (Off-Campus)

- The District will be ready at any point to transition to online learning. Online learning will take place utilizing a uniform distance learning system for elementary (See Saw Platform) and for secondary grade levels. (Google Classroom).
- All students, parents, teachers, staff and administration WILL NEED to be able to support this method from Aug. 19 through May 28.
- Preparation/Training will occur prior to the start of the school year for staff
- Staff will begin to utilize their learning platforms with students in the classroom to get them comfortable with the delivery system if remote learning is required.

Virtual Learning Option

Parents will have the option of not sending their student(s) to school this year and may elect to educate their child at home. For those individuals, a virtual learning program will be provided.

The virtual learning program will be much different than what the district offered during 4th quarter of last school year. The biggest difference is that our local teachers will not be teaching the course. Instead, the district will purchase online curriculum for families to use as they progress independently through the content at their own pace. All Virtual Learning courses are asynchronous. The teacher monitors student progress and answers questions via email or phone, but does not interact directly with the students on a daily basis. However, daily participation and engagement with the curriculum will be expected in all courses.

Another notable difference between On-Campus and Virtual Learning Model is that fewer course offerings will be available at the secondary level (grades 6-12) when compared to the On-Campus Model. The Virtual Learning Model will only provide instruction in the core content areas (reading/language arts, math, science and social studies). Very few electives will be available for virtual learners

Families electing to enroll in the Virtual Learning option will need to commit to the program for the entire semester. Students will not be allowed to “jump back and forth” between distance learning and in-person learning on campus. The reason for this decision is the expense related to purchasing an appropriate number of software licenses. The District is required to pay the full expense for the online virtual course whether the student completes the course or not. Families choosing to enroll in the Virtual Learning program will need to notify the District by August 12th.

Critical Infrastructure Workers

To ensure continuity of operations of essential functions, CDC advises that critical infrastructure workers be permitted to continue work following potential exposure to COVID-19 provided they were wearing a mask at the time of exposure. The Canton School District designates all certified staff, office staff, Administrators and the School Nurse as Critical Infrastructure workers.

These individuals will be allowed to immediately return to work following a potential exposure provided they keep a temperature log twice a day, remain asymptomatic for the entire 14 day period and continue to wear a mask at all times to protect them and the community.

Face Masks

Introduction

Students and Staff Members will be required to wear a district-approved face masks at the start of the school year. This decision will be re-visited periodically throughout the school year. The reason for this decision is based on one simple goal.....the desire to have students on campus for learning for the greatest amount of time during this school year. The district believes that students learn best when they are on campus and in the classroom with a certified teacher. Wearing face masks, washing hands frequently and social distancing provides the best opportunity for our School District to meet this goal.

Approved Face Masks

Students will be allowed to bring their own mask from home provided it completely covers the nose/mouth area and is content appropriate. Neck gaiters, bandanas and other breathable cloth masks are acceptable. If a student does not have a mask, the district will provide one for the individual student. Face shields will not “take the place” of a mask as they do not filter out the infected respiratory droplets traveling in the air.

Face Masks and Medical Conditions:

Any student or faculty member that has a documented medical condition that could become agitated by a face covering (mask) will be required obtain a note from a certified medical provider including possible accommodations. Schools officials will meet with these individuals and create an acceptable plan.

How to Clean Your Cloth Mask

Washing machine

You can include your mask with your regular laundry. Use regular laundry detergent and the warmest appropriate water setting for the cloth used to make the mask.

Washing by Hand

Prepare a bleach solution by mixing 5 tablespoons (1/3rd cup) household bleach per gallon of room temperature water or 4 teaspoons household bleach per quart of room temperature water. Check the label to see if your bleach is intended for disinfection. Some bleach products, such as those designed for safe use on colored clothing, may not be suitable for disinfection. Ensure the bleach product is not past its expiration date.

Soak the mask in the bleach solution for 5 minutes. **Rinse thoroughly** several times with cool or room temperature water to eliminate all bleach product.

How to Dry Your Mask

You can use the highest heat setting on your clothes dryer until completely dry. You can also air dry your mask by laying it flat, and if possible, in direct sunlight. Allow your mask to completely dry after washing before wearing it again.

Water Fountains/Water Bottles

The drinking fountains will not be utilized at the start of this school year. Because of this, we are encouraging students to bring a water bottle from home that can be used throughout the school day.

Water bottle filling stations have been added to every building throughout the District. The bottle filling stations are operational and students will be allowed to fill their water bottle when needed. Dixie cups will also be made available for elementary student use.

School Visitors

The Canton School District is currently not allowing outsiders to visit our school during the school day when students are present. Parents wishing to have lunch with their child are asked to make arrangements to meet their child at the main office and take them off campus for lunch.

School Bus Guidelines

Country Route Bussing

- Parents are asked to perform the recommended “Home Health Screening” with their student each morning before sending their student to the bus.
- Students will be required to use hand sanitizer when boarding the bus.
- All students will be required to wear a mask while riding the bus.
- A seating chart may be enforced to allow for social distancing on the bus.
- If weather conditions permit, students will be allowed to open a window to allow fresh air into the bus.

City Transit Bussing

- Students riding the City “transit” Bus will be required to wear a face mask.
- Because of the sporadic nature of transit bussing, a seating chart will not be enforced. However, students are asked to social distance when selecting a seat.
- Hand sanitizer will be provided for student use when exiting the bus.

ABC Bus Expectations

- All Bus drivers will be required to wear a mask and/or other personal protective equipment.
- Each bus will be sanitized after each use (usually twice per day) concentrating on common areas of contact such as seats, walls, windows and railing.
- A deep sanitizing of the bus will occur at least on a weekly basis or more frequently when the situation necessitates.