

Ephrata Area School District Phased School Reopening Health and Safety Plan Summary



Anticipated Launch Date: August 31, 2020

Facilities Cleaning, Sanitizing, Disinfecting and Ventilation

Requirement(s)	Strategies, Policies and Procedures
<p>Cleaning, sanitizing, disinfecting, and ventilating learning spaces, surfaces, and any other areas used by students (i.e., restrooms, drinking fountains, hallways, and transportation)</p>	<p>Buses will be cleaned between each run, which may create the need to adjust start/end times for school at some levels.</p> <p>All school buildings, including locker rooms and hallways, will be disinfected by using electrostatic sprayers every school day and on weekends as necessary. High-touch points will be cleaned and disinfected several times a day.</p> <p>All bathrooms will be cleaned twice during each school day.</p> <p>Bottle-filler water fountains will be installed throughout all schools.</p> <p>Playgrounds will be disinfected every morning.</p>

Social Distancing and Other Safety Protocols

Requirement(s)	Strategies, Policies and Procedures
<p>Classroom/learning space occupancy that allows for 6 feet of separation among students and staff throughout the day, to the maximum extent feasible</p>	<p>The social distance of at least six (6) feet will be the target while a lesser distance is acceptable if six (6) feet is not achievable to meet the needs of students. There will be a minimum spacing of three (3) feet, the social distancing recommended by the World Health Organization (WHO), as a three-foot distance is associated with large reductions in infections via droplet spread of coughs and sneezes.</p>

Requirement(s)	Strategies, Policies and Procedures
<p>Restricting the use of cafeterias and other congregate settings, and serving meals in alternate settings such as classrooms</p>	<p>Bagged breakfast and lunch will be available for all students regardless of Instructional Model.</p> <p>Breakfast will be available to students upon arrival and will be eaten in the classroom.</p>
<p>Hygiene practices for students and staff including the manner and frequency of hand-washing and other best practices</p>	<p>The last five (5) minutes of any class that requires students to change classrooms will include hand washing and surface disinfecting with District-provided cleaning supplies.</p>
<p>Posting signs, in highly visible locations, that promote everyday protective measures, and how to stop the spread of germs</p>	<p>Signs will be posted in high traffic areas and online displaying the location-specific expectations regarding everyday protective measures and how to stop the spread of germs. These same messages will be promoted digitally on the District website and through social media.</p>
<p>Handling sporting activities consistent with the CDC Considerations for Youth Sports for recess and physical education classes</p>	<p>Recess will be conducted by classroom in grades K-6 and take place in designated areas.</p> <p>Students will wash hands before and after recess each day.</p> <p>Outdoor equipment will be disinfected daily.</p> <p>Physical Education courses will be conducted using the following guidance when possible:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilize individual equipment • Utilize outdoors (weather permitting) • Utilize multiple class spaces (gym, weight room, health room) • Equipment will be used that can be disinfected between classes.
<p>Limiting the sharing of materials among students</p>	<p>Materials required for students to engage in instructional activities will be distributed to the individual student or cleaned between multiple uses where possible.</p>

Requirement(s)	Strategies, Policies and Procedures
<p>Staggering the use of communal spaces and hallways</p>	<p>Hallways and common spaces will be used in a limited manner when possible.</p> <p>If locker rooms need to be used, the Physical Education teacher will supervise entry, allowing only a designated number of students to enter at a time and using a limited number of well-spaced lockers. Other students will wait outside the locker room door.</p>
<p>Adjusting transportation schedules and practices to create social distance between students</p>	<p>Parents will sign-off on their transportation selection for options that include on-site instruction and extracurricular activities.</p> <p>Face coverings will be required for the duration of the bus ride when legally required.</p> <p>Face coverings will be worn while boarding and departing the bus.</p> <p>Bus seats will be numbered and assigned for each route.</p> <p>Bus drivers may wear face coverings while students are boarding and departing.</p>
<p>Limiting the number of individuals in classrooms and other learning spaces, and interactions between groups of students</p>	<p>Students in grades K-6 will stay in the same classroom for their coursework whenever possible, with the only exception being for students taking specialized coursework and related arts/electives.</p> <p>Students will be assigned to course sections in a way to reduce the number of students in each section.</p>

Requirement(s)	Strategies, Policies and Procedures
<p>Other social distancing and safety practices</p>	<p>Initial surveys indicated that approximately sixty-eight (68) percent of District students will be participating in Modified Traditional, nineteen (19) percent in Online Learning, seven (7) percent in the Blended option, and six (6) percent in the Ephrata Virtual Academy (EVA).</p> <p>Lockers will only be issued in special circumstances and will not be assigned to each student.</p> <p>Students and staff must wear face coverings at all times while in school, even when six feet of social distancing can be achieved. Face-covering breaks may occur for up to ten (10) minutes when students are spaced at least six feet apart.</p> <p>Sneeze guards are being placed in cafeterias, libraries, and offices as appropriate.</p> <p>Face coverings at recess will adhere to current regulations.</p> <p>Large ensembles will be scheduled in auditoriums, cafeterias, gyms, or other large spaces when existing rooms are insufficient.</p> <p>Use of outdoor space will be utilized, following school district policy for security when applicable.</p>

Monitoring Student and Staff Health

Requirement(s)	Strategies, Policies and Procedures
<p>Monitoring students and staff for symptoms and history of exposure</p>	<p>Student screening for symptoms will be completed by all parents/guardians at home before the start of each school day.</p> <p>Students exhibiting symptoms must not be sent on a District bus or brought to school.</p> <p>All District staff will perform a symptom screening on themselves prior to leaving for work and will stay home if ill.</p> <p>If any individual exhibits symptoms while in a school building, a screening will be completed by the school nurse.</p> <p>All staff will be trained to look for the appropriate signs to monitor for symptoms and history of exposure.</p>
<p>Isolating or quarantining students, staff, or visitors if they become sick or demonstrate a history of exposure</p>	<p>Procedures will be established to address quarantining students, staff, or visitors if they become sick or demonstrate a history of exposure.</p> <p>Any individual who becomes sick or demonstrates a history of exposure may be sent home immediately.</p>
<p>Returning isolated or quarantined staff, students, or visitors to school</p> <p>Notifying staff, families, and the public of school closures and within-school-year changes in safety protocols</p>	<p>State and federal guidelines will be used to determine when an isolated or quarantined staff, student, or visitor may return to school.</p> <p>The District will utilize several communication tools (email, messaging service, website, and social media) to notify staff, families, and the public of a school closure.</p>

Other Considerations for Students and Staff

Requirement(s)	Strategies, Policies and Procedures
Protecting students and staff at higher risk for severe illness	Individualized plans will be established for each student or employee who represents a higher risk condition.
Use of face coverings (masks or face shields) by all staff	<p>Face coverings will be worn by staff in the hallways and during direct instruction if maintaining a legally required amount of social distance is not achievable.</p> <p>Face coverings will be worn during group or collaborative work time.</p>
Use of face coverings (masks or face shields) by older students (as appropriate)	Students and staff must wear face coverings at all times while in school, even when six feet of social distancing can be achieved. Face-covering breaks may occur for up to ten (10) minutes when students are spaced at least six feet apart.
Unique safety protocols for students with complex needs or other vulnerable individuals	Individualized plans will be established for each student or employee who represents a higher risk condition.