

REOPENING PLAN



***ARCHIE R-V
SCHOOL DISTRICT
FALL 2020***

“LEARNING FOR LIFE”



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INTRODUCTION

Dear Archie Families & Community,

The past months have been very tough on the community and more specifically our students. The last school year was filled with unexpected circumstances that few of us could have imagined. Despite the challenges, we are poised and ready to support students, staff, and families. I have never been more proud to be a part of the Archie R-V community, and I am inspired by the work our teams and school has produced in preparation for the 2020-2021 school year. While this year will look different from years past, and as the entire state continues to wrestle with the restrictions from the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, I take comfort knowing that our school will continue to be a connection of support, comfort, and stability. There are many unknowns about the future of this virus and its impact, but I am confident we will persevere. With great input/information from our Reopening Task Force Team, community members, Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, and the Cass County Health Department, we have developed the Archie R-V School District Reopening Plan. Given the rapidly changing landscape of the public health situation, this will be a document that will most likely require updating throughout the year based on emerging guidance and information. We will continue to provide you with as much clear and timely support and guidance as possible. Together, we will ensure that all of our students and their families have what they need to succeed.

Jeff Kramer

Superintendent



SAFETY AND WELL-BEING

Based on guidance from the Centers for Disease Control, and Cass County Health Department, the district has developed a proactive plan that places student and employee safety at the forefront of returning to school. Classroom teachers, support staff, and families will all play an increasingly important role in the health and wellness of students.

Students and Safety

Screening for COVID-19 begins in the home. We are asking parents to screen students daily. Keep your student home if, in the past 48 hours, the student has experienced:

- A fever (100.4 degrees or higher);
- Chills, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, headache;
- New loss of smell or taste, new muscle aches;
- Your student or a someone in which you have been exposed to, such as a direct family member, has been diagnosed or presumptively diagnosed with COVID-19 (Stay home 14 days)

Students will be required to wear a protective face covering when on the move traveling throughout the building and in classrooms when physical distancing isn't possible. At times when masks are not required, students are free to wear their face covering. Students are welcome to provide their own appropriate mask or face shield. The district will provide each student with two washable, reusable cloth masks. Subsequently, disposable masks will be available as necessary.

Every effort will be made to maintain small, cohort groups of students. The fewer people one person interacts with can help minimize the risks of spreading COVID-19. Furthermore, it makes contact tracing more manageable and fewer students and adults could be exposed.

Students will be spaced in assigned seating throughout the classroom to promote distancing, and procedures in other common spaces will be adjusted to encourage physical distancing. When traveling the hallways and common areas, students will wear masks, follow designated traffic patterns, and proceed directly to their destination. Students and staff will be encouraged to limit greetings to elbow bumps, toe-taps, and air high fives, etc. as opposed to handshakes, hugs, and other direct contact. We will limit the use of community supplies and disinfect when necessary. Elementary students will keep their backpacks at their desks.



Water fountains in the school include touchless bottle filler stations. The mouthpiece will be shut off. Water bottles will be kept with the student or in a safe place in the classroom depending on the age group. Students are encouraged to bring their own water bottle from home.

These new safety procedures will be taught and practiced in all of our classrooms. Parental support and reinforcement of these new measures will be critical in providing the safest possible environment for students. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we work to make school as safe as possible for your children.

Nursing

The school nurse will continue to be on site and available daily. We will provide teachers with basic essentials such as bandaids and cough drops to limit student traffic to the nurse's office. Students will be sent home if they have a fever of 100.4 or above. Students may also be sent home with a temperature below 100.4 if an assessment by the nurse determines that a child is exhibiting other symptoms of an illness. Students and staff who are sent home with a temperature must be fever free for 48 hours without the use of fever reducing medications.

We have identified an isolation room for students who are exhibiting signs of illnesses requiring parent pick up. District and health department protocol will be followed for all notifications to have an informed public while observing the required confidentiality of all concerned.

Custodial

Archie Schools has increased cleaning protocols in accordance with the Center for Disease Control's (CDC) guidance. Custodial staff have been trained on how to disinfect desks, chairs, and commonly touched surfaces. The custodial staff will clean frequently-touched surfaces and objects with district-supplied cleaning and disinfectant products. Archie Schools will maintain adequate supplies of personal protective equipment, soap, paper towels, and hand sanitizer throughout the school. The Custodial Department will ensure items are in stock and available for use. This may include fogging machines, hand misters, bacterial sprays, etc. Computer safe disinfectant methods will be used for computers and keyboards.

Multiple sanitation stations will be located throughout the building. A deep cleaning schedule has been established to ensure that all areas of the building are being sanitized daily. At this time our schedule will allow for a thorough, deep cleaning of the entire building every Wednesday.



Staff

In order to protect our students, faculty, and staff, we will continue to provide regular maintenance, cleaning, and disinfecting of all areas. We have purchased additional resources for classrooms including hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes. As we take additional precautions, we also know our faculty and staff will take the following precautions to work toward a safer environment.

- **Daily Self Checks:** Every faculty and staff member will perform a daily self check. If they have experienced one of the following within the last 48 hours, they are recommended to stay home:
 - A fever (100.4 degrees or higher);
 - Chills, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, headache;
 - New loss of smell or taste, new muscle aches;
 - They have been considered to have been exposed to an individual who has been diagnosed or presumptively diagnosed with COVID-19, or have themselves been diagnosed with COVID-19 (Stay home 14 Days)
- **Masks and Face shields:** All employees will be required to wear a protective face covering such as a face shield or mask when on the move and when physical distancing isn't possible.
 - All staff members will be provided with two reusable face masks and the option of a face shield.
- Employees will leave school immediately if they start to feel ill or unwell. They will notify their supervisor immediately so the district may take precautionary steps to clean the affected area.



INSTRUCTION OPTIONS

We are pleased to offer students and parents two learning choices: distance learning or face-to-face learning. This allows families to make the best decision for their household.

Face-to-Face Learning

The Face-to-Face learning option will include five days of instruction. All Wednesday classes will be conducted virtually to enable mid-week deep cleaning of the entire building, practicing using a virtual format in the event of a temporary school closure, and to ensure a rich and robust learning experience is being provided for all students. On the all-student virtual learning day, students will be learning from home and staff will be on-site. This need for this adjusted schedule will be re-evaluated quarterly.

All families choosing in-person instruction are agreeing that the child(ren) in their household will abide by the enhanced safety precautions outlined by the Archie School District in this plan, including but not limited to wearing protective face coverings and physical distancing.

Face-to-Face classes will integrate the online format to ensure a smooth transition to virtual learning in the event of a temporary school closure. Archie Schools attendance policies remain in place, though absent students will be able to access class work from home. Recess will be in grade level groups and multiple areas will be used for outside play. Students will have access to elective classes, Title I, and intervention. The setting and method of instruction will be determined depending upon class size and nature of the activity.

If you choose in-person instruction for your child(ren), they may switch to virtual at any time, but then must remain a virtual student until the end of the quarter in which that transition was made.

Should there be guidance from local and/or state agencies during the 2020-2021 limiting the number of students allowed to gather, a hybrid schedule will be implemented. Under the hybrid plan, students who attend in-person would be divided into two groups. Each group would attend in-person two days each week and would continue virtually the other three days. In the event schools are required to close due to pandemic conditions, students will shift to virtual instruction and learning will continue.



Distance Learning

If you do not feel comfortable sending your child to school this fall, distance learning is an option. Distance learning will be taught by Archie teachers using a district curriculum aligned to the Missouri Learning Standards.

Online learning will follow the same learning goals and expectations of the regular classroom. The majority of materials for learning will be available online, but resources may need to be picked-up from the school for some of the activities to take place.

Students grades 3-12 will be assigned a Chromebook and charger. Chromebooks will go home with students daily to be charged. The laptop and technology agreements must be signed and returned before Chromebooks will be distributed. It is the responsibility of the student and the student's parents or guardians to ensure internet connectivity is regularly available for the student via home or utilize district provided access points at the school.

Students who register for virtual learning continue to have the same athletic and activity privileges as all other students attending school face-to-face.

Parents and students must be committed to the time and effort required for virtual learning to happen. Parents will need to provide extensive support for their child for learning to happen. Archie Schools teachers will be available at prearranged times to interact with parents and students. This schedule will vary depending on the age and course for the student. Live streams of the classroom or recordings may be available. Students selecting distance learning may attend Cass Career Center, but must attend those classes in person.

Students who have an IEP or Section 504 Plan will continue to receive services. Special Education and Section 504 plans may be modified for virtual learning and implemented to accommodate the needs of each student based on findings of the IEP team. Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Speech services will be available for students who have these in their plans.

If you choose distance learning for your child(ren) and you later feel it would be beneficial for your child(ren) to switch to face-to-face instruction, you may contact Archie Schools prior to the beginning of the next quarter for consideration. Scheduling and classroom spacing must be considered.



SCHOOL DAY CONSIDERATIONS

Arrival/Dismissal

Students will report directly to a designated location in the building upon arrival. Additional considerations for families include:

- If possible, drive your child to and from school each day to reduce the number of students riding the bus.
- Drop students off as close to the school start time as possible and not too early as to avoid the gathering of students before doors open.
- Students should not arrive at school prior to **7:50 AM** when doors will open. Students will be released to classrooms at 8:00 AM with class beginning at 8:10 AM.
- Upon dropping your child off, please remind them that their first responsibility as they enter the building is to use hand sanitizer located in the entrance of buildings. Students will be expected to wash their hands or use hand sanitizer frequently throughout the day. Sanitation stations will be located in every classroom and in areas throughout each building.
- Parents are asked to encourage their children to follow safety protocols.

Bus Transportation

For students who ride the bus to and from school, the established rules and guidelines are listed below.

- Students who ride the bus are required to wear masks while on the bus.
- Bus drivers will wear face coverings and sanitize touchpoints after each route.
- Students will be assigned seating, and siblings may sit together. Arrival and dismissal procedures may initially take more time than in previous years. Your understanding is appreciated.

New this year: Families using bus transportation need to sign up to allow the district to plan accordingly for the number of students on each bus. Watch for an email containing a google form.

- Students will be able to sign up for one bus in the morning and to sign up for one bus in the afternoon.
- At this time, we cannot accommodate requests for students to ride different buses on different days in an effort to support the potential need for contact tracing.

We appreciate your patience with district employees as they work to implement new protocols.



Cafeteria Procedures

Students and teachers will eat in the cafeteria when social distancing is possible. If not, students will eat in their classrooms or in another location where social distancing is possible. Students will wash or sanitize their hands prior to eating. All food service staff (Opaa!) are thoroughly trained in food safety. Opaa! will make adjustments in order to eliminate any self-serve stations, and meals will be individually packaged in to-go containers. At this time, students will continue to be offered hot items as a breakfast and lunch choice. **If your child will bring their lunch from home, please do not send items which must be warmed in a microwave, as they may not be available.**

Social, Emotional, and Health Safety

The School Counselor, School Nurse, and other support staff will work to do the following:

- Create professional development for building staff regarding typical childhood reactions to stress and trauma.
- Collaborate with teachers on classroom activities to address student mental health upon returning to school.
- Collaborate with community agencies on best practices.
- Provide classroom lessons on school expectations and structure around health safety and physical distancing practices to help students re-adjust to a full school schedule.
- The virtual learning day (while in place) will be used to conduct check-in visits with families to provide continuous support and connection for families.

We understand that things are hard right now, and we are committed to doing our best to provide your children a safe place to learn and grow. If you have any concerns about your returning student's social, emotional, and health safety, please contact Archie Schools at (816)293-5312.

Building Visitors

Archie Schools will limit visitors inside the building during the school year. Administrators and teachers will provide the option to conduct meetings with families remotely (conference call or videoconference) so parents can continue to engage with teachers and participate in necessary discussions (e.g. Individualized Education Program (IEP) and 504 plan meetings; discipline conversations). If visitors are unable to join a remote meeting or conduct their business without entering the building, on-site meetings may be available. A record of visitors will be kept, and it will include the time the visitor entered and exited the building. All in-person meetings will take place in a designated area in the school office to limit exposure to the student population. Visitors will be expected to wear facial coverings and practice social distancing while on site.



Assemblies

Large gatherings such as assemblies and celebrations will only occur when students can be separated by cohort groups or safely socially distance.

ATHLETICS AND ACTIVITIES

Archie Schools plan to provide students the opportunity to participate in extracurricular activities. These opportunities will be open to both in-person and virtual students. While offering these opportunities, the district will prioritize the health and safety of students and staff by adhering to the CDC and Cass County Health Department recommendations. We understand that as we abide by those recommendations, some, if not all, of those opportunities may be limited in the extent in which they can be provided. Missouri State High School Activities Association (MSHSAA) outlines guidelines as to how athletics and activities will be offered.

As a district, we understand the importance of offering these opportunities to our students and will continue to make every effort to do so. However, we know there may be decisions made by local, state, or national organizations that may prohibit some, if not all, extracurricular activities from taking place. To the extent possible, we expect all athletics and activities that can be performed in accordance with CDC and WEMO Conference recommendations to be available for student participation.

Spectators

Archie Schools will review recommendations from national, state, and local health organizations while prioritizing the safety of students, staff, and families. It is possible that limited numbers of spectators will be allowed to attend games, competitions, and performances. It is also possible that some sports and activities will be able to compete and perform while others will not. Restrictions concerning these events will be determined by the WEMO conference and MSHSAA. School officials will communicate that information as it becomes available.

- Additional requirements may be in place during competitions or performances.
- Essential personnel only will be allowed near students during games and competitions. Those individuals will maintain social distance when possible.
- Players on the sidelines may be required to physically distance when not in the game.



Field Trips

The Archie R-V School District values rich experiences for our students, therefore teachers will strive to provide these opportunities through virtual field trips, online guest speakers, and off-site destinations that meet the recommended guidelines at that time.

District Facilities

Use of district facilities will be determined on a case-by-case basis due to the necessary sanitation involved. Contact the school district for questions regarding building usage.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PARENTS

While it is always the school district's desire to give advance notice of school closings, due to the current circumstances, this will not always be possible. It is highly recommended for parents to have alternative plans should the school have to close.

Types of communication used by the district:

- School Reach: Phone notification through our student information system
- Facebook: Like us at Archie School District for updates
- Enews: All families are given the opportunity to receive these updates via email

***It is important that parent contact information is current and updated as needed.**



CONTACT INFORMATION

School Phone: 816-293-5312

If you have any questions regarding the Re-Opening Plan, please contact the following:

Tamara Stroud, Elementary Principal
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