Middleton School District COVID-19 Plan

It is the intent of Middleton School District to reopen limited face to face student instruction in the fall. MSD recognizes that we play a critical role for students and families within the community. If MSD is able to reopen as planned, advanced precautionary measures to help protect the health and safety of our students and staff while in our buildings will be our first priority.

MSD is currently working to complete our 1:1 technology initiative to prepare for worsening conditions throughout the winter season and be equipped to move all instruction to remote learning should we be in a position to close schools again during the 2020-2021 school year. Whatever the circumstances may be in 2020-2021, MSD is committed to offering a high quality education to all students regardless of the delivery method required.

Optional Online School:

MSD does recognize, based on survey data results, that some families may be uncomfortable with returning to school in the fall. MSD respects the decisions made by families surrounding the risk of COVID-19. As a result, MSD will offer a full-time online schooling option for all students K-12 who choose to continue to remain at home during the pandemic.

Initially, while numbers remain low, district instructional specialists will work to support online courses, and staff will continue to be added to programs as enrollment grows. Attendance will be required to participate in our online school, and will be further detailed out prior to school starting. Online course offerings will be provided for core subjects and select electives.

Every Child Learning Every Day
Students participating in our online school will be issued a district device at no charge; a limited number of hotspots will also be available for checkout. Additional information will be provided via email and through the Middleton School District website. We anticipate opening registration for our online option in July.

The Center for Disease Control (CDC) has offered the following guidance to aid school districts in the decision making process in regards to COVID-19: https://bit.ly/3ijBYxl. MSD will follow this guidance and has incorporated it into our plans.

**Identified Stages:**

Middleton School District has determined the following rankings to identify junctures and communicate response plans for changing pandemic conditions. These rankings align with the category (level) of transmission within a community where our schools are located and will be identified by the school district in conjunction with the local public health district using metrics and criteria established in the Idaho Rebounds plan for opening. These rankings are based on the definitions provided by the local public health districts and the State Department of Health and Welfare, these definitions with supporting guidance may be found at https://bit.ly/2WiyxO8. Middleton School District will support employees and students who choose to wear face coverings during school. Face covering will not be required by the school district unless there is a city or county ordinance that requires such.

**GREEN (Category 1)- Traditional school with precautionary measures, online option available. Little to no community/school COVID-19 spread.**

General precautionary measures to limit exposure and spread will be implemented and include:

- Require that students and staff stay home when they are sick, Individuals with a fever at or above 100.4°F will be excluded from attendance
- Require that individuals who have been sent home with a fever not return to school until they have been fever free for at least 72 hours without the use of fever reducing medications

Every Child Learning Every Day
• Encourage personal protective equipment for students and staff (PPE will **not** be provided by the school)
• Establish and maintain communication with local and state agencies (CDC, SWDH)
• Teach and reinforce physical distancing, handwashing, covering cough, and nose blowing etiquette to mitigate the transfer of germs.
• Implement [CDC guidelines](https://www.cdc.gov) to the full extent possible for schools
• Provide frequent opportunities for hand washing
• Provide hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol in all classrooms and common areas
• Increase space between students in classrooms and at recess to the full extent possible
• Turn off water fountains and allow students and staff to bring water bottles from home
• No field trips or assemblies
• Limit transitions between classes and/or reduce class sharing where possible
• Limit sharing of supplies where possible
• Limit visitor access
• Please see school level plans for additional information that is specific to each building

**Transportation**

• Busses will run as normally scheduled
• Provide hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol anytime students are departing from the schools
• Encourage face masks/coverings
• Disinfect surfaces between use

**Food Service**

• Provide hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol in each cafeteria
• Disinfect tabletops between use
• Cafeteria food will be offered, but no self-serving stations will be available
• Utilize disposable trays and utensils
• Require face masks for cafeteria staff
• Additional considerations will include: spaced seating, all students facing one direction, and staggered scheduling

**Every Child Learning Every Day**
**Custodial**

- Clean/disinfect frequently touched surfaces at least daily and shared objects after each use
- Ensure ventilation systems operate properly and increase circulation of outdoor air as much as possible
- Conduct deep cleaning of schools prior to students/staff returning to school in the fall, schedule additional periodic deep cleanings during non school days and school breaks
- Isolate and deep clean impacted classrooms and spaces
- Ensure safe and correct application of disinfectants

**YELLOW (Category 2):** **Blended learning with reduced class size, online option available. Minimal to moderate community/school COVID-19 spread**

All general precautionary measures listed under green will be maintained to limit exposure and spread, and additionally:

- Assign students to a blended learning model (a combination of face to face and remote learning to reduce numbers by approximately half in each classroom)
- Screen students and staff by taking temperatures at the start of each day, a temperature reading of 100.4°F or higher will result in exclusion from school
- Restrict sharing of supplies
- Restrict non-essential visitors and volunteers

**Transportation**

- Establish protocols for bus stops, loading/unloading students to minimize congregation of students from different households

**Food Service**

- Require spaced seating and staggered scheduling in the cafeteria

Every Child Learning Every Day
**Custodial**

- Close off affected areas, and if possible wait at least 24 hours before cleaning and disinfecting

**Red (Category 3)** - Soft close, all students online learning.

*Substantial community/school COVID-19 spread*

Red will indicate a full school closure. Students and teachers will be required to engage in remote learning. All students will have district owned technology to support this effort. Expectations and attendance similar to face to face learning will be established for assignments, grading, testing, etc.

**Transportation**

- No transportation

**Food Service**

- Provide emergency feeding operations in conjunction with Middleton Food Pantry and Idaho Food Bank (similar offerings as to what was provided in the spring)

**Custodial**

- Thoroughly clean & disinfect buildings

**Staff/Student/Parent Procedures and Protocols for Addressing COVID-19:**

**Self-Screening Procedures:**

All staff/students/guardians, including substitutes and volunteers, should ask themselves the following questions daily before entering the school:

- Since your last day of school, or last visit to the school or district facility, have you had any of these symptoms that are not attributable to another condition?
  - Fever or Chills
  - Employees who have symptoms of acute respiratory illness are recommended to notify their supervisor and stay home until they are free of fever and any other symptoms for at least
least 72 hours, without the use of fever-reducing or other symptom-altering medicines (e.g. cough suppressants). A fever is considered having a temperature of 100.4° F or greater using an oral thermometer.

- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Congestion or Runny Nose
- Nausea, Vomiting or Diarrhea
- Muscle or Body Aches
- Headache
- Sore throat
- New loss of taste or smell

Are you ill, or caring for someone who is ill?
- Staff/students/guardians who are well but who have a sick family member at home with COVID-19 should stay home. Employees may qualify for COVID-19 leave allocated under the Families First Coronavirus Act.
- In the two weeks before you felt sick, did you:
  - Have contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19?
  - Live in or visit a place where COVID-19 is spreading?

If the answer is YES to any of these questions:
- Do not report to school/work or enter the school or district facility.
- Contact your school or immediate supervisor communicating the need to be absent.
- Contact your healthcare provider.
- If you are able to manage your symptoms at home, you may return to school/work when the following are true:
  - Your medical provider has determined a different illness than COVID-19 and cleared you to return, or
  - You have two negative test results for COVID-19 with 24 hours separating the two tests and no symptoms, or
  - At least 10 days from the first clinical diagnosis symptom and at least 72 hours fever free without fever-reducing medication and when symptoms are improving.

Procedures and Protocols For A Confirmed COVID-19 Case Among Staff/Students:

Staff/Student/Guardian Responsibilities:
- If you have tested positive or have been confirmed to have COVID-19:
  - Do not report to school/work or enter any school or district facilities.
  - Notify your school or immediate supervisor of the positive test and your need to be absent or take leave.
○ Contact HR- Lori Buckway to report your qualifying reason, and arrange for COVID-19 leave.
○ Staff/students who have tested positive for COVID-19 or who have not been tested but were directed to stay home from school/work may return to work under the following conditions (per CDC guidance):
  ■ At least 3 days (72 hours) have passed since recovery defined as resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications and
  ■ Improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath); and,
  ■ At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared.

School Reopening Plan Links:
  ● Elementary Schools
  ● Middleton Middle School
  ● 9-12 Schools

Special Education Guidance:
  ● https://bit.ly/3gl0zA9

SIC Guidelines for Athletics for School Year 2020-2021:

IHSAA Return to Sports Recommendations:
  ● https://bit.ly/2W1RNiM

Guidelines Provided by Governmental Entities:
  ● Idaho Back to School Framework 2020
  ● School Re-Opening Criteria for Spring/Summer 2020
  ● School Guidance (COVID-19) v2.0
  ● State of Idaho - Stages of Reopening
  ● State Board of Education - Re-entry Criteria