



## District Reopening Plan CHANGE LOG & Frequently Asked Questions

As mentioned, this document will be flexible based on guidance and learning from state and local health professionals, as well as, ongoing learning as we begin implementation of the overall plan.

We have created this document as a quick reference capture of any of the changes made to the overall plan. Our goal is to provide you with a dated log of changes so you don't have to search the entire plan.

We have also created a FAQ section where we are collecting information from families as they inquire about parts of the plan.

### CHANGES to PLAN

**July 16, 2020**

#### **Health Plan/Preventative Measures (pages 3 & 5)**

- Face Masks - Staff and Volunteers:
  - Masks are highly recommended for staff within the building.

#### **CHANGED TO:**

Masks will be required to be worn by staff in the buildings at MJHS and MCHS.

After receiving survey results and having the majority of our students return to class face-to-face, careful reconsideration of space constraints in some areas of high traffic flow, and high population of these two buildings the decision was made to require masks to be worn. The exceptions are: PE class, band class and lunch (when eating).

AT THIS TIME, elementary buildings will remain highly recommended based our ability (in most areas) to spread out a little further throughout the day.

- Face Masks - Students:
  - Masks are highly recommended to be worn by students in the building.

#### **CHANGED TO:**

Masks will be required to be worn by students while in the buildings at MJHS and MCHS.

After receiving survey results and having the majority of our students return to class face-to-face, careful reconsideration of space constraints in some areas of high traffic flow, and high population of these two buildings the decision was made to require masks to be worn. The exceptions are: PE class, band class and lunch (when eating).

AT THIS TIME, elementary buildings will remain highly recommended. Considering the age of these students, their ability to effectively wear a mask, and our ability (in most areas) to spread out a little further throughout the day we will not change this recommendation.

As is the case at any time, your student is welcome to wear a mask at any time.

### **Health Plan/COVID-19 Tracking and Reporting (page 7)**

- It is recommended that parents report a diagnosis to school or district.

**CHANGED TO:**

It is **REQUIRED** that parents report a diagnosis to school or district.

Per officials at the Jefferson County Health Department, in order for effective and efficient contact tracing, families are required to report a diagnosis to the school or district as soon as possible.

### **July 17, 2020**

#### **Academic Delivery/Virtual Option (pages 3, 11, 13, and 25)**

- ~~MCHS or MJHS students opting for virtual learning will NOT be eligible to participate in any athletic, extracurricular, or co-curricular activities.~~

**CHANGED TO:**

MCHS or MJHS students opting for virtual learning through Madison schools will be eligible for participation in fall athletics. (See [Change of IHSAA Guidelines](#) press release)

On July 16, 2020 the Indiana High School Athletic Association (IHSAA) redefined language and definitions regarding virtual learning and how it corresponds with IHSAA rule 18.7.

From the IHSAA release:

#### **Virtual options and athletic participation in the fall:**

Scenario 1: If a school is offering virtual, distance learning, e-learning or online courses taught by member school personnel, a student athlete can attend 100% of the day virtually and still participate in education-based athletics. However, local control decision making permit a school to set a requirement above the standard set forth by the IHSAA. For instance, a school may still require in building attendance for athletic participation.

Scenario 2: If a 3<sup>rd</sup> party is delivering instruction to your students (teachers not employed by your school/corporation) and the percentage of courses being taught by the 3<sup>rd</sup> party is over 30% of the total number of courses offered in a semester, a waiver is required from the IHSAA.

Scenario 3: If a student athlete is attending a non-member virtual school full time in the fall, IHSAA By-Law 12-6 is still applicable.

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In scenario 1, member school would be considered Madison Consolidated Schools and its staff. It is the position of Madison Consolidated Schools that any student at MJHS or MCHS who selects Madison schools virtual option (SELECT Program) will be eligible for participation in fall athletics.

*\*\* If you had previously selected face-to-face instruction for your student and given this new information would now like to change to virtual learning, please contact your building principal to make the change.*

Scenario 2 refers to virtual instruction such as our PLATO online option that is student directed with no MCS personnel involved and students would not be eligible for athletic participation unless the appropriate percentage is met and a waiver is approved from the IHSAA.

Scenario 3 applies to homeschool students and the original rule of the IHSAA remains intact.

## July 23, 2020

### Masks (pages 3 & 5)

- Face Masks- Staff and Volunteers:
  - Masks will be **required** to be worn by staff while in the buildings at **MJHS and MCHS**.
    - ~~AT THIS TIME, elementary buildings will remain highly recommended for staff.~~
- Face Masks- Students:
  - Masks will be **required** to be worn by students while in the buildings at **MJHS and MCHS**. After receiving survey results and having the majority of our students return to class face-to-face, careful reconsideration of space constraints in some areas of high traffic flow, and high population of these two buildings the decision was made to require masks to be worn. *Exceptions will be PE class, band class, and lunch (when eating).*
    - ~~AT THIS TIME, elementary buildings will remain highly recommended. Considering the age of these students, their ability to effectively wear a mask, and our ability (in most areas) to spread out a little further throughout the day we will not change this recommendation.~~
  - ~~Multiple teachers throughout the district will require masks worn in their classrooms.~~
    - ~~Parents will be notified of the specific teachers/classes requiring masks.~~

### CHANGED TO:

Madison Consolidated Schools will require masks to be worn by students in Grades 3 - 12, all staff, volunteers, and anyone in our buildings at any time. We would like to remind you that students in PreK through Grade 2 are also welcome to wear masks at all times.

The requirement for wearing masks will be implemented **immediately** on all Madison Consolidated School campuses. This includes athletics, extracurricular, and co-curricular activities. We will look for additional guidance from the state and IHSAA regarding the definition of 'strenuous physical activity' when applied to co-curricular and/or extracurricular activities.

In accordance with Governor Holcomb's announcement on July 22, 2020 and Executive Order signed July 23, 2020, masks will be required to be worn by all Hoosiers beginning Monday, July 27, 2020.

Per the Governor's Order, masks are required:

- In most public spaces and commercial entities.
- When using public transportation and vehicle services.
- While attending outdoor public spaces when you cannot social distance from people who are not in your household.

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- In schools for students age 8 and above (or Grade 3 and above). The exceptions will be PE class, lunch, and band class.
- While participating in all co-curricular and extracurricular activities with exceptions for strenuous physical activities.
- Exceptions will be made for medical conditions, disabilities, exercising, eating, and drinking.

## **July 28, 2020**

### **Secondary Plans (page 25)**

Virtual Option: ~~Virtual option SELECT program~~

~~Parents/Students~~ who need for their student to stay home will have the option to enroll in our SELECT program. ~~Students will have access to courses in the SELECT program and will have daily access to a live teacher for guidance and help.~~

#### **CHANGED TO:**

Virtual Option:

MCHS Virtual option is SELECT Program where students will have access to courses in the SELECT program and will have daily access to a live teacher for guidance and help.

MJHS Virtual option will utilize Google classroom on a schedule to mirror face-to-face classroom instruction with daily access to a live teacher for guidance and help.

After further review of the SELECT Program curriculum, it was determined that the better fit for the middle school curriculum was to follow the current plan and use the Google Classroom virtual instruction model. SELECT Program curriculum is geared toward high school students.

## **August 3, 2020**

### **Untested/Unevaluated (page 7)**

- They have not had a fever for at least ~~72 hours~~ (that is three full days of no fever without the use of medicine that reduces fevers); and

#### **CHANGED TO:**

- They have not had a fever for at least **24 hours** (no fever without the use of medicine that reduces fevers); and

Per the updated [references from the Indiana State Department of Health](#), the fever free time window is now 24 hours, down from the previously stated 72 hours.

### **Masks (page 3-5)**

#### **ADDED:**

- If individuals are outside, and can maintain 6 feet of physical distance from anyone not in their immediate household, they can take the mask off.

This was added for clarification for outdoor activities where physical distancing is able to occur. Examples would include spectators at outdoor athletic events or students/teachers holding classroom time outdoors when appropriate and available.

**Section II - Elementary Plans (page 16, 19 21, 23)**

- Specials teachers will hold specials classes in classrooms:

**CHANGED TO:**

- Unless a space allows for proper physical distancing, Specials teachers will hold specials classes in classrooms:

After further evaluation and determination that there are spaces within some buildings that allow for appropriate physical distancing, we will hold specials classes outside of the classroom to allow students to spread out a bit and better accommodate delivery of some of that more specialized curriculum.

**August 27, 2020**

**Health Plan**

**Untested/Unevaluated**

Added:

**NEW Guidance Received August 25, 2020**

- Anyone with symptoms who is not tested must isolate, and anyone in the household (including siblings) are considered close contacts and must quarantine.

**Tested Positive - Symptomatic**

Added:

**NEW Guidance Received August 25, 2020**

- If someone who has symptoms of COVID-19 tests positive or does NOT get tested for COVID-19, then siblings and household members should be considered close contacts and advised to quarantine.
  - If the symptomatic person without a positive test is diagnosed with another condition that explains the symptoms, or tests negative, then no quarantine for close contacts is necessary.
  - If not tested, a provider's note with alternate diagnosis will be needed to return to school.
- A symptomatic person and anyone living in their household should quarantine while waiting for test results.

**Tested Negative - New Category**

Added:

**NEW Guidance Received August 25, 2020**

- Anyone with a negative test who is not a close contact may return to school if:
  - Fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications
  - Symptoms resolved
  - No doctor's note required
- Anyone with symptoms of COVID-19 who had a negative test and is not a close contact of someone with confirmed COVID-19 may return to school:
  - Fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications
  - Symptoms resolved
  - No doctor's note required
  - If also a close contact, must complete 14-day quarantine

\*\*\*\*\*

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- *Why do I have to commit to virtual or face-to-face learning so early?*

In order to plan to the best of our ability, we need to determine (as quickly and closely) how many students will be coming to school. Not only from the classroom perspective, but for transportation and food service to ensure we are as prepared and efficient as possible to welcome students back.

- *Can students bring their own hand sanitizer to school and use at their discretion throughout the day?*

Absolutely! We encourage students to attach a small bottle to their backpack or carry with them and sanitize throughout the day and during activities.

- *Does my student have to wear a plain face mask or can it have a print or a design on it?*

*(Taken, in part, from Student Handbook)*

Students are expected to maintain an appearance that is appropriate for school and conducive to the educational atmosphere. We will follow these general guidelines of the student handbook dress code where masks are concerned.

While fashion changes, the reason for being in School does not. Students are in School to learn. Any fashion (dress, accessory, or hairstyle) that disrupts the educational process or presents a safety risk will not be permitted. Personal expression is permitted with these general guidelines.

- Proper student dress and appearance are important for creating an educational atmosphere geared for success.
- Whenever a school official considers a student's appearance to be inappropriate, immodest, distracting to the educational environment, or unsafe, a conference will be held and the student will be asked to make accommodations.
- Students in violation of the school dress code will be asked to comply before returning to class or will be given alternate clothing or be assigned to detention for the day.
- Repeated violations of the dress code may result in disciplinary consequences.
- The following dress code applies to all students:
  - a. Students are expected to be well groomed and neatly dressed at all times. Personal appearance of any manner, including hair color that is excessively distracting to the educational process, will not be permitted.
  - b. All clothing should be clean and in good repair.
  - c. All clothing with vulgar, racist, or suggestive slogans or advertising that promotes alcohol, tobacco, or narcotic-related products is not permitted.
  - d. All clothing must be free from any gang related identification.
  - e. Nothing shall be worn that is considered detrimental to the educational atmosphere. (For example, pajamas, pajama bottoms, and/or slippers are not allowed.)

- *Were there any considerations about the length of the school day or utilizing staggered start times? Was there any thought given to more of an afternoon group where kids might only need to be in the buildings for 2-3 hours for instruction?*

Yes, there were a number of things considered. Alternate schedules with alternate days, staggered start times, 3/4 days on campus, 1/2 days at home....however, the guidance from the Department of Education also implored schools to look at options for child care within their communities. We understand that not everyone has the option to stay home with their student or drop off or pick up midday, or take off during the week for a weekly virtual learning day. We have done the level best we feel we can to try to accommodate as many families as possible, as safely as possible, and offer alternative options should you decide to keep your student at home.

An additional driving force behind the plan we selected is the transportation restrictions we have, as we simply do not have the necessary fleet to accommodate a number of these alternatives.

- *How do I help my student and family better understand proper handwashing techniques?*

Why is it important to wash hands? [CDC video on what you need to know about handwashing](#)

How so I effectively wash my hands? [CDC video on how to wash hands \(demo with glo-germ example\)](#)

- *Do you have any videos explaining the virus?*

[COVID-19 Information Video for Students](#) - Grades 7-12 (Indiana State Department of Health)

[Back to School Talk video for parents](#) (Indiana State Department of Health)

- *Can my student wear a bandana as a face covering?*

No, the face coverings worn by students and staff must be fitted around the nose and mouth area. As [recommended by the CDC](#), it is important for the nose and mouth areas to be covered to prevent the spread of germs when coughing, sneezing, etc.. If a bandana is simply tied around the back of the head and open at the bottom it is not as effective as a form-fitting mask.