



# COVID-19 Response Plan Philipsburg Schools



## COVID-19 PROTOCOLS General

- The District will offer two educational choices during the 2020-21 school year.
  - On-site education with COVID-19 Response protocols & regulations found within the COVID-19 Response Plan Philipsburg Schools
  - Off-site education with remote instruction and learning\*
- This plan is fluid so as to meet State and County directives
- Students and employees will be excluded from school buildings and activities if they test positive for COVID-19 or if they have a fever of greater than 100.0
  - Parents/Guardians will be notified if a student or staff member is diagnosed with COVID-19 via school e-mail and/or messenger. The name of the individual(s) will not be shared; only that a staff member and or student in a grade has tested positive for COVID-19
  - County health personnel will conduct contact tracing. Any individuals exhibiting symptoms should get tested. Others determined to be in close contact (less than 6ft for more than 15 minutes) will be asked to quarantine by county health personnel
  - Return to daily activity dependent on county health recommendation
- Promotion of handwashing and germ transmission prevention
  - Hand sanitizer available in all classrooms
  - Education through signage and visual instruction
- Daily scheduled cleaning/disinfecting
  - All classrooms will have cleaning supplies available
  - Restrooms and locker rooms will be disinfected multiple times per day
  - Lunchroom will be disinfected after breakfast and between lunch sessions
- Water fountains will be inaccessible for drinking. Water bottles fountains are being installed and available to fill bottles
- On full weeks of school Friday's will be scheduled as remote learning school days for all
- All visitors (incl. parents/caregivers) are required to wear face coverings
- Extra-curricular activities will follow MHSA and school guidelines
- Approved individuals or groups may utilize the school if satisfactory health protocols are in place and approved by administration
- Teachers may adapt protocols for their individual classrooms with approval by the Superintendent/Principal
- Social, emotional needs and academic recovery will be a major focus at each school as we transition our students back to on-site learning

## **COVID-19 PROTOCOLS**

### **Grades K-6**

- Students arrival at school is to be no earlier than 8:00 am (7:45 am for Breakfast)
- If 48 hours has lapsed since the student was last at school, temperatures will be taken before students are allowed on school grounds, when practical (i.e. all students on Monday morning)
- If a student has a high temp (100.0 +), the student will be sent back with the parent if being dropped off or will wait in designated office until picked up
- Students will be spaced 6ft apart when feasible. When not feasible, other layout modifications and physical barriers will be utilized to maintain space between students.
- Students will not be gathering on school playgrounds prior to school start time. Instead, students will report to their designated area
- Students are to come to their desk before checking mailboxes or getting materials
- Teachers will call students to check their box and get materials
- Good sanitation and eliminating exposure/ contamination will be practiced
  - No sharing of supplies
  - Manipulatives used for the day should be pre-bagged
  - Students are encouraged to have their own personal hand sanitizer on their desk
  - Students will be encouraged to wash hands frequently
- Teachers will wear a mask (provided by the school) when moving around the classroom monitoring students or when they are working 1 on 1 with a student in proximity that is less than 6ft and for a duration longer than 15 minutes
- When working 1 on 1 with a student, the instruction should be side to side rather than face to face
- Students may wear a school provided mask if desired and are encouraged to wear a mask when within another person's personal 6ft space
- The school will provide one fabric face covering to each student and staff; all other face coverings can be provided by parent/guardian
- No group work will be utilized
- Students will line up facing forward with distance between them; identifying marks will be on the floors to promote social distancing
- Recess: Students will be encouraged to run and play
  - There will be limited use of the actual playground equipment
  - Recess may be adjusted to allow for separation of classes
  - Each class will have their own recess equipment (i.e. jump ropes, balls etc.)
- Specials/Electives: Each class will have their own set time for specials
  - No combined classes
  - School specialists will come to the student as opposed to students coming to them
- Grades K-2<sup>nd</sup>: Teachers will wipe down high frequent touch areas as they leave the room
- Grades 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>: Students will assist with classroom clean-up after the teachers have disinfected

## **COVID-19 PROTOCOLS Grades 7-12**

- Students arrival at school is to be no earlier than 8:00 am (7:45 am for Breakfast)
- If 48 hours has lapsed since the student was last at school, temperatures will be taken before students are allowed on school grounds when practical (i.e. all students on Monday morning). High temp (100.0 +) = student will be sent back with parent if being dropped off or will wait in designated office until picked up
- Students will be spaced 6ft apart when feasible. When not feasible, other layout modifications and physical barriers will be utilized to maintain space between students
- If tables are used, seating arrangements will be made to properly social distance
- Teachers will wear a mask (provided by the school) while moving around the classroom, monitoring students, or when they are working 1 on 1 with a student in close proximity (~~less than 6ft and longer than 15 minutes~~)
- When working 1 on 1 with a student, the instruction should be side to side rather than face to face
- If desired, students may wear a school provided mask or a mask provided by parent or guardian. Masks are encouraged when physical distancing is difficult to maintain (i.e. passing in halls)
- No group work will be utilized
- Protocols during passing times and lunch will be established to keep classes and students social distanced

## **COVID-19 PROTOCOLS Transportation**

- Bus occupancy will be no more than 50% of capacity with one rider per seat outside of immediate family members
- Permanent assigned seats for the school year
- The front two seats closest to driver will remain empty
- Hand sanitizer will be used upon entering the buses
- Masks will be mandatory for all riders unless medically excused
- No food or drink allowed
- Unload buses from front to back and load from back to front
- No additional riders on buses other than route students (i.e. sleep overs or birthday parties)
- Buses will be sanitized daily
- Temperatures may be taken upon entering the bus
- Designated pick-up and drop off locations may be assigned
- Families are encouraged, if they have the ability, to transport students to and from school

**COVID-19 PROTOCOLS**  
**Extra-Curricular (guidelines from MHSa)**

- All MHSa and or local/District will be followed.

**COVID-19 PROTOCOLS**  
**Food Service**

- Only students eating school provided breakfast will be allowed in the cafeteria. Students will be spaced 6ft apart outside of immediate family members
- K-6 students will be served and eat their lunch in their respective classrooms or lunch may be served in separate sessions (i.e. K-3, 4-6, 7-9, 10-12) to allow for social distancing and maintaining small “bubbles”
- No open salad bar or shared items will be served
- All condiments, including salt and pepper, will be prepackaged

\*Students of families opting remote learning instruction shall receive offsite, online, and proficiency-based instruction, or any combination of the foregoing at the discretion of the School. School District staff shall arrange for any combination of physical instructional packets, virtual or electronic based course meetings and assignments, self-directed or parent/guardian-assisted learning opportunities, and other educational efforts available to staff and students that can be relied upon for grade or credit in order to satisfy the minimum aggregate number of hours or determination of proficiency for the requesting student. Students determined to be proficient in one or more courses of the district shall be incorporated in the School District’s calculation of ANB, with such ANB fraction to be converted to an hourly equivalent based on the hours of instruction ordinarily provided for the content over which the student has demonstrated proficiency. Forms to be completed stating a students’ remote standing can be requested by contacting the school at 406-859-3232.

---

This document represents an overview of guidelines or protocols which may change over time based on data and guidance. Any changes or pertinent information will be communicated to parents via our Messenger service, email, and our school website.

Pburg COVID-19 Response Committee: Chris Cornelius, Lacie DeMers, Jennifer Graham, Melanie Graham, Ray Hess, Genevieve Kulaski, Sara Rouse, Kevin St. John, Criss Shea, & Bob Todorovich

## **Additional Resource and Guidance Documents**

### **Granite County Health Department**

#### **Granite County Health Nurse Note**

*“If we have a student in school test positive for COVID. First: the MD and State will notify myself and the parent about the same time. We will then work with the school to identify school contacts and gather student’s numbers to call the parent and collect any contacts outside of the school along with their numbers. We then quarantine the student/family that was positive and also the close contacts. We will be calling them every day to check in on their symptoms. If any of them develop symptoms during quarantine, they will be tested immediately. If positive the whole family will then be under quarantine, but there should be no school contacts at this point.”*

#### **Governor’s Plan for Reopening Safe and Healthy Schools for Montana**

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Diulk4xOE4q209Mh5Vxfi1nao1LE3Y3T/view>

#### **Montana Office of Public Instruction Reopening Montana Schools Guidance**

<http://opi.mt.gov/Portals/182/COVID-19/Reopening%20MT%20Schools%20Guidance-Final.pdf?ver=2020-07-02-114033-897>

#### **American Academy of Pediatrics**

[COVID-19 Planning Considerations: Return to In-person Education in Schools](#)

#### **Children’s Hospital Colorado Risk-Based Approach to Reopening Schools Amid COVID-19**

<https://www.childrenscolorado.org/49eee6/globalassets/community/reopening-schools-during-covid19.pdf>

#### **School Counselors Association and National Association of School Psychologists**

[School Reentry Considerations Supporting Student Social and Emotional Learning and Mental and Behavioral Health Amidst COVID-19](#)

#### **National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) and Sports Medicine Advisory Committee (SMAC), May 2020**

[Guidance for Opening up High School Athletics and Activities](#)

#### **Center for Disease Control**

<https://www.cdc.gov/>