

# MOSAICS Public School's Opening Plan

(Updated 12-19-20)

## Guiding Principles

We have three main drivers when planning for opening:

1. We do everything possible to ensure that our students, their families, and our team members are **safe** and **healthy**.
2. We do everything possible to provide our students with a joyful, engaging, and rigorous educational experience. We hold **bold ambitions**, even if school has to look a bit different than we initially imagined.
3. When possible, we offer **choice** to families to meet diverse needs across our community.

## Introduction

Our goal is to open school in person and to stay in-person. The spread of COVID and knowledge about this disease has been continually changing over the past 6 months. As conditions continue to change, we may be forced to change how we provide instruction during the school year. Our COVID Response plan is modeled after the state guidance and includes a Green-Yellow-Red system that outlines what students, staff and parents can expect under different conditions. The Southwest District Health Department will offer guidance in determining the current Category of Operation required based on local and regional data.

- **GREEN/Category One (No Community Transmission):** All students will attend MOSAICS full time and MOSAICS will implement reasonable procedures in accordance with health guidance.
- **YELLOW/Category Two (Minimal to Moderate Community Transmission):** MOSAICS will continue normal operations under Category One, but may adjust daily scheduling and methods for instruction. Temporary short-term closure of a classroom, grade level, or school may occur.
- **RED/Category Three (Substantial Community Transmission):** In extreme conditions, which could include a local or state stay-at-home order, MOSAICS will shift to a hybrid learning model for students to reduce the number of students in the building. The board may choose to close the school and move to a remote learning model if it feels warranted.

Currently MOSAICS Public School will start the year off in the Red Phase (Category 3). ***This means we will start the year with offering families 2 learning models: a 2-3 days per week, in-person option or a remote learning option.*** For either option, students will be working on computer devices that will become a regular part of the learning process. Students will be instructed how to learn remotely using online tools in case remote learning becomes necessary for all students. We believe by offering these two models, we will be able to serve all families well and safely.

The following plan is our safety-plan for in-person instruction. This plan includes recommendations from health officials and reasonable procedures to try and mitigate risks and minimize the spread of COVID-19. It is only when students, staff and parents partner together by following health guidance that we will be able to reduce the spread of COVID-19, whether they are at school or out in the community. Everyone will need to monitor their health and stay home if they are feeling sick or showing symptoms of COVID-19.

One of the driving philosophies of MOSAICS is understanding that we are all novices and experts in different areas. When it comes to our COVID Response, our team understands we are novices. We are making the best decisions we can with the information we have, but we also know we will learn and adapt as the year progresses. What follows is our initial plan. It will be updated in accordance with new guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Governor's office, the State Board of Education, the State Department of Education, Southwest District Health Department and other state and local officials. We thank you in advance for your understanding that plans change and adapt as we gain new skills and insights.

## **In-Person Plan For Each Phase**

### **Green/Category One (No Community Transmission)**

*Evidence of isolated cases, case investigations underway and no evidence of exposure in a school (as defined by the Idaho Back to School Framework 2020)*

**Focus:** *Preventative Measures and safety procedures will be in place to reduce the chance of the spread of illness:*

#### **Schoolwide Practices**

- Every classroom has hand sanitizer outside of the room and a sink with soap inside each classroom. Students and staff will wash hands regularly during the school day.
- Mask/face shields required for staff/adults and recommended but not required for students; however, when students will be in contact with staff who are in high-risk categories, they will be required to wear a mask. This allows for our staff to continue to work safely.
- All staff and students will be screened using noncontact thermometers for fevers. Any person having a fever will be sent home immediately.
- Dedicated room in the front office will be used for isolation of students exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms
- Bathrooms equipped with non-touch soap and towel dispensers.
- Avoid personal contact such as touching, hugs, high fives, etc.

#### **Bus Transportation**

- Bussing will proceed as normal with enhanced cleaning and disinfecting of surfaces

#### **Classroom**

- Staff and students trained in physical distancing, handwashing, respiratory etiquette, and mask use to mitigate exposure
- All students will have individualized desks with their own supplies (no community supplies)
- Hand sanitizer will be available throughout the building
- Regular hand washing will happen throughout the day
- Regular sanitation of desks and other hard surfaces and frequently touched parts of school buildings using an approved cleaner which kills the coronavirus
- Limit the use of shared materials and spaces
- Drinking fountains will be cleaned regularly
- Every teacher will use Google Classroom as their application for online material

## Non-Instructional School Spaces

- Maintain six feet of distance when possible
- Regular sanitation of surfaces
- Hand sanitizer at all workstations
- Staff use separate restrooms than children

## Cafeteria

- Regular hot lunch menu will be available
- 2 grade levels will eat lunch at a time
- Hand sanitizer at start of all serving lines

## Visitors

- Educational information will be posted about reducing the risk of spread of contagions
- Visitors will be expected to wear a mask while at the school
- Lock exterior doors during school hours

## Yellow/Category Two (Minimal to Moderate Community Spread)

*Widespread and/or sustained transmission, high likelihood or confirmed exposure at school with potential for rapid increase in suspected cases (as defined by the Idaho Back to School Framework 2020)*

**Focus:** Preventative Measures and safety procedures will be in place to reduce the chance of the spread of illness. Additional measures include creating cohorts of students, implementing social distancing to the greatest extent possible, and adjusting schedules to limit shared spaces. This will look like the following:

## Schoolwide Practices

- Every classroom has hand sanitizer outside of the room and a sink with soap inside each classroom. Students and staff will wash hands regularly during the school day.
- Masks required for staff/adults and for students. Face shields will be allowed only for students who have a medical need and can provide a doctor's note.

- All staff and students will be screened using noncontact thermometers for fevers. Any person having a fever will be sent home immediately.
- Dedicated room in the front office will be used for isolation of students exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms
- Train parents on how to access our technology, tools, and online curriculum
- Avoid personal contact such as touching, hugs, high fives, etc.

## **Bus Transportation**

- Physical distancing on school buses will be difficult so we encourage parents to consider alternate transportation to school, such as parents or other family members transporting their students to school. Masks will be required for bus riders.
  - When feasible, bus windows will be open to enhance ventilation.
  - Students will be assigned seats to minimize where they need to be
  - Students in the same family will be seated in the same row
- Field trips will be cancelled or postponed.

## **Classroom**

- All students will have individualized desks with their own supplies (no community supplies)
- Hand sanitizer will be available throughout the building
- Regular hand washing will happen throughout the day
- Regular sanitation of desks and other hard surfaces and frequently touched parts of school buildings using an approved cleaner which kills the coronavirus
- Arrangement of desks to account for physical distancing
  - Minimize cooperative learning and group work
  - Arrange desks so students do not face one another
  - Students do not mix with other students from other classrooms
- Limit the use of shared materials and spaces
- Students and staff use personal water bottles and water bottle filling stations vs. hallway/classroom drinking fountains
- Every teacher will use Google Classroom as their application for online material
- Implement strategies at each school that discourage gatherings in areas such as the bus lane, restrooms, recess, hallways, lunch, before and after school
- Restrict mixing groups of students
  - Art and Coding will be taught in classrooms instead of students going to different classrooms
  - PE and Music will be outside when possible

## **Non-Instructional School Spaces**

- Maintain six feet of distance when possible
- Schedules will be adjusted to reduce the possibility of students passing other classes in the hallways
- Regular sanitation of surfaces
- Hand sanitizer at all workstations
- Assemblies and other large gatherings will be cancelled

## Cafeteria

- Regular hot lunch menu will be available
- Students will be spaced out in the lunch line
- Lunch times will be staggered to reduce occupants in the cafeteria to 1 grade level at a time. Students will be seated at the end of the tables and be spaced 6 feet apart. The tables will be disinfected between lunch periods
- Students may eat in the classroom
- Hand sanitizer at start of all serving lines

## Visitors

- Educational information will be posted about reducing the risk of spread of contagions
- No unscheduled visitors
- Visitors will be required to wear a mask while at the school

## Red/Category Three (Severe Community Spread)

*Substantial community transmission, large-scale community transmission, multiple cases within the school (as defined by the Idaho Back to School Framework 2020)*

**Focus:** Reduce the risk of further community spread by reducing the number of people in the building.

*In addition to the preventive measures outlined in the Yellow/Category Two Plan, MOSAICS Board of Directors will choose one of the following instructional models:*

### Utilize Alternate Day Schedule:

- The goal of the alternating day schedule is to reduce class sizes to approximately 10-15 students to allow for increased physical distancing.
- Increased physical distancing, sanitation, and preventative measures.

### Utilize an In-Person Every Day Schedule:

- If this option is selected, the school will also offer a remote option for all families.

Additionally, the board also authorizes the administrator to move the school to a remote instructional setting when conditions warrant, such as not being able to find enough substitutes to cover staffing due to required quarantines or isolation.

## Resources:

- State of Idaho School Reopening Plan <https://www.sde.idaho.gov/re-opening/files/Idaho-Back-to-School-Framework-2020.pdf>
- CDC Considerations for Schools (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/schools.html>)

- CDC Guidance for Cleaning & Disinfecting (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/disinfecting-building-facility.html>)
- COVID-19 Guidance for Schools: <https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novelcoronavirus-covid-19-infections/clinical-guidance/covid-19-planning-considerationsreturn-to-in-person-education-in-schools/>
- Southwest District Health Department: [School Guidance \(COVID-19\) v2.0](#)
- COVID-19 Decision Tree: [Sample Flowchart](#)
- [FAQS for Administrators, Teachers, and Parents](#)