



Dear Danville Independent Families,

First, let me thank you for your support and understanding as we have dealt with an unforeseen pandemic. I know the last few months have been challenging in many ways. It is my sincere hope that all of our students have had a relaxing summer break and that everyone in your family is safe and healthy.

As you know, we finished a survey for staff, parents, and families on June 15th. Based on this feedback, along with guidance from the Boyle County Health Department, the Governor's office, and the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE), we have developed a plan that has five different models for the 2020-21 year.

Currently our first priority is the safety of our students, their families, and our employees. During these uncertain times it is paramount that we provide multiple options for our families. Of course, our first preference is to return to school under a Traditional Model (pre-COVID); however, with the anticipation of continued public health restrictions through the fall, we will start in August by offering additional models of instruction. Although we have been working diligently on our 2020-21 restart plan, it has been challenging due to the unpredictable nature of COVID-19. As a community we will have to be flexible as we monitor the progress of COVID-19. Plans will have to be fluid and we may need to change models rapidly and multiple times during the school year. Although we will not use all the available options to start the year, we may have to shift quickly throughout the year and want families to understand all possible instructional models.

The first day of school for students is on August 25, 2020. Options for the 2020-21 year include:

**Enhanced Traditional Model** - This plan includes face-to-face instruction at school (5 days a week) with enhanced safety precautions in place such as face masks, temperature checks, increased hand sanitizer use, increased frequency of cleaning high touch areas, no assemblies or field trips, and limited visitors. Lunches will be provided in the classrooms. Transportation poses unique challenges for social distancing and may be limited. We estimate 75-85% of students will be in the school building under this model.

**Teacher-led Distance Learning Model (grades K-12)** - Students participate virtually (no paper option) in the learning of new grade/content material, interactive lessons, graded assignments, and assessments. This plan includes a combination of DIS teacher made lessons and some online courses for older students. This option means that your child will be expected to attend classes virtually, maintaining a regular daily class schedule. Distance Learners will complete the same or similar work as their in-person peers and will communicate regularly with classroom teachers. Students and parents would commit to this plan for at least 9 weeks. Students may choose this plan for the entire year even if public health restrictions are lifted. If public health restrictions increase and the district is forced to close for more than two consecutive days, this plan will be enacted for all students.



**Independent Virtual Learning Model (grades 6-12 only)** - Self motivated students participate through a virtual platform (no remote paper option) in the learning of new grade/content material. Students will be self-paced and will have limited interaction with teachers and staff in the schools. Students will have access through office hours and email to a teacher/staff member for support. Students and parents would commit to this plan for at least 9 weeks. Students may choose this plan for the entire year even if public health restrictions are lifted. Students can apply for this option and must have principal approval to enroll. If this option might work for your family please contact the principal for more information.

**Traditional Model (similar to pre-COVID)** - This plan includes traditional face-to-face instruction with extra safety and cleaning precautions in place such as the increased use of hand sanitizer, increased frequency of cleaning high touch areas, and limited assemblies, field trips and visitors. This plan requires several public health restrictions to be lifted before it could be implemented including face coverings for students and staff and the ability to use common areas. We predict current social distancing guidelines will still be in place in August; therefore, this option will not be available when school starts back in August but we hope to be able to use the traditional model soon.

**Hybrid (A/B) Model** - This plan would be a combination of distance and face-to-face instruction with increased safety and disinfecting measures. Students would attend 2 days of face-to-face instruction in the school buildings and 3 days of distance learning. Monday of each week would be reserved for teacher planning, enrichment, intervention, project-based distance learning for students, and some specialized face-to-face student services. In this model, students would have to follow social distancing guidelines on days they are at school which would include increased hand hygiene, face masks, have temperatures taken daily, lunches provided in classrooms, and limited movement in the school building. It is not our intent to start with this model in August. Although this option is not our first choice and would be challenging for families, there may be a time during the year that we would need to implement this in order to significantly reduce class size.

Our desire is to return to school under the Traditional Model; however, we must be proactive and prepared to start school under the current public health restrictions and KDE guidelines which include social distancing and increased cleaning protocols. Parents will have an option between the Enhanced Traditional, Teacher-led Distance Learning, and Independent Virtual Learning models to start the 2020-21 school year. Students and families are encouraged to review each option and call their school or the district office with any questions or feedback. The Hybrid (A/B) or the Teacher-led Distance Learning models may be required periodically for all students in the event of increased COVID-19 cases in the community or our schools. At times the Teacher-led Distance Learning Model may be required for small groups of students or classes in the event of a COVID-19 case in a classroom.



Families will be receiving an email on Thursday, July 16, 2020 explaining how they can enroll in one of the three available options for the start of school: Enhanced Traditional, Teacher-led Distance Learning, or Independent Virtual Learning (grades 6-12) models. Given the limited time to prepare for multiple models, we ask that families submit their preference by July 24, 2020, so school staff can plan. You will be notified of the schedule and teacher(s) your child will have for the coming year by August 14, 2020.

Currently we are still working on transportation details for the Enhanced Traditional Model. Transportation poses unique challenges for social distancing. All students will be required to have their temperature checked before boarding, use hand sanitizer as they get on the bus, and wear a mask on the bus at all times. The safety of our students, drivers, and monitors is our highest concern. We will announce a complete transportation plan by July 31, 2020 which may include staggered, double, or limited routes.

Our preference would always be to start back to school full time with no restrictions, but until that is possible, we believe the three options provided, while not perfect, best address the public health restrictions and provide for the reopening of Danville Schools in a safe and responsible manner. We understand that these new models of instruction and changes to school are significant and you may have many questions. More details about each option will be released this Monday afternoon to help families make an informed decision about which choice works best for their child. We will also have a virtual question and answer session one evening next week where families can ask questions. You can also reach out to your school or the district office with questions or to provide feedback. I encourage our parents to frequently visit our webpage and follow our social media for up-to-date and accurate information.

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we work together to provide the best education possible for Danville students while also protecting our students, families, and employees.

Sincerely,

Tammy McDonald, Ed.D.



## DANVILLE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 2020-21 REOPENING PLAN

Currently our first priority is the safety of our students, their families, and our employees. During these uncertain times it is paramount that we provide multiple options for our families. Of course, our first preference is to return to school under a traditional model; however, with the anticipation of continued public health restrictions through the fall, we will start in August by offering additional models of instruction. Although we have been working diligently on our 2020-21 restart plan, it has been challenging due to the unpredictable nature of COVID-19. As a community we will have to be flexible as we monitor the progress of COVID-19. Plans will have to be fluid and we may need to change models rapidly and multiple times during the school year. Although we will not use all the available options to start the year, we may have to shift quickly throughout the year and want families to understand all possible instructional models.

### OPTIONS FOR START OF YEAR:

**Enhanced Traditional Model** - This plan would include face-to-face instruction at school (5 days a week) with enhanced safety precautions in place such as face masks, temperature checks, increased hand sanitizer, increased frequency of cleaning of high touch areas, no assemblies or field trips, and limited visitors. Lunches will be provided in the classrooms. Transportation poses unique challenges for social distancing and may be limited. We estimate 75-85% of students will be in the school building under this model. At this time we are still working on transportation details for this model. All students will be required to have their temperature checked before boarding, use hand sanitizer as they get on the bus, and wear a mask on the bus at all times. The safety of our students, drivers, and monitors is our highest concern. We will announce a complete transportation plan by July 17, 2020 which may include staggered, double, or limited routes.

**Full Distance Learning Model** - Students would participate virtually (no remote paper option) in the learning of new grade/content material, interactive lessons, graded assignments, and assessments. This plan would include a combination of DIS teacher made lessons and some online courses for older students. Students and parents would commit to this plan for at least 9 week. Students may choose this plan for the entire year even if public health restrictions are lifted. If public health restrictions increase and the district is forced to close for more than two days this plan will be enacted for all students.

**Independent Virtual Learning Model (grades 6-12 only)** - Self motivated students participate through a virtual platform (no remote paper option) in the learning of new grade/content material. Students will be self-paced and will have limited interaction with teachers and staff in the schools. Students will have access through office hours and email to a teacher/staff member for support. Students and parents would commit to this plan for at least 9 weeks. Students may choose this plan for the entire year even if public health restrictions are lifted. *Students can apply for this option and must have principal approval to enroll. If this option might work for your family please contact the principal for more information.*

### TRANSPORTATION:

Currently we are still working on transportation details for the Enhanced Traditional Model. Transportation poses unique challenges for social distancing. All students will be required to have their temperature checked before boarding, use hand sanitizer as they get on the bus, and wear a mask on the bus at all times. The safety of our students, drivers, and monitors is our highest concern. We will announce a complete transportation plan by July 31, 2020 which may include staggered, double, or limited routes.

## PRESCHOOL:

Preschool will start under the Enhanced Traditional Model with half day sessions only. There will not be any full day preschool at this time. Guidance about teaching preschool during COVID has not yet been released by the Kentucky Department of Education. If you have a child who is or may be attending preschool, we will continue to release information as we learn more. Don't hesitate to contact Hogsett Primary if you have any questions about preschool.

## SAFETY PRECAUTIONS:

**Our first priority is the safety of our students, their families, and our employees. We will follow to the best of our ability Healthy at School safety expectations released by KDE in conjunction with the Kentucky Department of Public Health, Boyle County Health Department, and the Governor's office.**

Students, staff, and visitors will be expected to wear a mask, except those with a medical exception

Staff, bus riders, car riders, and walkers will be temperature scanned prior to boarding a bus, exiting a car, and/or entering school

Students will report straight to the classroom

All students and employees entering the school building will use hand sanitizer

If classroom space allows for appropriate social distance, then students may remove their masks while at their desks; however, there will be classroom time when masks are required

Student desks will face the same direction

Assigned seating will be mandated in all classrooms and on buses

Teachers and students will be grouped to limit movement in the building

The amount of time students spend in the hallways and transitions will be limited and require a mask

There will be directional hallway traffic markings on the floor and stairwells with some being designated one way traffic

All staff will wear PPE when working directly with students

Common areas are closed to group activities

Non-essential visitors will be limited

There will be increased cleaning and sanitizing of buildings and school property

Playground time will be on an alternating schedule (playgrounds are subject to close)

Students will hand sanitize before and after using playground equipment

School nurses will have procedures in place to deal with students that exhibit COVID-19 symptoms in a separate area from the Nurse's Office

Please feel free to reach out to your school or the district office with questions or to provide feedback for us. I encourage our parents to frequently visit our webpage and follow our social media for up to date and accurate information. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we work together to provide the best education possible for Danville students while also protecting our students, families, and employees.

## HEALTH SELF ASSESSMENT:

**Families will be asked to complete a quick health self-assessment before sending their child to school.**

- When possible, families are asked to take their child's temperature before they bring them to school or send them to the bus stop. If the child's temperature is 100.4 or above then remain at home and families are encouraged to notify their child's health care provider.
- If your child has any COVID-19 symptoms, then remain at home and families are encouraged to notify their child's health care provider.
- If a student has been exposed to someone with COVID-19, do not come to school and follow all guidance from the health department and your health care provider. The student will participate in the Full Distance Learning Model for a minimum of 14 days and may return to the school building once released from their health care provider.
- If a student is diagnosed with COVID-19, do not come to school and follow all guidance from the health department and your health care provider. The student will participate in the Full Distance Learning Model for a minimum of 14 days and may return to the school building once released from their health care provider.

NOTE: A temperature check will also be performed at either the bus stop or school entry.

## SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19:

COVID-19 affects different people in different ways. Infected people have had a wide range of symptoms reported – from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus and may include one or more of the following:

- |   |                              |
|---|------------------------------|
| - Fever or chills                             | - New loss of taste or smell |
| - Cough                                       | - Sore throat                |
| - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing | - Congestion or runny nose   |
| - Fatigue                                     | - Nausea or vomiting         |
| - Muscle or body aches                        | - Diarrhea                   |
| - Headache                                    |                              |

## HELP PREVENT THE SPREAD:

To help prevent the spread of illness, it is recommended that you follow these important guidelines:

**WASH YOUR HANDS FREQUENTLY!**  
**USE A TISSUE OR YOUR ELBOW WHEN YOU COUGH OR SNEEZE!**  
**SOCIAL DISTANCING!**  
**WEAR FACE COVERINGS!**

# Danville Independent School District Timeline

**JUNE**

Parent and staff survey  
Reopening planning

**JULY**

Continue to plan for instruction, safety, food service, transportation, etc.  
Facilities evaluation and preparedness

**JULY 10**

Initial Information released to families

**JULY 15**

Virtual community question and answer session

**JULY 16**

Families receive email with instructions on how to enroll in one of three options

**JULY 24**

Deadline for families to notify the district of their preference for one of three instructional models

**JULY 31**

Transportation plan released

**AUG. 14**

Families will be notified of the schedule and teacher(s) their child(ren) will have for the coming year

**AUG. 25**

Students' first day of school



# Options for Start of Year Flow Chart

