



Kenton County School District | *It's about)U£ /ijt[s.*

## Issue Paper

DATE:

July 22, 2021J

AGENDA ITEM (ACTION ITEM):

Consider/Approve: Revised Safe Return to In-Person Learning Plan for the 2022 School year and authorize the superintendent to make changes to the plan based on state/local official's requirements or data reviews. The plan shall be shared with the Board Monthly when changes are made to the plan.

APPLICABLE BOARD POLICY:

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HISTORY/BACKGROUND:

The Board approved our Safe Return to In-Person Learning at our June meeting. Since approval, the CDC released guidance for K-12 Schools and the KY Department of Public Health and KDE released guidance congruent with the CDC guidance for school systems to consider. Our team reviewed the guidance and updated our plan that was also shared with district leadership and KCEA for review, comments, questions and feedback. Additionally, our plan was shared with our board attorney for review and all parties are in support of the plan as presented. As stated in our plan we will continue to monitor the situation with regards to COVID and make necessary adjustments/recommendations as needed throughout the 2022 school year.

FISCAL/BUDGETARY IMPACT:

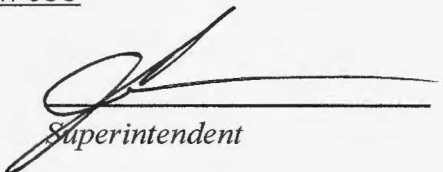
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RECOMMENDATION:

Approve: Revised Safe Return to In-Person Learning Plan for the 2022 School year and authorize the superintendent to make changes to the plan based on state/local official's requirements or data reviews. The plan shall be shared with the Board Monthly when changes are made to the plan.

CONTACT PERSON: Henry Webb

\_\_\_\_\_  
Principal/Administrator

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Superintendent

*Use this form to submit your request to the Superintendent for items to be added to the Board Meeting Agenda.*

*Principal -complete, print, sign and send to your Director. Director -if approved, sign and put in the Superintendent's mailbox.*

# Kenton County School District

## 2021-22 Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction



The Kenton County School District (KCS D) is committed to in-person classes daily for the 2021-22 school year. As a result of this commitment, *we will not close in-person instruction unless required/mandated to do so by the Department of Public Health, the Local Health Department and/or the Governor.* This plan is developed to provide guidance for the safe return to in-person learning for the 2021-2022 school year based on the recommendations and requirements of medical health professionals. Thank you in advance for your continued support and dedication to our school district and our kids.

### Guiding Principles

- Honor and safeguard the health and safety of students and staff
- Maintain fidelity of instruction ensuring standards are taught and mastered by all students
- Support the social-emotional learning and teaching needs of students and staff
- Recognize circumstances may arise that will need to be accommodated
- Communicating effectively with all stakeholders

### Instructional Models

KCS D is committed to in-person classes during the 2021-2022 school year for all students. However, we understand that some of our families may consider a virtual option. As a result, parents/guardians can select the district virtual school program for their child. *It is important to note that this program is completely on line*, however, student progress will still be monitored and assistance will be provided by the local school. Families interested in the virtual program should visit the district website or contact your local school for more information. *Also, the district will provide synchronous learning for students who are required to isolate/quarantine during the school year by a medical professional or district staff.* Students engaged in internships, work based learning experiences, dual credit, etc. will be required to follow the safety expectations of those organizations.

### Guidance and Safety Expectations for In-Person Learning

*The safety and well-being of our students, staff and community is our number one priority.* We strongly believe that all students having access to in-person learning daily is essential to the academic and social/emotional well-being of our kids.

The following recommendations are made to ensure we can continue in-person learning with a sense of normalcy during the 2021-2022 school year:

- We recommend that all of TEAM KENTON and our extended family receive the COVID vaccination (we understand and respect that this is an individual/family choice but it is important to note that students/staff who are vaccinated do not have to quarantine unless they become symptomatic).
- We recommend all persons wear masks while indoors in all settings, unless otherwise exempted, regardless of COVID vaccination status. (Important note: There is an exception in the K-12 indoor classroom setting – the close contact definition excludes students who were at least  $\geq 3$  feet away from an infected student if both students were engaged in consistent and correct use of masks and other K-12 prevention strategies were in place. This exception does not apply to teachers, staff, or other adults in the indoor classroom setting.)
- We recommend distancing of 3 feet for students and 6 feet for staff to students when possible *without changing the schedule or physical use of space in the school.* An example is to try to spread desks out as far as possible in each class. This recommendation should not prevent student group work, other instructional activities, having students at cap size in classes or eating and socialization during lunch. Student interaction is also essential to the well-being of our students.
- We recommend turning desk to face the same direction as much as possible.
- Nonessential visitors, and volunteers should be limited.

### Additionally, the following safety prevention strategies will be implemented:

- Frequent Handwashing
- Cleaning and Maintaining Healthy Facilities
- Isolation of students/staff at school who have a fever and/or symptoms of COVID including:
  - Fever or feeling feverish (e.g., chills, sweating)

## Kenton County School District 2021-22 Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction



- New Cough
- Difficulty Breathing
- Sore Throat
- Muscle aches or body aches
- Vomiting or diarrhea
- New loss of taste or smell
  - *Individuals with any of these symptoms should stay home and be tested for COVID*
  - *It is expected that all staff and students report a positive COVID case immediately to their administration.*
  - *It is expected that the school health professional and administration work collaboratively to consider other factors before sending a student or staff member home.*
- COVID Testing (Testing may be done internally or through a referral to a testing facility to assist with the student/staff member staying in school and/or returning to school as soon as possible if he/she has symptoms or is required to quarantine. All testing will be voluntary)
- Unvaccinated individuals who are exposed to COVID are required to be quarantined (a close contact is someone who was within 6 feet of an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes within a 24 hour period while the person was considered contagious)
  - Seating charts will be maintained for contact tracing
  - *Fully vaccinated individuals DO NOT need to quarantine unless they have symptoms*
  - *Staff who are isolated/sick or are quarantined due to exposure will need to utilize their existing sick or personal days.*

### District Transportation

- Required by the Center for Disease Control Order, clarified by the Kentucky Department of Education on 7/19/21: All students must wear masks on school buses at all times.
- Distancing of 3 feet is recommended if possible without interfering with bus routing.
- A driver does not need to wear a mask if they are the only person on the bus.

### COVID Data Tracking:

- The district will not track COVID data during the 2021-2022 school year. The district will utilize the community transmission data at the following link: <https://govstatus.egov.com/kycovid19>
- The district will continue to monitor transmission data throughout the school year and will update this plan with additional layered prevention strategies if the data indicates a need to do so to include outbreaks of the virus in our schools.

**Athletics/Extra-Curricular Activities:** All guidance in this document is applicable to athletics/extra-curricular activities and athletics governed by KHSAA must follow their requirements.

*It is important to note that we will continue to monitor data weekly and we will keep you updated should we have to make changes to our plan. Thank you to TEAM KENTON and all of our extended family for your continued unwavering support as we continue to navigate the COVID pandemic. We are ready for a world class 2021-2022 school year!*