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**Consent Agenda Item (Action Item):** Consider/Approve the Floyd County School District's Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity Service Plan.

**Applicable State or Regulations:** KRS 162.90 Powers and duties of the local board

**Fiscal/Budgetary Impact:** None

**History/Background:** The Safe Return to School document is to be reviewed and revised as recommendations may change. The plan contains all the necessary requirements of the Kentucky Department of Education, Kentucky Department of Public Health, the Floyd County Health Department and the Governor's office.

**Recommended Action:** Approve the plan as presented.

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          N/A            
Principal

          Angela Duncan            
Director

          Anna W. Shepherd            
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**Date:** August 12, 2022



## Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity Service Plan “Covid 19 Operations Plan”

The Floyd County School District (FCS) is committed to in-person classes daily for the 2022-2023 school year. As a result of this commitment, *we will not close in-person instruction unless required/mandated to do so by the Kentucky Department of Public Health, the Local Health Department.* This plan is developed to provide guidance for the safe return to in-person learning for the 2022-2023 school year. Please note this plan is subject to change based upon cases of COVID-19 associated with individual classrooms, schools, District and/or Community Spread.

### **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
- Communicate effectively with all stakeholders

### **Instructional Models:**

FCS is committed to in-person classes during the 2022-2023 school year for all students. We understand that some of our families may consider a virtual option and parents/guardians can select the district virtual school program for their child. *It is important to note that this program is completely online.* Student progress will be monitored by teachers and staff assigned to the Virtual Academy. Families interested in the virtual program should visit the district website or contact your local school for more information.

#### ● Quarantine

~~Students placed in quarantine due to exposure for Covid will automatically move to synchronous virtual learning. Students will login via Google Meets and participate in their normal classes virtually.~~

~~Students who test positive for Covid will move to Home/Hospital Instruction.~~

#### ● Non-Traditional Instruction (NTI) Days

The Kentucky General Assembly provides public school districts with up to 10 NTI Days annually. NTI days can only be utilized when the district closes ALL schools in the district. ~~These days were originally allocated for weather related reasons, however since the pandemic began, the days may also be used for Covid-19 related reasons, if the district needs all schools to close.~~ When using NTI Days, the message will be clearly communicated to all stakeholders utilizing school-cast, media and social media posts.

During NTI Days students will work from home utilizing virtual instruction and/or paper packets. All employees will work at their assigned work location on illness related NTI days.

#### ● **Remote Learning Days**

The Kentucky General Assembly is providing public school districts up to 20 remote learning days to be utilized during the 2021-22 school year. These days are to be used when the district doesn't close all schools in the district. These days can be used when certain schools, classrooms and/or grade levels are closed due to COVID-19. Students will utilize virtual learning (Google Classroom) platform to complete school work on designated remote learning days.

#### **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 believe all students should have access to in-person learning daily and that this 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 2022-2023 school year:

- All students, staff, and extended family receive the COVID vaccination if possible (we understand and respect that this is an individual/family choice.)

- Masking in all buildings for staff and students will be optional unless otherwise directed by the local health department or licensed provider making decisions on an individual basis. Masking may be required as outlined in the KYCOVID guidelines for individuals who have tested positive for COVID with symptoms. These individuals are advised to wear a well-fitted mask for 10 full days if returning on day 6 without symptoms. The isolation can only be shortened to 5 days if the individual isolates for 5 days and wears a mask for 10 days. Individuals who have tested positive for COVID and have never had symptoms are advised to wear a mask for 5 additional days after isolating for 5 days. Individuals who have been exposed to COVID do not have to quarantine but are advised to wear a mask for 10 days from exposure.

- Floyd County will utilize the Kentucky Department of Health's Covid Dashboard to determine the extent of masking within the school district. Below are the definitions of use in regards to facial coverings when not under mandate:

1. When Floyd County is identified as **Red or Orange**, masks are mandated for staff and students above the age of two inside all buildings as well as school buses (pending further guidance from the Center for Disease Control, Kentucky Department of Public Health and the Floyd County Health Department.)

2. When Floyd County is identified, **Yellow or Green** masks will not be required but will be continued to be recommended within all buildings.

- Maintain a distance of 3 feet apart for students and 6 feet apart for staff to students, when possible, *without changing the schedule or physical use of space in the school.* An example would be to place desks as far apart 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.

**Floyd County Schools will also provide the following in an effort to reduce the spread of the virus:**

- Temperature checks as students, staff and visitors as they enter the building.

- Provide masks to students and staff as needed.
- Provide medical isolation rooms for students that become ill at school.
- Provide updated guidance regarding COVID outbreaks from the Kentucky Department of Public Health and the CDC
- Group students and have them move in “pods” as possible to reduce the number of contacts per day.
- Maintain current seating charts in all classes to improve contact tracing efforts to help ensure that only students and staff who are considered to be in close contact with infected individuals are quarantined.

**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)
  - 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.*
- 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
  - Unvaccinated Staff who are isolated/sick or are quarantined due to exposure will need to utilize their existing sick or personal days.
  - Fully vaccinated people who have come into close contact with someone with COVID-19 should be tested 5-7 days following the date of their exposure and wear a mask in public indoor settings for 14 days or until they receive a negative test result. They should isolate if they test positive
  - Individuals that have completed a COVID test are asked to remain quarantined at home until test results have been received.

**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.

### **Test to Stay Program**

The Floyd County School District is partnering with Envivo Health Laboratory to offer a voluntary Test to Stay Program for quarantined students and staff. Under this program, students and staff members who are quarantined will have the option of taking a rapid antigen Covid-19 test each morning to potentially eliminate the need to quarantine. Students and staff members will be able to attend school/work that day. The testing site will be at the student/staff member's home school/work location from 6:00 until 9:00 AM. Central Office, Transportation Department Staff will need to report to the closest school. Parents/Guardians will be responsible for transporting his/her child to the testing site and remain present during the testing procedure. If the student/staff member tests negative then the student/employee can stay for school/work. Any student and/or employee testing positive for Covid-19 will need to go home and consult with his/her healthcare provider. This process will take place each day of the quarantine period (5 school days). The Test to Stay Program is voluntary. Quarantined students and/or staff have the option of quarantine at home for a period of time set forth by the Floyd County Health Department in conjunction with the Floyd County School District Health Office.

**Athletics/Extra-Curricular Activities:** All guidance in this document is applicable to athletics/extracurricular activities. Athletics are also governed by KHSAA and must follow their requirements. Spectators may have additional requirements.

*\*Please note this plan is subject to change based upon cases of COVID-19 associated with individual classrooms, schools, District and/or Community Spread.*