

Jackson County Schools - Kansas

Holton • Jackson Heights • Royal Valley

Guidelines for Jackson County Public Schools

Holton, Jackson Heights, and Royal Valley public schools in partnership with the Jackson County Health Department have developed a plan to support school buildings and the community for reopening schools. The Jackson County Return-to-School Plan provides a tiered approach with clear, actionable steps that are advisable before students and employees Return-to-School buildings. This plan will be applicable throughout the 2020-2021 school year.

This approach is built upon guidance and recommendations of local and state health officials; is aligned to the reopening guidelines that have been provided by our state and federal leaders; and it is designed to prioritize the health and safety of students and staff as we open school buildings and deliver instruction for the 2020-2021 school year.




The Jackson County Schools Return-to-School Plan focuses heavily on the health and physical requirements necessary for reopening school buildings. Each individual school district will continue to provide support to school buildings on navigating the academic, social, and emotional effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on students and employees.

Guidance from the CDC and Local Health Officials change as circumstances change. This document has been developed using the current circumstances and guidelines with the intent to minimize the spread of COVID-19 through our county and individual schools. Should the circumstances change, this document and its guidelines are open to change.

Addressing Community Spread in Jackson County

Low Community Transmission	Moderate Community Transmission	High Community Transmission
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish and maintain communication with local and state health officials Participate in contact-tracing efforts as directed by local health officials (to the extent feasible) Post signage in classrooms, hallways, and entrances to communicate how to stop the spread. COVID-19 symptoms, preventative measures (including staying home when sick), good hygiene, and school/district specific protocols Establish a protocol for students/staff who feel ill/experience symptoms when they come to school (see <i>When a Child, Staff Member, or Visitor Becomes Sick at School</i>) Consider ways to accommodate needs of children, teachers/staff, and families at higher risk for severe illness (see <i>Protecting Vulnerable Populations</i> for considerations) 	<p>In addition to the low community transmission strategies, Jackson County Schools will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Isolate and deep clean impacted classrooms and spaces Participate in contact-tracing efforts as directed by local health officials (to the extent feasible) Implement enhanced social distancing measures (see <i>Transitioning, Large Group Gatherings, and Teaching and Learning</i>) 	<p>In addition to the low and moderate community transmission strategies, Jackson County Schools will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participate in contact-tracing efforts as directed by local health officials (to the extent feasible) Buildings that are closed, remain closed. Implement distance/remote learning (see <i>Serving School Meals and Supporting Teaching and Learning</i>). Close off affected areas and if possible, wait 24 hours before cleaning and disinfecting. Accommodate needs of children, teachers/staff, and families at higher risk for severe illness (see <i>Protecting Vulnerable Populations</i> for considerations) <p>For additional guidance on addressing community spread, see the CDC's Considerations for Schools</p>

Definitions

<p>Face Coverings</p> 	<p>Face covering information can be found throughout this document. Information will be provided to staff, students, and families on proper use, removal, and washing of cloth face coverings. Any policy regarding face coverings should be sensitive to the needs of students and staff with medical issues that make the wearing of a face covering inadvisable.</p> <p>CDC Guidance</p>	<p>Hand Sanitizer</p> 	<p>Hand sanitizers should contain at least 60% alcohol and only used with staff and older children who can safely use hand sanitizer. Hand soap should be used for younger children.</p> <p>CDC Guidance</p>	<p>Clean/Disinfect</p> 	<p>Ensure safe and correct application of disinfectants and keep out of reach of children.</p> <p>CDC Guidance</p>
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Jackson County Return-to-School Plan

Level of Community Transmission (determined by state and local health officials)	Low Transmission	Moderate Transmission		High Transmission
Instructional Model	On-Site Model (Traditional)	On-Site Model (Traditional)	Hybrid	Full Remote Learning
Response	School Buildings Open – <i>Implement preventative practices and work to minimize the risk of transmission of the virus</i>	School Buildings Open – <i>Implement more intensive transmission reduction strategies; encourage/ enhance social distancing;</i> Targeted Closure – <i>If positive cases are found in a specific certain classrooms, grade levels or buildings</i>	Limited/ Staggered Use of School Buildings – <i>Implement alternating schedules for students; priority groups may utilize remote learning.</i> Targeted Closure – <i>Isolate and disinfect affected areas for certain classrooms, grade levels or buildings</i>	Short-term Remote Learning – <i>Close facility for students and patrons for-wide deep cleaning (at least 2 -5 days)</i>
				OR Extended Remote Learning – <i>Close facility for students and patrons for-wide deep cleaning (at least 10 -14 days)</i>

Instructional Model Decisions:

The above matrix provides guidance and expectations to leadership to implement plans based on a flexible framework to address challenges that may develop throughout the 2020-2021 school year. Instead of a one-size-fits-all approach, the matrix provides a menu of instructional models and responses school leaders can adopt to ensure the continued success and safety of students and staff members.

Parent Choice to Start the School Year:

The Jackson County Public Schools are offering a choice to parents that are not comfortable sending their student to school for in-person learning this fall. Parents may choose a remote learning option for their student to begin the school year. The details of the remote learning may differ by district, but this will be an option. Parents who choose the remote learning option will have additional requirements for logging instructional time and submitting assignments.

Jackson County Public Schools Instructional Models

In-Person Learning Model

- Students will attend in-person classes at the school with health and safety guidelines in place to help minimize the transmission of the COVID-19 virus.

Hybrid Learning Model

- *Hybrid models should only be implemented if absolutely necessary and after factoring in additional logistical requirements/costs as well as childcare requirements placed on working families and unnecessary burden on staff. Consider allowing special education students to continue in-person instruction as these students often rely on daily routines and social interactions to address their individual learning needs.*

Some Early Possible Examples of Hybrid Learning are:

- A/B schedules
 - *Alternating Days:* students would be divided into 2 groups. Groups would alternate face-to-face and virtual instruction during the week. One example: Group A would attend Monday and Tuesday and work virtually the remainder of the week. Group B would attend Thursday and Friday and work virtually the other days of the week. Wednesday would be a virtual day for most employees so buildings could be cleaned during the week between groups. Another example: Group A Students Monday/Wednesday and Group B Students -- Tuesday/Thursday; Friday – distance learning for all students, professional learning for staff; using certification flexibility to relocate teachers as needed and allowable
 - *Alternating Weeks:* Group A Students – Week 1 and Group B Students Week 2; using certification flexibility to relocate teachers as needed and allowable
- Specific Group Remote Learning
 - *Elementary Face-to-Face with Secondary Distance Learning:* Prioritize 6-12 or 9-12 for continuous distance learning while other students have access to face-to-face instruction spread out across unused schools and classrooms; using certification flexibility to relocate teachers as needed and allowable.

Remote Learning Model

- The remote learning options and requirements may vary from district to district.
- Remote learners will join the in-person classroom remotely through zoom or another tool to engage in the lesson with their peers and their teacher.
- Remote learners will be required to participate a certain number of hours per day and log the activities and parents must sign off on logged times and activities.
- Students that do not meet remote learning standards for participation may be removed from this model.
- Attendance will be taken as per state guidelines grades will be given for assignments when applicable.

PLEASE STAY TUNED FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION...

**SPECIFIC INFORMATION REGARDING PPE, HEALTH AND SAFETY GUIDELINES,
TRANSPORTATION, ENTERING AND EXITING THE BUILDINGS SAFELY, VISITORS, AND
OTHER TOPICS WILL BE RELEASED ONCE FINAL DECISIONS ARE MADE**