

Centerville Public Schools COVID-19

School Reopening Health and Safety Plan

CENTERVILLE MINERS



Safely reopening our school is a big challenge as we plan for the upcoming school year. Our top priority is safety first and our number one **goal is the safety of all students**. It is extremely difficult to address the COVID-19 virus impact on our operations. As a School District, we've been reviewing the guidance from the Center for Disease Control, our State and Cascade County Health Department. This plan will remain flexible as conditions evolve along with addressing any new guidance we may receive.

Please understand that we are making every effort to find the balance of maintaining a safe school environment while operating an efficient learning experience to all students. Outlined below are some ideas and recommendations.

The recommendations within this plan will remain flexible and adaptable to the potential changes in the governor's phases for reopening Montana schools. Therefore, this document will be dynamic and updated regularly as new information becomes available and/or additional requirements are requested of the Centerville School District.

We do not want to cause fear during this time. Please help us with positive messaging and encouragement. We are doing our best to help keep your child

and the school staff healthy. We encourage everyone to continue to do their part in helping our community stay well during this time.

Shelter in Place

When the Governor declares a required shelter in place plan then all non-essential classified employees will be placed on leave status until the order is lifted.

Certified Teaching staff will be required to provide remote learning instructional lessons from home utilizing the school district's remote learning tools and applications. All attendance and assignment requirements will be managed by the school in order to have accountability for a quality remote learning environment.

Reopening Phase 1&2 with Limited Attendance

When classroom attendance is restricted to 10 students or less the school will provide remote learning instructional lessons from the school utilizing the school district's remote learning tools. Certified teachers will be required to work from the building. Students will have the ability to make in person appointments at the school with teachers to receive tutoring assistance with lessons. All attendance and assignment requirements will be managed by the school in order to have accountability for a quality remote learning environment.

Reopening Phase 2 with Grouping Larger than 50 in Attendance

When classroom attendance is open to 50 students then the school building will be open and students may begin attending class. The school will also provide remote learning instructional lessons from the school utilizing the school district's remote learning tools. Certified teachers will be required to work from the building. Students will have the ability to attend school or remain in remote learning status. For students who remain in remote learning, teachers will answer questions during a live feed however, remote learners will be provided very little tutoring assistance outside the lessons. Students in school will have greater access to the teacher because of their proximity to the teacher. Therefore, in class learners may receive more tutoring assistance because of their

proximity to the teacher. Attendance and assignment requirements will be managed by the school in order to have accountability for a quality remote learning environment.

Reopening Phase 3

Schools will return to open status. Students will be required to return to the school building. If vulnerable students have a need for alternative offsite learning then the school will review the need for a 504 plan. All social distancing requirements will be lifted and school will return back to normal in the sense of how school operated before the COVID-19 pandemic.

Social, Emotional & Mental Health

During all phases of school operation the school will monitor all students to provide a high quality Social, Emotional, and Mental Health learning environment and opportunities.

Grouping & Scheduling

The High School and Junior High School will transition to a Block Schedule to reduce the amount of passing time in common areas in the building. When we speak of Block Schedule we are looking at 1st period, 2nd period, and 3rd period increased to 2 hour blocks of time and scheduled on Mondays and Wednesdays. We are looking at 4th period, 5th period, and sixth period increased to 2 hour blocks of time and scheduled on Tuesday and Thursday. We would also hold 7th period every day for one hour.

Elementary students are in class and will remain at grade level. Schedules for elementary students will be designed to limit large gatherings. In the event of combining students from different grade levels the school will schedule such events in the gym, on the playground or on the football field. Large Groups will require masks, physical distancing or be eliminated and not permitted all together.

School Closure & Return to Remote Learning

If an employee working in the school or student attending school is reported positive for COVID-19 then the school will close per Cascade County Health Department requirements. The school building will remain closed for 24 hours so we can submit contact tracing lists to the County Health Nurse and disinfect the school building. The school will wait on directions from the Cascade County Health Department on imposed restrictions. The school will lift restrictions and reopen school on direction from the Cascade County Health Department.

During school building closure the staff will work from home and provide offsite remote learning to all students. The impacts of lost instructional time and social and emotional development on children and adolescents should be anticipated, and the school will prepare to adjust instructional practices. It is also critical to maintain a balanced curriculum with continued physical educational and other learning experiences rather than an exclusive emphasis on core subject areas.

Social / Physical Distancing

Physical distancing, sometimes referred to as social distancing, is simply the act of keeping people separated with the goal of limiting spread of contagion between individuals. It is fundamental to lowering the risk of spread of COVID-19, as the primary mode of transmission is through respiratory droplets by persons in close proximity. The physical distancing of students and staff will occur to the degree necessary for the activity, event and location. In most classrooms, 3-6 feet between desks is achievable. Evidence suggests that spacing as close as 3 feet may approach the benefits of 6 feet of space, particularly if students are wearing face covering and are asymptomatic. The wearing of masks will be required in all settings. Hallways are being marked for spacing requirements. Transparent barriers for student and staff protection are being installed where needed. Limited numbers of spectators will be allowed at student events and there will be adequate physical spacing between seats and rows in common gathering places. Concessions will not be sold until we return to Phase Three.

Face Coverings

Cloth face coverings protect others if the wearer is infected with COVID-19 and not aware. Cloth masks may offer some level of protection from getting COVID-19 for the wearer. Children under 2 years and anyone who has trouble breathing or is unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove a face covering without assistance should not wear cloth face coverings. All staff, visitors and students will be required to wear a mask when entering the building. Cloth face coverings will be required in all common areas. Once a student is in class and physical distancing measures can be effectively implemented then face coverings can be removed, however, once the student is up and moving about the class then they must use their face covering. Rooms are being retro fitted with clear vinyl barriers to contain the spread of germs. When a student is sitting behind one of these barriers then the face covering may be removed. During PE time class lessons will limit the amount of activities that require face coverings being removed. During rigorous exercise the PE teacher will maintain strict physical distancing measures for the safety of the students. There will be specific instances where masks or cloth face coverings will be allowed to be removed; i.e. (eating lunch or teacher instruction). Masks and cloth face coverings must be school appropriate.

Parents are asked to take the lead on the health screening of their child. Please do a temperature check and symptom screening before your child is sent to school. The school will screen all people who enter the building. Expect to have your temperature checked. Also expect to have a couple questions asked of you like: Are you feeling well? Have you been around anyone who is sick? Have you traveled outside the state? These short questions will help us to identify symptomatic persons to exclude from entering the building. In the event that we have a delay in getting people into the building in a timely manner then students will have their temperature checked in the classroom.

Playgrounds/Hallways/Restrooms

The Centerville School has hired on more staff to care for the sanitation of the school building and grounds. All restrooms, drinking fountains and playground

equipment will be disinfected on a scheduled basis. Staff members will be present to monitor and disinfect common use areas and equipment. Students are expected to maintain physical distance when in restrooms and locker rooms. Limits will be imposed on the number of people allowed in a locker room at any given time.

All grade level classes will have adjusted time to provide appropriate social distancing requirements. The school will disinfect all playground equipment and toys in between groups and recess times. Staff will be provided training and/or resources on how to clean and disinfect the playground equipment and toys.

Testing for COVID-19

The Centerville School District is encouraging all staff and students to submit to COVID-19 testing if they have been exposed to someone who has a known exposure to COVID-19. Alluvion Health Care is providing free COVID-19 testing in Cascade County.

Travel Restrictions

All staff and students are asked to report travel that takes them away from the state of Montana. This reporting should be done during normal health screening. Upon return home to the state of Montana both staff and students should remain quarantined from the school building for 14 days if they are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms. Staff that have been quarantined but do not feel the ill effects of the virus may continue teaching remotely from their homes.

Health Screening

All Centerville staff will sign a release statement at the beginning of the school year that states that they are personally responsible on a daily basis to monitor their own health and potential COVID-19 exposure. If staff are symptomatic or if they have been in close contact to a COVID-19 positive individual, they must report that information to their supervisor and stay home until they have been cleared to return to work by the Cascade County Health Department.

Students and parents will be asked to monitor for COVID-19 symptoms and potential exposure. If a student exhibits symptoms or has been exposed, then they must stay home from school and seek medical attention and notify the school. They may not return to school until they have been cleared to return to school by the Cascade County Health Department.

All staff, students and visitors will be screened when entering the school building. Health questions will be asked, temperature checked and face coverings presented. Examples of health questions include: Do you feel well? Have you been around anyone who is sick or is feeling sick? Have you been out of state? If a student exhibits symptoms at school of being sick or not feeling well, they will be isolated until a parent can be notified to pick the student up.

Lunchroom Schedule and Operation

Students will be kept in individual grade level groups. We will utilize different parts of the school building during lunch to provide a safe social distance experience for the students. Routines and procedural expectations will be taught with intention within content lessons to accommodate physical distancing and safe practices. Students and staff will be required to wear face coverings while in line. Touchless ID entry for students will be implemented. Staff will maintain cleanliness of tables and seats between meal periods. Students and staff will maintain food allergy awareness and protocols.

Transportation/Busing

Parents are encouraged to transport students whenever it is feasible to do so. Individual transportation contracts will be granted and those parents will be paid a transportation stipend at the end of each school year.

Students will be assigned seats on the bus according to recommended standards. Immediate family members may sit two to a seat. Students will be seated one student per seat. Masks will be worn by all people on a Centerville School bus. Windows on the bus will be cracked open to provide ventilation when feasible.

Sanitation of all seats and handrail will occur between routes whenever possible. For two of our routes the buses will have the route split to accommodate social distancing requirements.

Educational Delivery Academics

The Centerville School District is planning on opening school for face to face learning in a traditional school setting with special conditions for Health and Safety protocols. Accommodations and remediation for students who need support will be developed for each individual instance.

Remote Learning:

The Centerville School is offering full time remote learning opportunities to students and families who desire this model of instruction. Because of the blended instruction our teachers will provide, parents of students in a remote learning environment must make a commitment to this endeavor. We will ask parents to spend time working with their child to help facilitate learning. Centerville School established a protocol for enrolling in remote learning that includes:

- Board Policy 1908;
- Requiring parents to sign a remote learning contract for student to participate in offsite instruction that outlines expectations for both parents and students;
- Allowing the Centerville School District to collect ANB from the State of Montana. ANB is used to help fund the teaching positions and materials needed to maintain this model;
- This contract will need to be signed along with expectations outlined for parents and students;
- Assigning letter grades for remote learning courses.
- Assessing a student's active 504 Plan or IEP, if necessary and determining if the accommodation and support can be delivered remotely or will need to be modified.

Visitors & Adult Protocols

In order to protect our medically fragile and immunocompromised students and staff members, for the most part, the Centerville School building will only be open to students, family members and staff. The Centerville Schools campus will allow limited access for pre-approved visitors, vendors and volunteers. In order to enable contact tracing and enhance the health of the District, approved visitors will not be allowed access beyond the main office without a mask or cloth face covering. All visitors must complete District approved health screening.

Organized Activities/Extracurricular

The Centerville School District will limit the occupancy of events to follow current State and Cascade County Health Department guidelines. For all events we will restrict attendance to immediate family members of all home players. For visiting teams we will only allow two attendees, from immediate family members, per each visiting players. Once the event or game is over parents will be asked to clear the area so the next group of parents for the next game may have seating available. The Centerville School District will require attendance sheets or seating charts for events to assist with contact tracing. The Centerville School District may require health screening for those in attendance.

Face masks and coverings will be required for all in attendance, depending on the event venue. Hand sanitizing stations will be available at all events. Concessions will not be sold during events and activities. After the school year starts the school board will review if organizations and community groups may reserve space in the school with proper notice. All organizations will be required to follow the Centerville School Districts safety guide lines. There will be no Pep Band or other concerts or performances until the school is able to return to Phase III. This will be re-evaluated, and more protocols may be put into place to allow such events prior to Phase III if the proper procedures and social distancing requirements can be maintained and enforced.