

Covington Exempted Village School District

Return to School Contingency Plan 2020-2021

It is the District's intent to adhere to Plan A to reopen the Covington Schools for the 2020-2021 school year. However, changes to our plans may be required if the Governor, State of Ohio, or local health officials, release guidelines that are more restrictive in the coming months.

PLAN A: Regular Return to School -Students resume regular in-person classes on August 25.

Student Schedule:

- Students will attend their regular classes as scheduled.
- Students will report immediately upon arrival to their first period/homeroom classroom. No congregating in public spaces will be permitted.

Restrictions/Precautions:

- Students and families should monitor their health closely, and each student and staff member should have their temperature taken before leaving for school. Students and staff members are required to stay home if they have a temperature of 100 or higher. A student or staff member who arrives at school with a fever will be sent home.
- Students and staff members must stay home if they are sick, or showing any symptoms of COVID 19.
- The students will be required to wear face coverings within the school building. The students will not be required to wear face coverings during recess, physical education class, while seated at the lunch table, or during a "mask break" provided by a member of the CEVSD staff.
- Students will be required to wear face coverings on the bus.
- Staff members are required to wear face coverings at all times.
- Additional time will be built in between class changes and rotations for cleaning of desks and equipment.
- Release times between classes and dismissal times will be staggered to decrease traffic in the hallways.
- The Food Service Department will follow the guidelines of the Dine Safe Ohio Order.
- During lunch, the students will sit four to a table in the CHS Commons, four to a table in the K-8 cafeteria, and six to a table in the K-8 gym.
- The students in grades 7 to 12 will be permitted to carry backpacks to reduce the need to return to their lockers.

An on-line option will be available for parents who are not comfortable sending their students back to in-person classes (see option D).

PLAN B: Blended Learning Environment - Students return August 25, part time in the classroom, and part time on-line.

** This plan will be used ONLY if other restrictions are mandated that limit the ability for school to be conducted under the conditions listed in Plan A.**

Student Schedule:

- Student group A will attend in-person classes Monday and Thursday, and participate in online learning on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday
- Student group B will attend in-person classes on Tuesday and Friday and participate in online learning on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday.

- There will be no students in the building on Wednesday for deep cleaning of the buildings.

Considerations:

- When determining student groups, every effort will be made to keep family members in the same A or B schedule for childcare purposes.
- If this option becomes necessary, these student groups will be announced as soon as possible for parents to begin planning.
- A student will be expected to participate in his/her regular coursework every day of the week, regardless of his/her schedule.
- Online activities will be considered of the same weight/value as all in-person activities.
- Students are expected to attend sports/club activities even on the “off” schedule days.

Restrictions/Precautions:

- Students and families should monitor their health closely, and each student and staff member should have their temperature taken before leaving for school. Students and staff members are required to stay home if they have a temperature of 100 or higher. A student or staff member who arrives at school with a fever will be sent home.
- Students and staff members must stay home if they are sick, or showing any symptoms of COVID 19.
- The students will be required to wear face coverings within the school building. The students will not be required to wear face coverings during recess, physical education class, while seated at the lunch table, or during a “mask break” provided by a member of the CEVSD staff.
- Students will be required to wear face coverings on the bus.
- Staff members are required to wear face coverings at all times.
- Additional time will be built in between class changes and rotations for cleaning of desks and equipment.
- Release times between classes and dismissal times will be staggered to decrease traffic in the hallways.
- The Food Service Department will follow the guidelines of the Dine Safe Ohio Order.
- During lunch, the students will sit four to a table in the CHS Commons, four to a table in the K-8 cafeteria, and six to a table in the K-8 gym.
- The students in grades 7 to 12 will be permitted to carry backpacks to reduce the need to return to their lockers.

An on-line option will be available for parents who are not comfortable sending their students back to in-person classes (see option D).

PLAN C: Full Distance Learning - Students return to school on August 25 in a fully online environment provided by Covington teacher(s) as determined by the students’ schedules.

** This plan is to be used ONLY if it is required that schools operate under distance learning conditions either at the beginning of the year, or at any time after the start of school.**

Student Schedule:

- Students will be expected to virtually “attend” their regularly scheduled courses via Chromebook during the regular school day.

- Students in grades K-12 will receive online learning activities and instructions through Google Classroom from all teachers. Parents should ensure that they provide a working email address through which they will receive weekly updates on student progress.
- Students will receive instruction that meets the necessary standards for each enrolled course, and will be assessed using the same rigorous expectations as an in-person course.
- Daily, students can expect 1-2 learning presentations or live modeling sessions of a skill/standard, followed by an independent practice activity. The student will receive feedback from the teacher, and have opportunities to ask questions through Google Classroom or during live office hours with the teacher.
- It is suggested that families determine a learning station where students can consistently work. This could be a desk, table, or stationary area where materials are available. For privacy matters, it should not be a public space with extensive traffic

Considerations:

- If made necessary, this contingency will be announced as soon as possible for parents to begin planning.
- A student will be expected to participate in his/her regular coursework every day of the week.
- Online activities will be considered of the same weight/value as all in-person activities.
- For participation in online class activities, students will be given guidelines and expectations that are consistent with a formal learning environment, to promote and encourage the best possible outcomes for all students.
- Parents will be provided guidelines and tips for how to monitor and maintain their child's engagement in the online classroom.

PLAN D: Distance Learning Component through Miami County ESC: to be used in conjunction with Plans A or B

** This plan is to be used ONLY if the District is operating under Plans A or B, but the parent/family does not wish to send their student(s) to an in-person environment for health/safety reasons related to COVID 19.**

Student Schedule:

- Student(s) will maintain Covington student status, but participate in on-line courses through the Miami County ESC.
- The student(s) course offerings are limited to courses that are already scheduled; a student may not take courses that are not offered at Covington.
- Covington teachers and staff members will not monitor the on-line courses. The on-line company will provide the teachers/monitors.
- Some courses may only be taken in-person, such as band and choir. These courses will not be available on-line.
- The students may only return to Covington's in-school courses at the end of the semester, or at the beginning of the 2021-22 school year.
- The Covington grading scale, GPA calculation, and course expectations will apply to all students who choose this option.
- If a student utilizes this option, and the Covington Schools are later required to utilize distance learning, the student will remain enrolled in the courses at the MCEC. He/she may not withdraw from the ESC courses to engage in the on-line courses at Covington.
- The student must opt-in to this option by August 11.

Considerations:

- Students may still participate in extra- and co-curricular activities at Covington.
- On-line activities will be considered of the same weight/value as all in-person activities.

General Reopening Guidelines

- Hand washing and sanitizing are important tools in preventing the spread of COVID-19. Students, staff, and volunteers should practice frequent handwashing for at least 20 seconds when hands are dirty, before and after eating, and after using the restroom. The district will provide opportunities throughout the day for handwashing. To supplement handwashing, we will provide hand sanitizer in high traffic areas, including entrances to the buildings and classrooms, and instruct students and staff to use the sanitizer. Additionally, staff, students, and volunteers should avoid touching their mouths, noses, and eyes since the virus easily enters the body through these membranes.
- The district will clean surfaces frequently, paying close attention to high touch areas and shared materials, and make sanitation wipes or disinfectants labeled for use against COVID-19 available in each room and common space. The sharing of supplies and materials should be minimized and if items must be shared, sanitized between each user.
- Bus seats are limited to two students.
- Children from the same household will be seated together on buses when possible.
- Seating charts are required on all buses.
- Face covering are required for all drivers and students on the buses.
- Visitors to the building will be discouraged.
- A quarantine will be required of any student or staff member who tests positive with COVID-19 and anyone who is determined to have “exposure” as determined by the Health Department. Who will be quarantined, and the length of the quarantine, will be determined by the Miami County Health Department.
- The district will work with the Miami County Health Department to develop protocols for notifying parents when a positive test occurs within our schools.
- The district will work with the Miami County Health Department to develop protocols for a safe return to school after a student or staff member recovers from COVID-19.

The Safety of our students and staff members will continue to be our number one priority and all of the above precautions will be taken very seriously. However, any student who attends school will incur some level of risk. We will do our very best to decrease the likelihood of infection with good hygiene, extensive cleaning, and the safety procedures mentioned above, but being in a public place has a certain level of risk that cannot be eliminated. We will continue to work with the Miami County Health Department to provide our students with a safe environment that is conducive to learning.