

# Galena R-II School District



COVID-19 ReEntry Plan

We are taking precautions to try to keep our students and our staff safe during the COVID-19 pandemic.

We will come up with the best plan possible for our students at Galena R-II Schools. We have learned over the past 4 months, information is fluid and sometimes changes weekly if not daily. This will be the basic plan for health measures as we begin the school year. Hopefully as we progress through the first half of the school year we can make adjustments.

The specific details might vary a little depending on the building your child attends. We appreciate all you are doing to help us in our efforts to protect our Galena community. This plan is likely to change as more information becomes available and as we continue to follow the latest guidance of public health officials.

## **Levels of School Operations**

# **Galena Schools will begin the year on a Level 2**

**Level 1: Normal School (Pre-Covid 19 School):** All classes will take place in school buildings. There are no restrictions on visitors and volunteers in the building.

**Level 2: Seated School with Health Precautions:(Contact your building principal for online options)** All classes will take place in school buildings. Extra cleaning and safety protocols for staff and students will be followed. There are restrictions on parents, visitors, and volunteers in the building.

**Level 3: Blended Instruction:** Courses will be taught with a combination of seated and remote instruction. Staff will be in buildings, with students alternating days of in-person attendance and remote instruction. Protocols for staff and students will be followed according to building COVID-19 Re-entry Guidelines. All entrances to schools will be locked and restricted to staff and students. Other visitors and volunteers must receive pre-approval.

**Level 4: Remote Instruction:** All staff will be on campus (unless directed otherwise). All students will be off campus and receive instruction online using Canvas Classroom. Teachers will use tools such as email, zoom, Class Dojo and Remind to communicate with students and families. All buildings will be closed to students.

### **Health and Safety Measures**

Students will be temperature checked when getting off the bus or when entering the building.

Students and staff must stay home if sick. If your student exhibits any of these symptoms, we ask that you keep them at home.

- Fever or chills - a fever of 100 F or greater.
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

### **Masks**

PreK-6th: Will not be required to wear a mask while at school but will be optional if a student chooses to wear one.

7th-12th: Students will be required to wear masks during class changing time. These are the times of the day when students are packed in the halls on their way to class. Once seated in their seats they may remove their masks for class.

Staff members will be required to wear masks or PPE in settings when physical distancing is not possible. (6 feet or less)

### **Handwashing:**

Throughout the day, we will encourage hand washing, and will also supply hand sanitizer in every classroom. Students and staff members must wash hands or use hand sanitizer before and after meals and recess.

### **Cleaning:**

We are increasing our cleaning, including sanitizing surfaces at least once a day. We have disinfectant fogging/misting guns that will be used on a regular basis.

### **Transportation:**

Please consider taking your child to school instead of sending them on the bus. We cannot guarantee physical distancing on the buses, but we will take as many precautions as possible:

- Masks are optional but encouraged on the bus. (Buses allow space to distance while sitting with family groups)
- We will provide hand sanitizer.
- We will open windows when possible.
- Busses will be disinfected after each trip.
- Students will be in assigned seats with siblings sitting together when possible. The seat behind the driver will remain empty.

### **Visitors:**

During this time, the only visitors we will allow into our schools are people who are there to work, like substitutes and repair workers. If you need to bring something to school or pick up your child, you will need to stay in the front office area, and we ask you to follow physical distancing rules.

**Food Service:**

The Food Services staff is keeping up with the latest federal, state and local guidelines for preparing and serving meals. To create more physical distancing, each school will work to spread students out and change meal schedules. Hand sanitizing stations will be available in the cafeteria.

**Sharing Supplies:**

We will reduce sharing of school supplies, and we will sanitize the supplies we must share. Each student should have their own school supplies for their own personal use.

**Facilities:**

As a safety precaution, we are not yet opening our indoor facilities for use by outside groups. We will reevaluate this decision as public health guidelines evolve.

**Water:**

We are asking students and staff members to please come to school and work with a water bottle. Students and staff members can fill from one of our water fill stations or classroom sinks instead of using the water fountain

**Large Gatherings:**

We will not have any assemblies, field trips, Halloween Parade, Homecoming Assembly, or special performances during this time. Our schools will provide new, physically distanced plans for events like registration, back-to-school nights, and orientations.

**Extra-Curricular Activities, Athletics and Clubs:**

We will continue offering extra-curricular activities, including athletics and clubs, taking as many safety precautions as possible. We will follow guidelines from MSHSAA as we receive them, and we will keep participants updated.

**This re-entry plan is fluid and may be amended in response to health and safety updates.**

In case a student or staff member shows COVID-19 symptoms, we have a plan in place, based on the best information from public health officials. This plan is likely to change as more information becomes available and we continue to follow the latest guidance of public health officials.

## **HOW WE WILL RESPOND IF SOMEONE HAS COVID-19 SYMPTOMS:**

### **Notifications about Cases:**

As we work to keep students and staff safe during this pandemic, we will share as much information as possible with you, while still following legal and ethical privacy rules. We often see students and staff with illness symptoms, like allergies, strep, and bronchitis. As appropriate, we will send them home, and sometimes we will encourage them to get tested for COVID-19. While privacy laws keep us from sharing each of these cases with you, please take precautions as if everyone has COVID-19, including you and your family. Please use the list of symptoms we gave you to screen before coming to school, and please stay home if you know you or your child have been exposed to COVID-19. If a student or staff member has been in direct contact with someone who tested positive for COVID-19 or someone whose medical provider diagnosed them with a presumed case of COVID-19, we will contact you.

### **Assessing Symptoms:**

The school nurse will use their nursing judgment to evaluate the person's symptoms. Even if a student or staff member's fever does not reach a temperature of 100° F, the nurse might send the student or staff member home after considering all symptoms.

### **Safety Precautions:**

Our school nurse will use CDC-recommended personal protective equipment (PPE) when working with a student or staff member with COVID-19 symptoms, and the nurse will keep the person with symptoms separated from everyone else until they can carefully leave the school.

**Guidelines:**

The nurse will send home guidelines to the student's family or staff member, including information about the rules for returning to school.

**Medical Care:**

The nurse will recommend the person with symptoms follow up with a licensed medical provider or the health department.

**Cleaning:**

We will block off the areas the student or staff member has been until our custodian can clean and disinfect them.

**If a Student or Staff Member Gets a COVID-19 Diagnosis:**

If a student or staff member has a positive COVID-19 test or a healthcare provider diagnoses presumptive COVID-19, we will follow these guidelines:

- If your child has been in direct contact with someone who tested positive for COVID-19 or whose medical provider diagnosed them with a presumed case of COVID-19, we will contact you.
- We will work with our local health departments to determine what precautions we must take and whether we need to close buildings.
- The person's family members should self-quarantine for 14 days after the last day of exposure. Nurses will contact buildings where family members attend to ensure that they are observing the self-quarantine.

**In Case COVID-19 Spreads in Our Community:**

If your child has been in direct contact with someone who tested positive for COVID-19 or whose medical provider diagnosed them with a presumed case of COVID-19, we will contact you. If there is community spread of COVID-19 within a school, we will work directly with local health department officials to complete contact tracing and inform those who have had close contact with a sick student or staff member. We will follow public health guidelines and recommendations to determine whether to close a school or cancel activities.

# **RETURNING TO SCHOOL AFTER ILLNESS**

## **If the School Nurse Sends a Student or Staff Member Home:**

If a school nurse sends a student or staff member home with COVID-19-like symptoms, they will use these guidelines to decide about the student or staff member's return to school:

- Must be fever-free a minimum of 72 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication such as Tylenol or other medications.
- Must have an improvement in COVID-19-like symptoms.
- Might be asked to stay home at least 10 days after symptoms first appeared (per CDC, DESE, and DHSS recommendations)
- Might be asked to bring medical clearance to return to school signed by their licensed health care provider.

## **If a Student or Staff Member Gets Diagnosed with COVID-19:**

If a student or staff member has a positive COVID-19 test or gets a diagnosis of presumptive COVID-19 from their health care provider, we will follow these guidelines to decide about the return to school:

- Must be fever-free a minimum of 72 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication such as Tylenol or other medications.
- Must have an improvement in COVID-19-like symptoms.
- Must stay home at least 10 days after symptoms first appear.
- Must provide documentation from the county health department stating clearance to return to school.