



# DIBBLE PUBLIC SCHOOL

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## **Return to School Plan 2020-2021** **COVID-19 Response**

### General Guidelines

Unless mandated otherwise, Dibble Public School will open and operate school as scheduled for the 2020-2021 Academic year. The district recognizes the risks associated with COVID-19 and other infectious diseases, but feels strongly that academic normalcy is essential to continued and proper student development. Dibble Public School will offer traditional in-person instruction as it's primary delivery method, and will make arrangements for students needing or requiring full scale distance learning. Students and families choosing the total distance learning model will not be allowed to participate in extra-curricular events. This plan in it's entirety is subject to change based upon CDC and State Department of Education guidance, and local data and conditions.

### Staff Preparation and Training

- Staff members and parents will be trained in the use of Google Classroom. Parents will be trained in the use of Google Classroom during the district's annual "Back To School" event. This will be done on a scheduled basis. Additional training will be made available for those unable or unwilling to attend a live training.
- All staff and students will be trained and educated on ways to minimize the spread of contagious diseases. Examples: proper hand washing and coughing/sneezing procedures.

### Daily Protocol

- Students and staff are encouraged but not required to wear a mask or face covering.
- Parents are strongly encouraged to temperature check and observe for COVID-19 symptoms prior to sending students to school each day.
- Staff are expected to self-evaluate their own health prior to attending school/work each day.
- The District will operate with limited office functions. Example-Parents can check in, or check out students without physically entering the office areas.
- Parents are encouraged to stay in their respective vehicles when picking up or dropping off students.
- Dibble School Staff may check temperatures of students throughout the day to determine if a student or staff member is "fever free." The district is defining "fever free" as being 100.4 degrees or less.
- All visitors are required to have their temperature checked.
- The district will follow CDC and state-level recommendations regarding the return to work or school following a positive COVID-19 diagnosis.

## Instructional Delivery

- The Dibble School District will deliver instruction in a traditional format based upon the calendar previously published and adopted.
- In addition to traditional instructional delivery, Dibble Public School will also provide and mandate “distance learning” objectives to be completed on all non-holiday Mondays that the district is not scheduled for traditional instruction. (See Attached Calendar for specifics—All Monday’s labeled in blue and yellow coloring are considered “Distance Learning” days)
- The district will make accommodations for all students requiring materials or items that are not readily available within the home. Examples of accommodations include: availability of laptops, devices and hotspots, internet access in parking lots or other common areas, and printed materials.

## Added Safety Measures

- Students are required to be “fever free” for three full days prior to attending school.
- Frequent sanitizing off all high-traffic and high-volume areas.
- Closing of all publically accessible water drinking fountains. Individual water bottles are available for purchase at each site.
- Additional sanitation stations will be made available throughout the campus.
- Parents are encouraged to pay lunch bills on-line through the Wengage guardian portal. (PayPal)
- The elimination of a traditional self-serve salad bar.
- The elimination of self-serve drink options.

## Transportation

- The school district recognizes that proper social distancing is impossible while operating a school bus that is filled to capacity.
- The school district will operate buses normally with added expectations.
- While the buses will operate normally, parents are strongly encouraged to transport students if possible.
- Students not staying seated, or otherwise following bus rules will be removed from the bus indefinitely.

## Addressing a Positive COVID-19 Case

It is highly likely we will experience disruption at some point in the school year due to COVID-19. If a student or staff member tests positive, we will consult with McClain County and State Health Departments for recommendations as to how we will proceed. It is important to note that a single, isolated, positive diagnosis does not necessarily mean closing school in it’s entirety. Examples of ways in which we will address positive cases included but are not limited to: mandatory distance learning for specific grades or classes, isolation of particular grades or classes, and informing parents of the cases to the highest degree allowed by law. The Dibble Public School administration team will work closely with the County and State Health Departments as needed in order to make the most informed decisions possible for our district.

## Summary

While we are hopeful for positive outcomes and reduction of the virus; it is reasonable to assume that everyone should prepare for disruption and change. The 2020-2021 school year will be like no other. It is difficult if not impossible to predict the full impact of this pandemic, but we remain committed to ensuring the safety of our staff and students while continuing to provide meaningful educational opportunities. We are doing the best we can to establish reasonable protocols for staff and students. This public health crisis is unprecedented. Circumstances and advice from health professionals continues to develop and evolve. Please feel free to contact the Superintendent’s office with any questions or concerns regarding this plan.