



# Ready for Learning Committee Plan for Continued Operations

Updated April 7, 2021, May 26, 2021

**Ready for Learning Committee Members:**

Dr. Candra Brasel, Superintendent

Mr. Todd Parker, Director of Curriculum & Professional Development

Mr. Brian Cossey, Director of Federal Programs & District Operations

Mr. Jeff Lewis, Jasper High School Principal

Mrs. Kimberly Liggett, Jasper Elementary School Principal

Mr. Seth Villines, Kingston Schools Principal

Mrs. Kenena Pelfrey, Oark Schools Principal

Mrs. Tina Byrd, Director of Food Services

Mr. Brent Edgmon, Transportation Supervisor

Mr. Randy Guhr, Maintenance Supervisor

Mrs. Tina James, School Nurse

Mrs. Morgan Hodge, District Treasurer

Mrs. Lauren Wright, Administrative Assistant

Ms. Margie Rutledge, Technology Coordinator

Mr. Joel Brasel, JSD Board President

Mr. Skip Emmett, JSD Board Member

Mr. Quentin Rylee, JSD Board Secretary

Mr. Stacy Root, JSD Board Member

Mr. Billy Bell, School Resource Officer

Ms. Erin Roberts, APRN Boston Mountain  
Ms. Terri Smith, Newton County Times

Mr. Dwayne Barnard, School Counselor

Mrs. Emily Willis, School Counselor

Mrs. Lela McChesney, School Counselor

Ms. Sandy Allen, Lead Teacher

Mrs. Kaela Hawkins, Lead Teacher

Mr. Mason Dorrell, Lead Teacher

Mrs. Holly Watts, Lead Teacher

Mrs. Tina South, Lead Teacher

Mrs. Courtney Farmer, Lead Teacher

Mrs. Waynetta Villines, Lead Teacher

Ms. Lesa Barksdale, LEA Supervisor

Mrs. Acacia Johnson, SBMH Therapist

Ms. Jan Larson, Mayor of Jasper

Mrs. Dessa Emerson, Parent

Mrs. Phaedra Clemons, Parent

Mrs. Amy Hasty, Parent

Mrs. Whitney Gates, Mental Health Provider

Mr. Travis Woods, Parent

Ms. Kelly Fillion, Parent

Mrs. Elaine Reddell, Parent

## **CURRENT GUIDANCE**

Link to [Arkansas Department of Health Current Guidance](#)

### **MASKS**

During a regularly scheduled meeting on March 15, 2021, the Jasper School District Board of Education voted unanimously to no longer require masks at school if the Governor lifted the mask mandate. Prior to the board action, the entire Jasper School District staff were surveyed regarding mask-wearing. From that survey, over 80% of the 123 respondents indicated that they did not think that masks should still be required if the state mandate was dismissed. On March 30, 2021, Governor Hutchinson lifted the state mask mandate. Therefore, as of March 31, 2021, the Jasper School District staff and students have no longer been required to wear masks at school. However, everyone has the option of wearing a mask anytime they choose.

### **PHYSICAL DISTANCING**

The Jasper School District will continue social distancing of 6 feet between adults, as well as adults and students, in common areas, during activities with increased inhalation like sports or band practice (which will preferably be held outside), and in community settings outside the classroom.

If both parties voluntarily choose to wear masks, the physical distancing can be reduced from 6 feet to 3 feet.

### **HANDWASHING AND RESPIRATORY ETIQUETTE**

In order to improve handwashing and respiratory etiquette, the Jasper School District will offer the following:

- Information and training on proper hand washing procedures.
- Asking students and staff to cover their mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing.
- Hand sanitizer for use following every mouth or nose touch.
- Tissues and no-touch receptacles for their disposal
- Providing masks for anyone interested in covering their mouth and nose.

# DIAGNOSTIC AND SCREENING TESTS

The Jasper School District will not be using COVID-19 diagnostic or screening tests on any of our campuses. However, the following screening precautions will be implemented:

- School nurses will assist with the screening process for students, staff, and visitors.
- School staff will be responsible for self-screening using the required JSD screening form and procedures.
- Visitors will be screened upon entering the buildings, as required by current ADH guidelines.

Our School-Based Health Center and the local Arkansas Department of Health offices in Newton, Madison, and Johnson counties offer free rapid testing for students and staff. The school nurse will assist families in securing appointments as requested.

# VACCINATIONS

The Jasper School District has partnered with North Arkansas Medical Center to provide free vaccines to all staff and students age 12 and older. Community clinics are also held on-site to accommodate any patrons who are interested in receiving the vaccine.

# RESPONDING TO CONFIRMED POSITIVE CASES/CONTRACT TRACING

The Jasper School District will continue to respond to confirmed cases within the school district. The following information will be taken into consideration by our district Point of Contact (POC) to determine who needs to quarantine and the length of the quarantine period:

- A fully vaccinated individual does not stay home following close contact exposure to a test-confirmed individual if they have been fully vaccinated for at least 2 weeks prior to the exposure.
- Individuals who previously have had COVID-19 and recovered and are within 3 months of their original diagnosis will not have to quarantine.
- Individuals who have been identified as close contacts to a person who tested positive with COVID-19 will not be required to quarantine if both the confirmed and exposed individuals were properly masked during the time of exposure.
- Individuals who are not wearing a mask and have been in close contact (within 6 feet for 15 minutes or more) to a person who has positive for COVID-19 will be required to quarantine for the length of time set forth by the Arkansas Department of Health hotline.

# CONTINUATION OF SERVICES

To continue to provide on-site instruction, the Jasper School District will continue to follow the district's original Ready for Learning and District Support Plan instructional model for the remainder of the year. The document can be found at

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/13JnL7tf\\_sqMmH9gPIYBAZr5AzmmrKgH3GmPeWylrD0U/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/13JnL7tf_sqMmH9gPIYBAZr5AzmmrKgH3GmPeWylrD0U/edit).

The only changes made to the plan were removing the mask requirement and cafeteria capacity. JSD will continue with screening, limiting visitors, extra cleaning/sanitation efforts, social distancing, and other supports outlined in the plan.

As part of the American Rescue Plan Act, school districts must post for parents and the general public a summary of its plan for safe continuation of in-person learning and continuity of services. The JSD plan was reviewed and revised by the District's Ready for Learning Committee on April 7, 2021. It will be posted on the Jasper School District website by April 15, 2021. The District will seek public comment on the plan which will help with future decision-making efforts.

## **SUMMER AND BACK-TO-SCHOOL PLANNING**

The Jasper School District will continue to work with the Ready for Learning Committee to determine how to proceed with summer and back-to-school activities. The committee will reconvene as needed to revise the plan prior to summer and again before school resumes in the fall to plan for safely returning to school. Any revisions to the plan will be announced, posted to the district website, and public comment will be allowed. Feedback gained through the public comment process will be shared with the committee for consideration during the planning meetings. The District will archive the posting, along with public comments, for future auditing purposes.

## **MAINTAINING HEALTHY FACILITIES**

To prevent the spread of communicable diseases, it is imperative that our facilities remain as sanitary as possible. School custodians will employ the following safety measures to ensure the health and safety of our students and staff:

- Supplies, such as trash cans, disinfecting wipes, Kleenex, and hand sanitizer will be readily available in every classroom.
- Water fountains will be limited and bottle filling stations will be utilized on each campus.
- Restrooms will be regularly cleaned and disinfected on a rotation throughout the day.
- Common areas will be restricted to ensure social distancing of students. These areas will also be cleaned and disinfected on a rotation throughout the day.
- Students will utilize hand sanitizer before and after recess. Disinfectant will be sprayed on the playground equipment after each recess period.
- The maintenance supervisor will be responsible for ordering all disinfectants to ensure the safe handling of chemicals.
- Custodians and maintenance staff will be trained on proper environmental surface cleaning and disinfecting practices.
- Maintenance and custodial staff will be provided appropriate PPE to help ensure their safety.

## **ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

- Accommodations will be made for students and/or staff who have:
  - Underlying health conditions
  - Respiratory disorders

- Other disabilities which would limit them from being able to follow our normal school policies and procedures.
- Individual healthcare plans will be developed and reviewed regularly
- COVID-19 FMLA is provided to staff who test positive or are ordered to quarantine by the Arkansas Department of Health.

## **COORDINATION WITH STATE AND LOCAL HEALTH OFFICIALS**

The Jasper School District will remain in constant communication with local and state health officials. We have a great working relationship with our local Health Department, the local sheriff's offices, local fire departments, Jasper City Mayor, the Arkansas Department of Health, and the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. JSD will work collaboratively with and follow policies set forth by these state governing agencies.