



Ready for Learning Committee Plan for Continued Operations

**Updated April 7, 2021, May 26, 2021, August 9,
2021**

Ready for Learning Committee Members:

Dr. Candra Brasel, Superintendent	Mr. Dwayne Barnard, School Counselor
Mr. Todd Parker, JHS Principal	Mrs. Emily Willis, School Counselor
Mr. Brian Cossey, Director of Federal Programs & District Operations	Mrs. Lela McChesney, School Counselor
Mrs. Kimberly Liggett, JES Principal	Ms. Sandy Allen, Lead Teacher
Mr. Seth Villines, Kingston Schools Principal	Mrs. Kaela Hawkins, Lead Teacher
Mrs. Kenena Pelfrey, Oark Schools Principal	Mr. Mason Dorrell, Lead Teacher
Mrs. Tina Byrd, Director of Food Services	Mrs. Holly Watts, Lead Teacher
Mr. Brent Edgmon, Transportation Supervisor	Mrs. Tina South, Lead Teacher
Mr. Randy Guhr, Maintenance Supervisor	Mrs. Courtney Farmer, Lead Teacher
Mrs. Tina James, School Nurse	Mrs. Waynetta Villines, Lead Teacher
Mrs. Morgan Hodge, District Treasurer	Ms. Lesa Barksdale, LEA Supervisor
Mrs. Lauren Wright, Admin Assistant	Mrs. Acacia Johnson, SBMH Therapist
Ms. Margie Rutledge, Technology Coordinator	Ms. Jan Larson, Mayor of Jasper
Mr. Joel Brasel, JSD Board President	Mrs. Dessa Emerson, Parent
Mr. Skip Emmett, JSD Board Member	Mrs. Phaedra Clemons, Parent
Mr. Quentin Rylee, JSD Board Secretary	Mrs. Amy Hasty, Parent
Mr. Stacy Root, JSD Board Member	Mrs. Whitney Gates, Mental Health Provider
Mr. Billy Bell, School Resource Officer	Mr. Travis Woods, Parent
Ms. Erin Roberts, APRN Boston Mountain	Mrs. Elaine Reddell, Parent
Ms. Terri Smith, Newton County Times	Mr. Brian Eisele, Parent
	Mrs. Pam Smith, Parent
	Mr./Mrs. Justin and Elaine Reddell, Parents

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 and we will continue to encourage this practice. The Arkansas Department of Health has recently determined that if both parties are properly masked, the close contact does not have to quarantine as long as they remain symptom-free.

PHYSICAL DISTANCING

The Jasper School District will continue social distancing of 3 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.

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 before arriving at school.
Thermometers will be provided for anyone wishing to screen at school.
- 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 and School Based Health Center Coordinator 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/CONTACT 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 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/1g6m7dd4tezzFKRE5v1mKBCFuHNNx19o4LTF50MY4kds/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, and was posted on the Jasper School District website by April 15, 2021. The plan was reviewed again on August 9, 2021. Updates were posted to the district website for public comment.

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 met to review and revise the plan again on May 26, 2021. The Committee re-convened on August 9, 2021 to determine re-entry plans for the 2021-2022 school year. The updated plan was posted to the district website and was linked to the ARP ESSER application and uploaded prior to August 15th. The District will continue to seek public comment on the plan which will help with future decision-making efforts. 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.

TRANSPORTATION

In order to ensure the safe transport of students, the following safety measures will be in place:

- Buses will be disinfected. Bus drivers will be trained on proper sanitation procedures.
- Hand sanitizer will be located at the front of the bus for student use when boarding and unloading from the bus.
- Drivers and aides (if applicable) will be encouraged to wear a face covering while students are on the bus when social distancing is not feasible.
- Students will be encouraged to wear face coverings on the bus when social distancing is not feasible.

CAFETERIA

Feeding our students is a priority of the Jasper School District. All students will continue to have access to approved meals, whether they are learning at school or from home. In order to accomplish this task, the Food Service Department will employ the following:

- Tables will be spread out throughout the cafeteria to ensure social distancing.
- Hand sanitizer will be available throughout the cafeteria.
- We will continue our remote feeding program.
- Food services will continue to use as much pre-packed food options as feasible.
- Food service staff will be trained on proper cleaning and disinfecting procedures.
- No sharing tables will be allowed.
- Bottled water will be made available for students as needed.

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.