



Panama Public School Re-Opening Plan 2020 - 2021

Planning for the start of the new school year has been very different. We have spent the past four (4) months monitoring a continuous stream of information from health officials, the State Department of Health, and the State Department of Education in an effort to develop a sensible and appropriate plan to reopen school. The upcoming school year will likely have disruptions to instruction in response to COVID-19. We are a strong community and school. We can get through this if we stick together. It is our goal to show understanding, humility, and support to all of our students and parents as they make decisions for this school year. Please show grace to our teachers and staff, it is important to remember that all of us (Teachers, Staff, Administrators, Parents and Community) want the same thing. We want our students to be safe and happy in their learning environment.

To say the information on COVID-19 is all over the map would be an understatement. You can find information to support any position you want in regard to COVID-19.

In developing our plan, we have used information that can be documented and supported with facts, not theories and hypothesis. The Oklahoma State Board of Education has adopted the “Oklahoma School Safety Protocols” as guidelines, not mandates, for schools to use in developing their back to school plan.

This guideline is in sync with the Oklahoma State Department of Health color code system for counties, based on the number of new, active cases in each county, each week, per 100,000 people. The Oklahoma State Department of Health updates their color coded county map each week. The Oklahoma School Safety Protocols are shown as a link on the Panama School website at www.panama.k12.ok.us .



As of this week (August 7, 2020), Leflore was color coded as Orange level 1 (Moderate Risk).

County Color Code of Green: 0 to 1.42 cases per 100,000	This color code would make all face coverings for Teachers, Staff and students recommended but not mandatory.
County Color Code of Yellow: 1.43 to 14.39 cases per 100,000	This color code recommended all Teachers, Staff, and students in grades 3 – 12 wear a face covering anytime they are inside the school buildings within 6 ft. of another person.
County Color Code of Orange, level 1: 14.39 to 25 cases per 100,000	This color code would recommend all Teachers, Staff and Students wear face coverings at all times. District will consider transitioning to distance learning.
County Color Code of Orange, level 2: 25 to 50 cases per 100,000	District are recommended to transition to distance learning until community transmission declines to YELLOW LEVEL.
County Color Code of Red: More than 50 cases per 100,000	Districts are recommended to close buildings and provide distance learning until community transmission declines to ORANGE LEVEL 1.

Local data is defined as the number of new active cases, the total number that has been identified as having COVID-19, the number of hospitalizations, and the number of deaths per 100,000 of population for each zip code. It is possible that different areas of Leflore County will be affected differently by COVID-19.



SCHOOL START DATE: August 20, 2020
TEACHER REPORTING DATE: August 18, 2020

COVID-19 TESTING & RESULTS

When someone in your household takes a COVID-19 test please do not bring anyone in the household on campus until that person receives a negative test.

When there is a positive test in the household, please do not return to school until your 14-day quarantine has finished and everyone in the household is fever/symptom free for 3 days.

Extracurricular Activities:

At this time all fall activities (Football, Softball, Cheer and Band) are scheduled to start as planned. It is reasonable to expect disruptions to each schedule due to COVID-19. The decisions to participate or not will be made on a case by case basis, according to what team is coming here or where we are scheduled to play or participate.

PLEASE UNDERSTAND THIS PLAN FOR REOPENING IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE IMMEDIATELY TO PROTECT THE WELL BEING OF FACULTY, STAFF AND STUDENTS.

Chromebooks:

In preparation for the possibility of distance learning the District has purchased Chromebooks/tablets for every student in grades PK through 12 to use during class, while at school.

If a Chromebook is lost, stolen or damaged beyond repair the replacement cost is \$400. Chromebooks will be available for checkout for distance and virtual learning. Please contact your building Principal if you wish to check out a Chromebook.



Curriculum Delivery:

There will be two (2) methods of instruction:

1) Return to classroom (Traditional):

Standard teacher delivery of curriculum in a classroom at school.

2) Virtual Learning (Virtual):

These are students who choose not to return to the regular classroom. Students will remain a student at Panama Public School.

Curriculum will be delivered through a totally virtual platform for grades 1-12. Classwork will be assigned by Teachers of Record. Upon completion of classwork the assignments will be graded and tests assigned by a Panama School Certified Teacher of record.

Grades 1 through 6 will use the learning platform google classroom. A teacher from each grade will record their lessons that virtual students can access at home anytime, parents will need to assist to make sure students are completing all assignments. Grades 7 through 12 will use a learning platform known as Edgenuity.

Elementary parent training for distance and virtual learning will be offered August 13th at 11 a.m. and August 18th at 6 p.m. Additional parent training will be available as needed throughout the year.

Students who wish to participate in an extracurricular activity while attending the Virtual Learning platform must **be on campus during the activity hour.**

Due to scheduling requirements, students desiring to be a full time virtual student must make that decision and notify your building Principal or Counselor by August 17, 2020. After the school year starts you will have 10 school days to change your method of receiving instruction. After September 2, 2020 you will not be able to change your choice of virtual instruction until the end of the semester.

Information on the Virtual Learning Academy has been public for 2 weeks prior to this reopening plan. If more information is needed, please contact your school principal or counselor.



Distance Learning:

This method of instruction and learning can only be implemented by the school. We will use this method if school and classroom instruction is interrupted due to COVID-19, flu, or weather.

Our teachers have worked tirelessly through the summer to prepare for distance learning. We will be using a different platform than we did in the spring.

It is our plan to use Seesaw (PK & K) and Google Classroom (1-12), for the delivery of instruction. Students will be prepped every Tuesday and Wednesday for the first month of school (August 24-September 23) as to how to access these learning platforms from their device.

In the event of an extended closure of school facilities teachers will report to school and have office hours for students and/or parents for communication. Teacher's office hours will be listed on Google Classroom.

Attendance:

Student attendance for virtual students and distance learning students will be counted as present if they log in daily and complete assignments.

Parents' understanding this is new and uncharted water for our school is critical. Regardless of the time spent and discussions held, it is certainly safe to say the plans for instructional delivery will continue to be evaluated to ensure success for our students and faculty.

Please communicate with us. The only way our school can be successful is with your help.



Panama School Protocol and PPE for Faculty, Staff, Students and Visitors

Students:

Parents are asked to check your child's temperature each day prior to allowing them to board a bus or prior to dropping them off at school. If they have a fever at or above 100 degrees, please keep them home until they are fever free for 48 hours without medication. If they have any flu like symptoms, please keep them home until they have 48 hours without any symptoms.

The situation we are in dictates we are understanding of student absences. Students will not be penalized for exceeding absence policy requirements. They will be expected to maintain their classroom assignments. Extended periods of absences will dictate if we transition that student to a different learning method.

Transportation:

We encourage as many parents as possible to provide transportation to and from school for their students. The less crowded buses are the better. We realize this may not be possible. We will run bus routes as we were when the year ended in March. Buses will be sanitized after each trip, morning and evening. **All students, in all grades, are required to wear a mask if riding a bus.**

Temperature Screening:

All students will have their temperature checked before entering the building. **Any student with a temperature of 100 or higher will be quarantined and parents called to come and remove their student from school in a timely manner. Please make sure that Parent/Guardian contact information is up to date and there are multiple points of contact.**

Hand Sanitizing Stations:

Hand sanitizing stations will be available in each classroom and at various locations throughout the school. Students will be encouraged to sanitize their hands.



Cafeteria:

Students eating breakfast will be spaced in the cafeteria to allow for social distancing as much as possible. Elementary lunch time schedules will be spaced to allow for classes to social distance. We have purchased plexiglass for our ms/hs cafeteria.

Arriving at School:

Elementary students will report directly to their home classroom. There will be no playground activity for the elementary prior to school. Staff will be assigned to monitor the temperature scans.

Middle school students will need to be dropped off on the east side entrance of the middle school building. Their temperature will be checked as they arrive on campus.

High School Students will report to the main entrance of the high school where their temperature will be checked before entering the building. Once their temperature has been checked, the high school students will be directed to their assigned area. Students will not be allowed to congregate in front of the school or under the awnings without facial coverage.

Masks/Facial Coverings:

Wearing a mask is one of the most effective ways to reduce the spread of the COVID-19. Medical professionals strongly recommend masks be worn at school by adults and students.

- **Masks/facial coverings are mandatory for all teachers, staff, and students in grades 3 - 12.**
- **We highly recommend that students in grades PK – 2 wear a mask/facial covering.**
- **Students in activities or outside the building will not be required to wear a mask.**

We realize that there will be students that cannot wear a mask due to medical reasons. Please provide medical documentation to be exempt from mask requirements.



We will assume and teach our students to assume that if a student is not wearing a mask, there is a good reason and that reason is private. Showing respect to others is a trait we want to model and that we want our students to understand. We ask that everyone be respectful to one another during this difficult time.

Partitions

Students will be able to **remove their mask once they are at their desk** because of the plexiglass partitions that the district has purchased for every student.

Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten Students:

We understand that the beginning of school for your 4/5-year old child is sometimes a difficult time for the student and parent. It is our desire to make this transition as smooth as possible in difficult times.

Pre-KG and KG Parents will be allowed to enter the school for the first two days (August 24, and 25). You will be required to wear a mask and have your temperature checked if you wish to bring your student to their classroom.

Drinking Fountains:

All drinking fountains in the school will be replaced or upgraded to allow a bottle fill option. Students will be allowed to bring a water bottle to school.

Visitors:

Visitors are not allowed in the school building without an appointment.

Please call the elementary or high school office to arrange appointments. If you are allowed to enter the school, you are required to wear a mask and scan your temperature.

Lower Elementary Office: 918-963-0401

Upper Elementary: 918-963-0404

Middle School Office: 918-963-0406

High School Office: 918-963-0409



The elementary and high school entrances are both equipped with video and audio devices for communication. If you are picking up your child, we prefer to assist you in getting your student

Faculty and Staff:

All faculty and staff will have hand sanitizer, spray disinfectant, face shields and masks supplied to them. Teachers will spray and wipe down the desks during times of student absence from the classroom. All faculty and staff will be required to wear face coverings while in the school building. Bus Drivers are required to wear a face covering.

Thanks for your continued support,

Panama Administration Team