



# PANAMA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## Safe Return Plan 2022-2023

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the 2022-23 school year at Panama Public Schools may look different throughout the year. The plans listed below are subject to change as new information becomes available or if positive cases become more prevalent in the community or within our District.

### **LEARNING OPTIONS**

- PPS is offering in-person learning for all students in grades PK-12.
- Grades 7-12 will offer full-time virtual for those students who qualify.

### **TRANSPORTATION**

- Bus routes will run as normal, windows will be down (weather permitting) and we will do our best to spread students out on the bus.
- Buses will be cleaned and disinfected after morning routes and again when afternoon routes are complete.

### **VACCINATIONS**

- Oklahoma Senate Bill 658, effective July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 restricts school districts from requiring a COVID-19 vaccine for students. • State and local health departments and the CDC recommend COVID-19 vaccines for those eligible.
- Oklahoma Senate Bill 658 restricts the mandatory enforcement of masks in schools unless a state of emergency is declared by the Governor, consultation with the health department, and school board consideration.

### **MASKS**

- Masks will be recommended for students and staff.
- State and local health departments and the CDC recommend wearing mask indoors.
- Mask will be available for individuals who wish to wear one
- We will continue to follow the health department county color code. When Leflore county is at orange level or greater, plexiglass dividers will be on desk for students.

### **STRATEGIES TO REDUCE RISK OF EXPOSURE**

- We will social distance students in the elementary lunch room. Plexiglass dividers are in place at the middle/high school lunch room.
- Students will be reminded to wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds prior to eating, and especially after sneezing, coughing and blowing their nose.
- We have purchased ten (10) hospitable grade sprayers. These sprayers will be utilized throughout the district including lunch rooms, restrooms, locker rooms, classrooms, buses and hallways multiple times each day.
- Water bottle refill stations and hand sanitizing stations are available in each school building and cafeteria.

### **PARENTS AND VISITORS**

- Parents and visitors will be allowed in building lobbies or main offices for scheduled appointments.
- School sites will have the flexibility to approve volunteer activities.

