



# Clarinda School District

**2020-2021  
School Year**

# Return to

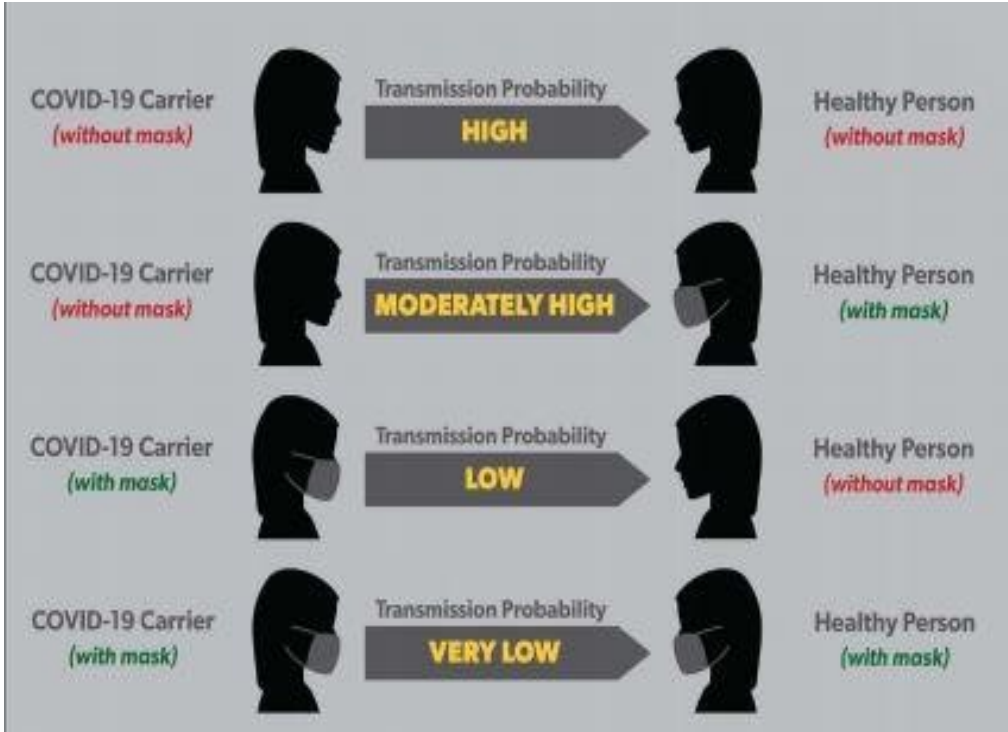
# School**Plan**

**All Clarinda students will return to  
school on August 24, 2020**

Students will receive direct instruction from their classroom teacher  
with appropriate health and safety measures in place.



# Why Facial Coverings?



We have three main goals in our Return to Learn Plan. We want to keep students and staff safe, provide high levels of instruction, and stay in an in-person model when possible. We believe our best opportunity to meet these goals is by following the safety recommendations of the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and the Iowa Department of Public Health. The face covering requirement balances safety recommendations with the educational needs of particular groups of students and/or individual limitations.




The following groups recommend students wearing facial coverings in school:


- Page County Public Health
- Iowa Department of Public Health
- Center of Disease Control (CDC)
- American Academy of Pediatrics
- U.S. Department of Education
- National Association of School Nurses


# Protecting Students and Staff





- Face coverings (nose and mouth) are required to be worn in school buildings by students and staff in grades PK-12 **when physical distancing is difficult or not possible**. This could include: when entering the building, when exiting the building, on buses, during passing periods, in classrooms where physical distancing is not possible, in lunch lines, at student activities and at other times as deemed necessary by CCSD.
  - Accommodations will be made for students with legitimate medical, religious, or disability-related needs.
  - Students are encouraged to bring their own facial coverings. Shields will be provided for PK, JK & K students as well as other students as needed.
- Physical distancing will be practiced.
  - Individual desks will be used in classrooms to promote physical distancing when at all possible.
  - Physical barriers may be used in office areas and some classroom situations.
- Outdoor activities will be encouraged.
- Transportation will have assigned seating and will require face coverings for students and drivers.
  - CCSD will run rural and CLS routes.
  - Siblings will be seated together.
  - Differentiated busing plans will be determined in collaboration with the school district.
  - Students requiring specialized transportation will be accommodated.
  - In town shuttles will not be available at this time.
  - Healthy Hometown and community organizations continue to work on a “walking school bus.”
- Hand sanitizer stations will be located in common areas and in classrooms.
- Students will receive training on proper hand washing techniques and recommended hygiene routines.
- Frequent cleaning of high touch points will be scheduled.
- Extensive cleaning and disinfecting will occur throughout the day and each night.
- Frequent hand washing opportunities will be provided for students and staff.
- Bubblers are closed but refillable water stations are open. Students are encouraged to bring reusable water bottles.
- Health offices will have areas for routine health services. A separate area will be provided for students who are symptomatic.
- Visitors access to the building will be restricted.
  - When students need to be released early parents will call the school upon arrival and the student will be released.


**1** ✓ Daily home screening of students and staff  
**STAY HOME IF SICK** 


**2** ✓ Face coverings required when physical distancing is not possible 

**3** ✓ Social distancing whenever possible 

**4** ✓ Limit large groups & capacity of large spaces 

**5** ✓ Routine hand washing and sanitizing 

**6** ✓ Enhanced cleaning throughout the day 

**7** ✓ Limit outside visitors 



# Primary (PK-3<sup>rd</sup>) and Intermediate (4<sup>th</sup>- 6<sup>th</sup>) Plan



Classes will be held both outdoors and indoors as appropriate.

PE, art, music, and guidance will continue meeting with students in the safest settings. One class per grade level will meet for one week per special.



Breakfast will be available in a Grab-n-Go style.

Students will have breakfast and lunch in an outside space, in classrooms, or in the cafeteria with appropriate spacing.



Schedules will be designed to limit traffic in the hallways.



Instruction will be focused on bridging gaps between missed learning from the spring in combination with current grade-level standards.



Start time is 8:00 a.m.

Dismissal begins at 3:15 p.m. on a staggered schedule.

Bus riders and parent pickup will happen AND walkers to be dismissed last.

Parents should stay in their vehicles during drop off and pickup. Staff will be supervising for safety.

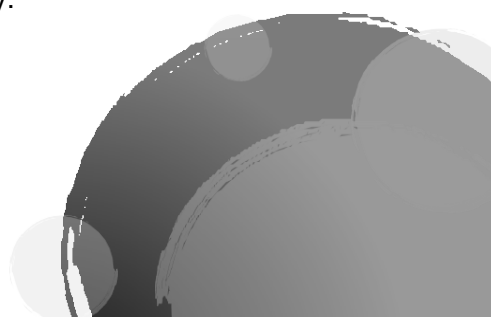


Students will have the opportunity to play with their classmates in designated areas during recess.

Students will primarily remain with their classmates throughout the day.



Students will be assigned a grade level door for entering and exiting the building. This will limit traffic flow.





# Middle (7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>) and High School (9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>) Plan



Hallway lockers will only be used before and after school. Only clear backpacks will be allowed to be carried during the day.

One-way walking routes will be used in hallways when possible.

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Classes will be held both outdoors and indoors as appropriate.

There will be no open campus for high school students. All students will remain at school unless they are going to a college class or school sponsored activity.

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Instruction will be focused on bridging gaps between missed learning from the spring in combination with current content standards.

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Breakfast will be available in a Grab-n-Go style. Staggered lunch service and smaller lunch groups will be used to improve physical distancing.



Self-serve items will be prepackaged.

Students will be eating in a classroom during their lunch period with adult supervision.

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Band and vocal will follow the recommendations of Iowa High School Music Association.

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7/8 - Start Time 8:00 a.m.  
Dismiss 3:00 p.m.

HS – Start Time 8:10 a.m.  
Dismiss 3:06 p.m.



Students are encouraged to arrive at school between 7:45 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. to avoid large gatherings.

Parents should stay in their vehicle during drop off and pick up.



The district will follow guidelines/recommendations from the Iowa Boys and Girls Athletic Associations and Iowa Department of Public Health.

Clubs meeting before and after school may be limited or restricted.



# *Protecting the Physical & Mental Health of Students and Staff*

## **What is the Clarinda School District doing to keep students and staff healthy and safe?**

- Requiring facial coverings for all students (PK-12<sup>th</sup> Grade) and staff when physical distancing isn't possible.
  - Frequent breaks outdoors will be provided for students (example: Teach 20 minute lesson, take a 5 minute walk outside). Facial coverings will not be required outside. Students will be encouraged to social distance.
  - When weather is poor, designated spaces will be provided indoors for mask breaks.
  - Exemptions related to medical needs only.
  - Staff will regulate with patience, especially at the elementary level.
- Temperatures will be taken before students and staff enter buildings.
  - Individuals with a temperature at 100.4F or above will not be allowed in the buildings.
- Implementing physical distancing where feasible.
- Purchasing of personal protective equipment (PPE) like face shields and acrylic barriers and picnic tables for outdoor learning and lunches.
- Cleaning of high touch areas frequently throughout day.
- Extensive cleaning and disinfecting every night. Ionized sprayers have been purchased to quickly and efficiently sanitize classrooms.
- Limiting sharing of supplies - All supplies & equipment cleaned between uses.
- Limiting visitors to schools during school day and use of school facilities by outside groups.

- **How will we improve universal instruction using differentiated, best-practice strategies and class-wide intervention?**
  - collaborated with Green Hills AEA School Improvement, Literacy, and Math Content Specialists
  - created a systemic PK-12 needs assessment
  - dialogued around the CCSD PK-12 current reality in regard to Iowa Core Standards work
  - identified professional learning already in place or necessary to meet each team “where they are” in the process of this important work
  - considered content-agnostic strategies such as those within the professional learning already in place SDI (diagnostics and matched interventions)
  - identified opportunities to partner teachers across content areas
  - identified and focused the scope of professional learning for next year, including Professional Learning Communities (PLC), Leader in Me (Social/Emotional/Behavioral Health – SEBH), online instructional strategies supportive of rigorous learning, and acceleration through grade-level learning and informal assessment
- **How will we utilize grade-level learning and intervention to close students’ identified learning skills gaps?**
  - connect research from studies of similar school closings such as responses from schools impacted by Hurricane Katrina
  - engage in collaboration between instructional coaches, teacher leaders, administrators and other staff to create building and grade-level goals
  - facilitate professional learning focused on the Learning Acceleration Guide and aligned modules
  - provide learning and create coursework focused on integration of standards within apprenticeships, internships, integrated coursework, career experiences, etc.
  - prioritize time for navigating Department of Education and other resources, specifically UnboundEd online learning modules
- **How will the CCSD support online learning for students with specific well-being needs, family members with health-related risk factors, students with COVID-19, or family choice to defer face-to-face instruction?**
  - support teachers through choosing an online learning platform with the following: platform with Iowa-licensed teachers, State approval, foundation in Iowa Core Standards, independent of CCSD teacher management, and fiscally responsible pricing
  - engage instructional coaches, literacy lead, administrators, and other staff leaders in exploring the platform, reflecting with Edmentum consultants asking questions, considering roadblocks and providing feedback on quality of instruction
  - recommend purchase of Edmentum online learning platform with federal CARES funds
  - identify other platform features supportive of differentiation, resources and functionality in case a shift to completely online instruction is necessary
- **How will the CCSD support the professional growth/evaluation process of staff?**
  - utilize online Frontline system to provide learning focused on Charlotte Danielson’s instructional framework
  - provide opportunities for online, self-paced and/or collaborative professional learning based on the Iowa Teaching Standards
  - create online walk-through forms to meet Iowa requirements for peer observation and administrative feedback
- **How will the CCSD provide “interactive” support to students outside of the school day?**
  - collaborate with the community (Chamber of Commerce – Adopt-a-Classroom Program) to create a private YouTube Channel for student-, parent-, and community member-created “bedtime stories,” as well as student-led Zoom and other technologies learning for the community
  - establish a secure e-mentoring opportunity to connect students with community members
- **How will the CCSD serve our students with Individualized Education Plans (IEP) in the event of a sudden school closing?**
  - collaborate with Green Hills AEA Special Education staff, CCCSD administrators, CCSD teacher leaders, and families via Zoom, face-to-face, and phone to ensure IEPs have continuous learning plans in place prior to the first days of the school year
- **How will the CCSD support parental learning throughout the school year?**
  - share links and access to the public Health and Safety toolkits created within the Department of Education (DOE)
  - provide specific learning and time for dialogue around SEBH through PACE, a counselor/at-risk led opportunity

- **What will be imperative to keeping us learning?**
  - wearing facial coverings in high traffic areas
  - physical distancing
  - staying home when sick
  - washing hands regularly
  - maintaining and modeling a positive attitude
  - remembering that data, new research, and guidance will be fluid
  - practicing a flexible and adaptable mindset
  - encouraging one another
  - focusing on what is within our control
  - being respectful, grateful, and collaborative
- **How will new state-level information be shared with educators and/or the public?**
  - twice-weekly press conferences with the Governor and other state officials (Tuesday/Thursday at 11:00 throughout August at <https://www.facebook.com/IAGovernor/>)
  - DOE webinars for school district leaders Updated Resources on the DOE website at <https://educateiowa.gov/article/2020/07/30/covid-19-guidance-and-information>

**Clarinda Community School District\*CCSD\*Clarinda Community School District**





# Questions and Answers?

**Q: What resources did the district use to develop their plans for returning to school?**

This plan was developed by the District Leadership Team and various committees with representation to include district administrators, nutrition staff, custodial staff, human resources staff, activities department staff, and transportation staff. The District utilized guidance and recommendations provided by our governor, the Iowa Department of Education, CDC, Iowa Department of Public Health, and our local public health. Survey responses from the parents/guardians and staff also informed the plans.

**Q: How will the district enforce the required face covering?**

Issues will be dealt with per situation and with data available at the time. Teachers will approach each as a learning opportunity and will take into consideration the age of the child and the individual situation. The teachers and administration will educate and influence appropriate choices and behaviors for wearing facial coverings.

**Q: Will temperatures be taken upon building entry for students and staff?**

Students and staff temperatures will be taken at the door. If temperatures are at 100.4F or above, students and staff will be sent home. Student and bus drivers' temperatures will be taken prior to getting on the buses. Parents/guardians, on behalf of their student(s), are asked to screen their students at home using a screening checklist coming from the Iowa Department of Education prior to the start of school, which does include taking the temperature of your child(ren) before sending them to school. Sending a student to school is a statement by a parent, guardian or caregiver that the student is symptom free.

**Q: Is there a concern about having sufficient substitute teachers?**

Yes, CCSD will seek to strengthen the substitute pool as the state has implemented less restrictive licensing guidelines. The new state requirements allow for increased flexibility in the use of substitute teachers during the disaster emergency period by: removing day limits, lowering the age and degree requirement to obtain a substitute authorization, and increasing the opportunities for holders of a career and technical authorization. We would encourage and welcome persons to consider being a substitute.

**Q: Will the district provide alternative plans for families who have a student or a family member with a serious medical condition?**

Yes. CCSD will offer accommodations for online learning if a child, another resident of the child's residence, or one of the child's regular caretakers has a significant health condition that increases their risk of COVID-19. The child's parent or guardian must provide written verification from a licensed healthcare provider. The online programming provided will be delivered by Iowa Certified Instructors outside of CCSD. Participation, attendance and grading will be required aspects of the programming and parents/guardians will play a key role in supporting the programming, particularly at the elementary level.

# Questions **and** Answer?

**Q: What practices are in place for the health/safety of students and staff at Clarinda Schools?** There are a variety of practices being used including disinfecting more frequently, increased hand washing, use of face covering when physical distancing is not possible, sanitizing hands more frequently, cohort grouping when feasible, arranging classroom seating to increase physical distance, reducing the number of students in the lunchroom as feasible, restricting visitors, reconfiguring the instruction of large classes such as band and choir, increasing use of outdoor spaces and adjusting system controls for increased air flow are a few of the practices in place.

**Q: Is the district promoting hand washing?**

The district will educate students on appropriate hand washing protocol and encourage and promote healthy practices by allowing for frequent hand washing.

**Q: Will there be hand-sanitizing stations?**

Yes. Each classroom will have hand sanitizer available and stations will be located at entrances and in common areas.

**Q: What safety precautions are being used in the lunch rooms?**

Students and staff will be asked to wash or sanitize hands before and after being served, physical distancing will be practiced as feasible during serving and while eating, we will eat outside as feasible, elementary students may eat in classrooms, pre-packaged or wrapped options will be available, students will wear facial coverings while being served, staff will be wearing face coverings, elementary students will eat with their cohort group, and grab-n-go breakfast will be served. We will start the year with grab-n-go lunches.

**Q: What happens if a student or a teacher tests positive for COVID?**

Positive cases of COVID are referred to and addressed by the Department of Public Health. According to current (daily) guidelines, any student or staff member testing positive will be asked to isolate for 10 days from onset of illness/positive test AND 3 days fever free AND symptoms resolving. Public Health will use the definition of close contact to determine who will need to quarantine. The current definition of a close contact is someone who was within 6 feet for 15 minutes or more to the COVID positive student/teacher. Those who meet the definition will be asked to quarantine for 14 days from last contact. These guidelines are currently being updated by Iowa Department of Public Health and are subject to change.

**Q: How will decisions be made on closing classrooms, buildings, or the district?**

Decisions to temporarily move to a hybrid (a combination of face-to-face and online learning) learning opportunity or an online learning opportunity for an entire building or district because of public health conditions will be done in consultation with the Department of Public Health. The Iowa Department of Education and the Department of Public Health continue to developing additional guidance to help schools manage virus activity when positive cases are identified among students and staff.

# Questions and Answers?

**Q: Will anyone else besides students and staff be allowed in the school buildings?**

Visitor access will be monitored and limited.

**Q: How will elementary recess be handled?**

Students will still have their scheduled recesses. Classrooms will be restricted to interacting with their own cohort group. Each group will be given an outdoor assigned area, marked with painted lines, and will be required to stay inside their designated area. Classrooms will be rotated in order to provide all students access the playground equipment. Playground equipment will be disinfected between groups. Each classroom will be provided a bag of equipment that will be limited to only their classroom. This equipment will be disinfected daily.

**Q: Will the elementary still provide the specials' classes (PE, music, art)?**

Yes. Weather permitting students will be having their specials outside. Each "special" has a designated place where they will be providing instruction. When weather is undesirable art and guidance will be held in the students' classroom. P.E will be held in the gym where there is plenty of room to practice social distancing. Music class will be held in the music room which accommodates physical spacing. Music activities will be modified based upon recommendations from IHSMA.

**Q: What is happening with activities and athletics?**

The district will follow the guidance from the Iowa Girls High School Athletic Union and the Iowa High School Athletic Association who are consulting with the Iowa Department of Public Health in determining their guidance. On a local level we will limit and restrict the activities of club activities.



