



White Pine Charter Schools Elementary and STEM Academy



COVID-19 Guide to In-Person Instruction and Services Plan
2023/2024 School Year

Updated: 08/2023

White Pine Charter Schools will continue the 2023/2024 school year at 100% occupancy and normal school operation. It is important to remember that COVID and its current and potential variants remain a challenge to communities and school systems. The details in this plan are intended to guide what are understood to be current best practices and may be changed at any time. Should it be determined that reduced occupancy is necessary, Administration will elect appropriate hybrid and/or partial attendance models for each of the White Pine schools. Students and/or faculty/staff requiring accommodations with regard to disabilities that may compromise this return/continuity plan will be assisted on a case by case basis with Administration. Students and/or faculty/staff who require direct or individual assistance with social, emotional, mental health, or other needs will be assisted on a case by case basis with Administration. Additionally, the counselor in each school is guiding programming that addresses the needs that are most prevalent and current as well as working individually with adults and students at White Pine.

Safety Precautions and Procedures

BEFORE ARRIVING TO SCHOOL - Parents/Caregivers are invited to vigilance with bearing the responsibility of making sure those students who are attending are healthy and fit to attend school. Should parent screening reveal that a student is displaying symptoms associated with COVID, testing is encouraged.

Students that have been tested for and confirmed to have contracted COVID will be required to quarantine.

QUARANTINE PROTOCOL - Quarantine precludes students from attending school until 1) 5 consecutive days have passed since testing positive (tests will require submission to the main office for attendance purposes) or 2) student provides a negative COVID test dated after 2 consecutive days of quarantine.

Facilities/Equipment

The following is a list of the safety measures the school intends to take to minimize the risk of transmission/infection of COVID-19.

In addition to the disinfecting guidelines below, teachers will be encouraged to maximize air exchange including opening windows, HVAC management, etc.

Disinfecting/Air Quality/Distancing:

- Students will be encouraged to wash hands regularly and how to do so
- Classrooms will be disinfected regularly
- Teachers will disinfect student areas as frequently as reasonable using supplies such as spray cleaners, disinfectant wipes, cleaning solutions, etc.
 - Students will be asked to assist with these efforts when appropriate
- Custodial hours will be designated for cleaning and disinfecting
- HVAC and air purification measures properly maintained
- Outdoor activity will remain a priority when appropriate, particularly on warmer days at the beginning and the ending of the school year

Personal Protective Equipment

- All teachers are encouraged to wear PPE (face mask, shield, etc.) when necessary or if preferred for safety precautions
- Face coverings for students remain optional; students can wear any color/design as long as they are school appropriate and not display anything inappropriate with final discretion resting with Administration

Physical Distancing

- School personnel will make efforts to encourage students to practice physical distancing.
- Weather permitting and when appropriate - teachers will be encouraged to plan outdoor activities to allow for greater physical distancing and fresh air

Bus Expectations

- Parents/caregivers will screen children prior to allowing them to travel on the bus symptomatic or sick children should be kept home
- Students will abide by COVID protocols as issued by the transportation company
- Enhanced air exchange on the bus may be facilitated by opening windows and/or roof hatches, weather permitting

Breakfast/Lunch Service:

Elementary School Options:

- Breakfast is available for all students and seating will be arranged to ensure physical distancing
- The cafeteria will be divided into two sections with staggered lunchtimes to accommodate distancing and disinfecting procedures
 - Each grade level will eat for approximately 15 minutes and then be dismissed for recess
 - Every effort will be made to minimize grades overlapping in the lunchroom
 - While one cafeteria section is being used for lunch, the other will be disinfected to allow the next grade level to enter at their designated time - this rotation process will repeat until all grade levels have had lunch

STEM Academy (MS/HS)

- MS/HS students rotate through lunches with staggered start times to accommodate physical distancing
- Weather permitting, students will be encouraged to eat outside as often as possible.

Online Curriculum/Instruction (if necessary)

If necessary, White Pine will have electronic learning devices available for checkout at each campus

White Pine Elementary and STEM Academy Middle School

- Teachers will use Google Classroom as the hub for resources
 - From each teacher's Google Classroom or Seesaw site students will be able to access necessary resources
- Curricular instruction will continue to originate from the following:
 - Core Knowledge Language Arts and Amplify ELA
 - Bridges Mathematics and Illustrative Mathematics
 - Core Knowledge sequence to include science, social studies, and "specials" classes
- Teachers may utilize videos for direct instruction and review of information
- Depending on which attendance model is implemented, teachers may hold office hours daily to provide students and families assistance

White Pine STEM Academy High School

- The STEM Academy utilizes the Summit Learning Program as well as Google Classroom to facilitate online learning as well as provide resources
- Summit Learning requires students to provide information including parent contact before implementation
- Parent and student training may be provided as necessary to assist in the implementation of Summit

Mitigation of Learning Loss due to COVID

Understanding that, globally, the education of students is/was compromised with the sustained presence of COVID, White Pine secured resources specifically intended to mitigate and support efforts to rectify learning loss by:

- Hiring a Vice Principal whose focus will be to develop and oversee extracurricular and social programming to enhance the overall student experience in the goal of whole student formation and social/emotional development
- Hiring a Remediation Aide whose intention will be a deliberate effort to help students that have fallen behind academically and need support in order to recover and remain on track
- Strategizing a calendar of instruction for upcoming terms that invests in more time
- Investing in comprehensive assessments in order to evaluate student performance and growth and to further use the data gleaned to strengthen programming

High-Risk Scenario Response/Symptoms

Fever

- Upon spot checking, students who have a recorded temperature of at least 100.4 over two consecutive screenings during the school day will be isolated until they can be picked up by a parent/caregiver.
- Parents/guardians will be notified to pick the student up from school within 30 minutes of contact
 - If a parent/caregiver cannot be reached, emergency contacts will be called
- Faculty/Staff members who register a fever of 100.4 over two consecutive readings upon arrival or throughout the school day will be required to leave campus immediately.

Other Symptoms

Individuals experiencing additional symptoms identified by the CDC and/or local health agencies will do the following:

- Students will report symptoms to the nearest staff member
- Students may be isolated until picked up within 30 minutes of contact with parent/caregiver
- Staff members will leave immediately following a report up to Administration

Positive COVID Test Result

Individuals who test positive for COVID shall inform Administration immediately and are subject to remain on Quarantine Protocol for 5 days or after providing a negative test dated after two days of quarantine.

In the event that a staff member or student tests positive for Covid-19, stakeholders should prepare for the following:

- Students or staff who have been in near contact (same classroom) with an infected individual will be notified with no requirement of quarantine unless symptomatic
- Students who are quarantined from school should contact their teacher(s) in order to arrange remote instruction and resources

This plan and any revisions will be reviewed semi-annually, by Administration, according to the schedule set by the State of Idaho Department of Education. Stakeholders will also be provided with an opportunity to provide input/feedback in line with the review schedule. The various stakeholder influences in this most recent update were gleaned using several modes of input including but not limited to - surveys, live forums, email communications, and correspondence.

For more information on COVID 19 and measures helpful in preventing the spread of it visit:
<https://www.cdc.gov/>