

White Pine Charter School - Elementary

White Pine STEM Academy

COVID-19 Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan for 2021/2022 School Year

07/2021

White Pine Charter School District will begin the 2021/2022 school year at 100% occupancy and normal school operation. It is important to remember that COVID and its current and potential variants remain a threat to communities and school systems. The details in this plan are intended to guide what are understood to be current best practices and mitigation guidelines and may be changed at any time in order to best ensure the safety of our students and teachers. 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. Should the general public or community interest support it, efforts can be made to provide vaccination on campus outside of school hours.

Safety Precautions and Procedures

BEFORE ARRIVING TO SCHOOL - Parents/Caregivers will have screened their students and confirmed this process in a daily email survey. Answering yes to any of the screening questions will automatically preclude their student from attending school for the day. Answering yes to any of the questions on the next subsequent day will subject the student to **QUARANTINE PROTOCOL - Quarantine Protocol precludes students from attending school until 1) 10 consecutive days have passed since the individual was last known to exhibit any COVID-19 symptoms or 2) student provides a negative COVID test after 5 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 may be “misted” w/ disinfecting solution during transitions.

- Classrooms will be disinfected nightly
- 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.
- More custodial hours will be designated for cleaning and disinfecting.
- HVAC and air purification measures properly upgraded and maintained.
- Maximization of distancing and outdoor activity will remain a priority, particularly on warmer days at the beginning and the ending of the school year.

Electronic Learning Devices

- While on-site, students may be assigned an electronic learning device
 - Devices will be included in the disinfection process.
- Devices will not be shared between students.

Personal Protective Equipment

- All teachers are encouraged to wear PPE (face mask, shield, etc.), if they haven't been fully vaccinated, when interacting with students indoors and in close proximity.
- Face coverings for students are 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 - teachers will be encouraged to plan frequent 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 are to be kept home.
- Students will abide by COVID-19 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 will continue to be 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 15 minutes and then be dismissed for recess.
 - Every effort will be made to avoid grade levels 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 two lunches with staggered start times to accommodate physical distancing including staggered seating.
- Weather permitting, students will be encouraged to eat outside as often as possible.

Curriculum/Instruction

Online Delivery of Instruction

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

White Pine Elementary

WPCS commits to providing an exemplary educational experience in a standards based environment where learning is established on the premise that students achieve a high level of understanding and mastery.

- 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

The middle school and high school, with the same commitment to excellence as the elementary school, may on a case by case basis arrange online classes and resources.

- 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.
- Training should take place prior to students attending classes and may delay the start date for instruction.

Mitigation of Learning Loss due to COVID-19

Understanding that, globally, the education of students was compromised with the sustained presence of COVID-19, White Pine secured resources specifically intended to mitigate and support efforts to rectify learning loss by:

- Hiring an Assistant 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.
- 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.
- Technology Coordinator whose purpose is to strengthen the overall programming and to ensure curricular standards are being met and strengthened, particularly with cross curricular teaching.
- Investing in comprehensive assessments in order to evaluate student performance and growth.

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. SUBSEQUENTLY, THE STUDENT WILL BE PLACED ON QUARANTINE PROTOCOL.
- 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. SUBSEQUENTLY, THE FACULTY/STAFF MEMBER WILL BE PLACED ON QUARANTINE PROTOCOL.

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 will be isolated until picked up within 30 minutes of contact to parent/caregiver.
- Staff members will leave immediately following a report up to Administration.
- SUBSEQUENTLY, THE FACULTY/STAFF MEMBER OR STUDENT WILL BE PLACED ON QUARANTINE PROTOCOL.

Positive COVID-19 Test Result

Individuals who test positive for COVID-19 shall inform Administration immediately and are subject to remain on Quarantine Protocol until a negative test can be provided (minimum of 10 days once no longer symptomatic).

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

- Affected campuses may be closed for up to 48 hours.
- In collaboration with Eastern Idaho Public Health, the positive testing individual along with students or staff who have been in close contact with the said individual will be identified and subject to Quarantine Protocol.
- Those that have had COVID within the last three months may not be subject to the Quarantine Protocol.
- Despite wearing masks properly those found in close contact (within 3 feet for 10 minutes or longer) will be subject to Quarantine Protocol.
- Vaccinated individuals may not be subject to Quarantine Protocol if asymptomatic.
- Students who are quarantined from school should contact their teacher(s) in order to arrange remote instruction and resources.

Vaccinated Individuals

For the purposes of this guidance, people are considered fully vaccinated for COVID-19 ≥ 2 weeks after they have received the second dose in a 2-dose series (Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna), or ≥ 2 weeks after they have received a single-dose vaccine (Johnson and Johnson (J&J)/Janssen)(CDC)

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.