McDonald County R-1 is IN session!

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR SUPERINTENDENT

It is with great excitement that we look forward to students returning to school this fall! At the same time, we are proceeding with great caution and the utmost consideration for the health and safety of our students and staff. This summer multiple teams of school staff in conjunction with the McDonald County Department of Health have carefully reviewed the data and guidance available and spent countless hours putting together plans and protocols for fully reopening our campuses. This document represents an outline of the current plan for 2020-2021 school year. Please know, going forward, we will continue to monitor the local COVID-19 outbreak and respond to changes as rapidly as possible.

Students, we have missed you and can't wait to see you back in school on August 24th!
Sincerely,
Dr. Stanton

Dr. Mark Stanton
Superintendent of Schools
**IN PERSON**

One option is for your students to attend school IN person and on site this fall. Students will attend regular school sessions:
- Five Days a Week
- On Campus
- Regular School Hours

**INTERNET**

Another option is for your student to attend online:
- Internet based classes instead of the regularly scheduled school day classes.
- All content will be delivered via the internet while your child attends from home.

---

**Be Safe**

Safety measures that will be implemented on campus.
Be Safe

- Masks are required for all staff while indoors while in the presence of other staff and students.
- Masks are strongly recommended for all students while indoors or when social distance cannot be maintained.
- Desks will be placed 3–6 ft apart.
- Temperature screenings for students will be completed at home by families.
- School staff temperatures will be screened upon entry.

Be Safe

- We will not use Volunteers at this time
- Visitors will be limited.
- Classrooms will be fogged daily.
- Extra sanitation measures are being implemented.
- Water fountains will be closed. Students will be allowed to bring water bottles from home.
- Release times/ transitions will be staggered to help minimize hallway traffic.
High Quality Instruction

- All content whether INperson or INternet is aligned with the Missouri Learning Standards.
- Students will be supported by quality educators whether you choose the INperson or INternet option.
- Please register your choice by August 17th. If you do not register your choice by August 17 we will assume you are attending in person.
- Once an option is chosen you must remain in that option for the entire semester.
**INperson**

- Students will attend their local school site, M–F following the local school schedule.
- Students will have access to the same classes as they typically do (art, music, pe, etc).
- Students in grades 9–12 will still have 7 periods each day.

**INternet**

If you choose the online option your student will take their classes via the following online platforms:

- K–5: All courses will be delivered via Launch
- 6–12: All courses will be delivered via Edgenuity.
- Students enrolling in these options will not be receiving instruction from their classroom teacher. The platform will deliver all content. Courses available in the platforms will be available for students to choose from.
- This option is not available for Pre-K students.
- There will be a quarterly co-hort gathering for families who want to participate.
Transportation

Information about transportation of students

- Bus routes will still run for students attending in-person.
- Masks are required on school busses.
- Busses will load from back to front and students will have assigned seats.
- Busses will be sanitized daily.
- Social distance will be maintained to the extent possible.
Social Emotional Well Being

Information about counseling and co-hort services

- Counselors will be available to all students whether they are enrolled INperson or INternet.
- There will be a quarterly co-hort gathering for students and families who choose the INternet enrollment option.
- ACCESS Family Care and Ozark Center Services are also available to all students regardless of which enrollment option you choose.
FAQ’s
Here are some answers to questions you may have. If your question is not answered here please call your local school. We are here for YOU!

Q: Will my student be required to wear a mask?

A: Masks are recommended but parents have the discretion to choose to have their child wear or not wear a mask. The exception is on school buses where masks must be worn.
FAQ’s

Q: Will my student still have recess?

A: Recess is an important part of the school day. Students will still have recess in the grades that typically have recess. All staff are encouraged to make use of outdoor learning spaces at all grade levels.

FAQ’s

Q: Will my child’s temperature be checked each day at school?

A: All staff will have temperatures checked upon entry of school each day. Students will be screened at home by their parents. Please do not send your child to school with a temperature above 100.4°.
FAQ’s

Q:
Will social distancing be possible at school?

A:
A social distance of 3–6 ft is recommended by the American Association of Pediatrics. In classrooms, the 3 ft recommendation can be followed. We will also use social distancing in hallways by releasing groups in multiple phases and by grouping students for restroom breaks, etc. We will also follow the less than 5 minute guideline in instances when social distancing is difficult (ie arrival/dismissal).

FAQ’s

Q:
Will we have assemblies and field trips?

A:
Assemblies and field trips will be limited until local cases diminish and the health department in conjunction with the school district feels it is conducive to continue them.
FAQ’s

Q:
Where will my student eat lunch? Will the water fountains be used?

A:
In K-6 students will eat lunch in their classrooms. In grades 7-12 students will eat lunch in the lunchroom and social distancing will be used to the extent it is possible. An additional lunch period has also been added at MCHS to lessen the number of students in the cafeteria at one time.

Water fountains will be closed - students will be allowed to bring water bottles from home.

FAQ’s

Q:
What happens if a student tests positive for COVID-19?

A:
When a student tests positive for COVID-19 that student will be excluded from school a minimum of 10 days and must be symptom free for 72 hours before allowed to return to class. In addition,-all (masked and unmasked) students who have been within 6 feet of that student for 15 minutes or longer will also be excluded from attending school in person for 10 days. In addition, students who do not wear masks in the same classroom will be excluded from school for 10 days. Students who wear masks and are in the same classroom as the student testing positive, but were not in 6 feet of proximity for more than 15 minutes, will be allowed to remain in school.
FAQ’s

Q: What if I choose the INperson option and schools have to close due to a COVID outbreak or some other circumstance.

A: We have developed a state approved AMI (Alternative Method of Instruction) plan that will be put in place if we close for a short period of time, ex) a snow day. We have also developed a state approved AMI-X plan (Alternative Method Extended) plan that will be put in place if we must close for a longer period of time. In that instance we will allow students to take their devices home and will provide hotspots that can be checked out for those who need help with internet access.

Athletics

- All students wishing to participate in athletics/activities for the 2020–2021 school year are required to be attending on-site classes; virtual-only students will not be permitted to participate.
- MC Athletics Return-to-Play Plan: 
  - [https://docs.google.com/document/d/1gBWjaH9Anpw3d1L65bgohOPmA-C-omZUZHPeSvLX5JAk/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1gBWjaH9Anpw3d1L65bgohOPmA-C-omZUZHPeSvLX5JAk/edit?usp=sharing)
Every Child, Every Day, Whatever It Takes!
We want to help you!

The registration process is easy whether you choose INperson or INternet!

1. Choose an option INperson or INternet prior to August 17, 2020.

2. If you choose the INternet option, please go by your child’s school to pick up the INternet option application for enrollment. If you are a returning student & choose INperson, you do not need to do anything. Just show up on August 24th!

3. If you are already enrolled from previous years and are attending INperson, you do not need to re-enroll. If you are not already enrolled from a previous year click the box marked Enrollment Forms.
Let’s review!

You have options!

1. INperson
2. INternet
   - Please make your choice by August 17, 2020. If you choose the INternet option you must go by your child’s school to fill out the online learning application.

Let’s review!

INperson school operates much like school always has in the past!
The differences are:

- wearing a mask indoors is highly recommended
- strategic boarding of busses and assigned seats
- social distancing in place while indoors.
- lunch setting may be different than in past years.
Let’s review!

- The INternet option is 100% online learning.
- The content is delivered via an online platform. Students in this option complete all work at home.
- Students in both the INperson and the INternet option will have access to tutoring between 3:30– 4:30 multiple days a week. (the schedule for this tutoring in each building/option will be sent out at a later date.)
- Counseling services are available to all students regardless of which option you choose!
- INternet option students must remain in this option until the end of the semester.

We are stronger together!

Any questions?

If you would like to read the full district plan click here!
Please contact your local school administrator or email MCR1comments@mcdonaldr1.net with questions! We are here for YOU!
McDonald County School District  
COVID Plan 2020 (7/27)  
Safety Measures

OVERVIEW
McDonald County School District has prepared this living document for the health, wellness, and safety of our students and staff. As experts continue to learn more about COVID-19, this document will likely change and/or be amended. The updates/decisions made by McDonald County School District will be in conjunction with local and state health officials. **McDonald County School District will make every effort to maintain social distancing throughout the School year or until this pandemic is remedied.**

McDonald County R-I School District offers different learning programs. Parents can choose to enroll their children in one of two styles of instruction:
- Online: student attends school off-campus and receives all instruction virtually through Google Classroom or another grade level appropriate platform.
- In-Person: student attends all school on-campus and receives instruction in a traditional face-to-face classroom delivery approach.

DATES
August 24 (Onsite and virtual instruction begins)

LOCATIONS
- McDonald County High School (9-12)
- Mustang Academy (9-12)
- Anderson Middle School (6-8)
- Anderson Elementary (PK-5)
- Rocky Comfort School (PK-8)
- Pineville Primary (PK-2)
- Pineville School (3-8)
- White Rock (PK-8)
- Noel Elementary (3-8)
- Noel Primary (PK-2)
- Southwest City School (PK-8)

ONSITE TIMES (MONDAY-FRIDAY)
- McDonald County High School  (8am-3pm)  Doors Open at 7:30am
- Mustang Academy  (8am-3pm)  Doors Open at 7:30am
- Anderson Middle School  (8am-3pm)  Doors Open at 7:30am
- Anderson Elementary  (8am-3pm)  Doors Open at 7:45am
- Rocky Comfort School  (8am-3pm)  Doors Open at 7:30am
- Pineville Primary  (8am-3pm)  Doors Open at 7:30am
- Pineville School  (8am-3pm)  Doors Open at 7:45am
- White Rock  (8am-3pm)  Doors Open at 7:40am
- Noel Elementary  (8am-3pm)  Doors Open at 7:45am
- Noel Primary  (8am-3pm)  Doors Open at 7:30am
- Southwest City School  (8am-3pm)  Doors Open at 7:45am

Virtual ~ONLINE LEARNING OPTION
For students/families who do not feel comfortable with in-person school, McDonald County School District will offer online learning for students in grades K-12. A parent or guardian will need to register each student for virtual
instruction at their home school by August 17, 2020. A certified teacher will monitor student progress. All content is aligned with the Missouri Learning Standards. (This option is a semester-long commitment; a chromebook and internet may be provided for student use if needed; see your building principal for details.) If you choose the online option your student will take their classes via the following online platforms:

- K-5: All courses will be delivered via Launch
- 6-12: All courses will be delivered via Edgenuity.
- Students enrolling in these options may not be receiving instruction from their regular classroom teacher. The platform will deliver all content. Tutoring will be available MWF from 3:30 to 4:30 for INternet option students.
- This option is not available for Pre-K students.
- There will be a quarterly co-hort gathering for families who want to participate.

### TRANSPORTATION

McDonald County School District will provide transportation for school 2020 and will run a normal schedule.

- Drivers and aides will be trained on how to sanitize the bus after each use.
- Students will be assigned seats and social distancing will be observed.
- Families will be asked to sit together.
- We will leave an open seat whenever possible.
- Buses will be loaded from back to front in order to prevent crossover.
- Face masks will be worn by all employees and riders.
- Students not following riding guidelines will lose riding privileges.

### ARRIVAL

- Parent drop off will be car lane only to reduce the number of people entering the building.
- Parents should remain in their car during drop off.
- Please be mindful of students unloading during this time; do not pull your vehicle into motion until all students/staff are clear.
- Students will use hand sanitizer or wash hands upon arrival into classrooms.
- Common areas will be restricted where feasible.
- Students will report directly to their classrooms.
- Students dropped off by bus will be released according to social distancing recommended procedures.

### DISMISSAL

- All student pick-up will be through the car pick-up line.
- Parents should remain in the car to promote social distancing.
- Be mindful of students loading vehicles around you; do not pull your vehicle into motion until all students/staff are clear.
- Students riding the bus home will load from the back to the front according to their assigned seats.

### BREAKFAST/LUNCH/DINNER

- Breakfast and Lunch are provided; see district website for pricing and menus.
- All students will wash or sanitize hands before eating.
- All students K-8 at this time will eat breakfast and lunch in their classrooms or outside if possible.
- The High School will eat breakfast in their classrooms, socially distance and strategically assign classes to eating spaces around the high school. We have added a fourth lunch period to our schedule as well.
- Students bringing their own lunch need to make sure it is secured in a lunch bag and not handled by other students.
- Student dinners will again be provided to all students under the age of 18 following the above guidelines.

### CLASSROOMS

- Upon arrival students will report straight to their classroom and staff will monitor to ensure no congregating occurs.
- Social distancing strategies will be implemented in each classroom.
- All student desks will face the front of the classroom and not be clustered together.
- Students will be taught appropriate hygiene/COVID practices (Do the Five.) and encouraged to maintain distance from each other in school.
- Breaks will be scheduled for frequent restroom and handwashing needs.
- Encourage classes and employees to create their own hand signals to replace shaking hands, hugging or giving high-fives.
- Class sizes will follow current guidelines from the local health department; students and rooms arranged to follow distancing guidelines.
Appropriate measures will be taken for cleaning Chromebooks or other technology.
In order to avoid cross contamination, special classes will be conducted in the cohort classroom (PE class will be conducted in the gym or outside when weather permits).
Elementary students will be in one classroom for the duration of the day with the exception of arrival, dismissal, physical education, recess, and restroom breaks.
Middle school/Junior High/High school students will rotate following their individual schedules; extra time will be given during transition times to accommodate for staggered release times so students may observe social distancing procedures.
There will be no whole-school gatherings or assemblies of any kind. All communication from the school principal, including daily announcements will be conducted virtually.
Social distancing of at least 3-6 feet will be expected at all times in all classrooms.
Students in elementary school will have the same desk space for the duration of school to minimize exposure to the virus.
Students will not share supplies or devices to minimize exposure to the virus.
When lining up to leave the classroom, students will be socially distanced.
Teachers will offer several breaks and movement opportunities throughout the day to counteract the restrictions of staying in one room and not working in groups.
Students will bring their own personal water bottles and should be marked and kept at each student’s desk
  ○ With water fountains being closed, water bottles will be refilled at filling stations provided in each building

PASSING PERIODS/REST BREAKS
- Passing periods will be limited as much as possible.
- Movement throughout buildings will be reduced.
- Spacing of at least 6 feet will be marked in all hallways to help students and staff maintain safe social distance at all times. (signage should be posted around buildings to remind everyone to maintain social distancing practices)
- Teachers will communicate with other staff members/principals in regard to transition times and restroom breaks to ensure only one class is in a hallway at a time.
- Water fountains will be closed. Students should bring a water bottle from home each day.
- Restroom breaks will be scheduled hourly. With the exception of emergencies, students will not be permitted to leave the classroom to visit the restroom between breaks.
- Each classroom will have a dedicated restroom to minimize exposure to the virus. Only that classroom will be permitted to use that restroom.
- Every other urinal and sink will be marked out-of-order to ensure safe social distancing; toilet stalls having barriers will not need to be closed off.
- Maximum number of occupants allowed in a restroom will be posted and teachers will monitor this.
- Students will be taught how to wash their hands properly. Teachers will model this hourly.
- The custodial staff will disinfect all restroom surfaces between scheduled restroom breaks using a safe and effective EPA approved disinfectant purchased by the school district.

VISITORS/VOLUNTEERS
- Parents must call ahead if they have a need to visit the school, outside of an emergency situation.
- No lunch guests or volunteers will be permitted.
- Visitors, except for outside necessary employees providing student instruction and student services, will not be allowed in the building.

PLAYGROUNDS
- Elementary students will participate in daily outdoor recess, weather permitting.
- Teachers will communicate with their principal to schedule recess times that are staggered and do not allow classrooms to co-mingle.
- Play will include no-contact activities.
- Classroom recess equipment used should be disinfected daily.
- Handwashing/sanitizer upon re-entry of buildings.

CLEANING/HYGIENE
- Cleaning with COVID and EPA approved products for frequently touched hard, non-porous surfaces (counters, tabletops, stair rails, doorknobs, bathroom fixtures, toilets, drinking fountains) (CLEANING PROCEDURES)
- Classrooms will be disinfected with COVID and EPA approved products daily.
- Hand sanitizer dispensers will be installed throughout the building.
- Students and families will be provided with best practices for hygiene during the school day and upon arriving at home.
Only trained staff will be allowed to clean classroom surfaces. (Students will clean up at their own workstation if a mess occurs during instruction).

HEALTH SERVICES

- School staff will enter through a designated door where they will be screened upon entry.
- Encourage parents to check their child's temperature every morning before school.
- Each attendance site will have either an RN or a health assistant.
- Students will be asked to wash hands while visiting the nurse.
- Students will be sent home for any symptoms of cough/cold/fever >100.
  - A note from the child’s health care provider or the health department will be required upon returning to school.
- Nursing staff will wash hands and clean health room surfaces (cot, counters, chair, etc.) in between each student seen. (Only students who require daily medications or have scrapes and bumps will be seen in the nurse's office.)
- Students who are ill will be moved to a separate room to be checked by the nurse and will be kept there until parents pick them up. (This room will be cleaned after each student has been seen.)
- School Nurses will provide COVID safety materials to faculty and staff.
- If you have medication for your child, please schedule a time with the school nurse to drop it off.
- Encourage parents to screen students at home prior to sending to school.

PPE/FACE COVERINGS

- Use of personal masks will be allowed for students.
- Masks are required for all staff while indoors while in the presence of other staff and students.
- Parents who send their child with a mask should teach them appropriate usage.
- If a mask or other PPE is disruptive to the educational environment the administrator may call the parent/guardian.
- Use of masks will be required for all staff and students on all K-12 bus transportation.
- Masks are HIGHLY RECOMMENDED while in the school buildings or other school facilities for students in K-12 and highly recommended that ALL students wear them during passing times in the hallways/common areas or when social distancing can not take place.

MCDONALD COUNTY SCHOOLS ACTION PLAN IF CONFIRMED COVID-19 CASE

- Contact the central office/Joy. Central office will then contact the Health Dept.
- Identify students and staff who have been in contact with the suspected individual.
- Notify the Director of Operations for cleaning protocol for specific incident.
- Perform target cleaning and disinfection of frequently touched hard, non-porous surfaces (counters, tabletops, stair rails, doorknobs, bathroom fixtures, toilets, drinking fountains).
- Inspect areas with the Director of Operations to determine readiness for re-entry.
- Verify with the Central Office prior to re-entry.
- Each building will identify a care room for housing sick students—this room will be separated, as much as possible, from the rest of the student population.

TEMPORARY CLOSURES

The Superintendent may temporarily close one or more schools for appropriate cleaning and planning if he determines daily student attendance has been significantly impacted by COVID-19 infections. All students affected by such a temporary closure would transition to a virtual schedule until the school reopens. All measures outlined in this policy are temporary and subject to further review and change based on information received from local, state, and federal officials. The superintendent and designees will continue to monitor available data including local case counts and recommendations from the local health department.

SOCIAL EMOTIONAL WELL BEING

- Counselors will be available to all students whether they are enrolled In Person or Virtually.
- There will be a quarterly co-hort gathering for students and families who choose the Virtual enrollment option.
- ACCESS Family Care and Ozark Center Services are also available to all students regardless of which enrollment option you choose.

ATHLETICS

- The athletic department has created its own guidelines and procedures at the recommendation of MSHSAA and the Big 8 conference. MCDONALD COUNTY ATHLETICS GUIDELINES