

SAFE RETURN & CONTINUITY OF SERVICES STERLING PUBLIC SCHOOLS 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR

The last two school years have provided numerous barriers for Sterling Public Schools in educating our students. While we were able to have in-person school in 20-21, and the threat of COVID 19 seems to be waning, we know that we must continue to be ready to act, if needed to continue to provide a safe and secure school for our students. This is our Reopening Plan for the 2021-2022 school year. Please, contact Superintendent, Kent Lemons with any questions at (580) 365-4307, or by email at klemons@sterlingtigers.org.

Any COVID 19 situation that may arise will require the Superintendent to contact the Comanche County Health Department, or the Oklahoma State Health Department. The County or State Health Department will direct any action that is taken for isolation.

School Year

Traditional School is planned for the year with plans for Virtual Days if required.

As always, teachers are available for parents & students to access for questions.

An off campus, virtual option is available for a limited number of qualifying students who must commit to one full semester as virtual student.

Students with disabilities will be served based upon their IEP or 504 plan, and accommodations will be in place with respect to health and safety policies.

Transportation

Parents are encouraged to bring their child to school.

We encourage parents to check the student's temperature prior to sending them to the bus.

If temperature checks during bus routes are determined to be necessary, students that are running a temperature over 100° will not be allowed on the bus.

We count on the parents to decide if the student is healthy enough to board the bus.

Disinfectant spray will be used on buses.

Masks are required on buses.

Temperature Screenings

While many options for screening were considered, i.e. at the door, in the classroom, or on an as needed basis, we feel the best option for screening begins at home.

Do not send students to school sick/ with a temperature of 100° or more

If a student is sent home with a temperature, parent should not send the student back until fever free for 24 hours (The student must be fever free without Tylenol, Motrin, or other medication)

COVID-19 Screening

The school will have communication with State health officials, Comanche County health Department and tribal health officials to determine any need for COVID 19 testing, vaccinations, quarantine, and/or mask policies.

The school has and will continue, in coordination with state, local, and tribal health officials, to provide vaccination opportunities for the staff, students, and community.

COVID-19 testing is greatly encouraged for anyone who has symptoms.

Social Distancing

Masks were recommended for all of 2020-21 school year, but for the 2021-22 school year masks will only be encouraged and not required by students or staff unless state and local officials determine it necessary to require masks at school.

Staff and students will be shown the universal and correct way to wear a mask.

Sneeze guards are available for reception desks at each school and in the cafeteria.

Building access will be controlled to prevent outside exposure.

Classroom desks will be spaced apart to achieve the CDC recommended distancing (3ft) when possible.

Athletics/ Gatherings/Field Trips

Care will be taken to ensure sanitized facilities including dressing areas with floors ready for cleaning.

Field trips will be limited, but still considered on a case-by-case basis.

Any student who participates in competitive activities/athletics governed by OSSAA is required to attend school on campus.

Hygiene Practices

Hygiene lessons, such as handwashing and respiratory etiquette, will be added to daily curriculum (in the classroom, in building announcements, etc.)

Hand sanitizer, Clorox wipes, and masks will be part of the students supply lists. These lists will be put out ASAP in order to give parents ample opportunity to purchase them.

Custodial staff will receive extra training in daily sanitizing.

Buildings will be fogged by sanitizing spray frequently to reduce exposure.

Air filters will be changed promptly to improve sanitation and ventilation.

Hand sanitizer will be available in hallways, offices, and classrooms.

Use of touchless bottle fillers will continue to replace traditional fountains.

Attendance Policies

Attendance policies will be relaxed for cases involving COVID-19 to provide for additional absences and to encourage sick staff and students to remain at home.

Site committees will be in place to consider exceptions for medical absences related to COVID-19

School Meals

Students will eat in the cafeteria with physical distancing when possible.

Cafeteria staff will serve everyone from the serving line.

Share stations will be limited.

Condiments will be provided in packets instead of common-use areas.

Student Devices

Chromebooks and iPads will be available to Check-out for virtual days.

No deposit will be required for checked out devices; however, damage of the device will be charged the same as a textbook that is checked out and damaged.

Devices will be checked out the school day before any virtual day, and will be due the day the student returns to the school building for the next regular school day.