



Verden Public Schools

Return to Learn Plan

2023-2024

Updated 6/2023

Traditional Option:

This option will be for regular attendance and classroom instruction. We have outlined below a few adjustments that will need to be made in order to maintain a healthy and safe environment for our students. All items are subject to change based on information from the State Department of Education, CDC, or local health care agencies.

Before School/Arrival

- Buses will run routes as normal
 - All parents who can are strongly encouraged to transport their students to and from school.
 - Hand Sanitizer will be available on the bus
 - Siblings will be allowed to sit together.
 - Students will be assigned seats and will maintain that seat daily as needed.
 - Buses will be disinfected after every trip.
- All Elementary Students will go to the cafeteria

- All 8th graders and HS students will eat breakfast in the classroom at the high school after the 1st hour.
- Hand Sanitizer stations will be located at each door and the entrance to each classroom.

Cafeteria:

- Students will be separated by class at a safe distance
- Lunch will be limited by class to maintain distance between students.
- All tables and seats will be disinfected after each class leaves the cafeteria.
- All servers will wear gloves and a mask according to Keystone requirements.

Recess:

- Recess times will be staggered to limit the number of classes and students on the playground at one time as needed.

Physical Education:

- Classes will be separated into different areas to limit contact with students from a different class as needed.
- Any equipment used during class will be disinfected after each class period.
- Students will bring water bottles with them and students will not be allowed to use water fountains.

Classrooms:

- Masks will be optional but not mandatory.
- ***This is dependent on the governor declaring a state of emergency.***
- **Universal and Correct Wearing of Mask:** Properly fitted mask covering the nose and mouth will be worn on buses and in situations where students can't social distance during times of orange or red alert according to the Oklahoma State Department of Health's COVID Alert Map.

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- Students will be socially distanced as much as class size and activities will allow as needed depending on current alert level and recommendation by the State Health Department.
 - **Modifying Facilities for Social Distancing:** Common Areas of the school will be marked with signs and other markings to encourage and show current spacing for social distancing. Groups of students in common classrooms will be kept together outside of the traditional classroom setting where possible to limit exposure between students.
 - **Handwashing and Respiratory Etiquette:** Students will review proper handwashing and respiratory etiquette at the beginning of the school year. Signage will be in the buildings to help remind students of these protocols. Hand sanitizer stations will be readily available in all classrooms, entrances, bathrooms, and other common areas around the district.
 - Hand sanitizer will be available in all classrooms throughout the day.
 - All high touch surfaces and classrooms will be disinfected daily.
 - **Cleaning and Maintaining Healthy Facilities including Improving Ventilation:** Verden Public Schools uses industrial misting and fogging machines to sanitize classrooms, buses and common seating areas in the district.

Visitors:

- Visitors will be welcome in the buildings for school activities. They may be limited to essential business only as the risk in our area increases. (i.e. IEP meetings)
- As COVID numbers have increased parents will be limited to office area to drop off materials, etc. instead of going to the classroom.
- Parents picking up students during the day will wait outside the door and their child will come out if in red alert level.
- Dismissal at the end of the day parents will need to wait in their vehicle to eliminate congregating at the entrance.

Students/Teacher Illness:

- Any student or teacher who develops a fever during the day will be taken to a designated waiting room. The student will wait until picked up by a parent.
- If they have symptoms related to COVID-19 they will need to be symptom free for 5 days, fever free for 48 hours without medication, or produce a letter from a licensed physician/ health department of a negative test.
- Any student or teacher who had close contact with an individual who tests positive, which is defined as within 3 feet for 15 minutes or longer, will be recommended to self-quarantine for 5 calendar days, from last contact.
- **Contact Tracing, Isolation, and Quarantine:** Verden Public Schools Superintendent has attended Zoom and In person meetings and trainings to stay current on CDC Guidance and Oklahoma State Department of Health Regulations regarding COVID prevention, isolation, and quarantine to maintain a healthy environment that allows for continued in-person instruction.
- **Diagnostic and Screening Testing:** Verden Public Schools remains in close contact with the County Health Department as well as local health organizations who offer assistance to our employees and students for screening and vaccinations.
- **Vaccination Efforts for the School Community:** Verden Public Schools offered immunizations to all school staff through the Oklahoma Department of Health and the Chickasaw Nation. Also through the Chickasaw Nation they offered immunizations to family members of school staff. We continue to work with local groups to coordinate vaccine efforts.

Confirmed Case Outbreak:

- In the event Verden Public Schools or the town of Verden experiences an outbreak of confirmed COVID-19 cases, additional steps and precautions will be implemented. These precautions can range anywhere from meals in classrooms, mandatory face masks while outside the classroom, to school closure/virtual instruction for all students. These decisions are not made lightly and all options will be considered. The health and safety of our students and community will continue to be our top priority. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation as we navigate through these unprecedented times.

Virtual Option:

- Available for students in grades K-12.
- This fully online option is for those families that have high risk members or have someone in their household who has contracted Covid-19.
- A Curriculum Management System will be used for online instruction and will be supervised by a certified teacher.
 - K-7 Lexia, IXL, Renaissance Freckle, and Online Curriculum Resources
 - 8-12 Edgenuity
- Contact with students and parents by phone, email, messaging.
- Google Meets sessions will be conducted periodically
- Arrangements for is available upon request
- State required assessments must be completed
- Assignments, tests, and lessons will have to be completed daily and in a timely manner to meet attendance requirements.
- Daily attendance requirements will still apply to virtual students.
- Technology and the internet will be provided as needed and where available.
- Students can participate in athletics and extracurricular activities, but will be required to attend practices if they are going to compete in games.
- This option will require a pre-enrollment meeting with the site principal.
- You must email your interest no later than July 26th to the building principal.
 - ttaylor@verdenschools.org
 - rbeer@verdenschools.org

Appropriate accommodations for Students with Disabilities with respect to health and safety policies: ESSER Covid relief funds have been used to provide students with disabilities materials and technology needed to continue their education during remote learning. Verden Schools works with each individual to develop a plan for them to be successful during these interruptions.