

Omaha Street School Return to School Plan

***This information is subject to change based on community spread and directed health measures as outlined by the State of Nebraska and guidance from the Nebraska Department of Education.**

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Introduction and Priorities

As a school, our staff looks forward to welcoming students back to school on August 18th. Despite the challenges that come with COVID-19, our school will continue to provide an excellent education to our students. At this time, we are dedicated to an in-person experience for all of our champions. As the public health crisis continues, we have been planning for a safe opening of the 2020-21 school year with a focus on the health, safety and well-being of our staff, students and community. While we are planning for an in-person return to normal operations, we will continue to follow state and CDC directed health measures and guidelines.

The situation with COVID-19 is continuously changing, as are the protocols and measures needed to keep students and staff safe. Plans will remain flexible to accommodate potential changes and these guidelines may be modified as needed. As adjustments may be necessary throughout the coming school year, it will be our priority to keep families informed of those changes and updates. We will use our website, the REMIND app, and text messages to keep everyone informed.

Nebraska Guidance for a Safe Return to Schools for Students

The Nebraska Department of Education has released guidance for schools: [Safe Return Link](#). We will adjust our educational practices as circumstances dictate.

In-Person Learning

Students and teachers will attend class in-person, five days a week for our full day (8am-3:15pm), with additional safety measures in alignment with state and federal guidelines and recommendations. We will adjust our educational practices as circumstances dictate.

- In this setting, teachers will provide face-to-face instruction, learning resources and support utilizing our new student information system, SIMS and Microsoft Teams.
- Teachers will plan instruction that is quickly and easily transferable from in-person learning to a hybrid-remote (as we used from March through May), or a totally remote plan in the event of another temporary school closure due to COVID-19 community spread.
- Again, at this time, we are preparing for in-person learning and will not offer remote learning opportunities. We are leaning on the recommendations of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) in determining that we can safely open our school for in-person learning. The CDC's decision tree flowchart for opening schools during the pandemic can be found [here](#).

Students with Disabilities

We will seek guidance from [Launch Nebraska](https://www.launchne.com), (<https://www.launchne.com>) the Nebraska Department of Education's Resource Guide for transitioning back to normal operations as well as how to best support students with disabilities.

Facilities, Safety and Wellness

Specific Practices & Considerations


Topic	Fundamental Practice	Other Considerations
Entering the building	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students, families, & volunteers will only enter the building at the main North entrance• Parents who drop off kids are asked to wait until confirmation of temperature check before driving away• All will have temperature checked via infra-red thermometer.• All are required to wear masks in common areas.• Students will experience two temperature checks per day (entry, before lunch)• Upon entering, all are to use hand sanitizer	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• UNL has donated 36 gallons of hand sanitizer• Students will have access to zip lock bags in which to place masks in when not in use• Post signage around building reminding all about sanitization efforts and masks.

Topic	Fundamental Practice	Other Considerations
<p style="text-align: center;">Cleaning</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At the beginning and ending of each day, staff will spray an air deodorizer solution in their classrooms that is designed to fall from a higher elevation and coat all surfaces underneath. Once the spray is used, staff will leave their classrooms for approximately five minutes and then return. The solution does not require surfaces to be wiped afterwards. • Staff will do the same in common areas before leaving the building for the day. • Students will assist in keeping classrooms, frequently touched surfaces (doorknobs, light switches, table tops, keyboards, mice, monitors, faucet handles, bathroom knobs, and chair arms.) cleaned and sanitized • Restrooms should be cleaned immediately after student use. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EPA/CDC compliant cleaners on frequently touched surfaces each period after hallway movement is another layer of protection. • PPE for those performing cleaning tasks should be washed daily. • Thrown or shared objects used within a contained group should have a way that hands/object cleaning is done between each group after play concludes. •

Topic	Fundamental Practice	Other Considerations
<p style="text-align: center;">Managing Personal Exposure and Transmission</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff and students will be expected to wear masks in common spaces such as the cafeteria, hallways, and the Champion Success Center. In classrooms, if social distancing can be maintained, masks will not be required. In the event that social distancing can't be maintained, masks are required. • Lockers will not be assigned and used this year. Students will store personal belongings and bookbags in the same closet used to lock away cell phones • No mouth drinking from fountains. • Water bottles will be provided for all. • Students will not be permitted to bring in outside drinks or share drinks. • Breakfast will be served upstairs in the Champion Success Center (CSC) upstairs. After students have gone through morning security procedures, they will proceed up the East stairwell to the CSC where Ms. Reimer will individually serve breakfast to students from the school store. Students will NOT be permitted to enter the school store. • Six feet distance between students. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will provide disposable masks for visitors and volunteers who arrive to the building without one. • Students and staff will be provided several cloth masks that will be collected each day and laundered. • The CDC recommends wearing face masks. Here is the link: Cloth Face Coverings & Masks • Tape off and/or cover water fountains • Communicate water drinking policy to parents and students • Students will be given clear plastic labeled pencil bags to carry supplies including personal use Kleenex and hand sanitizer. • Food served by staff wearing PPE • Single serve use silverware whenever possible • Plexiglass between servers and diners • Increased monitoring during breakfast and lunch • Random wellness checks • Training lunch volunteers and staff on PPE and food-handling • All food items served to students by staff or volunteers. Students will not be able to enter school store or basement kitchen

Topic	Fundamental Practice	Other Considerations
<p style="text-align: center;">Potential & Positive Case Response</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ∓ OSS will follow guidance from the Douglas County Health Department and the CDC. ∓ If a student becomes sick with COVID-19 symptoms during the school day, he/she will be separated/quarantined from remaining students/staff until transportation can be arranged and then sent home. ∓ We will work with the Health Department regarding our communication in the case of a possible exposure. Families will receive a communication from the principal if their child was identified as a direct/close contact. ∓ Health Departments will work with schools to consider the following questions when determining how that case will impact others in their classroom and/or school building: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the level of community spread outside the school building? 2. Was the individual with COVID-19 wearing a mask most of the time? 3. Were other students and staff masked who were within 6 feet of the individual with COVID-19 for more than 15 minutes? 4. Did the individual with COVID-19 interact with a large number of students and staff throughout their day? 5. To what extent is the school community implementing other non-pharmaceutical interventions (hand washing, hand sanitizers, etc.)? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Train staff/students/families on the Protocol from CDC and Health Dept. • Possibility of closing school to in-person learning for a period of 14 days • Switch to hybrid or remote learning • Use Remind App and/or email/phone calls/texts to inform the school community. • Professional cleaning/sanitizing of entire building • Please visit Douglas County's Where To Get Tested? link for relevant information. • Douglas County also has a live Dashboard for residents to check on COVID-19 data. • The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services Directed Health Measure 2020 can be accessed at the following link: DCHD-004. • Here is a list of frequently asked questions and answers surrounding COVID-19 provided by the CDC. • The following directions have been created by the CDC as it relates to quarantining classrooms and/or the school should there be a possible exposure. <p>The answers to questions 1 – 5 in the first column will help determine:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) the number of close contacts 2) if the close contacts who are not symptomatic may stay in the classroom 3) the number of other students and staff who will need to be quarantined <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •

Screening Criteria for the Re-Admittance of Sick Students and Staff




Public Health Recommendations for the Screening, Exclusion, and Re-Admittance of Ill Students and Staff for COVID-19 in Schools

The following symptom screening criteria for ill students and staff is based on the most current research. Because people with COVID-19 have reported a wide range of symptoms – ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness, the following criteria has been developed to assist schools in identifying presumptive positive COVID-19 cases.

Students with two of the following: fever (measured or subjective), chills, cold/shivering, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea

OR

At least one of the following: new cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, loss of taste and smell



Students and staff who screen positive should be immediately isolated in the designated area and sent home as soon as possible. Require the symptomatic person to wear a surgical or procedure mask while waiting, if tolerable.

Re-Admittance to School

Staff and students who test positive:	Staff and students not tested:	Symptomatic staff/student who tests negative:
<p>Exclude for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - At least 10 days since symptoms first appeared <p>AND:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - At least 24 hours with no fever without fever-reducing medication <p>AND:</p> <p>Symptoms have improved</p>	<p>Exclude for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - At least 10 days since symptoms first appeared <p>AND:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - At least 24 hours with no fever without fever-reducing medication <p>AND:</p> <p>Symptoms have improved</p> <p>May return to school if a doctor establishes an alternative diagnosis and presents a doctor's note.</p>	<p>Exclude until fever free for 24 hours (or meets the schools requirements for readmission) AND improved respiratory symptoms</p>

There is no reason for a student or staff member to get a "negative test" to be cleared for the return to school. A COVID-19 positive individual does not need a repeat COVID-19 test or a doctor's note in order to return.

If a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19, please call the Douglas County Health Department at 402.444.7214.

WELLNESS

Medical services

- Our school will have a readily available contact with a medical professional who can consult over students/adults presenting with mixed symptoms that make decisions difficult.
- Our school will have a readily available contact with a county health department designee to receive case information/updates.

Social-Emotional Support

- Our HUDL program will continue to be an integral part of how the Omaha Street School supports students.

Large Group Gatherings

The current recommendation is that all schools avoid large group gatherings such as New Family Nights, Curriculum Nights, Back to School Nights, parent-teacher conferences, all-school assemblies, school dances, development or advancement events, and so on. If we cannot properly adhere to social distancing guidelines, we will consider alternative formats to interact with families and benefactors that would keep everyone at a safe distance and protected.