

Challis School District #181

Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan

March 9, 2022

Introduction:

Our goal is to keep schools open while addressing the conditions related to COVID-19. It is the district's responsibility to provide a safe and healthy learning environment for all students, and a safe and healthy work environment for staff. Our plan considers guidelines provided by Eastern Idaho Public Health, The Idaho State Board of Education, the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare, and the Governor.

This plan will be updated with meaningful stakeholder input no less frequently than every 6 months for the duration of the ARP ESSER grant period ending September 2023. Stakeholders will be informed by either email, automated phone calls and/or the schools Facebook pages that the plan is available for review on the district's website. Stakeholders will be encouraged to provide input through email, surveys and/or phone calls. The reviewed and updated plan will be presented for Board approval no less frequently than every 6 months at a regularly scheduled Board meeting.

The decision-making hierarchy for operating our schools under COVID-19 conditions is as follows:

1. Local Board of Trustees
2. Eastern Idaho Public Health Department
3. State Board of Education
4. Idaho Department of Health and Welfare
5. Governor

On June 3, 2021, the EIPH Board of Health officially retired the EIPH COVID-19 Regional Response Plan. This was done in response to very low active cases throughout our health district's eight-county region for some time. However, to maintain situational awareness for the public, EIPH will continue to maintain their COVID-19 Data Dashboard for the foreseeable future.

Quarantine Guidelines

Challis School District will notify families if their student has been exposed through email, voice call, text and/or mail. It is the parent's responsibility to monitor symptoms and seek medical advice.

STAY HEALTHY RECOMMENDATIONS:

Students will attend school fulltime, and schools will implement the following reasonable procedures in accordance with health guidance:

- If a local or state mask mandate is in place, schools will follow required guidelines.
- Buildings will be routinely cleaned and disinfected throughout the school day and at the end of each school day and events.
- Handwashing will be encouraged.

- Hand sanitizer will be available in classrooms and throughout buildings.
- Inside doors will be propped open when appropriate.
- Symptom screening for sick students and staff will be conducted, and students and staff who exhibit symptoms will be required to go home.
- Health guidelines for assemblies and gatherings (including Eastern Idaho Public Health, State Board of Education, Department of Health and Welfare, and the Governor) will be followed.
- School schedules, including lunch times, may be adjusted to reduce the number of students in one location.
- Elementary beginning and end-of-day procedures may be adjusted for individual classrooms.
- Outside use of district facilities may be limited and require superintendent approval.

Classroom Safety Practices

- Social distancing will be implemented where possible and reasonable.
- Students will be issued individual Chromebooks.
- Limited use of shared materials and supplies will be maintained.
- Hard copies of instructional materials will be minimized.

Academic Needs

Students will be issued individual Chromebooks for use during school and during Stay-At-Home Conditions. Teachers are trained to provide remote instruction during quarantines or Stay-At-Home Conditions.

In-school intervention support will be provided to elementary students in reading and math. Advisory time will be used at the Jr. Sr. High for small group support in academics. Credit recovery will be provided through Idaho Digital Learning Alliance.

Athletics and Activities

The district will monitor the status of COVID-19 conditions throughout the area on an ongoing basis. Guidelines and recommendations from state and local health officials and the Idaho High Schools Activities Association will be followed.

Challis School District athletes and coaches will also follow District guidelines and local guidelines at away events. The following steps should be taken by athletes, participants, coaches, officials, and staff:

- All facilities and frequently used items and surfaces will be cleaned and sanitized prior to any activity by wiping down all hard surfaces.
- Sports equipment, such as balls, weights, etc. will be sanitized before and after each use.
- Hand sanitizers will be available.
- Monitor athletes, participants, and staff for signs and/or symptoms of COVID-19 prior to any workout, practice, game, event, etc. Any person with symptoms of COVID-19 will not be allowed to participate and should contact their primary care

provider or other appropriate health care official. In the event of any person testing positive for COVID-19, that person will be allowed to return to participation only after the district receives documentation from a medical official stating the person is safe to return and participate in District activities.

- Wash hands with soap and water or use hand sanitizer.
- No sharing of water bottles. Individual bottles must be clearly marked.

Transportation to and from Events:

- Activity busses will be cleaned and disinfected prior to loading and departure.
- Windows will be opened as practical for ventilation.
- No person with signs of symptoms of COVID-19 will be allowed to ride activity busses.

School Bus Safety

Disinfecting of each bus will occur at the end of each route.

Social Emotional Needs

The district has entered into a MOU with Challis Area Health Center for additional counseling to support students in the elementary and Jr. Sr. High school. The elementary and Jr. Sr. high school counselors will provide social emotional instruction to elementary and Jr./Sr. high school students. Staff will receive Safe Schools training to address the social emotional needs of students and others more effectively.

Administration will provide support to students and staff.

Stay-at-Home Conditions

This model will be used in extreme conditions which could include a local or state stay-at-home order. Schools will be closed, and remote learning will be enacted for all students unless special circumstances apply. Individual Chromebooks will be provided to students, and teachers will utilize Microsoft Office Teams and/or OTUS as the learning management system.

Special circumstances include students with Individual Education Plans and identified at-risk status. Buildings will be closed to the general public except by appointment. Athletics and other extracurricular activities will be suspended. Meals will be available through delivery or pickup.

OUTSIDE USE OF DISTRICT FACILITIES

Outside use of district facilities will require principal and superintendent approval and must meet district, Eastern Idaho Public Health, State Board of Education, Idaho Department of Health and Welfare, and Governor's Guidelines. No outside use of district facilities will be allowed during Stay-At-Home Conditions.

How can parents/guardians support their students during COVID-19 conditions?

- Screen your child every morning before sending them to school. It is important that sick students and staff not be present at school.
- Report to the school within 30 minutes and take your children home if they are sick or has a fever, cough, congestion, runny nose, or any other symptom related to COVID-19.
- Do not send your child to school if they have had close contact (within 6 feet for more than 15 minutes) with someone testing positive for COVID-19 and notify the school.
- Do not send your child to school if your child has tested positive for COVID-19 and notify the school of the positive test.
- Follow guidance from your health provider.

COVID-19 FAQ

What if someone in a building is confirmed to have COVID-19 by health professionals?

Challis School District will notify families if their student has been exposed. Follow quarantine guidelines and CSD Policy 3520 and IC 33-5212.7

Determine specific locations where the infected person occupied the building. These locations will be immediately sanitized and/or vacated.

Whether schools are closed will be determined case-by-case.

What are employee expectations?

- Employees will be required to meet the expectations of their job description.
- All employees are expected to report to work during all COVID-19 conditions unless one of the following types of leave is used:
 - FLMA leave,
 - Sick leave,
 - Personal leave, or
 - Vacation leave.
 - The exception is a stay-at-home order from Eastern Idaho Public Health or a State and/or local government agency.
- Employees are not expected or encouraged to work during leave. A substitute will be provided to deliver lesson plans developed by the classroom teacher, paraprofessional, or other employee.
- Reasonable accommodations may be made to employees with disabilities so long as the accommodation does not place an undue hardship on the Challis School District.