

YELLOW SPRINGS SCHOOLS

Bulldog Blueprint 3.0: 2nd Semester Transition Plan December 2020

Introduction

COVID-19 is still a pandemic, and as such, is a risk for everyone. November of 2020 saw the largest number of COVID-19 cases since the pandemic began. Despite this, Yellow Springs Schools still must plan for an eventual return to in-person education. With a return to in-person instruction in the second semester, students and adults will have a small risk of contracting the disease. With appropriate safety precautions, this risk can be highly mitigated. As our in-person Wednesdays have demonstrated, face-to-face contact allows for students to connect with their teachers and peers in ways that are not easily managed in a virtual environment. Returning to school in-person also allows for parents/families to return to work without the worry of monitoring daily schooling at home. Of course, all of this must be done thoughtfully and cautiously. This plan lays out the procedures for returning to school on a 50% basis, 4 days a week, tentatively set to begin, at the start of the second semester, January 19, 2021. This plan also details the conditions whereby we would continue to stay 100% remote, or eventually move to 100% in-person instruction.

Please note: To allow for sufficient quarantine time after the Winter Break, Yellow Springs Schools will not have Safe Centers for Online Learning from Tuesday, January 5 through Friday, January 9, nor in-person activities on Wednesday, January 6, 2021. There will be only remote learning the week of January 5-8, 2021.

General Health & Safety Guidelines

As we return to a more robust in-person environment, we must all follow basic health guidelines. Everyone involved in the system is asked to do the following:

1. Perform Daily Symptom Checks



COVID-19 Symptoms
Help prevent the spread of COVID-19

You may have COVID-19 if you experience one or more of the following:

- Fever or chills.
- Cough.
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing.
- Fatigue.
- Muscle or body aches.
- Headache.
- Loss of taste or smell.
- Sore throat.
- Congestion or runny nose.
- Nausea or vomiting.
- Diarrhea.



Symptoms range from mild to severe and may appear two to 14 days after exposure to the virus.



Ohio | Department of Health

- Parents/families **MUST** be vigilant in assessing their children for COVID symptoms. Ohio Department of Health guidelines indicate that children (and adults) should be kept home from school if they exhibit one or more of the following symptoms and should see their primary care doctor to be assessed for COVID-19:
 - A student with a fever of 100.4 F or higher should stay home **without exception.**
 - **Any** of the following symptoms: cough, shortness of breath, or difficulty breathing; or,
 - **Two** of the following symptoms: fever (measured or subjective), chills, rigors (chills with shivering), myalgia (muscle pain), headache, sore

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- throat, new loss of taste or smell, gastro-intestinal issues (nausea/vomiting or diarrhea); or
- **Any** of the following symptoms: cough, shortness of breath, or difficulty breathing, fever (measured or subjective), chills, rigors (Chills with shivering), myalgia (muscle pain), headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, GI Issues (nausea and vomiting or diarrhea) **AND** an epidemiological link to a case of COVID-19.
 - Throughout the day, teachers and staff will monitor student behavior and physical appearance. As needed, they may request a student see the school nurse for a more detailed health screening should they exhibit any signs of COVID-19 symptoms as identified by the Ohio Department of Health.
 - If a student or staff member is suspected of having COVID-19 while at school, the following steps will occur:
 - Immediately isolate (to our identified COVID-19 isolation spaces) the individual if they are present in the school building. The individual (student/child) is to return home as quickly as possible. Parents will be called if the individual is a student.
 - School nurses will use standard transmission-based precautions when caring for sick individuals. Our nurses will be trained by Greene County Public Health.
 - Transportation to a healthcare facility, if required, will be done with consultation of Greene County Public Health and Miami Township Fire Department.
 - The Communicable Disease Nurse at Greene County Public Health will be contacted.
 - Areas of the building where the individual spent more than 30 minutes will be closed. After at least 24 hours, and longer if practicable, the area will be disinfected with an approved COVID-19 sanitizer.
 - The district will work with Greene County Public Health to determine if a school closure is warranted and determine whether any other actions must be taken.
 - Specify to parents in which classroom/bus/school/other area the confirmed case was.

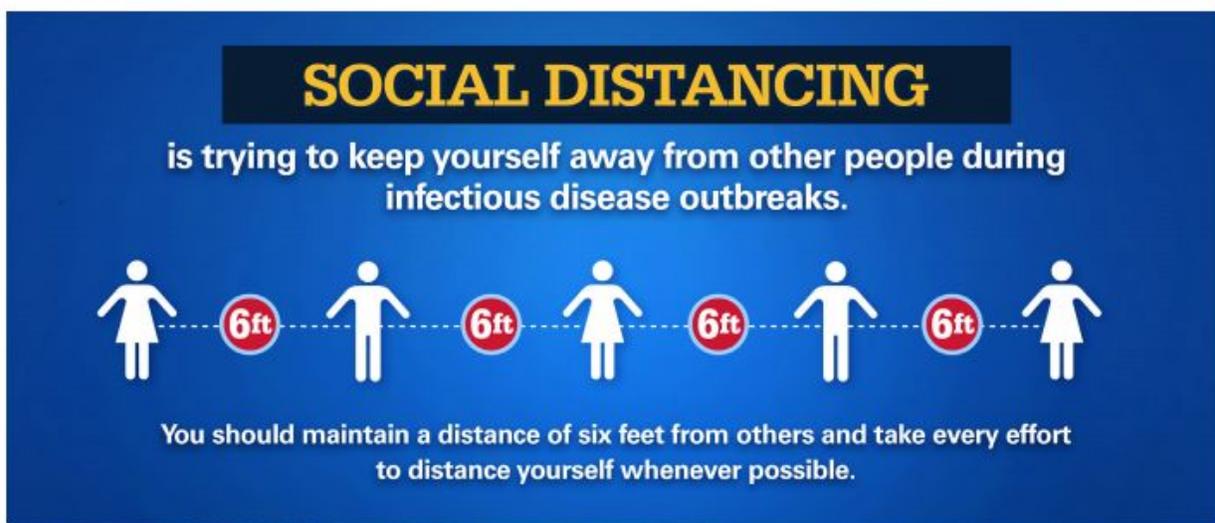
2. *Wear a Mask*



- Face masks are **REQUIRED** at Yellow Springs Schools for all students and staff. This is a requirement based on science. Exceptions to this will be made by the superintendent in consultation with Greene County Public Health, as there may be unique circumstances where this is not feasible or medically recommended (see below). Face masks shall not be required when:
 - Face masks in the school setting are prohibited by law or regulation.
 - Face masks are in violation of documented industry standards.
 - Face masks are not advisable for health reasons.
 - Face masks are in violation of the school's documented safety policies.
 - Face masks are not required when the staff works alone in an assigned work area.
 - There is a functional (practical) reason for a staff member or student not to wear a facial covering in the workplace.
- Because staff is more at risk for serious infection of COVID-19, social distancing and face masks are imperative. However, because we work with children, staff cannot guarantee that distance will be maintained. When it cannot, staff must utilize the appropriate PPE for each situation.
 - Face masks are required at all times.

- Face masks and face shields must be worn when less than 6 feet of distance cannot be maintained between the staff member and the student.
- Face masks, face shields, gloves and gowns must be worn at all times when the possibility of becoming soiled from secretions exists.
- Plexiglass barriers may be utilized where feasible.

3. Maintain Social Distance



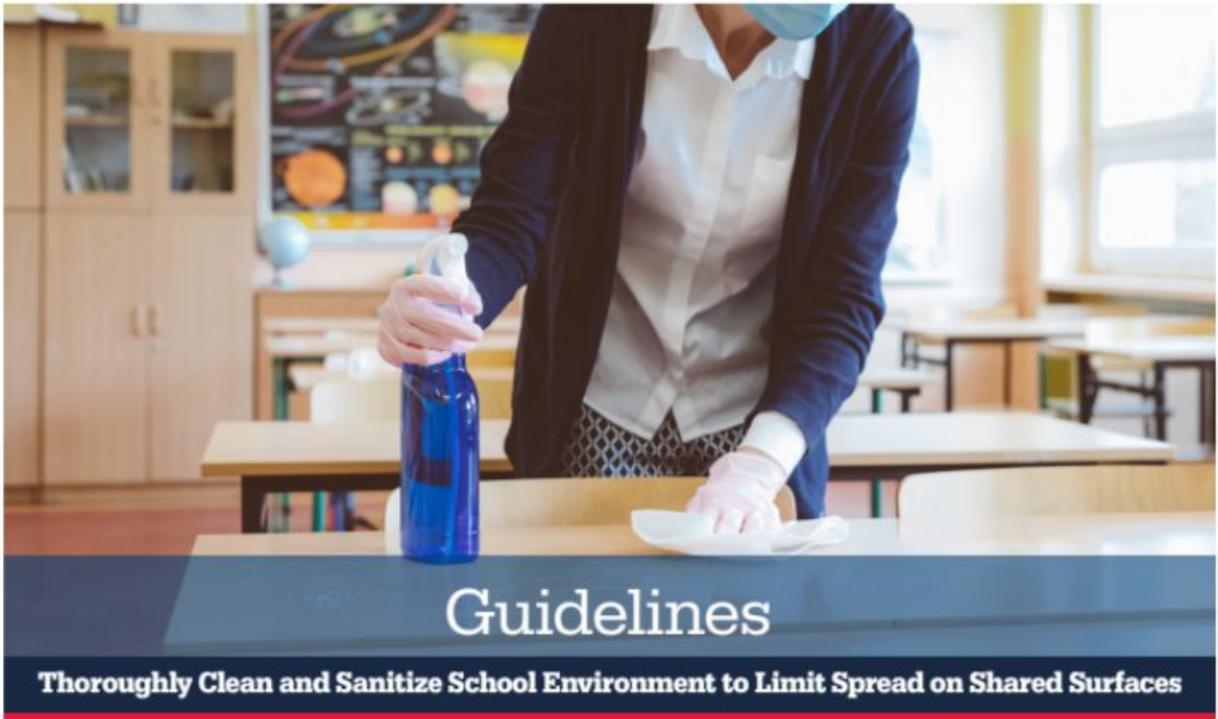
- Safety protocols will be in place for each classroom.
- Furniture within classrooms will be arranged so that there is 6-feet between students.
- There will be assigned seats, and whenever possible, students will face forward in the same direction.
- Classroom occupancy will be determined based on individual circumstances with the maximum amount of safety considerations possible.
- Classroom supplies will not be shared.

4. Wash and Sanitize Hands Frequently



- Hand-washing is one of the most effective ways to reduce the spread of infectious disease, and is an important tool in preventing the spread of COVID-19.
- All students will be instructed in proper hand-washing techniques.
- Students will be provided opportunities throughout the day for handwashing for at least 20 seconds when hands are dirty, before and after eating, and after using the restroom.
- Hand sanitizer to be used correctly (rubbing in until dry, approx. 20 sec.) upon school entry and at least, before/after eating, after using the restroom and touching contaminated items. Handwashing with soap and water is preferred but when unavailable, use hand sanitizer. If hands are visibly soiled, soap and water must be used.
- All paper towel dispensers in each building have been/will be converted to "no-touch" dispensers.
- Soap and paper towels will be continually stocked in restrooms.

5. Clean and Sanitize Classrooms and Shared Surfaces Frequently



Yellow Springs Schools will follow sanitation guidelines as provided by Greene County Public Health. School personnel will frequently clean high-touch areas, objects, equipment, and surfaces such as water fountains (if used) and restrooms using cleaning products effective against coronavirus.

- The district will use EPA sanitizers and cleaners effective against SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19).
- Restroom Sanitization: Per Health Department recommendations, restroom facilities will be cleaned at a minimum of every two hours during the school day.
- Cleaning of Surfaces and High-Touch Areas: Appropriate cleaning supplies, effective against SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19), will be available in every classroom. Sanitizing wipes and hand sanitizers (60% to 95% alcohol-based) will be at every entrance. If and when populations within a classroom change, the room will be wiped down. Deep cleaning will occur at the end of each day. Cleaning and sanitization of high-touch areas, tables, door handles, etc., will occur frequently. Students may be asked, as part of our educational approach, to be responsible for cleaning their own personal

area within the classroom. High-touch areas can be reconfigured to avoid the need to disinfect frequently (i.e., leaving doors open to avoid cleaning door knobs).

- Water Fountains: Water fountains will not be available for use during the 2020-2021 school year. The district has installed, where possible, water bottle fillers. Students will be encouraged to bring their own water bottles to school. The district will provide a water bottle for any student that needs one.
- As much as possible, windows will be left slightly open throughout the classroom to allow for good room air circulation. All rooms occupied by students and staff have an air purifier adequate for the size of the room.

Other Considerations

A Special Note About Transportation

Students and their families will be encouraged to provide their own transportation to school during the COVID-19 pandemic to alleviate social distancing concerns on school bus transportation.

- It is understood that some families may still need to utilize district transportation services.
- Yellow Springs Schools may allow multiple students per seat depending on the situation (no more than two).
- The district will attempt to seat siblings together.
- Students will be loaded from the back to the front.
- If possible, every other seat will be utilized.
- Seating charts will be created and maintained to assist with contact tracing if necessary.
- When possible and safe, windows will be open to maximize air circulation.
- Hand sanitizer will be available on every bus.
- Face masks ARE required for drivers and students. Students will not be granted bus entry without wearing a face mask.
- Prior to the first routes, bus drivers must perform COVID self-assessment including temperature.
- Bus drivers must wear masks, maintain distance from students, and wear gloves when disinfecting buses between routes.

What Happens If Someone Gets Sick?

Protocol When Student/Staff Member Has Been Diagnosed with COVID-19

If a student, teacher, staff member, etc. is diagnosed with a positive COVID-19 test result, the following standard operating guidelines MUST be followed:

- Positive Test Result (individual has not been to school for at least 48 hours):
 - The positive individual will stay home from school until fever-free without the use of medication for 24 hours, AND other symptoms are improving, and it has been at least ten (10) days since symptoms first appeared.
 - If the positive individual is asymptomatic, the period of isolation starts from the test date and is ten (10) days in length.
 - Contact tracing is not needed because the individual was not at school in the past 48 hours.
 - The district will report the name, address, and phone number of the positive case to the Communicable Disease Nurse at Greene County Public Health.

- Positive Test Result (the individual has been in school):
 - The positive individual will stay home from school until fever-free without the use of medication for 24 hours, AND other symptoms are improving, and it has been at least ten (10) days since symptoms first appeared.
 - If the positive individual is asymptomatic, the period of isolation starts from the test date and is ten (10) days in length.
 - Contact tracing is needed. Anyone that was within six (6) feet of the individual for 15 minutes or more from two (2) days prior to symptom onset will need to be placed in quarantine for 14 days (regardless if they receive a negative test during this period).
 - The district will report the name, address, and phone number of the positive case to the Communicable Disease Nurse at Greene County Public Health. The Communicable Disease Nurse or another Disease Investigator will be in touch with the positive case and Contact Tracers will be in touch with the contacts of the positive case.

Returning to School after Illness

- If a student is diagnosed with COVID-19, the student must meet the following criteria in order to return to school:
 - 24 hours with no fever (without using fever-reducing medication); AND other symptoms improved; AND 10 days since symptoms first appeared.
- To return to school after a confirmed case of COVID-19, the student must be transported to school by the parent and must be checked by the school nurse.
- Students who have only a fever and no other symptoms and have not had any contact with an individual who has COVID-19 may return to school after being fever-free for 24 hours without using any fever-reducing medications.
- Any other illness should be handled in the routine manner as prescribed in district policies.

Returning to School after Quarantine Following Possible COVID-19 Exposure

Public health recommendations for COVID-19 continue to evolve and are updated as new scientific evidence becomes available. On December 2, 2020, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released a scientific brief with considerations for reducing quarantine for people possibly exposed to COVID-19. The Ohio Department of Health (ODH) has modified this guidance to meet the specific needs of our state and considerations for local circumstances and resources [as indicated in the table below] (ODH, December 3, 2020).

Yellow Springs Schools will, to the extent possible, follow the *Optimal Duration to Minimize Risk of Transmission*.

ODH Recommended Options for Quarantine Following Possible COVID-19 Exposure

	Duration of Quarantine	Recommended Actions
Optimal Duration to Minimize Risk of Transmission	<p>Stay at home for at least 14 days* after last exposure.</p> <p>* A 14-day quarantine period presents the lowest risk of post-quarantine transmission. This strategy is preferred for people living in, working at, or visiting congregate living facilities, high density workplaces, or other settings where potential extensive transmission or contact with people at increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19 is possible.</p>	<p>Maintain social distance (at least 6 feet) from others and wear a mask when around other people.</p> <p>Self-monitor for symptoms through day 14. (Check temperature twice a day, watch for fever, cough, shortness of breath, or other symptoms of COVID-19.)</p> <p>Persons who develop symptoms of COVID-19 or who test positive for COVID-19 should self-isolate and follow recommendations for discontinuing isolation.</p>
Reduced Duration 1	<p>Stay at home for at least 10 days after last exposure.</p>	<p>Maintain social distance (at least 6 feet) from others and wear a mask when around other people.</p> <p>Self-monitor for symptoms through day 14. (Check temperature twice a day, watch for fever, cough, shortness of breath, or other symptoms of COVID-19.)</p> <p>Consider obtaining a viral test near the end of this period (day eight or later) to increase certainty that there is no infection, but quarantine cannot be discontinued earlier than after day 10.</p> <p>Persons who develop symptoms of COVID-19 or who test positive for COVID-19 should self-isolate and follow recommendations for discontinuing isolation.</p>
Reduced Duration 2	<p>Negative test result for SARS-CoV-2 (the virus that causes COVID-19) from a sample collected on day five or later after last exposure AND stay at home for at least seven days after last exposure.</p>	<p>Maintain social distance (at least 6 feet) from others and wear a mask when around other people.</p> <p>Self-monitor for symptoms through day 14. (Check temperature twice a day, watch for fever, cough, shortness of breath, or other symptoms of COVID-19.)</p> <p>Persons who develop symptoms of COVID-19 or who test positive for COVID-19 should self-isolate and follow recommendations for discontinuing isolation.</p>

Created Dec. 3, 2020.

For additional information, visit coronavirus.ohio.gov.

For answers to your COVID-19 questions, call 1-833-4-ASK-ODH (1-833-427-5634).

Positive COVID-19 Result Communication Guidance

Communication has been developed by Greene County Public Health for when a student or staff member has been diagnosed with a COVID-19 positive case. The letter will include, at minimum, the following:

- Specify to the parents that a child was potentially exposed to a confirmed case of COVID-19, provide information regarding the symptoms and signs to look for, seek medical care from their provider as necessary, and any other pertinent information essential to the health and well-being of their child.
- The letter will explain and define what is considered close contact to a COVID-19 case that will result in quarantine.
- Information relating to school building staff will be included in this letter, if necessary, with emphasis also on the health and well-being of all school employees.
- The district will cooperate with Greene County Public Health in contact tracing to identify close contacts of the case of COVID-19 by providing seating charts, activity descriptions, etc.

The 2nd Semester Return Plan

Mills Lawn Elementary

Due to staffing and spacing constraints at Mills Lawn, we will adopt a half-day in-person model at 50% capacity with an A Group and a B Group. This allows us to see students in-person, continue our Safe Centers, and adhere to the guidelines set by Greene County Public Health. Groups were created by pairing siblings. It is our intention for all sibling groups to attend on the same day as their siblings across the district. Please inform the building principal if a sibling has been missed. Students were then grouped by class size in a balanced manner.

Group compositions will come from communication from the building principal by Friday, December 18.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:00-11:30	Group A: In-Person Group B: Asynchronous Remote	Group B: In-Person Group A: Asynchronous Remote	ALL Synchronous Remote	Group A: In-Person Group B: Asynchronous Remote	Group B: In-Person Group A: Asynchronous Remote
12:30-2:30	ALL Synchronous Remote	ALL Synchronous Remote	ALL Asynchronous Remote	ALL Synchronous Remote	ALL Synchronous Remote
Synchronous Remote: Students access their classes virtually with their teacher.					
Asynchronous Remote: Students access their classes virtually without their teacher and/or complete work.					

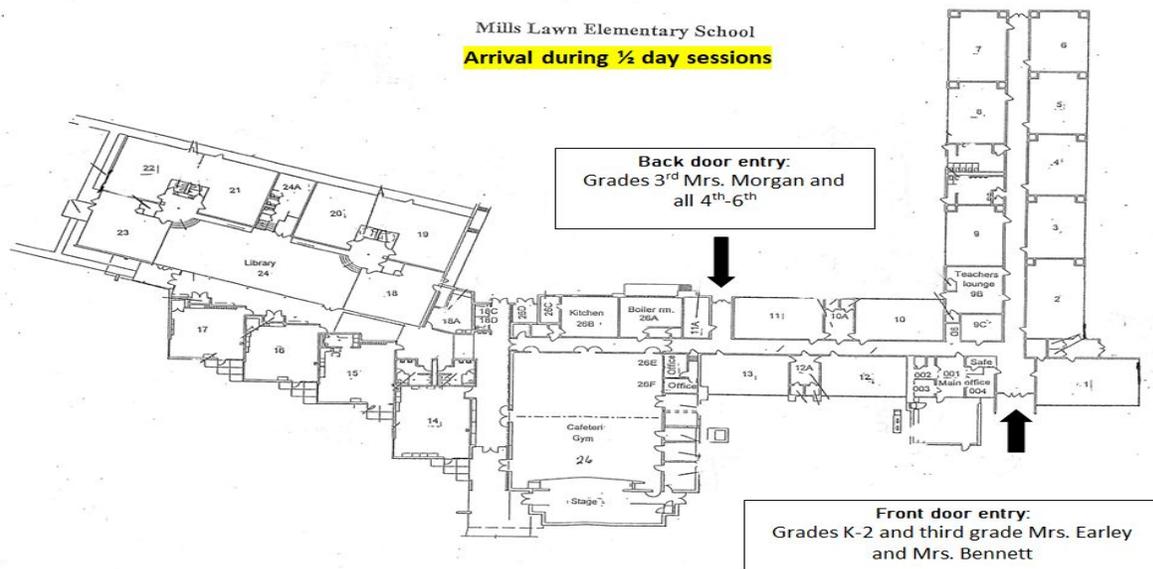
NOTES:

- Morning Meeting will be held for everyone every day from 8:00 a.m. until 8:30 a.m.
- This schedule eliminates the need for recess and lunch (except for students in Safe Centers).
- Lunch will be a grab-and-go bagged lunch at 11:30 a.m.

- Wednesday's schedule, when all students will be working remotely, allows for adequate deep cleaning time and provides an opportunity for all district staff to participate in professional development as needed.

Arrival Procedures

- Grades K-2, Grade 3 (Earley) & Grade 3 (Bennett) enter through front doors.
- Grade 3 (Morgan) and Grades 4-6 enter through bus doors.
- Every morning, upon entry into the building, temperatures will be checked for all staff and students. Anyone (staff or students) who has a temperature over 100.4 degrees will be escorted to the nurse's office for an additional temperature screening. Any staff member whose temperature is above that threshold will be sent home; any student with a temperature above 100.4 will have their parents/guardians notified, will be separated from other students, and then will be sent home with parents.
- Entry screening will also include general screening questions: 1. Are you feeling sick today? (K-4th) or Are you having any symptoms of COVID? (5th-6th) 2. Do you know anyone sick/with COVID?
- Safe distance markers will be visible at each entry point.
- Students walk to class independently keeping to the right side of the hall.
- Student belongings will remain with them.

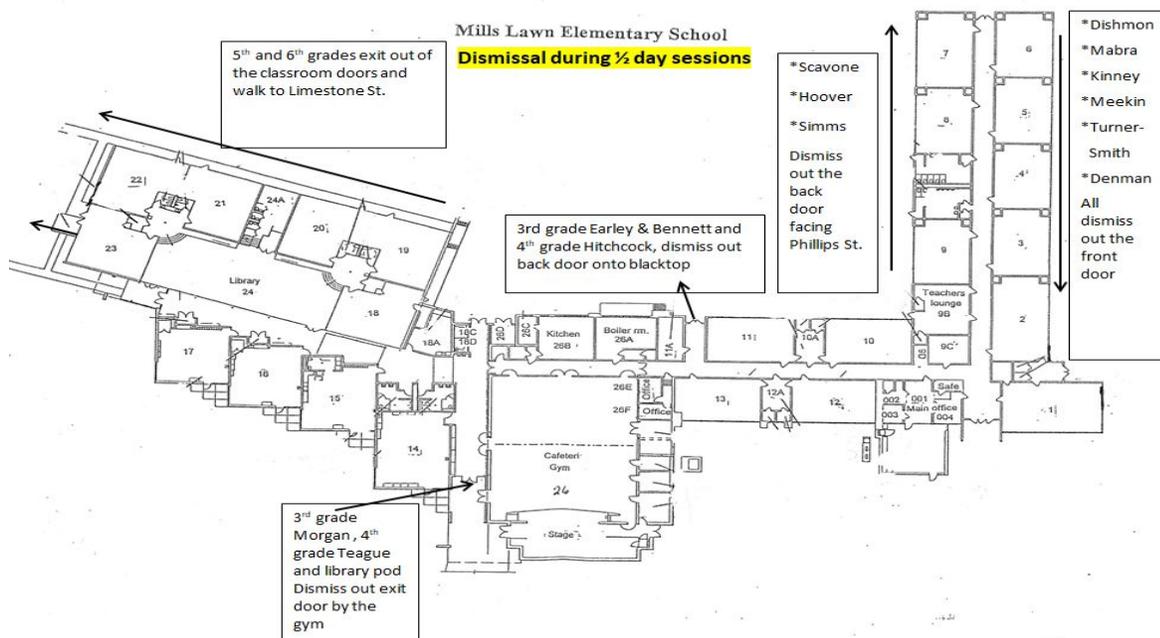


Restrooms

- Grades K-3 will share the bathroom in the primary wing.
- Grade 3 (Earley), Grade 3 (Bennett) and Grade 4 (Hitchcock) all have their own bathrooms. Grade 3 (Morgan), Grade 4 (Teague) and Grade 6 will use the bathroom by the gym in the new wing.
- Grade 5 will use their single bathroom.
- No more than 3 students will be permitted in the restroom at any time.

Dismissal Procedures

- Grades K-2 classes on the right side of the primary hall will dismiss out the front door. Grades K-2 classes on the left side of the primary hall will dismiss out the bus door of the primary wing.
- Grade 3 (Earley), Grade 3 (Bennett) and Grade 4 (Hitchcock) will exit out the back door onto the blacktop.
- Grade 3 (Morgan), Grade 4 (Teague) and library SCOL will exit out the gym door.
- Grades 5 and 6 will exit out of classroom doors and walk to Limestone.



McKinney Middle School/Yellow Springs High School

Due to staffing and spacing constraints at McKinney Middle and Yellow Springs High, we will adopt an in-person model at 50% capacity with an A Group and a B Group. This allows us to see students in-person, continue our Safe Centers, and adhere to the guidelines set by Greene County Public Health. Groups were created by pairing siblings. It is our intention for all sibling groups to attend on the same day as their siblings across the district. Please inform the building principal if a sibling has been missed. Students were then assigned by group to fill the largest courses in a balanced manner. Groupings were made from largest class size to smallest class size to ensure that the rooms that would be most full would be most balanced. The physical location of some classes was reassigned so the largest classes would be in the largest physical spaces allowing for optimal social distancing.

Group compositions will come from communication from the building principal by Friday, December 18.

The schedule will be as follows:

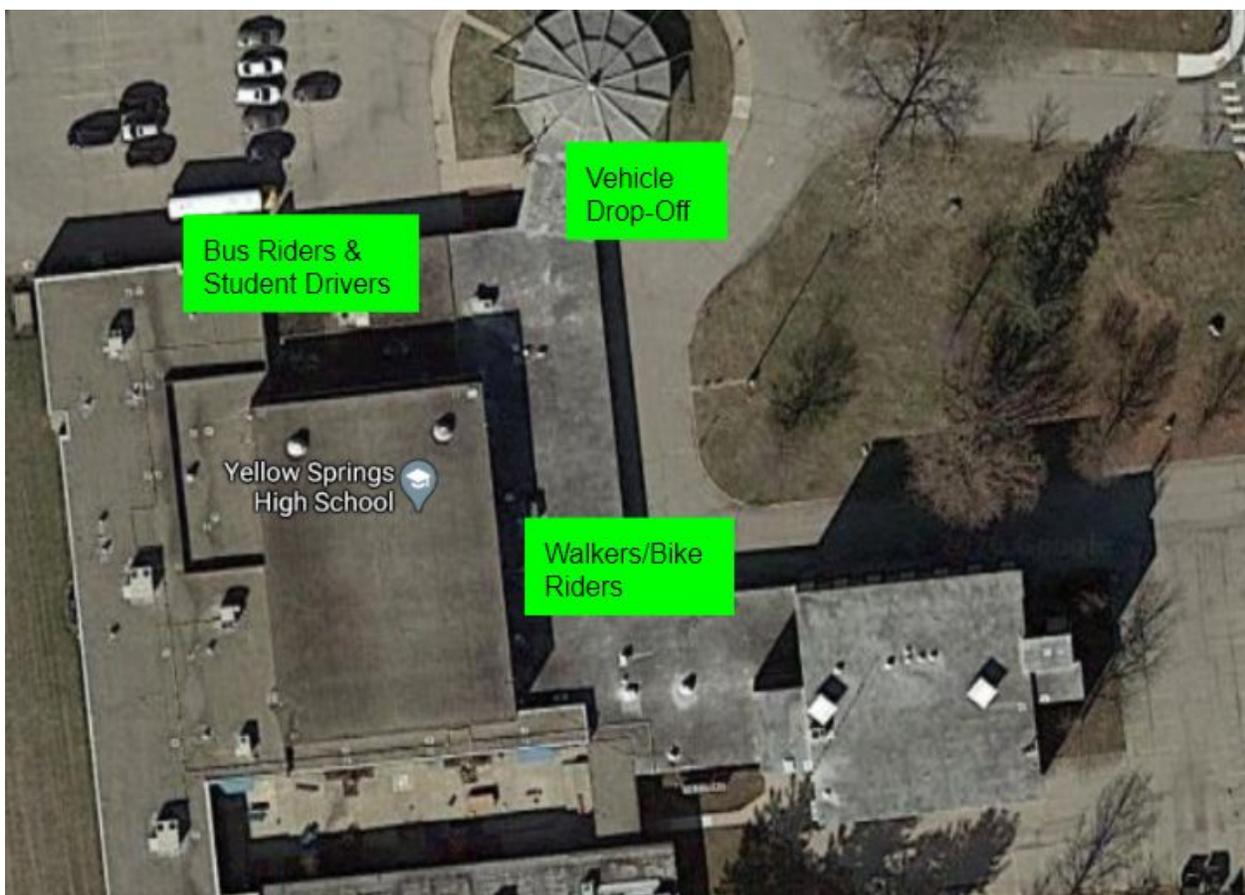
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:30-3:30	Group A: In-Person Group B: Asynchronous Remote	Group B: In-Person Group A: Asynchronous Remote	ALL Asynchronous Remote (with the exception of morning targeted tutoring)	Group A: In-Person Group B: Asynchronous Remote	Group B: In-Person Group A: Asynchronous Remote
Asynchronous Remote: Students access their classes virtually without their teacher and/or complete work.					

Arrival Procedures

In order to avoid crowds of students entering the building at the same time and location we will use three entrances:

- Walkers and bike riders should enter the front door.
- Students dropped off by parents in the drop-off line should enter at the front of the building by the band room.

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- Bus riders and student drivers should enter at the back entrance.
 - Anyone arriving late (after the 8:30 a.m. start of the day) should enter the front door and sign in at the table outside the office.
 - Every morning, upon entry into the building, temperatures will be checked for all staff and students. Anyone (staff or students) who has a temperature over 100.4 degrees will be escorted to the nurse's office for an additional temperature screening. Any staff member whose temperature is above that threshold will be sent home; any student with a temperature above 100.4 will have their parents/guardians notified, will be separated from other students, and will be sent home with parents.
 - Entry screening will also include general screening questions:
 1. Are you having any symptoms of COVID?
 2. Do you know anyone sick/with COVID?



Movement in the Building

- All hallways are marked with directional arrows and no-walk zones allowing students to travel while maintaining proper social distancing.
- One set of stairs will be used to travel up and the other for students to travel down. We will maintain our four-minute transition periods, but will allow students to enter class consequence-free if they arrive in a reasonable amount of time.
- All classrooms will have assigned seats in all classes and all students will be signed out by teachers to use the restroom or to go to the printers.
- Students will not be using lockers.

Lunch Procedures

- Students in grades 7-9 will have one lunch period and students in grades 10-12 will have a separate lunch period.
- Students will be eating lunch in the cafeteria, KIVA, and 8th-grade hallway.
- As weather permits, students will be permitted to eat outside.
- Students can bring their own lunch or will be able to pick up a free lunch from the cafeteria for the remainder of the year.
- Students will not be permitted to eat in any classrooms.

Dismissal Procedures

- Students on the first floor for their 7th-period class will be dismissed at 3:26 p.m.
- Students on the second floor will be dismissed at 3:28 p.m.
- Students on the third floor will be dismissed at 3:30 p.m.
- Students are asked to leave school immediately at dismissal to avoid crowding and groups congregating.

Educational Model Decision-Making Tree

	Ohio Public Health Advisory Indicators for Greene County				Two-Week Zip Code Data (per 100K)
	Indicator 1	Indicator 2	Indicator 3	Risk Level Category	
EDUCATIONAL DELIVERY MODEL	<i>A county remains at high incidence until the New Cases Per Capita drops below 100 per 100K.</i>	<i>Increasing trend in overall cases of at least 5 consecutive days in overall cases by onset date over the prior 3 weeks.</i>	<i>Proportion of cases that are not in a congregate setting rises above 50% in at least 1 of prior 3 weeks.</i>	Level 4 = PURPLE Level 3= RED Level 2= ORANGE Level 1= YELLOW	Yellow Springs: 45387 Xenia: 45385 Enon: 45323 Springfield: 45503; 45504; 45505 <small>(45387 is the driver; other zip codes are included as we have students from these areas)</small>
100% Remote Learning Model	High Incidence Rating	New Cases Increase Met	Non-Congregate Cases Met	Purple or Red	Upward Case Trend: At or above 100 per 100K
50% In-Person Capacity Hybrid Learning Model	High Incidence Flag	New Cases Increase Not Met	Non-Congregate Cases Not Met	Red or Orange	Downward Case Trend: Between 50 and 99 per 100K
100% In-Person Learning Model	No-Flag	New Cases Increase Not Met	Non-Congregate Cases Not Met	Orange or Yellow	Downward Case Trend: Below 50 per 100K

Notes:

- 3 of 5 categories must be met to determine the educational delivery model
- This data will be examined every Thursday and posted by 4:00p.m.
- In the remote and hybrid model, SAFE Centers would continue

Ohio Department of Health Coronavirus (COVID-19) Search

Ohio Public Health Advisory System Responsible RestartOhio Testing and Community Health Centers COVID-19 Vaccination Program Families and Individuals Healthcare Providers and Local Health Districts



Indicators 1-3 & Risk level category

COVID-19 Dashboard

Overview Current Trends Key Metrics Schools and Children Long-Term Care Facilities Demographics

Wastewater Monitoring Network Cases Mortality Hospitalizations Testing Cases by ZIP Code



Zip Code Data

Overview

ODH is making COVID-19 data available for public review while also protecting patient privacy. Click [here for information and a list of available data](#).

The State of Ohio COVID-19 Dashboard displays the most recent preliminary data reported to the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) about cases, hospitalizations and deaths in Ohio by selected demographics and county of residence. Data is reported to ODH via the [Ohio Disease Reporting System \(ODRS\)](#): [Download the summary data \(CSV\)](#). [Data Term Definitions](#).

Click [here](#) for a report on the [prevalence of current and past COVID-19 in Ohio adults](#).

Overview