

Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan 2021-2022

District Name:	Yellow Springs Exempted Village School District
District Address:	201 S. Walnut Street Yellow Springs, OH 45387
District Contact:	Dr. Terri L. Holden, Superintendent
District IRN:	045674

General Information

Face-to-Face Instruction	<p>For the 2021-2022 school year, Yellow Springs Exempted Village School District will be 100% in-person, five days a week (unless otherwise directed by a state health mandate). The health landscape in Ohio has improved significantly, particularly in light of the availability of a COVID-19 vaccine for those aged 12 years and older. We successfully completed the last weeks of the 2020-2021 school year in this format. With the promise of a vaccine for younger children available by early next school year, the health outlook is promising.</p> <p>On June 2, 2021, Ohio ended all health mandates related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Ohio legislature provided schools with the necessary flexibility to implement remote instruction and learning through the submission of Remote Learning Plans for the 2020-2021 school year. The Ohio Department of Education has not received notice that the legislature will extend these flexibilities or create other legislative authority for remote learning next year. However, current state law includes four options that provide authority for schools and districts interested in providing remote learning approaches for students and families: alternative school; blended learning; credit flexibility; and innovative education pilot program. With the exception of credit flexibility at the secondary level (and this approach has unique requirements), Yellow Springs does not offer these options.</p>
Health & Safety Guidelines	<p>Our approach to health and safety for the 2021-2022 school year will follow guidance from the Ohio Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Our Health & Safety Plan will be publicized in our back-to-school communication in August and will reflect health conditions at that time. The plan, at minimum, will address: universal and correct wearing of masks (if such mandate exists); physical distancing (if such mandate exists); handwashing & respiratory etiquette; maintaining clean facilities; building ventilation; contact tracing and quarantines; diagnostic screening and testing; and vaccination efforts.</p>

	<p>Yellow Springs Schools' staff participated in a vaccination program through Greene County Public Health in February and March of 2021, and over 95% of district staff received vaccinations. We also offered vaccination clinics, again partnered with Greene County Public Health, to our students aged 12-17, in April, May, and June 2021.</p> <p>Our complete health & safety plan can be found in The Bulldog Blueprint for Safe & Healthy Fearless Thinkers.</p>
Access to Instruction	<p>While we will not be delivering instruction virtually during the 2021-2022 school year, we will be leveraging our learning and growth in using instructional technology over the past year. The district is positioned as a 1:1 district, meaning that all students have a Chromebook that can be assigned directly to them for teaching and learning. During 2021-2022, students in grades 5-12 will have the ability to take home devices. Students in grades K-4 will have devices assigned to them that will be kept in the classroom. The district also continues to work with the Village of Yellow Springs on increasing access to high-speed internet in the community.</p>

Instructional Plan & Academic Gap Filling	
Literacy	<p>The district has a robust literacy program from grades K-12. At grades K-6, teachers use the Savvas ReadyGEN Reading series. Teachers also supplement these texts with other resources that are relevant to specific units of study by grade level.</p> <p>Teachers will continue to evaluate students' academic performance as measured by course grades, informal reading measures; our benchmark assessment system (NWEA's MAP Reading); data from our use of Lexia Reading and ALEKS Math, and relevant state testing data.</p>
Mathematics	<p>The district uses the Eureka Math program in grades K-6, and the Envision Math program in middle school and high school. Teachers will continue to evaluate students' academic performance as measured by course grades, informal reading measures; our benchmark assessment system (NWEA's MAP Math); data from our use of ALEKS Math and Zearn, and relevant state testing data.</p>
Science	<p>Teachers will continue to evaluate students' academic performance as measured by course grades, informal reading measures; our benchmark assessment system (NWEA's MAP Science in grades 5 & 8); and relevant state testing data.</p>
Project-Based Learning	<p>During 2021-2022, we will provide standards-based PBL instruction to all students, with a focus on reading and mathematics. The district's teachers are engaging in significant professional development this summer. Teachers will map courses of study to Ohio's Revised Learning Standards during pre-identified professional development days prior to the start of students, and five days throughout the academic year.</p>

<p>Progress Monitoring & Assessment</p>	<p>We will use NWEA's Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) for reading & math in grades K-10, and science for grades 5 & 8. MAP will be administered three times a year. We will continue our work with Lexia Core 5 and PowerUp Reading Programs, ALEKS Math, and Zearn Math for individual tutoring and intervention purposes.</p> <p>In addition to Ohio's State Tests and Restart Readiness Assessments, the district will have data from the following assessments given throughout the year: Kindergarten Readiness Assessment, CoGAT and Naglieri for whole-grade gifted screenings, the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT), the state-sponsored American College Test (ACT), WebXams, and Advanced Placement tests given in a variety of subject areas.</p> <p>The district will also begin using the Branching Minds platform as our approach to a comprehensive MTSS system. Regular data meetings at each building using the entire array of data available to us through Branching Minds will assist us in providing targeted support to students.</p> <p>High school students who are credit deficient will be guided to opportunities to recover credits to ensure on-time graduation. Additionally, at the middle school and high school, Naviance is used for ACT preparation for students as well as academic and career guidance.</p> <p>Finally, the district will use non-academic data points such as attendance to identify struggling students who may have significant academic gaps.</p>
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<p style="text-align: center;">Social & Emotional Learning</p>	
<p>Academic Connections</p>	<p>As the year begins, we will have the capacity to survey our students regarding social-emotional or mental health needs through the DESSA Comprehensive SEL System (as part of our Branching Minds platform). The DESSA is an empirical, standardized social and emotional competence assessment, grounded in resilience theory, and aligned to the Collaborative for Academic, Social and Emotional Learning (CASEL) framework. At different points during the year, we will give either the DESSA mini (a one-minute SEL screener) or the DESSA full (a longer SEL screener) for students in grades K-12.</p>
<p>Counseling & Therapy Services</p>	<p>At Mills Lawn School, our counselor serves in two capacities: (1) individual counseling support for students in need; and (2) whole group instruction through our Skills for Life classes for all students. At McKinney Middle School/Yellow Springs High School, students have the support of two guidance counselors for individual support. Additionally, the district has the services of a social worker and therapist available.</p>

	<p>As in the past, we will also continue to use teacher, counselor, and parent referrals for students who are struggling socially-emotionally or with more serious mental health issues. Student attendance data will be tracked to indicate at-risk students with extensive absences who may need additional wrap-around support. These students will be targeted for additional intervention and support services. We are also designing more extensive support for our students in identified groups (special education; low SES; homeless).</p>
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Plan Review, Funding Sources & Support	
Plan Review	<p>This plan will be available for review and comments in July 2021 and then reviewed three times throughout the school year (November 2021 board meeting; February 2022 board meeting; and April 22 board meeting) with community input available via a link on the district website.</p>
Funding Sources	<p>This plan is funded through the following funding sources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Yellow Springs EVSD General Fund ● Elementary & Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) II ● American Rescue Plan (ARP) ESSER III ● Ohio Broadband Grant
Partnerships & Support	<p>Yellow Springs EVSD receives support for services in support of the implementation of this plan through the following partnerships:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Clark County Educational Service Center (CCESC) ● Greene County Educational Service Center (GCESC) ● Greene County Public Health (GCPH) ● Miami Valley Educational Computer Association (MVECA) ● Montgomery County Educational Service Center (MCESC) ● PBLOhio ● Southwestern Ohio Instructional Technology Association (SOITA)