

CHARLES A. BEARD MEMORIAL SCHOOLS

2021 - Return to In-Person Instruction Plan - September Update

PANTHER FAMILIES

As COVID numbers have been increasing around us, it is more important than ever that we stay mindful and each do our parts to ensure student and staff safety. It is also important that we realize that when we modify the learning experience or increase restrictions, negative impacts can and do occur.

For that reason, we will continue to utilize data to make our decisions. This is a fluid situation and the most current data will always drive when restrictions are implemented and/or lifted.

Please take a moment to read the following plan. We want to ensure that all stakeholders are aware of any changes that might be made and to provide our rationale for doing so.



INTRODUCTION

Charles A. Beard Memorial Schools shall be subject to all appropriate rules and regulations of the State of Indiana, the Department of Education, state and local health departments, and any Executive Orders signed by the Governor. In addition, all stakeholders within the Corporation are subject to such rules and procedures.

INSTRUCTION

We will continue to offer in-person instruction on a traditional Monday – Friday schedule for all students. We will also offer virtual options for those students who are not able to return to school in person.

If, at any point in the school year, our absence percentages reach 20% or more, we will work with health officials to determine if e-learning is necessary and for what time frame.

ACCOMODATIONS

SOCIAL DISTANCING

All efforts will be made to ensure social distancing practices are maintained. Teachers will determine classroom layouts and procedures and will modify such as data requires.

MASKS

Masks are optional in all settings unless otherwise required by law. If, at any point, a school reaches a 1% COVID - 19 positivity rate, the district will move to a status of MASKS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED. The purpose of this designation is to inform families that we are approaching a highly concerning percentage of positive COVID cases. If, at any point, a school reaches a 2% COVID-19 positivity rate, the district will move to a status of MANDATORY MASKS for all grades, PK-12. This will apply for all indoor activities. Mask breaks will be given, and exceptions will be made during times of physical exertion. *When the positivity rate returns to a rate of less than 1%, the mandatory mask requirements will be lifted.*

VACCINATIONS

It is the belief of CAB Schools that the decision to receive a COVID-19 vaccination is only to be made by individuals and their families. If you need access to COVID-19 vaccinations, please contact your child's school.

*“The road to freedom –here and everywhere on earth-
begins in the classroom.” – Hubert Humphrey*

CONTACT TRACING AND QUARANTINE

CABMSC will follow IDOH guidelines on the definition of close contacts. Individuals identified as close contacts are required to test and quarantine per CDC and IDOH guidelines. CDC currently recommends a quarantine period of 14 days. However, based on local circumstances and resources, the following options to shorten quarantine are acceptable alternatives.

- Quarantine can end after Day 10 without testing and if no symptoms have been reported during daily monitoring.
- When diagnostic testing resources are sufficient and available, then quarantine can end after Day 7 if a diagnostic specimen tests negative and if no symptoms were reported during daily monitoring. This test must be performed by a physician or through a certified testing clinic. In combination of Day 7 return, enhanced precautions must be followed. This includes social distancing and masking. Quarantine cannot be discontinued earlier than after Day 7.

TRANSPORTATION

Currently, the wearing of masks on buses is required by federal law. Masks will be available on all CAB buses. Balancing of routes will be a continual process to ensure the lowest occupancy possible on buses.

HEALTH PROTOCOLS

If your child is presenting symptoms of COVID-19 or other illness, it is imperative that you not send them to school. Self-screening will need to be conducted at home prior to arriving at schools.

- A fever of 100.4° F or greater
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Chills
- Repeated shaking with chills
- Muscle pain
- Headache
- Sore throat
- New loss of taste or smell



State statute mandates that school districts exclude students who have a contagious disease such as COVID-19 or are liable to transmit it after exposure (IC 20-34-3-9). In addition, the local health department has the authority to exclude students from school and may order students and others to isolate or quarantine (IC 16-41-9-1.6).

COMMON SENSE WITH COVID-19

CLEANING

All CAB schools have been stocked with EPA approved disinfectant and cleaning materials. Cleaning and disinfecting will be a continual process throughout each student day. Hand sanitizer will be available in classrooms and common areas. Frequent hand washing will be mandated by all.

VISITORS

We will continue to limit visitors to our schools for non-essential purposes. Any visitors will need to receive permission at the school's front office to enter any student areas.

SELF-QUARANTINE

Everyone plays a key role in assuring student and staff safety in the face of COVID-19. Please let us know if your medical provider has recommended self-quarantine. When staff and students do not feel well, it is imperative that they stay home.

