

Branson Public Schools COVID Safety Measures 2020-21

Overview

Branson Public Schools has taken steps to provide a safe, secure, learning environment to protect the health, wellness and safety of students and staff. This guide will be updated with new information as it becomes available. Please see the information below for a set of general guidelines and expectations. Each building leadership team in the district has created a more specific set of guidelines and expectations based upon the needs of that building. Decisions will be made in coordination with local and state health officials.

Instructional Calendar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Branson Public Schools will offer two options for students to safely learn during the COVID-19 pandemic. K-12 students will have the option of choosing a traditional, <u>5-day-per-week school calendar</u> or participating as a full-time <u>online student</u>. The district partners with LAUNCH, a state-approved vendor, to provide online learning. LAUNCH is a non-profit organization which offers over 180 courses to students in grades K-12. These classes are aligned to Missouri state standards and are taught by Missouri teachers. For more information about virtual education, you may visit our website.
At Home	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents should perform a daily health check on their student(s). Parent should keep student(s) at home if they have COVID-19 symptoms (fever of 100°F or greater, cough, shortness of breath); are generally not feeling well; or if anyone in the family is not feeling well.
PPE (Personal Protective Equipment)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students in all grades will be required to wear face coverings while riding the bus. Students in grades 4-12 will be required to wear face coverings. Students in grades PreK-3 are strongly encouraged to wear face coverings. Face coverings will not be required during recess, meal time or whenever proper social distancing is possible. School staff will be required to wear face coverings.
Transportation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students will have assigned seats on school buses. Seating with a sibling will be required, where possible. Buses will have hand sanitizer available. Bus drivers and all riders will be required to wear face coverings while on buses
Arrival	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Employee temperatures will be taken upon arrival before reporting to the classroom. If the employee has a fever of 100°F or greater, he/she will be provided a second and final check by the school nurse. The employee's supervisor will determine when the employee will be sent home. Students will use hand sanitizer or wash hands upon arrival into their classrooms. Common areas in buildings will be restricted, where feasible. Upon arrival, students in grades 4-12 will be required to wear a face covering when entering the building.
Dismissal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of the car line will be for student pick-up only. No parent gatherings in school lobbies or pick-up areas.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● One parent or guardian (masked) may enter the building to sign the student out if he/she needs to leave school before the end of the day. ● At dismissal, students in grades 4-12 will be required to wear a face covering while exiting the building.
Breakfast & Lunch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● PK-6 Breakfast will be served in the classroom. ● 7-12 Breakfast will be served via grab-and-go stations strategically located throughout the building. ● PK-12 Lunch schedules will be staggered to allow for social distancing. ● PK-12 Lunch will be served through kitchen serving lines: 50% of students will be allowed to eat in the cafeteria while 50% will eat in the classrooms. ● Students will use hand sanitizer and/or wash hands before breakfast and lunch.
Classrooms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Break into sections (PreK, 1-3, 4-6, 7-12)</i> ● Students will be encouraged to maintain social distancing while in school and will be taught appropriate hygiene/COVID practices: COVID-19 Do the 5! ● Multiple social distancing strategies will be implemented based on feasibility of the unique space and needs of each school. ● PreK-6 students will keep their own supplies for use in the classroom. ● Personal water bottles will be encouraged and water bottle fill stations have been installed in all schools. ● Class sizes will, in most cases, be smaller than usual based on feasibility and the square footage of the classroom space. ● Appropriate measures will be taken for cleaning Chromebooks. ● Teachers will be trained to observe students for illness prior to starting class and will refer students to the nurse, if needed.
Online Learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Branson Public Schools partners with LAUNCH, a state-approved vendor, to provide online learning. LAUNCH is a non-profit organization which offers over 180 courses to students in grades K-12. These classes are aligned to Missouri state standards and are taught by Missouri teachers. Families interested in pursuing online learning opportunities need to complete the information form at this link. A district representative will contact families to complete online enrollment. ● Students participating in online learning through LAUNCH will be eligible for MSHSAA, co-curricular and extracurricular activities.
Student Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● K-12 students will be issued a Chromebook and charger to access instructional resources. ● Portable internet “hot spots” will be available for student and family checkout for those who meet established criteria. ● Students and adults will be trained to properly clean Chromebooks to ensure the safety of everyone.
Large Events (Assemblies, Concerts)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Schools can host school day assemblies, but only at 50% occupancy of the space available. ● Visitors will not be allowed during the school day.

Special/Elective Classrooms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students will travel to special area classes and elective courses. • The last 10 minutes of each class will be designated for cleaning and sanitizing personal and common spaces.
Passing Periods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students in grades 4-12 will be required to wear face coverings during passing time. • Passing periods will be limited by schedule and students will be monitored by staff while walking in hallways. • Movement throughout buildings will be limited or reduced.
Visitors/Volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visitors and classroom volunteers will not be allowed.
Playgrounds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Masks will be optional on the playground.</i> • Students will be monitored for social distancing while on playgrounds. • Handwashing/sanitizer upon re-entry to the building. • Frequently used playground hard surfaces will be cleaned routinely.
Hygiene/Cleaning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID and EPA-approved products will be used to clean and disinfect frequently touched hard, non-porous surfaces such as counters, tabletops, stair rails, doorknobs, bathroom fixtures, toilets, drinking fountains and any other surfaces that are visibly necessary. • Hand sanitizer dispensers are available throughout the building. • Students and families will be provided with best hygiene practices to use during the school day and at home.
Health Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School Nurse Procedures • School nurses will provide COVID safety training/materials to faculty and staff. • If you have medication for your child, please schedule a time with the school nurse to drop it off. • MSBA Exclusion Procedures • Encourage staff self-screening. • Encourage parents to screen students at home prior to sending to school. • Students showing symptoms of COVID-19 will be monitored in a protected area before being sent home. • Students and staff who have experienced COVID-19 symptoms will only be allowed to return to school with a release from a health care provider or from the health department.
Action Plan if Confirmed Case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact the Health Department and communicate with the public based on the Health Department's recommendation. • Identify student exposure in relation to direct contact with others and facility exposure. • Address possible student/adult exclusions DHSS Exclusions & MSBA Exclusion Procedures. • Clean the infected space using proven practices (examples: ventilation/Electrostatic Disinfection/UV lamp treatment) for designated time. • Perform targeted cleaning and disinfection of frequently touched hard, non-porous surfaces such as counters, appliance surfaces, tabletops, doorknobs, bathroom fixtures, toilets, drinking fountains, phones, technology and any other surfaces that are visibly necessary.

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Inspect areas to determine readiness for re-entry.● Consult with the Health Department prior to re-entry.● Students and staff who test positive for COVID-19 will only be allowed to return to school with a release from a health care provider or a release from the health department. |
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