



Ulm Reopening Plan

The goal of the committee was to reopen our 2020-2021 school year as normal as possible, incorporating guidance and suggestions from Trisha Gardner (CCHD- Executive Director), the Governors' Office, the Office of Public Instruction (OPI), the Montana School Board Association (MTSBA), as well as members of our local community. Documents available and provided by the Governor's Office and OPI were not directives or mandates, but were guidance and suggestions for schools in Montana. A committee (*members listed below) met on July 20th, 2021 to formulate a reopening plan that will be presented to the Ulm School Board to adopt August 11, 2021. The Administrator has authority to make changes as needed. Changes will be reviewed and put to a vote at the next regular board meeting.

Due to the nature of the COVID pandemic, continuous and ongoing review of this Plan is necessary and subject to change.

Russ McDaniel will be the designated Pandemic Coordinator.

*Committee Members

Andrea Cordeiro (Board Chair)
Liz Coates (Board Member)
Jenny Reeves (NCLRC)
Diane Whitmore (Clerk)
Russ McDaniel (Principal)
Angie Hastings (Admin Asst)
Trisha Gardner (CCHD- Executive Director)
Juli Jo Kelly (Teacher/ Union rep)
Sarah Kline (Food Services)
Ron Spry (Maintenance)
Sigurd Hovland (Transportation)
Alicia White (Big Sky Cleaners)
Andrea Ethridge (Xcell Coordinator)
Plan approved by MTSBA Legal Department

Items listed below (not necessarily all) will be lifted as the State moves to Phases 2 and 3.

Health & Safety

Please keep your child at home if they are experiencing any fever, chills or temperature over 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit, nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea. Should students exhibit these symptoms during school hours, they will be sent home. Students experiencing coughing or sneezing, but who are not running a temperature, will be required to wear a mask all day and will be quarantined during lunch and/or snack time. If students are unable to wear a mask all day, parents will be required to come pick them up..

Self-screening should be done for the following symptoms:

People with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported – ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear **2-14 days after exposure to the virus**. People with these symptoms may have COVID-19:

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

Underlying health issue(s) :

Students not able to attend school physically due to COVID-19 will be provided with a virtual education including, but not limited to students with an IEP or a 504.

Staff with health issues or those who have a family member with health concerns will be afforded reasonable accommodations. This may include teaching from an offsite location.

Safety:

PPE (personal protective equipment): In accordance with directives from the State of Montana, all staff, volunteers, visitors, and students aged five (5) and over are required to wear masks that cover the nose and mouth or face shields to protect colleagues and peers while present in any school building or outdoor school activity with fifty (50) or more people where physical distancing is not possible or not observed. Ulm School District will provide masks to students, volunteers, and staff. If a student or staff wears a reusable mask or face shield, Ulm School District expects that the masks be washed on a regular basis to ensure maximum protection. Per the Governor's mandate the following exceptions may apply:

1. Children under the age of five. All children between the ages of two and four, however, are strongly encouraged to wear a face covering in accordance with the provisions of this Directive. Children under the age of two should not wear a face covering;
2. Persons consuming food or drinks in an establishment that offers food or drinks for sale; or persons engaged in an activity that makes wearing a face covering impractical or unsafe, such as strenuous physical exercise or swimming;
3. Persons seeking to communicate with someone who is hearing impaired;
4. Persons giving a speech or engaging in an artistic, cultural, musical, or theatrical performance for an audience, provided the audience is separated by at least six feet of distance;
5. Persons temporarily removing their face covering for identification purposes; or persons required to remove face coverings for the purpose of receiving medical evaluation, diagnosis, or treatment; or
6. Persons who have a medical condition precluding the safe wearing of a face covering.

Parents coming to school to pick up their child are encouraged to call ahead so that we may have the student ready and limit the number of people entering the building on a daily basis.

During the day, staff will clean any and all high traffic areas, including any shared spaces or classrooms.

Ulm School will be cleaned in the evening after every school day By Big Sky Cleaning. No one will be permitted into the building, after cleaning, until the following day. In the event of a student or staff member testing positive, the school will be closed for one day and the building will be deeply cleaned before school will be reopened.

Big Sky Cleaners will be cleaning daily, as well as using an Electrostatic Misting/Vapor cleaning device, EPA Certified to fight SARS, COV2, and COVID - 19 weekly to ensure the school is sanitized.

The nightly cleaning routine will include:

- General sanitization to include all high touch surfaces (light switches, outlets, desks, door knobs....etc.);
- Vacuuming of all carpet areas with HEPA filtered vacuums;
- Sanitize all floors with bacteria and virus killing sanitizer;
- All bathrooms will be cleaned and sanitized for germs and bacteria daily;

Students with cell phones will keep them on their person and the cell phones will not be seen or heard during school hours unless given permission by a staff member.

Instead of having schoolwide water stations, each classroom has their own.

CCHD Executive Director advised that the best prevention is hand washing and every room and bathroom is equipped with hand sanitizer that is at least 60% alcohol based.

Staggering schedules will be in place to minimize any cross-contamination when classes are let out. Parents shall send their children to school with only those school necessities that are essential to get through the day. It is also recommended that all students who bring things to school will take all their things home at the end of the day.

Parents and guests are encouraged to recognize posters and markings for spacings and/or updated announcements.

Should students become sick, every effort will be made for students to be quarantined in the Principal office until the parent arrives.

If a child is tested positive:

- Anyone that was within 6 feet for 30 minutes will be in a 14 day quarantine. Seating charts will be utilized for contact tracing for City County Health to identify who will need to quarantine.
- If kids are tested and isolated an official from City County Health will decide when isolation is over. Official documentations will be provided to the family when they were initially put into isolation and then released. The school can request proof of these documents in letting students back in.

See checklist of symptoms listed in this Plan which includes a list of resources.

School Event and Facility Notice:

At this time we will not be using the school facility for any public use or events.

Operations

Arrival:

To the best extent possible and to minimize gatherings of 50 or more, please drop your child off as quickly as possible. Supervision of students will begin at 7:30am. Students are to report to the cafeteria if arriving at 7:30am. However, parents are encouraged to drop students off at 7:45am.

Students will go to breakfast or out to recess or to classrooms at 7:45 am.

Only students eating breakfast will be allowed into the building at 7:45am. Students will be seated to allow for social distancing. Students eating breakfast, as well as those outside at recess, will be supervised. The cafeteria will be cleaned after breakfast.

When there is inclement weather, students will go directly to their classrooms.

Snacks:

If Parents provide snacks, they must be individually wrapped, single serving.

Meals:

Social distancing will be implemented during meals, keeping grades separated.

Entry into building:

Students will line up by grade upon entry into the building. Grades will be separated and markings will be placed on the ground so that students may exercise social distances to the greatest extent possible. Temperatures will only be checked if students are not feeling well. Elementary grades will come in single doors and Junior High grades will come in the double doors.

Recess:

Students will not be allowed inside the building unless eating breakfast. At recess social distancing will be maintained to the best extent possible. Playground equipment can only be used if it is sanitized after each recess.

Specials (P.E., STEAM, Art, Music):

Specials classrooms will be cleaned after every use and social distancing will be maintained in the hallways.

Sports:

These activities are done through Cascade and that district's plan applies.

After School Program

Cascade School's Xcell is planning on running the program as it has been in the past, recognizing social distancing.

Remote Learning:

Families have the option of remote learning and are not required to attend school within the building. Families electing this option will be required to sign an Online Learning Contract with the school. Please notify the school immediately if you are planning to have your child learning remotely.

Transportation:

Social distancing will be maintained to the greatest extent possible. Students will be required to wear masks while riding the bus or van. Seats will be assigned to students. Buses will be sanitized before and after each use.

Please let the school know if you will not be sending your child to school for traditional learning. In addition, please let the school know if your child, who regularly rides the bus, will not be riding the bus.

Family Resources:

CDC www.cdc.gov

Guidelines/Information for schools:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/index.html>

Montana state also has a COVID specific website <https://covid19.mt.gov> – this is where the FAQs, Directives, Press Releases can be found and

<https://montana.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=7c34f3412536439491adcc2103421d4b> has all the information about current cases in Montana and links to US and Global information.

Mask questions and resources: <https://covid19.mt.gov/Masks-and-Face-Coverings>