

# YUMA COUNTY PLAN FOR SCHOOL REOPENING FOR THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR

BOE Approved: 8/13/20

**GREEN**

## General Guidelines

- School Districts will designate a COVID-19 lead individual. COVID-19 related decisions, tracking, and communications will be directed through this individual.
- School will promote healthy hygiene practices such as handwashing/sanitizing and will provide supplies as needed. Supplies will be strategically located such as in cafeteria lines, restrooms, and classrooms.
- Intensify cleaning, disinfection, and ventilation. Schools should clean and disinfect commonly touched surfaces as they normally would in the event of increased rates of influenza and other respiratory infections.
- Encourage social distancing through increased spacing, small groups and limited mixture between groups as feasible.
- Train all employees on health and safety protocols. Local healthcare facilities will assist in providing education to staff and parents to ensure there is an understanding of when to keep students home, proper hygiene, the importance of physical distancing, and how to properly isolate ill students.
- Train students on healthy hygiene practices including handwashing, covering cough and sneezes, and proper social distancing. Healthcare facilitators will assist in this process.
- Provide distance learning opportunities for students who are expected to stay home for 10 days or longer due to illness or quarantine.
- Face mask use will be at the discretion of the individual. School districts will support the individual decisions by staff and students on face mask usage. If face masks are mandated by executive order/law, the school districts will enforce the rule to the degree possible.

### **Communication**

- Provide employees and parents clear guidance for temperature checks, home hygiene, and attendance procedures.
- Work with local healthcare facilities to determine clear communication regarding employee/student ability to return to school.
- Effective and ongoing communication is a critical component throughout the coming year. Consider providing guidance in advance for expectations should we have to move between the three phases.
- Consider posting reminders at entryway of buildings and buses to not enter if you are experiencing signs of illness.

### **Public Gatherings**

- Allow public gatherings as identified in the timeline as approved by the local Task Force or as allowed by the current State Executive Order, whichever is greater.
- Maintain social distancing when possible.
- Signage will be used as reminder of physical distancing and encouraging good hygiene practices. Signage will be posted in areas of larger events such as gyms to indicate risk of failure to comply with physical distancing recommendations.
- Non-school related functions over 500 people will not be permitted on school premises unless specifically approved through a waiver or such a time that vaccinations have been implemented.

### **Administrative Offices**

- Maintain social distancing to the extent possible.
- Desks and other work areas should be separated by at least six feet when possible.
- Place markings on the floor to maintain at least six feet of distance in visitor lines.

## Transportation

- Bus drivers will be encouraged to wear face masks, especially when they are within 6 feet of students.
- Education will be provided to parents encouraging them to perform a health check on their child(ren) prior to getting on the bus. The requirement will be that parents keep their child(ren) home if they have symptoms consistent with COVID or any other contagious virus.
- Signage will be placed on the buses stating students should not board the bus with the above listed symptoms.
- Hand sanitizer will be available for students and bus drivers to use as they enter and exit the bus.
- Bus drivers should consider having students sit in the back of the bus working the way forward to maintain the most distance possible from the bus driver.
- Students will be assigned seats to minimize exposure. Students will sit one person per seat until capacity is such that shared seating is necessary. Whenever possible, students will be assigned to sit with others in their household.
- Gloves will be worn anytime decontaminating or otherwise touching surfaces contaminated by body fluid.
- When weather and conditions allow, drivers should consider opening windows to allow for increased ventilation.
- Disinfection of buses:
  - Following morning route, driver will wipe down all handrails, seat bottoms and backs, driver's area, and all other high touch areas.
  - Following afternoon route, driver will wipe down all handrails, seat bottoms and backs, driver's area, and all other high touch areas AND sweep and mop any areas in which spills occurred AND disinfect all windows
  - Weekly (or immediately following known exposure) disinfection of entire bus with spray or equivalent.

### **Food Services**

- Sanitize cookware, plates, cups, cutlery and food preparation surfaces regularly and plan for distribution that minimizes handling of food.
- Limit unnecessary staff in the food service areas. Cafeterias will be closed to visitors during the 2020-2021 School year.
- Sanitize table surfaces between eating shifts.
- For classes that mainly cohort throughout the day (PK-5<sup>th</sup>), maintain the same cohort while eating together.
- Remove self-service, including salad bars, buffet lines, and family style service.
- Consider the use of individual condiment packages. Acceptable alternatives include a staff member serving the condiments or offering condiments in open, individual cups.

### **Classrooms**

- Maximize spacing within the classroom.
- Increase airflow within the classrooms when possible.
- Keep each child's belongings in separated spaces from others.
- No sharing of lockers when possible.
- If desks are shared, it is recommended to sanitize desks between classes and have students sanitize their hands upon entering the room.
- Provide adequate supplies to minimize sharing of materials to the extent possible.
- Encourage outdoor PE activities as much as weather permits.
- Libraries should stagger students' usage and disinfect books covers before replacing them on shelf.

### **Playgrounds/Recess**

- Activities should be held outside whenever possible to encourage increased ventilation.
- Playground equipment may be used with a protocol that students must wash or sanitize hands upon entering the school.

## Restrooms

- Soap and single service towels should be available for all restrooms.
- Consider limiting the number of people in a restroom at one time.
- Consider increasing the cleaning and disinfecting of high touch areas such as door handles, faucets, and paper towel dispensers.

# YELLOW

***\*Threshold for YELLOW: With 5 or more active COVID cases amongst students/staff within a 10-day period (or receive orders from Local and/or State agencies) Idalia School will enter phase YELLOW for a minimum of 2 weeks.***

***\*\*In phase Yellow, all Green guidelines will remain in place plus the additional guidelines listed below.***

- Buses will be fully disinfected at the end of each day.
- Meals will be eaten in classrooms. *\*Open campus will remain available according to District policy.*
- Recess will be conducted one class at a time to minimize exposure between classes.
- All students and staff will be screened within the first hour of the day to identify and isolate students and staff who are displaying symptoms. Anyone displaying symptoms will be sent home.
- Students will have assigned seating in the classrooms whenever possible to help with contact tracing and exposure investigations.
- All classrooms that have students who have been exposed to a positive case will be disinfected at the end of each day.
- Extracurricular activities may continue. Students will be screened prior to leaving for an away event and will not be allowed to board the bus if having symptoms. Activities at home events will be limited to no more than 250 spectators prioritizing family members of participants.

- The YELLOW phase will remain in effect for a minimum of two weeks AND until the number of new cases within the school has declined.

## RED

***\*Threshold for RED: With 15 or more active COVID cases amongst students/staff within a 10-day period (or receive orders from Local and/or State agencies) Idalia School will enter phase RED for a minimum of 2 weeks.***

- The school building will be closed for a minimum of two weeks – teachers, as essential staff, may work on site.
- The school building will be fully decontaminated.
- Food services will continue to provide meals for families in need.
- All learning will be conducted remotely.
- Administrative offices may remain open after decontamination.
- Extracurriculars may be limited or discontinued at this time. All students who wish to participate in extracurriculars during phase Red will be required to have a negative test within the past 7 days and will be fully screened prior to activity. Students and other participants with known exposure to COVID-19 within the past 5 days or those experiencing symptoms are not eligible to participate. Home events will be limited to participants and parents only. All participants will be fully screened prior to entry. Activities that require overnight stays are allowed as long as daily screenings are performed, and a plan is developed to isolate and assist a participant who becomes ill getting home safely.
- Following two weeks of phase RED, schools may return to YELLOW if the number of infected students/staff is 5 or less. The school will stay in YELLOW for a minimum of a week before proceeding to GREEN if the illness number allows.

# CARE OF SYMPTOMATIC STUDENTS/STAFF

- The school will identify an isolation room or area in which anyone who exhibits COVID-19 symptoms may remain until picked up. This area should be separate from the area designated for students seeking medical needs such as first aid and the taking of regular medication. Symptom screening will be performed on each student sent to the office for potential illness. Teachers should have a low threshold for sending students to the office to be screened.
- Students who become ill will be taken directly to the isolation area. Once parents are notified, they are required to have their child picked up within one hour.
- Staff who become ill will be asked to leave the building immediately to minimize exposure. Administration will identify a temporary substitute as needed.
- Staff responsible for caring for students/staff experiencing COVID-19 symptoms shall use Standard and Transmission-Based Precautions when providing care. This will include N-95 masks when available (face shield acceptable alternative), gowns and gloves.
- Symptomatic students should be provided a face mask to wear if tolerable. Symptomatic students will remain 6 feet apart from others.
- The seat and high touch areas should be disinfected immediately upon the departure of the student.
- Re-entry to schools will be current per CDC guidelines or as directed by a medical doctor. Current guidelines of which state:
  - o Students/employees who test positive may not return to school until ALL of the following are met:
    - No fever for 72 hours without use of fever reducing medications AND
    - Symptoms are improving AND
    - 10 days have passed since onset of symptoms
  - o Students/employees who test negative may return as soon as they are fever free for 24 hours AND symptoms have improved

- Students/employees who have symptoms attributed to another cause such as strep throat/influenza/etc should be allowed to return upon physician note/approval or current district policy
- Students/employees who test positive on the screening tools and have ongoing symptoms (such as chronic cough from asthma) will require a note from their healthcare provider to return to school
- Care of students/staff with Chronic conditions
  - Ensure proper medications and resources are available to assist in case of emergency
  - Encourage mask usage, social distancing, and good hygiene practices
- Symptom Screening
  - Parents will be educated and expected to properly screen students for fever (100.4) and other symptoms prior to them leaving for school. Home will be the first point of screening.
  - Buses are the second point of screening. Signage will indicate that students with symptoms should not board the bus.
  - School is the final point of screening. Staff will send students for full screening if they show signs of illness. Full screening will include temperature and symptom assessment (Attachment 1)