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Climax-Shelly School Safe Return to School Plan

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I. Welcome



From the Office

With the school year quickly coming into sight, we continue to focus our efforts on providing students and staff with a safe and conducive learning environment. We have reflected on the many challenges we have already faced and will continue to adapt and prepare for another successful school year.

It is our goal to return to as normal school practices as possible; moreover, we will continue to recognize Polk County Public Health and MDH recommendations for health and safety policies and implement them accordingly. These policies include face coverings, social distancing, health screenings, and other hygiene procedures. These practices provide families a framework that instills safety for students, families, and staff as well as provide structure for consistency in instruction.

As the conditions of our state continue to evolve, the district will closely monitor and revise this plan regularly; furthermore, we encourage input from the community for any additional suggestions. Comments can be submitted by written suggestions.

Climax-Shelly School is dedicated to providing consistency in education and family support. To stay updated on current information regarding our school, please visit our website at www.isd592.org.

II: Health Screening



- Parents will be responsible for reporting to the school the presence of any symptoms in students or possible COVID-19 exposure daily. Isolation requirements as outlined by the Minnesota Department of Health must be followed.
- Students will be asked if they are experiencing any symptoms at the start of each school day, if noticeably ill, and will be reminded of what symptoms to report to an adult at school if they begin to feel ill.
- Any student or staff member who experiences symptoms of COVID-19 will be sent home and must comply with isolation requirements as outlined by the Minnesota Department of Health and Climax-Shelly School policy guidelines.
- COVID-19 Symptoms Include:
 - Fever of 100.4° F or greater or chills
 - Cough
 - 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
- Minor complaints and simple injuries will be addressed in the classroom to reduce possible transmission of COVID-19.
- We will follow the latest quarantine guidance from MDH, Polk County Health, and the CDC.

III: Face Coverings and Hygiene



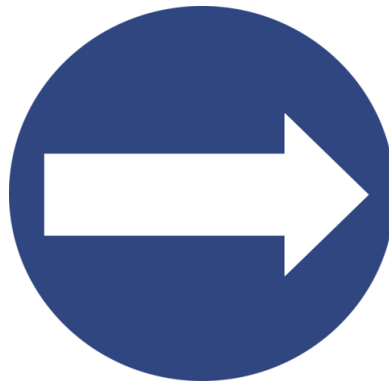
Face Coverings

- Cloth face coverings may prevent the person wearing the mask from spreading respiratory droplets when breathing, talking, sneezing, or coughing.
- The use of face coverings are **not mandated** at this time; however, they are recommended for all students and staff, regardless of vaccination status.
- Climax-Shelly school will continue to monitor data provided by local and state agencies regarding COVID-19 infection rates and may change mask recommendations based on data.
- Face coverings are currently not mandated on buses and other school transportation.
- If face coverings are required, a medical exemption form will be required for all face covering exemption requests and must include certification by a physician. Additional precautions may be used.
- Students and staff who wish to wear one are expected to supply their own.
- Face coverings should comply with the Minnesota Department of Health guidelines, covering the nose and mouth and fitting snugly against the sides of the face.
- If a student forgets a mask, a disposable one can be provided per request.

Hygiene Procedures

- Students and staff will be instructed in correct hand and respiratory hygiene etiquette.
- Hand sanitizer will be available in all classrooms and in common areas of the buildings.
- Climax-Shelly School will reinforce frequent hand washing by students and staff
- Reminders for proper hand washing, social distancing, and the use of face coverings will be posted throughout the school.

IV: Facility Operations and Sanitation



Social Distancing

- When feasible, social distancing of at least three feet will be suggested to minimize opportunities for exposure.
- Visual aids will be posted to aid in the appropriate spacing and traffic flow of the school building.

Classroom and Building Use

- If necessary, hallways will be divided to keep traffic on one side or the other.
- Lockers will be available for the use of school supplies and winter clothes only.

- Gym lockers will be available per request.
- Students will have assigned seats, all facing the same direction.
- Lunchroom will be set up for greatest social distancing possible, if necessary..
- Students are encouraged to bring their own labeled water bottles as drinking fountains will only be used to fill a water bottle or cup.

Visitors

- Masking is not mandated at this time. If masking becomes a requirement, all visitors will be recommended to wear a mask when entering the building unless professional documentation is provided.
- If it becomes necessary, communication or engagement that can be conducted outside (weather permitting) or via electronic communication or phone should be done so to limit the number of individuals inside the school building.

Transportation

- Masking is not mandated at this time.
- A regular ridership schedule is requested for each address. This will aid in support of capacity restrictions and contact tracing efforts if it becomes necessary.
- Parents/Guardians of students eligible for bus transportation services should indicate if they plan to use the services so they may be assigned a route. Last minute changes to a student's regular pick-up or drop-off route may not be possible due to capacity restrictions.

Cleaning and Sanitation

- CDC guidelines will be referenced when cleaning and sanitation protocols are developed. Thorough cleaning will occur in the mornings and evenings.
- EPA approved disinfecting products will be used to disinfect hard surfaces throughout the day and after school.
- A daily cleaning schedule is implemented to sufficiently address each classroom and high traffic areas.

V: Positive Case Response



Covid 19 Case Response

- If a positive case is confirmed, Climax-Shelly School will work directly with Polk County Public Health to assess the situation and follow their guidance.
- The Decision Tree document will be our primary resource for positive cases and close contact(s).
- All cases will be investigated internally and conducted by the Covid Response team.

Close Contacts

- A close contact will be defined and determined by referencing the Covid-19 Decision Tree document
- Communication with the positive individual and all close contacts will be clear and will include:
 - A notification via phone call
 - A letter via email (close contacts only)
 - An exposure date
 - A return date
- All forms of communication will respect and adhere to privacy practices.
- Quarantining or other protocols for positive and close contact cases will be determined by referencing the COVID-19 Decision Tree document and Polk County Health.

VI: Vaccination and Testing Resources



Vaccination Resources

- The CDC and state of Minnesota are working diligently to offer vaccination opportunities to the general public.
- We have teamed up with Polk County Public Health to remain updated on current regulations and vaccination opportunities for our school community.

Testing Resources

- Climax-Shelly School will utilize MDH and Polk County Public Health resources to offer adequate testing for all students and staff.
 - Please contact the school if your child would be interested in a test.
- Tests completed outside of the school should be completed by a health professional and results may be requested with adequate documentation.

For the latest vaccination and testing information, please visit the CDC, Minnesota Department of Health, Polk County Public Health, and ISD 592 websites.