

Mulhall-Orlando Public School Back to School COVID-19 Guidelines for 2020-2021

Mulhall-Orlando Public Schools will use guidance from the Oklahoma Department of Health (ODH) Guidelines and Return to Learn Oklahoma Framework provided by the Oklahoma State Department of Education (OSDE) in planning for reopening in the fall. We hope the following information helps answer many of the questions you may have about our reopening.

Our goal is to provide a safe environment that will include a rich educational experience, with opportunities for social interaction and extracurricular activities while adhering to guidelines provided by the Oklahoma Department of Health.

When is the first day of school for students?

School will begin on August 14, as originally planned. This date will only change if the OSDE or ODH sends updated guidance on the reopening, but this is not anticipated.

Who will be required to wear mask?

Currently, the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and the Oklahoma Department of Health (ODH) is recommending all individuals 10 years old and over wear a mask. We require that adults, staff, and students age 10 or 4th grade and up wear a mask when physical distancing cannot be achieved, particularly on school buses, hallways, restrooms, and any other areas where students and staff gather together. The ODH or OSDE has not issued a directive to require a mask; however, this does not downplay the importance of this additional safety measure. Students under 10 years of age will not be required to wear a mask at this time. However, the district reserves the right to require all students to wear a mask if it would be in the best interest/health of our students and staff. Students with health issues or circumstances that prevent them from wearing a mask will be required to meet with the building administrator and the student's parents to figure out an option that will work for that student while protecting other students and staff in the building. Parents and guests will be required to wear a mask upon entering the building. Masks will not be provided for parents and guests.

Do we need to provide masks for our students or will one be provided?

Parents are expected to provide their student(s) with a mask. If a student age 10 or 4th grade and up arrives at school without a mask, the district will provide one mask, one time for that student, then additional masks will be available for purchase in the office as supplies allow. Masks need to meet the CDC guidelines, and can not have any offensive language, art, or anything that violates the dress code requirements.

Will bus transportation be provided?

Yes, the district will provide bus transportation for all students. Based on current ODH guidance, everyone will be required to wear a mask when riding the bus. Every student will have an assigned seat where they will be required to sit. If a student moves from the assigned seat without permission from the bus driver, that student will lose bus privileges. We are planning no changes to bus schedules or bus stops.

How normal will the school day be for a student?

Our goal is for your student(s) to have as normal of a school day as possible while we also provide as much safety as possible. When students arrive at school, either by bus or parent, they will have their temperature checked at the front doors before going any further into the building. Upon completing the screening, students will proceed to their designated area. Students will be screened

daily. Students will not remain in the same classroom all day but will be able to transition from one class to another, following social distancing as much as possible.

Will students still have extra classes like athletics, PE, and library? Yes, students will continue to participate in activity classes and check out library books. Masks will be required in the library if social distancing can not be done. In other situations, such as PE, students may have an assigned area in the gym with specific materials assigned to their classrooms. Sporting events will be held according to OSSAA and ODH recommendations.

Will social distancing guidelines be observed?

Social distancing will be required as much as possible, but at times students will be closer than the recommended 6 ft. social distancing. When social distancing requirements cannot be maintained such as class exchange time, some classrooms, etc., students will be required to wear mask. Classroom desks will be spaced as far apart as possible to increase the distance between students, but we cannot guarantee it will always be 6 ft. In this case, students will be required to wear a mask and will be asked to respect the personal space of one another. We will be able to accommodate social distancing in the cafeteria by staggering lunchtimes and spreading the students out while they are eating at the tables.

Will classrooms be arranged differently to protect students?

Yes, classrooms will be arranged to provide more space between students. That might mean all desks are arranged in rows facing in a single direction. It might result in reading areas with bean bags, or comfy chairs being removed. It might include dividers between students who are seated at a table. We will make every reasonable accommodation to provide distance but not limit students' ability to interact and communicate with others in their classroom. Additionally, supplies and materials will not be shared by students. Any supplies or objects that must be shared, will be sanitized between uses.

Will students attend school every day or will we have some type of alternative schedule? We plan for students to attend school daily following a very similar schedule to the traditional school day.

What will happen if a person tests positive for Covid-19?

In the event a person tests positive, we will follow the latest guidance from the ODH. We will be in direct contact with ODH. This could result in a brief closure of a single classroom or site within the district to provide time for additional cleaning and sanitation. Our district will have an internal process for contact tracing, in order to identify others potentially exposed while at school.

Will students and staff be screened daily?

Parent screening at home using the provided checklist:

If parents send their child to school, they are certifying they have screened their child. It's the parent's responsibility to do the parent screening and it will be relied upon by the school district. Students will receive a temperature check and screening upon arrival. There will be two screening stations at the front doors upon arrival. Students must report to one of these stations when they enter the building. Staff will be screened when they arrive at school as well.

What are my options, if I do not want my child to return to the traditional classroom?

Students will have the option of a pencil/paper curriculum at home. Our district is also set up to

provide virtual learning with each teacher through Google Meet. Access to the lessons will depend on if the student has internet access at home.

Enrollment

Enrollment forms are online at www.m-ops.org, and can be emailed to lboyd@m-ops.org or joldenburg@m-ops.org, dropped off at the school offices, or mailed to the school. We will not do the traditional in-person enrollment day as we have done in the past. If online enrollment is not an option, you are welcome to call the offices at 405-649-2000 to arrange a time to pick up an enrollment packet.

Will we have an open house?

Yes, we will hold a modified open house at the elementary. This will be held on Tuesday, August 11th from 4:00-6:00 PM. We are asking that only the student and parent/guardian attend this event to be able to adhere to ODH guidelines. Masks are required.

Will students be able to participate in extracurricular activities and sports in the fall?

Yes. We anticipate sports activities in the fall with possible modifications as required by the OSSAA. All uniforms and practice equipment will be washed and sanitized after each use.

What will breakfast and lunch be like?

Based on current guidelines, the ODH recommends limiting the capacity of students in the cafeteria. Lunch schedules will be staggered, in order to have fewer students eating at the same time. This will allow for social distancing during lunch. Designated seats and additional seating areas could be added, if staggering lunchtimes is not enough to allow for the students to be 6 ft apart. We also could offer grab and go lunches for outside. Proper sanitation of all areas will be completed after each meal. Procedures will not allow students to pick up utensils, self-serve, or share food. Parents are encouraged to send a water bottle with their students (water fountains will not be available), water bottle filling stations will be available and sanitized frequently.

What special precautions will be implemented in regard to cleaning and sanitizing?

Sanitation and cleanliness will be a high priority for our district as we return in the fall. We will be disinfecting frequently touched surfaces (doorknobs, light switches, etc.) on a continuous basis throughout the day. All staff will be sanitizing/disinfecting regularly during the day. Our district will continue to use the Electrostatic sanitizing sprayer that we have had much success with the past two years. We have added portable hand sanitizer stands at both schools. Students and staff will have access to hand sanitizer throughout the buildings and in the classrooms. Students will be encouraged to sanitize and wash their hands each time they leave and enter a new space.

What will happen if a student comes to school sick?

If a student comes to school not feeling well, the office will screen the student and check their temperature. If their temperature is over the ODH guidance of 100.4 or they show other symptoms such as coughing or difficulty breathing, the student will be quarantined at school, until a parent can pick them up from school.

A student will need to be fever-free without taking fever-reducing medication for 72 hours and not have symptoms for at least 10 days before returning to school. When the child returns to school, they will go directly to the office to be screened for fever before going anywhere else in the building.

If the student tested positive for COVID19, the student will be required to have a negative test result, and a medical release stating that they are no longer sick or showing symptoms associated with the COVID virus.

How will you help fill any gaps my student has from the previous year?

Teachers/staff will be revising the curriculum so that missed essential standards will be addressed when students return. Additionally, students may be assessed to determine individual strengths and weaknesses. These assessments may determine if students need additional support. Tutoring will be available to students throughout the year who need it during their lunch period.

What happens if we have school closures again?

If schools close again, a plan for at-home learning will be used. At this time, we will move to a pencil/paper curriculum and the teachers will have the option to use Google Meet to allow for virtual lessons. This approach will allow students who might be ill or quarantined for a limited amount of time to continue their education even if they are not physically present in the classroom. Based on our survey in the spring, internet connectivity was a major issue for a large population of our students and their families. The school infrastructure is strong. Internet connectivity in student homes would be the responsibility of the parent or guardian.

Will our students have the same arrival and dismissal times?

Yes, however, depending on guidance from ODH, arrival and dismissal times may be varied, in order to increase social distancing and to decrease the number of students in the cafeteria and gym before school starts.

In the event of a temporary school closure, how will the district serve special needs students (Special Education, 504, Dyslexia, etc)?

In the event of a school closure, students will work with their regular teachers and the Special Education teacher. This will be based on each student's IEP or 504 plan.

If you have any questions regarding these procedures please contact one of the offices at 405-649-2000.

Mulhall-Orlando Public School
Home Prescreening for Students

Dear Parents,

The safety of your child and our staff is of utmost importance as we return to school. During the school year, we are asking you to daily check your child for signs of COVID-19. Below is a checklist of statements you may use as a reference. If your child exhibits any of the following signs, indicating by answering yes to the questions below, please keep them at home. This checklist must be used separately for each child attending school from your household. You can print a checklist/log from our website at :

- ____ 1. Does your child have a temperature of 100.4 degrees or more today?
- ____ 2. Does your child have a sore throat?
- ____ 3. Does your child have a cough?
- ____ 4. Does your child have a loss of smell or taste?
- ____ 5. Does your child have shortness of breath?
- ____ 6. Does your child have muscle pain?
- ____ 7. Does your child have chills or repeated shaking with chills?
- ____ 8. Does your child have close contact with a positive COVID case?

By sending your child(ren) to school, you agree the answer to each of the statements above is "No."