

Boone County Schools

Boone County School District
2021-2022 Re-Entry Guidance Document



Message from the Superintendent

Dear Boone County Parents and Guardians,

On behalf of everyone at the Boone County Schools, I hope that each of you have enjoyed a safe and restful summer. We are committed to providing daily, in-person instruction for our students. We want to address some common questions and concerns regarding the upcoming school year.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the KY Department of Education (KDE), and the KY Department of Public Health (KDPH), all recommend and encourage students who are not vaccinated to wear masks during the school day. The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends mask wearing for all students during the school day, vaccinated or not. While we understand each of these recommendations, we are not mandating the wearing of a mask in our schools. We will leave that decision up to individual families and their students. However, the Boone County Schools reserves the right to revisit this decision based on the level of COVID infections in our schools and community. We will support students and staff that choose to wear a mask and will not tolerate shaming or harassment of anyone, as we must respect their choice.

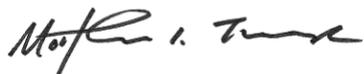
By the mandate of the CDC, KDE, and KDPH, all students and adults must wear a mask while riding a school bus, whether they are vaccinated or not.

We will always encourage students and staff to get vaccinated considering advice from their family physician. As well, we will always follow and encourage basic safety protocols among students and staff to include handwashing, cleaning requirements and notifying parents when their student becomes sick at school.

Should there be an outbreak of COVID or other infectious illnesses we will take necessary steps at that school/location individually and you will be informed. The rest of the school district will continue with normal operations.

We appreciate your continued support and understanding as we begin this school year with excitement and enthusiasm. We look forward to the start of the new school year on Wednesday, August 18th, 2021.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matthew L. Turner".

Matthew L. Turner
Superintendent of School

Guiding Principles

- Honor and safeguard the health and safety of students and staff
- Maintain fidelity of instruction ensuring standards are taught and mastered by all students
- Ensuring equity and access for all students
- Support the social-emotional learning and teaching needs of students and educators
- Adhere to guidelines from the state and local health officials at all times to mitigate unhealthy behaviors, reduce the spread of infection and protect the wellness of all individuals
- Respect choices for personal health and preferences when possible for mode of instructions, while asking such commitments be made for no less than a designated period of time to assist with staffing and other decisions, with exceptions allowed for unexpected health concerns
- Recognize unprecedented circumstances may arise that will need to be accommodated
- Communicating effectively with all stakeholders
- Ensuring flexibility to meet the needs of all students, while maintaining fiscal solvency

Social-Distancing/Reduction in Contact

Space planning solutions can be used to reduce transmission of contagious diseases through social distancing. Current guidance for social distancing is 3 feet or more. Boone County Schools will follow the guidance of all state and local health officials on social distancing to the best of our ability.

Quarantining

Unvaccinated individuals who are exposed to COVID are required to be quarantined (close contact is an individual who is within 6 feet of an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes within a 24 hour period while the person is considered contagious).

Transportation

- Parents shall take their student's temperature each morning. Any student exhibiting a fever should be kept home.
- Students are required to wear a mask at all times while riding the bus by the mandate of the CDC, KDE, and KDPH, all students and adults must wear a mask while riding a school bus, whether they are vaccinated or not (in accordance with [President Biden's Executive Order](#) and the [CDC's public health order](#))
- When possible, air flow will be increased on all buses (windows down)
- Hand sanitizer is available on all buses when entering the bus
- Assigned seating will be established on all buses
- Students will be off-loaded buses from the front of the bus to the rear of the bus
- Increased sanitation protocols of buses will occur daily and weekly

School Building Cleaning, Sanitizing and Disinfecting

- Multiple hand sanitizing stations and dispensers are located throughout all schools (Handwashing is still the recommended best practice)
- Frequent cleaning of all aspects of schools and district building will occur throughout the day and each evening
- Frequently touched surfaces such as handrails and door knobs will be sanitized throughout the school day
- High traffic areas, such as restrooms, common areas and drinking fountains will be sanitized throughout the school day
- Sanitizing and disinfecting sprays and wipes will be provided to support classroom needs throughout the school day

Food Services

Full In-Person Instruction

5 Day School Week

Meal Services

- Breakfast and Lunch Meal Services provided at all schools on a daily basis at **No Charge** for 2021-22 school year for all enrolled students
- Free/Reduced Meal Applications are still needed and can be completed using [Free & Reduced Benefit Application](#) link
- Ala Carte Pricing [Meal Prices \(2021-2022\)](#) link

If you have any questions or concerns please contact Food Services at 859-282-2367

Attendance/Participation

As we approach the start of the new 2021-2022 school year, we are excited to announce that all children enrolled in a Boone County School will be in-person learners starting on the first day of school for students, August 18. This action is in conjunction with the recently communicated expectation from the Kentucky Department of Education that all public schools in Kentucky return to educational settings where daily student attendance is recorded as students are present in their classrooms. We look forward to having our students in their desks Monday through Friday for the upcoming school year.

Teaching and Learning

Students in grades K-12 will attend school in-person 5 days per week. Preschool students will attend school in-person following the normal 4-day, Monday through Thursday, schedule.

When a student, grades K-12, is unable to attend school due to a physical or emotional medical issue or disability and meets the home/hospital criteria, the student can be provided instructional services through the school district's Home/Hospital Instructional Program. An instructional session may be delivered in person or electronically. Parents who are interested in pursuing the Home/Hospital Program option can contact Mark Raleigh, Assistant Director of Pupil Personnel, at 859-283-3217.

Boone County Schools is now offering a virtual option for 6th – 12th grade students through the Accel Academy. If accepted, students will have a primary enrollment at the Accel Academy and will no longer be enrolled at their district school. Parents should contact their school counselor or administration for more information and to set up an enrollment meeting. Parents can also contact Tracy Schaefer, School Choice and Transitional Programs Coordinator for more information as well at tracy.schaefer@boone.kyschools.us or 859-283-3232.

Our re-entry plan is a living document and is subject to change throughout the school year. We will update the document with any new information given to us from the local, state or federal agencies.