

**The Mission of the Dunklin R-5 School District:**  
Educating Today for a Better Tomorrow

**The Vision of the Dunklin R-5 School District:**  
Dunklin R-5 School District will demonstrate excellence in leadership, the development of character, and achievement for ALL students.

**The Core Values of the Dunklin R-5 School District:**  
Respect, Responsibility, Integrity, Compassion, Perseverance

# COVID- 19 Re-entry Guidance 2020

Released on: July 19, 2020

Released via: Social Media July 20, 2020

**This Document is Subject to change as more information regarding COVID 19 is made available.**

## Introduction

The global Coronavirus pandemic has introduced a new level of risk for in-person instruction and in-person gatherings. Our schools are designed to educate students through social, face-to-face interactions, in relatively close spaces and in large groups. The benefits of this approach to education are well accepted. The Dunklin R-5 School District has heard from our community and access to school is important. We also know our community prioritizes student and staff safety and expects a thoughtful re-entry plan. As we plan for a school year likely to be continuously impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, here are our priorities:

- Providing environments that are as safe as possible for students and staff; to the best extent possible.
- Providing equitable, guaranteed, and viable rigorous curriculum. That maximizes student learning.

Therefore, the Dunklin R-5 School District will be accessible to all students through a choice model. Students and families may choose to engage in their education in an **online format** or **in-person** (more traditional model). Beginning with the 2020-2021 school year the Dunklin R-5 School District will be 1:1 for students in grades 6th-12th.

### **In-Person and Online Education**

The Dunklin R-5 School District recognizes that many parents are ready and comfortable with resuming class in-person on August 26, 2020. However, there are still some parents and students who may be nervous about attending school ‘in-person.’ As a result, for the 2020-2021 school year, the Dunklin R-5 School District will offer students the **choice** to either attend class in-person or opt for online classes called “**Virtual Blackcats.**” Dunklin R-5 teachers have developed the curriculum and will teach the Virtual Blackcats. Families that feel Virtual Blackcats might be the best option for them, should first begin by scheduling a meeting with their building principal. The initial meeting will provide further guidance in determining if Virtual Blackcats is the most viable option for a particular family/student. Students will be given the option to transfer to an in-person option within the first ten days of the start of the school year, at the end of each quarter, or with building principal approval.



## General Guidelines

The Dunklin R-5 School District is offering the following guidance with regard to returning to the school setting, which is scheduled to begin on August 26, 2020. This document is based on local leadership decisions, which have been derived from guidelines established by local government and health authorities, based upon current factors and information. This is a “working document” and is subject to change, as new information is obtained and regulations evolve at local and regional levels.

It is important to note that while the District will make every effort to provide a safe and healthy environment for our students and staff, **there are inherent risks** with participation in group activities during this time. Therefore, the District cannot guarantee that your child will not be exposed to the virus or those who may have been affected; but the District will continue to prioritize the safety of your child. COVID-19 is still here and it’s still a threat. We must adapt our behaviors to live alongside the virus, rather than in fear of it. We have come a long way since our first case in March. Our community is stronger, and safer because of what we have learned.

### **Social Distancing**

Social distancing of a minimum of 6-feet is the best preventative measure. While children are the least likely to exhibit serious symptoms from COVID-19, social distancing helps prevent the spread to adults—especially those who may be at high risk. If an individual receives a positive test for COVID-19, everyone that spent more than 15-minutes with them at less than 6-feet will be asked to quarantine. Keep this in mind when deciding social distancing parameters.

### **Sporting Events**

Playing sports with and against other individuals, in any capacity during this time, holds an inherent risk of a child or teenager becoming infected and potentially infecting other individuals, such as their household members. Please consider this risk when allowing your child or teenager to participate in organized sports. Teams, clubs, and organizers must be familiar with recommendations from their national, state, and local governing bodies regarding illness (including, but not limited to, COVID-19).

Dunklin R-5 School District students that are enrolled in online course work and maintain eligibility, may participate in extracurricular activities.

At this time, no decisions have been made about allowing spectators to attend sporting events or fine arts performances. Decisions regarding allowing spectators/audience will be made as each event approaches. The decisions will be based on recommendations from the Jefferson County Health Department in collaboration with Dunklin R-5 administration.

## Teaching and Learning:

Dunklin R-5 Teaching Staff will be focusing on teaching the Essential Learning Outcomes (ELO) that are directly aligned to the Missouri Standards in all curricular areas. This will also be the focus should a student/family choose the Virtual Blackcats option.

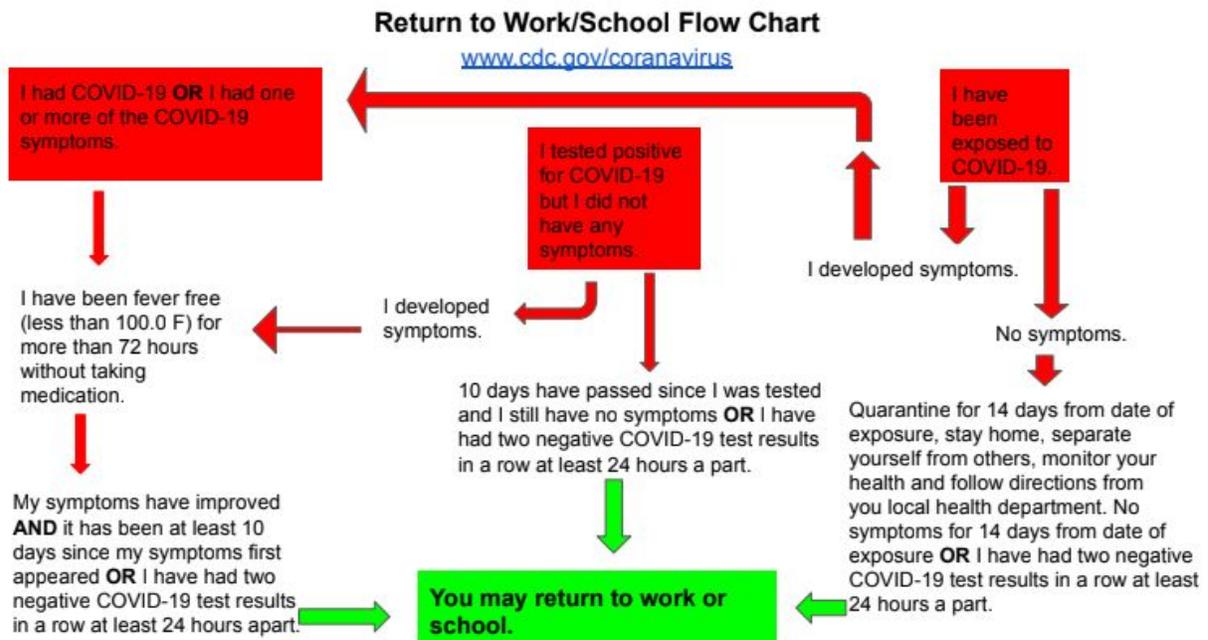
Special Education students with an IEP or a 504 plan will receive services and accommodations and/or modifications as identified in their plans.

Grades will be assigned in a traditional format, which will be reflected on progress reports and report cards. These grades will accurately reflect student performance and mastery of assigned grade-level material.

## Professional Development for Staff and Parents:

MobileMind's modern professional learning hub offers a simple, personalized, and convenient professional learning solution for schools. In just a few steps, educators will be learning how to transform classrooms using Google Suite and other tools, while leaders will have reporting visibility in order to take actionable steps toward improving teaching and learning in their schools.

Webinars and video tutorials will be completed prior to the start of the school year. (use of personalized Professional Development for teachers to select and/or be assigned specific topics)



## **General Parameters:**

### **The District will:**

- ✓ Discontinue allowing nonessential visitors into the school. Individuals should not be allowed to visit classrooms and should remain in a contained area if visiting the school is necessary. Only one person should be in the contained area at one time. If others are waiting they should wait outside (in their vehicle if necessary) so there is a limited number of individuals in the contained area.
- ✓ Utilize a plan for daily screening for illness or exposure to the coronavirus.
- ✓ Have procedures in place for staff or students when they become or are sick.
- ✓ Attempt to keep students physically distanced while at school.
  - Avoid large gatherings
  - Consider ways to minimize contact
- ✓ Practice heightened cleaning and disinfecting applications.

## **Screening-Staff**

**The District will:** Implement a health screening for all staff reporting to work.

- ✓ The District will conduct and administer screening questions when staff member reports to work [Staff Screening Questions](#) or
- ✓ Administer a daily self-assessment prior to reporting to work, without taking one's temperature. Questions on the self-assessment will ask the following of the staff member:
  - Has the staff member had an unexplained onset of fever, cough, chills, shortness of breath, muscle pain, sore throat, or loss of taste or smell?
  - If a staff member answers "Yes" to any of the screening questions, he/she will not be able to report to work.
- ✓ Implement random temperature checks to reinforce the practice of self-screening.
- ✓ [FMLA Information](#)

## **Screening-Students**

**The District will:** Implement a health screening for all students reporting to school.

- ✓ The District will provide a protocol for parents to screen their children before sending to school. This will include a temperature check and screening questions similar to those administered to the staff.
  - Note that only a minority of children who have COVID-19 will have a fever.

## **When Someone Is Sick**

In the past, many employees that may be feeling under the weather still went to work. We must work towards changing that culture and encourage staff and students to stay home when they are feeling ill. This message will continually be communicated to staff, parents, and students.

[Health Department Guidance](#)

## Health Department COVID Isolation and quarantine

**The District will:** (when someone is identified with symptoms):

- ✓ Remove the individual immediately.
  - If it's a staff member, that individual will be sent home immediately. (additional communication would be sent to individuals that have been in direct contact with that staff member closer than 6 feet and longer than 15 minutes.)
  - If it is a student, they will be removed from the classroom until arrangements can be made for them to be picked up by a parent or guardian.
  - [Sick Kid in School](#)
  - A Sick Staff Member in School will be asked to consult with their primary physician or the Jefferson County Health Department.
- ✓ The person should be advised to contact a healthcare provider if they exhibit symptoms or answered YES to any screening question/s.
- ✓ The healthcare provider will be able to determine whether the symptoms are a result of COVID-19 infection or if there are other health issues.
- ✓ Contact one's local health agency.
  - They will assist when it is acceptable for the person to return to work or school.
- ✓ Follow the guidance of the local health department regarding contact tracing, classroom or school closure, notification of community, sanitizing protocols, etc.

**The District will:**

- ✓ Establish social distancing protocols for various activities during the school day to the best extent possible—classroom, cafeteria, gymnasium, playground, etc.
- ✓ Establish a contained area (such as main entrance foyers) for parents when checking students in/out during the school day.
  - If others are waiting to check their student in, they should wait outside (in their vehicle if necessary) so there is a limited number of individuals in the contained area.
- ✓ Discontinue allowing nonessential visitors into the school.
  - Individuals should not be allowed to visit classrooms and should remain in a contained area if visiting the school is necessary.
- ✓ Administer a temperature check and health screening questions if a vendor (food suppliers to the food preparation areas, for example) is allowed into the school building.
  - Masks should be required for these individuals.
- ✓ Keep accurate records of anyone who has been inside a building in case an outbreak occurs to assist with contact tracing efforts.

## **Transportation**

### **The District will:**

- ✓ Parents are encouraged to transport students to and from school, if possible.
  - If it is not possible for parents to transport their child to school, due to the time of their departure for work, the District will provide an area for students (with social distancing requirements in place) to arrive at school at an earlier time so this can remain as a viable option for parents.
- ✓ Assign seats to reduce transmission and assist with contact tracing if necessary.
- ✓ The District will attempt to “family load”, where all members of one’s family will sit together.
- ✓ Be following specific guidelines to provide social distancing to the best extent possible.
- ✓ Establish cleaning protocols for sanitizing each bus in between routes (see Cleaning and Disinfecting).

## **Food Service**

### [Food Service Procedures](#)

## **Masks-Staff**

### **How to use a mask to protect yourself from COVID-19**

- ✓ Food service staff will wear masks when preparing and serving food.
- ✓ Non Food Service faculty and staff members will be required to wear masks when unable to social distance. A washable mask will be provided for all staff.
- ✓ No outside visitors will be allowed. Vendors and Repairmen will be required to wear masks if they are in the building while students are in attendance.
- ✓ Instruct staff in the proper manner in which a mask should be worn.
  - Efforts should be made to destigmatize the wearing of face masks to protect those individuals who need to wear one

## **Masks-Students**

### **The District will:**

- ✓ When students are physically present on campus, face coverings will be required at certain times throughout the day (on buses, during transitions, when directed in classes, and when social distancing is not possible). A washable mask will be provided for students to wear in grades 4-12.
- ✓ Encourage to wear masks and bring them, if they so choose in grades 4-12.
- ✓ Younger students (K-3) will wear a face mask when asked by the teacher, but can also wear as a personal (family) choice.

- ✓ Students who are in a high-risk group (previous health concerns, immune deficiency, etc.) will be highly encouraged to wear a face mask at all times.
- ✓ Remove any student from the classroom who becomes ill and provide them a face mask.
- ✓ Instruct students in the proper manner in which a mask should be worn.
  - Efforts should be made to destigmatize the wearing of face masks to protect those students who need to wear one.

**Gloves-Staff** (Gloves are not necessary or required for students.)

**The District will:**

- ✓ Provide gloves for health care workers, such as school nurses, who will be working with sick or individuals who are suspected to be sick.
  - A fresh pair of gloves should be worn when working with each new individual.
- ✓ An individual should use hand sanitizer before putting on gloves and then once again after removing gloves.
- ✓ Require custodians to use gloves whenever cleaning.

**Hand Washing- Staff and Students**

[Elementary Lesson for Handwashing](#)

[Middle/High School Lesson for Handwashing](#)

**The District will:**

- ✓ Require hand washing upon entering the building, before eating, after eating, before any group activities and before boarding buses.
- ✓ Recommend hand washing any time the face/mouth are touched.
- ✓ Provide hand sanitizer in classrooms and hand sanitizing stations throughout the building.

**Cleaning and Disinfecting**

**The District will:**

- ✓ Require the use of disposable gloves when cleaning and disinfecting.
- ✓ More frequent cleaning and disinfection will be required based on the level of use.
- ✓ High touch surfaces and objects (such as tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, sinks, etc.) in public places will be cleaned and disinfected regularly throughout the day.
- ✓ Utilization of EPA-registered household disinfectants, properly diluted bleach solutions, or alcohol solutions with at least 70% alcohol.
- ✓ The District will utilize Ionogen, which is an all-natural, scientifically proven cleaner that is non-toxic to staff and students and leaves no residue behind.
  - Ionization instruments are utilized to dispense the sanitizer, which mists and fogs areas to be cleaned. These areas can then be ready for use within approximately 15 -20 minutes.

- Ionogen saturates the room with a microbial substance that purifies and removes pathogens from the air.
- [Custodial Checklist](#)
- <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1JSmv45nI3LGKZ4aCDu-81gGjxgqL7Mj-/view?usp=sharing>

**Water Fountains-Staff and Students** (note: the CDC has not issued specific guidance, as it relates to water fountains)

**The District will:**

- ✓ Avoid groups congregating around water fountains waiting for access.
- ✓ Allow use of water fountains for filling water bottles only. Students will be encouraged to bring a water bottle from home.
- ✓ Increase the cleaning and sanitation of water fountains.

**Staff Restrooms**

**The District will:**

- ✓ Administer at least one deep cleaning a day and clean/wipe down high touch surfaces throughout the day.
  - High touch surfaces can transmit the disease but it's not a high instance.
- ✓ Maintain a cleaning log to assist with contact tracing if necessary.

**Student Restrooms/Usage**

**The District will:**

- ✓ Limit the number of students in the restroom.
- ✓ Administer at least one deep cleaning a day and clean/wipe down high touch surfaces throughout the day.
  - High touch surfaces can transmit the disease but it's not a high instance.
- ✓ Maintain a cleaning log to assist with contact tracing if necessary.
- ✓ Implement scheduled restroom breaks so each grade/class can go at a specific time and avoid mixing students from different classes.
- ✓ Mark spaces outside restrooms to provide visual cues to ensure social distancing while waiting.

# **Individual Building Plans**

[Taylor Early Childhood Building Plan](#)

[Pevely Elementary Building Plan](#)

[Senn Thomas Middle School Building Plan](#)

[Herculaneum High School Building Plan](#)

Have more Questions?

Dunklin R-5 Administrative Round Table  
August 5, 2020 at 6:30 PM via Facebook on  
Live Stream STL.

**We greatly appreciate the cooperation of our students, staff, and community during this time of planning to reopen our schools.**