

Thompson Falls School District

Reviewed and approved by the board on September 12, 2022, February 6, 2023, September 11, 2023, and February 5, 2024

Plan to Reopen School and Contingencies for School Closure Due to COVID outbreak

Phase 0

Local or State Stay at home order

All school facilities are closed to the public

1. Full time remote learning

Phase 1

Restricted local or state operations Limits on group size at 10-15, without social distancing, as per local or state order.

Health screening for students done upon arrival at school. Monitoring during the day. Handwashing and steps to limit germ transmission are pro-actively taught and time dedicated throughout the day for this activity. Frequent sanitizing of any common areas, surfaces and bathrooms.

Blended Model of on-site and remote learning.

In the event there is a confirmed case, either staff or student, there could be a short-term school closure for contact tracing and additional disinfecting of the facility.

Face coverings are strongly recommended, unless mandated by local or state agencies. Face coverings will be available for staff and students upon request.

No public visitors to schools

Phase 2

Modified local or state operations

Limits on group size at 50, without social distancing, as per local or state order

Health screening for students done upon arrival at school. Monitoring during the day. Handwashing and steps to limit germ transmission are pro-actively taught and dedicated time throughout the day

Frequent sanitizing of any common areas, surfaces and bathrooms, Face coverings are recommended, unless mandated by local or state agencies, when social distancing is not possible. Face coverings will be available for staff and students upon request. No public visitors to schools beyond the office.

On-site learning will return for all students, with possibly a modified schedule. Near to full capacity in schools with modified operations and school activities (modified lunch, passing times and recess to limit large grouping) Limited or modified extra-curricular activities in conjunction with plans provided by the MHSA. In the event there is a confirmed case, either staff or student, there could be a short-term school closure for contact tracing and additional disinfecting of the facility. Upon parent request due to health concerns, parents may request educational instruction through remote learning.

Phase 3

Traditional School Model

Return to normal local activities

Handwashing and steps to limit germ transmission are proactively taught.

Time will be dedicated throughout the day for this.

3A

The District will:

1. Provide Staff with PPE as needed
 - a. Recommend the use of masks for staff and students who have not been vaccinated.
 - b. Hand Sanitizer throughout the buildings
 - i. Students and staff will sanitize in and out of classrooms, offices, restrooms
 - ii. Encourage frequent hand washing throughout the day.
 - c. Face Shields will be ordered for staff who want them.
 - d. Additional cleaning supplies will be provided for all classrooms, offices, and other areas of the buildings
2. Hire an additional custodian for daytime cleaning in each of the three campuses (3) – 5 hour/day employees
3. Hire a full-time nurse
4. Order and install safety signage
5. Order and install touch free dispensers for soap and paper towels.
6. Limit Visitors to parents or guardians picking up students to the office area of buildings
 - a. Require visitors to sign in at the school office with phone number for contact tracing if necessary
 - b. Limit visitors to less than 15 minutes in the building
 - c. Take temperature
 - d. Ask the health screening questions
7. Staff who have not been vaccinated will self-screen daily.
 - a. Take temperature
 - b. Answer the health screening questions
8. Teachers will screen their students at the beginning of the day.
 - a. Take temperature
 - b. Ask the health screening questions
 - c. Students with symptoms will be sent to the nurse (K-8) or to the office (9-12) for further screening and parent notification.
9. Encourage social distancing and limited contact between students and other staff.
10. Order and Install plexiglass shields in the lunchroom and office windows.
11. Students will sit by class groups in the lunchroom and tables will be spaced out to help with social distancing.

- a. The high school campus will remain open for lunch and students will be encouraged to eat outside in nice weather.
- 12. Order additional Chromebooks for students and staff
- 13. Encourage the use of Google Classroom for turning in homework
- 14. Offer Teachers training in the use of Google Classroom prior to the start of school and other professional development during the year to support online learning should the need arise.
- 15. Encourage music and Physical Education classes to take advantage of nice weather and hold class outside whenever possible
- 16. Communicate with the County Health Nurse regarding students or staff with symptoms. Refer them to their health care provider.
- 17. Provide an online or distance learning option for parents who do not want to send their children to school.
- 18. Students who start online must stay online for the remainder of the semester. The district will provide an online platform for students that is age appropriate.
- 19. Students who miss class due to quarantining will be treated like any other student absence, homework will be provided by the teacher.
- 20. Busing will be provided using our contractor Mosher Transportation.
 - a. Drivers will not be screening students for symptoms before they board the bus.
 - b. Students will be required to sit in family groups.
 - c. Windows should be opened when weather permits to allow for increased fresh air circulation
 - d. Buses will be sanitized after every route is run.
 - e. Masks are recommended.
- 21. Follow Sanders County Health Department, Montana State Health Department, CDC, OPI, and Governor's recommendations for students or staff that test positive.

3B

The District will:

- 1. Provide Staff with PPE as needed
 - a. Recommend the use of masks for staff and students who have not been vaccinated.
 - b. Hand Sanitizer throughout the buildings
 - i. Students and staff will sanitize in and out of classrooms, offices, restrooms
 - ii. Encourage frequent hand washing throughout the day.
 - c. Face Shields will be ordered for staff who want them.
 - d. Additional cleaning supplies will be provided for all classrooms, offices, and other areas of the buildings
- 2. Order and install touch free dispensers for soap and paper towels.

3. Limit Visitors to parents or guardians picking up students to the office area of buildings
 - a. Require visitors to sign in at the school office with phone number for contact tracing if necessary
 - b. Take temperature
 - c. Ask the health screening questions
4. Staff who have not been vaccinated will self-screen daily.
 - a. Take temperature
 - b. Answer the health screening questions
5. Teachers will screen their students at the beginning of the day.
 - a. Take temperature
 - b. Ask the health screening questions
 - c. Students with symptoms will be sent to the nurse (K-8) or to the office (9-12) for further screening and parent notification if needed.
6. Encourage social distancing and limited contact between students and other staff.
7. Students will sit by class groups in the lunchroom and tables will be spaced out to help with social distancing.
 - a. The high school campus will remain open for lunch and students will be encouraged to eat outside in nice weather.
8. Encourage the use of Google Classroom for turning in homework.
9. Continue professional development during the year to support all learning.
10. Encourage music and Physical Education classes to take advantage of nice weather and hold class outside whenever possible
11. Communicate with the County Health Nurse regarding students or staff with symptoms. Refer them to their health care provider.
12. Students who miss class due to quarantining will be treated like any other student absence, homework will be provided by the teacher.
13. Busing will be provided using our contractor Mosher Transportation.
 - a. Drivers will not be screening students for symptoms before they board the bus.
 - b. Windows should be opened when weather permits to allow for increased fresh air circulation
 - c. Masks are required per the Federal Department of Transportation mandate.
14. Follow Sanders County Health Department, Montana State Health Department, CDC, OPI, and Governor's recommendations for students or staff that test positive.

Phase 4: Reopen All Schools as Normal with In-Class Instruction

In order to return to a healthy educational environment, the district asks that parents do not send their children to school if they are sick or exhibiting any of the symptoms related to COVID-19. The district cannot guarantee the health and safety of anyone but we can all work together to minimize the risks of spreading all infectious diseases.