

Dear Cedar Hill Families,

As we continue to make plans for returning to school for the upcoming year, I want to send you preliminary information that will impact our daily routines at Cedar Hill Elementary so we can best prepare as we all try to navigate the challenges we face during these unprecedented times. Just like with every area of our lives right now, many things will need to look different as we begin the school year and as the situation we face continues to change, likely our plans will also require updates and changes as we move through the next few weeks and months.

Our continued priority is to provide a safe, nurturing environment for our children to learn in each day at Cedar Hill Elementary. Our staff is working to make plans that will provide as much normalcy and routine as we can, while working to keep our children safe and learning at the highest levels. We also understand that we have some work to do to build back their stamina and understand school expectations. We are prepared for that!

Below are preliminary plans for our re-entry to school on Monday, August 24th. I have also included information on other back to school activities. As always, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at stacy.fick@jcschools.us. The office will be open beginning August 3rd, 7:30-3:30 p.m.

We are glad to be returning to some level of normalcy and excited to see the kids!

**Sincerely,
Stacy Fick
Principal, Cedar Hill**

Open House

Due to current guidelines, we will not be hosting an in person open house this year. We are making plans for a Virtual Open House that will be shared with families prior to the first day of school.

Cedar Hill Elementary Re-entry Plan 2020-2021

Foundational Priorities

Our plan for returning to school is built around the following foundational priorities identified in the Jefferson City School District Re-entry plan that provide for layers of protection for students and staff at Cedar Hill Elementary:

1. Increased Sanitation Efforts
2. Social Distancing
3. Staff & Student Screening Measures
4. Personal Protective Equipment
5. Limited Visitor Access to Buildings
6. Virtual Education Options
7. Procedures for COVID-19 Infections

Cedar Hill Elementary School Opening Plan 2020-2021

As we begin the school year, there are several strategies that we will be implementing during the school day to provide the highest level of safety and protection for students and staff at Cedar Hill Elementary School.

Our Universal Strategies:

1. We will keep small, stable groups of students' together throughout the day to create school families that minimize contact with other classrooms and students and exposure to infection.
2. We will provide students with skills necessary to socially distance themselves from others in the building and help in the sanitation efforts to minimize exposure.
3. We will follow district, state, and federal guidelines for sanitation, social distancing, staff and student screening measures, personal protective equipment, limited visitor access, and procedures for COVID-19 infections.

RE-ENTRY INFORMATION FOR CEDAR HILL FAMILIES

Goal: In order to keep safety and health at the forefront, our goal is to keep each classroom or "cohort of students" contact with other classrooms and students minimized as much as possible. We hope to accomplish utmost health and safety by implementing the following:

1. Arrival Time: **NEW 7:15 am arrival. Students are tardy at 7:46 a.m. Students may not be dropped off prior to 7:15 a.m.** New routines will be set into place to allow staff and students to socially distance and have temperatures checked as they enter the building. The building will open at 7:15. As students arrive, they will enter the school and go directly to their classrooms. A thermal imaging system will check temperatures of students as they enter the building through the front door, and any student with an elevated temperature will be immediately taken to the nurse for a temperature screening. Any student arriving in the parent drop off area will have their temperature taken

manually by a staff member. All students will go directly to classrooms instead of reporting to a common area to maintain social distancing.

2. All classrooms will be equipped with hand sanitizers at each door. We will use a process called Gel In/ Gel Out. Kids and adults will Gel In/ Gel Out upon entering and exiting the classroom.
3. Seating: Students will be spread throughout the classroom. Students will be assigned a desk area (no flexible seating) in their classroom. If students are partnering, which they can, they will sit shoulder to shoulder instead of knee to knee. It's recommended to have students facing the same direction when they are seated. Tables can still be used, but seats should be assigned. A combination of desks and tables will be used for student seating. When tables are used, a plexiglass divider will be on each table.
4. Social Distancing: Our definition of Social Distancing is 3-6 feet when seated without barriers. It's not practical or enforceable to keep our kids six feet apart at all times. This negates much of the very important social interaction they so desperately need at this time. Remember, our main goal is to keep our cohorts of students together as much as possible, and minimize contact with other classes. Think of the cohorts like a family.
5. Maximize classroom space: this means that all unnecessary furniture has been removed from classrooms, including soft seats (like sofas and cushions) because of the inability to properly wipe and sanitize. By removing excess furniture, we create more space for the children to be distanced.
6. Minimize shared supplies: teachers are creating practices that reduce shared supplies. For example, students will not use each other's pencils. (in the past we have had shared pencils and other supplies). We are working towards purchasing other items that can be their own, for example individual white boards. These are used regularly and in all classrooms.
7. Classroom Jobs: Students will be responsible for wiping down their desk surface, chair back, own supplies, chrome books. We want to teach best practices for working together to help keep the classroom clean. The products the district has ordered are safe for students to use. We also understand that this will be assigned as appropriate by grade level. Our older students are capable of more sanitizing and cleaning responsibilities than our youngest students.
8. Small groups: We are continuing with small group work as we always have. Here are some things we are doing to make safe changes: making groups smaller so that we can distance them and teaching staff farther apart. Have students use Germ x prior to coming to the small group table. Wiping down the table surface between groups.

9. A restroom schedule will be provided so that classes do not overlap during restroom break. Our restrooms will be sanitized continuously through the day. Students will be sent out to individually use restrooms for emergencies only.
10. Minimize movement throughout the building. We realize the implications of staying in our classrooms for extended periods. But, for now, remember the goal. We want to minimize contact with other students and groups of students. We will look for creative ways to spend more time outside.
11. Meals will be served in classrooms. Library, Music and art will be in classrooms. PE will be outside as much as possible and a grid style gym set up for days indoors. These are LESS than desirable scenarios, but if we were to use those common spaces, we are creating more opportunities for cross-contamination.
12. Visitors: Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Mentor students and Reader Pals are on hold. All parents and visitors will be required to stay in the foyer only. For essential visitors, they will Gel In/Gel Out, sign in for contact tracing and limit their contact with only those individuals as necessary. (an example would be the copier repair people)
13. We will not be having Open House. Look forward to your child's teacher communicating with you specifically, and a creative, virtual Open House to come.
14. Recess: Each class will remain together as you play at recess. (So, only Mrs. Smith's class plays together in an assigned area) The assigned areas will rotate daily. We will have three zones. Green Zone: (upper grassy area by the fort), Blue Zone: (Upper playground to include basketball goals and picnic tables), Red Zone: Playground structures and kickball field areas. The grassy soccer field will be left for PE classes held outside. We are working to get some playground equipment for each classroom. Each zone will have their own lining up area.
15. Water bottles with lids will be allowed in classrooms. The fountains will be turned off except for the bottle filler. We encourage water only.
16. Arrival and Dismissal: New routines will be set into place to allow students to socially distance and have temps checked as they enter the building. Students will arrive and go directly to their classrooms. We encourage parents to bring and pick up their children if at all possible. We understand that this will create more time for you in the mornings and afternoons to wait, but we ask for your patience as we implement some new procedures.
17. Students will not be allowed to congregate in hallways, restrooms etc. When traveling in the hallway, we will work to maintain as little contact with other classes as feasible. We will not keep kids 6 feet apart but far enough to respect space between students and encourage them to face the same direction.

18. While masks are not required of students, feel free to send them with a mask if you'd like. We want kids to feel comfortable, but if you plan on sending a mask, we will work to make that happen as much as possible, but it will be the responsibility of the parent to work with their child to get them to keep it on as much as possible.
19. Masks are required of staff when they cannot socially distance from the students. This will occur at different times for different staff depending on their activity at the given time.
20. Students who ride buses will be required to sit in an assigned seat and wear a mask. Those students will need to bring their own masks from home. Because of the social distancing challenges of riding a bus, as well as keeping masks on all students during route, we encourage, if at all possible, for students to be car riders to and from school for the time being.
21. There are many questions about the "what if's" if a classroom is affected by COVID (staff or student). We will follow the direction from the Health Department about notification, length of quarantine, who has to quarantine and if the classroom or even school needs to shut down. There are many factors that determine next steps if we do have a positive case. More information will come on this topic from our District Health Directors.
22. After School Care: The YMCA is still providing YCARE in the cafeteria after school each day. They are following some of the same protocols that we are in school. For more information about the YCARE program and specific protocols, we encourage you to contact the YMCA.

VIRTUAL OPTION INFORMATION

The Virtual Instruction Option is being made available to all JC Families who choose Virtual vrs. In Seat Option. You may be wondering what that looks like for your family if you choose Virtual vrs. In Seat.

If you haven't already, please visit the Launch website <https://fueledbylaunch.com/> click on "Courses" and then "Parents" tabs for more information.

Full-Time Elementary Programming through Launch

- 6 hours daily teacher-supported programming, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

- Scheduled daily- live conferencing in both whole group and small group instruction
- Independent work time following teacher instructions/lessons
- Missouri certified teachers who provide both academic and social-emotional support
- [Link to sample schedule](#)

ELA, Math, Science & Social Studies Instruction

- Hands-on assignments, adaptive software, whole group instruction and discussion, small group individualized instruction

Specials: Physical Education, Music, Art, Coding, Information Literacy

- Modules your student will access on a weekly basis and work through independently, with teacher guidance and assistance
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Parents/guardians are encouraged to be available to redirect and assist their children when needed.