



Posey County Families,

The MSD of Mount Vernon, the MSD of North Posey County, and the Posey County Health Department have jointly created a plan for a safe environment for schools to reopen. We are committed to providing a productive and safe learning environment for our students. Our initial plan is subject to change and will likely be modified as the year progresses. Any changes that we make will be done after consulting with the county health department. Rest assured we are doing everything we can in the school setting to create a safe environment for all of our students and staff. We understand that some of our families may not be ready to return to school due to COVID-19 concerns. We are working on providing alternative education pathways for those students in both of our districts. See the plan for details.

The Posey County plan to reopen schools addresses several areas of concern including cases of COVID-19 within schools. Should a student or staff member test positive for COVID-19, the individual will quarantine for 14 days. The county health department will determine if any other individuals need to quarantine due to exposure. Face to face contact within 6 feet for 10 minutes or longer with a person who has tested positive will likely result in quarantine. Should 5% of a school's students and staff test positive for COVID-19, that individual school will close and offer eLearning for a period of time determined by the county health department. Closures will likely not exceed two school weeks.

It is critical that you talk to your student(s) about the importance of washing their hands and not touching their face. The guidance we have received over the past few months suggests frequent hand washing will help individuals avoid the virus and that touching one's face increases the likelihood of contracting the virus. We strongly encourage students to wear a mask on the bus due to the close proximity, but masks will not be required unless we receive a directive from a higher authority.

We are excited to get back in the classroom and we believe in-person instruction is the best place for our students. We look forward to seeing all of our students this fall. We anticipate that there will be disruptions this school year, but we are determined to stay on schedule to the best of our ability. If we are patient and work together, we can and will make this a great school year.

We will release information when changes occur through our normal means of distribution

MSD of Mt. Vernon Superintendent

Dr. Matt Thompson

MSD of North Posey Superintendent

Dr. Todd Camp

Posey County Plan to Reopen Schools

This plan will be reviewed in conjunction with the Posey County Health Department and updated as necessary.

Daily Screening

- Parents take temperatures daily. If no thermometer available at home, notify the school.
- If a temp is 100.3 or higher the student stays home until temperature free without medication for 72 hours unless seen by a doctor and have a doctor's note to return
- Random temperature screenings to be performed by the school nurse
- Students with a temp of 100.3 or higher will be sent home and must be temp free without medication for 72 hours before a return to school unless the student provides a doctor's note

Transportation

- Driver and aides will wear PPE
- Students are strongly encouraged to wear masks due to close proximity
- Students without masks that desire one should contact their school or health department
- Students will be assigned seats
- Siblings will be required to sit together
- Buses will be sanitized daily

General School Day

- Students will report directly to class or designated area once they have entered school
- Water bottles are highly encouraged
- Traditional use of a water fountain will be prohibited
- Masks are strongly encouraged during passing periods
- No student assemblies
- There will be assigned areas of play during recess
- Cleansing stations will be set up for student use

Classroom

- Remove any unnecessary furniture
- Hand sanitizer will be available
- Desks spaced out as much as possible and not directly facing each other in close proximity
- Disinfect desks and other frequently touched surface areas
- We will be paperless to the best of our ability
- Group work only in areas of the building in which students can socially distance
- Common areas used for class need to be approved by an administrator and cleaned regularly

Cafeteria

- Hand sanitizer or soap and water used immediately before lunch
- Tables will be spaced out
- Students will be assigned tables by class
- Tables will be cleaned after each session
- Cafeteria staff will wear PPE
- Hand sanitizer or soap and water used immediately after lunch

Nurse's Office

- Nurses will wear PPE
- There will be a designated area for suspected Covid-19 cases
- Parent's will not be able to directly access the nurse's office
- Furniture used by students will be disinfected after use
- The school nurse will communicate directly with the county health nurse as necessary
- Each nurse will report daily by 11:00 to the head nurse regarding suspected Covid-19 cases

High Risk Students and Teachers

- We will provide an option for a teacher to teach from home if necessary
- We will provide an alternative pathway for students not able to attend traditional school

Threshold of COVID-19 cases

- Each building will have a threshold of 5% unless otherwise recommended by Superintendent or county health department
- If the threshold is met within a building, the county health department will determine the length of closure for that school
- Closures will likely not exceed two school weeks
- eLearning will be used during COVID-19 extended closures
- All other schools will remain open
- The county health department may close an entire district if deemed necessary

Visitors

- Visitors are not permitted past the foyer without an appointment
- A faculty member will escort those with appointments to the appropriate meeting space
- Visitors are strongly encouraged to wear masks
- Social distancing must occur during parent meetings
- Guest speakers are permitted, but must remain 6 feet away from students

Posey County Health Department
100 Vista Drive
Mount Vernon, IN 47620
Phone: 812-838-1328
Fax: 812-838-8561



To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is to inform you that The Posey County Health Department supports the return to school recommendations that have been presented by the Metropolitan School Districts of Mt. Vernon and North Posey.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact our office at 812-838-1328.

Thank you for your cooperation!

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "K. Rapp, MD". The signature is stylized and includes the letters "MD" at the end.

Kyle Rapp MD

Posey County Public Health Officer