

Eaton Community Schools

Return to School 2020-2021 FAQ's

Last Updated 8/28/2020

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Classrooms & Building Opening

1. When will school start for the 2020-2021 school year? - updated 8.12.2020

A. At its meeting on August 10th the Eaton Board of Education approved to amend the 2020-2021 school calendar, which moves the first student date back to Monday, August 31. In addition to the August 31 start date for students, please note the following calendar amendments:

- **Monday, August 31***: Students whose last name begins with the letter A-I will attend school.
- **Tuesday, September 1***: Students whose last name begins with the letter J-Z will attend school.

*Siblings who reside in the same household with different last names should attend on the day that corresponds with the oldest sibling's last name.

- **Wednesday, September 2 & Thursday, September 3**: All students in grades 1-12 will attend. (KG will have their own schedule with KG Screening and a Staggered start. Information will be sent to families regarding the KG schedule).
- **Friday, September 4**: **No students**. Teachers, Staff and Administration will report and review protocols and procedures from the first two days. This PD Day will be in lieu of the currently scheduled March 12, 2021 PD Day.
- **Friday, March 12, 2021: Student School Day**

Please note, the last day for students had previously been adjusted and will be Friday, May 28, 2020.

2. Does Eaton Community Schools have a Fall 2020 Reopening Plan?

A. Yes. The Eaton Community Schools Fall 2020 Reopening Plan can be found on the district's website at www.eaton.k12.oh.us or by following this [LINK TO DOCUMENT](#).

This plan includes expectations for parents/caregivers, students, teachers/assistants, custodians, administration, bus drivers, nurses, office staff, visitors, etc. related to classrooms, hallways, lockers, common areas, drop off, pick-up, transportation, health services, restrooms, lunches and cafeteria, and offices

3. What is Eaton Community Schools' policy regarding face masks? - updated 8.24.2020

- A. We understand the variety of thoughts regarding face coverings. The Eaton Community Schools plan reflects the guidance of the Preble County Department of Health and the recommendations stated in the Ohio Health Department COVID-19 Health and Prevention Guidance.

Eaton Community Schools is requiring that face coverings be worn by all students, staff, and visitors to our building in all common areas. If students and staff are unable to socially distance, a face covering must be worn. Face coverings will be required on buses, while entering and exiting the school building, while picking up food in the cafeteria line, in the hallways, restrooms, and other common areas. Face coverings will be required in the classroom when social distancing of six feet or more is not possible. We will be providing 1-2 reusable cloth face coverings for all students and staff. We will also be providing disposable face coverings for students and staff who forget to bring their own face covering to school or on the bus. Eaton Community Schools believes our students need to be in school to maximize their learning and their physical and mental health.

Eaton Community Schools may not be able to continue in-person education if we have a spread of the virus. This face covering plan reflects the measures Eaton Community Schools believes will optimize our chances of continuing in-person education throughout the entire 2020-2021 school year. We will all need to work together, while understanding all of us are experiencing a different school year.

The Ohio Department of Health (ODH) Interim Director, Lance D. Himes issued a DIRECTOR's ORDER on August 13 regarding The Use of Facial Coverings in Child Education Settings. On August 15, Governor DeWine and Director Himes clarified that the August 13 Director's Order disallowed Face Shields as a face covering in place of a cloth mask. The requirement to wear a mask does not apply with the following exemptions:

1. The individual has a medical condition including respiratory conditions that restricts breathing, mental health conditions, or a disability that contraindicates the wearing of a facial covering; or
2. The individual is communicating or seeking to communicate with someone who is hearing impaired or has another disability, where an accommodation is appropriate or necessary;
3. The individual is actively participating in outdoor recess and/or physical activity where students are able to maintain a distance of six feet or more or athletic practice, scrimmage, or competition that is permitted under a separate Department Health Order;
4. The individual is seated and actively consuming food or beverage;
5. Where students and staff can maintain distancing of at least six feet and removal of the facial covering is necessary for instructional purposes, including instruction in foreign language, English Language for non-native speakers, and other subjects where wearing a facial covering would prohibit participation in normal classroom activities, such as playing an instrument;

6. Students are able to maintain a distance of six feet or more and a mask break is deemed necessary by the educator supervising the educational setting;
7. The individual is alone in an enclosed space, such as an office; or
8. When an established sincerely held religious requirement exists that does not permit a facial covering.

4. Will Eaton Community Schools be hosting open houses and orientation at the beginning of the school year?

- A. Eaton Community Schools will not be hosting open houses and orientations in the traditional manner. More information will be provided at a later time.

5. Will the water fountains be turned off?

- A. Yes, the water fountains will be turned off until further notice. We are currently working on alternatives that would allow students to hydrate during the day. Students are encouraged to bring their own water bottles to school.

Water bottles will be provided for students in grades K-2.

6. Will visitors be allowed to eat lunch with students?

- A. Until further notice, visitors will not be permitted to eat lunch with students

Cleaning & Disinfecting

7. Are there cleaning protocols in place for the general building and grounds, classrooms/offices/large gathering spaces, materials, etc?

- A. Students will be provided multiple opportunities to practice handwashing throughout the day. We are securing all supplies needed for daily cleaning and sanitizing. Daily cleaning, which includes disinfecting all high touch surfaces, will be performed by our custodial staff.

In addition, desks, chairs, doors, and other high touch surfaces in classrooms will be cleaned between each class period or as appropriate based on building needs. Students and staff will work together to ensure our classroom surfaces remain clean throughout the day. Hand sanitizer will be available in all classrooms and various locations throughout the district.

8. Will additional hand sanitizing stations be available to students and staff?

- A. Yes. Additional hand sanitizer will be available in each classroom and available in various locations throughout the buildings.

9. Will students be able to bring their own hand sanitizer?

- A. As required by the Governor, Eaton Community Schools will be providing hand sanitizer. Due to the US Food and Drug Administration’s concerns with hand sanitizers that contain potentially harmful chemicals, we strongly discourage students from bringing their own hand sanitizer.

Students will be provided ample opportunities to wash their hands throughout the day.

10. What measures have been taken to assess our ventilation systems?

- A. Through consultation with the Preble County Health Department and recommendations from our HVAC contractor, we will continue to assess our HVAC equipment to maintain proper airflow to each space and provide high-efficiency filtration.
- B. The number of hours that the HVAC system is in an occupied mode in each building has been increased particularly in the p.m. time frame. This is to allow for continued air circulation after the students and the majority of the staff have left the building.
- C. Air filters that filter recirculated room air have or will be replaced with a higher efficiency air filters rated at MERV 13. This increase in filtration will stop smaller sized particles which could have viruses attached from being circulated through the HVAC system but still allow for maximum amount of air flow.
- D. Outdoor air damper minimum openings are initially being increased from 15% to 25%. This increase will allow more outside air to enter the building. We will continue to monitor this on a routine basis.
- E. We continue to work with our energy systems vendor and the Preble County Health Department regarding regular analysis of our systems and recommendations.

Health Care

The response to an individual case will depend largely on the circumstances surrounding the case and contact(s) the individual had within the school setting. Please keep in mind that any time a student or staff member tests positive Eaton Community Schools Administration will be in contact with the Preble County Health Department. We realize this is a very fluid situation and these answers may change based on additional information or guidance.

11. Will the school be checking my child’s temperature and/or other symptoms?

- A. Eaton Community Schools will not be checking student temperature unless they show symptoms of an illness. Parents must conduct a student wellness check, including temperature,

prior to sending their child/children to school. Students with a temperature over 100°F (100.1°F and above) must stay home.

12. What if a student or staff member becomes ill?

A. The following procedure will be followed when a student or staff member becomes ill.

Health issues that are NOT diagnosed as COVID-19

- i. Any other illnesses should be handled in a routine manner according to district policies.
- ii. Schools shall send home any child or employee who has a temperature of 100 degrees or higher. This individual may not return until they are fever-free for 24 hours, without the use of fever-reducing medication.
- iii. If the individual has had contact with someone confirmed or probable to have COVID-19, he or she must complete isolation or quarantine procedures in coordination with PCHD prior to returning to school. These procedures can be found by visiting the PCHD's website at preblecountyhealth.org.
- iv. Students that only have a fever and no other symptoms and have not had any contact with an individual that has COVID-19 may return to school after they are fever-free for 24 hours without using any fever-reducing medications.

Returning to School After Confirmed or Probable COVID-19 Diagnosis

If a student is diagnosed as having COVID-19, they must meet the following criteria to return to school:

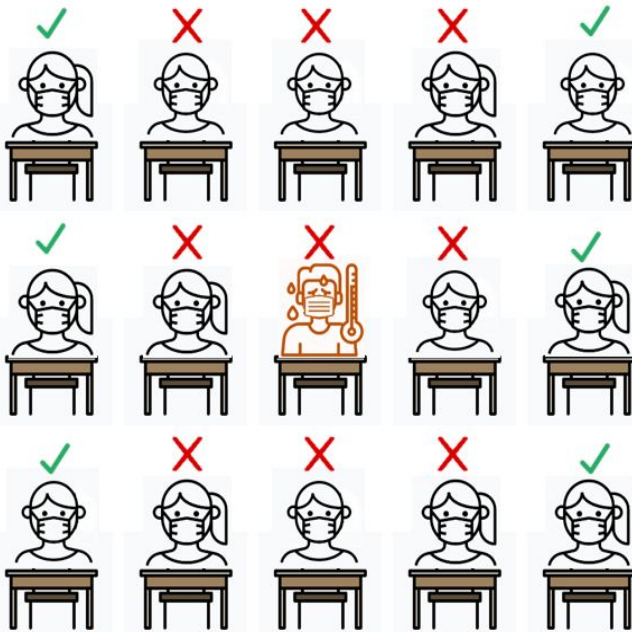
1. Complete isolation or quarantine procedures in coordination with PCHD, AND
2. 3 days with no fever (without using fever-reducing medication), AND
3. Other symptoms improved, AND
4. 10 days since symptoms first appeared

The child may return to school only after 24 hours of no fever. To return to school the parent must communicate with the school to confirm that the student has been fever-free for 24 hours, without the use of fever-reducing medication.

13. What is the protocol if a student in the same classroom as my child tests positive for COVID-19?

-Updated 8.28.20

- A. The response to an individual case will depend largely on the circumstances surrounding the case and contact(s) the individual had within the school setting.



Based on guidance from the Preble County Health Department (PCHD), students who are reasonably distanced and wearing a face covering may remain in school. The student who tests positive will need to quarantine as determined by the PCHD.

Students who were in exposure proximity* with the person who tests positive, would be required to quarantine for 14 days, as directed by the PCHD.

**NOTE: Exposure is defined as being within 6 feet for 15 minutes or more of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 10 days OR living with someone who has tested positive within the last 10 days.*

14. What if my child's teacher or another staff member tests positive for COVID-19?

- A. The response to an individual case will depend largely on the circumstances surrounding the case and contact(s) the individual had within the school setting.

Eaton Community Schools staff members will be wearing face coverings as will students, the vast majority of the time; thus, based on guidance from the Preble County Health Department, students will not need to quarantine. However, if it is determined there is exposure to a student, the parents will be notified.

15. What if my child comes in contact with someone who came in contact with someone who tested positive for COVID-19?

- A. Based on guidance from the Preble County Health Department (PCHD), your child would not be required to quarantine but should continue to monitor symptoms.

16. Will students be separated if he/she shows symptoms of COVID-19 while at school?

- A. Students who show symptoms of COVID-19 will be sent to the clinic nurse. If necessary, the student will stay in the clinic or other designated area until the parent arrives to pick-up the student.

Remote Learning Options

17. When will school start for remote learners?

- A. Remote learners will follow the same school schedule as students attending in the buildings.
- **Monday, August 31***: Students whose last name begins with the letter A-I will attend school.
 - **Tuesday, September 1***: Students whose last name begins with the letter J-Z will attend school.

*Siblings who reside in the same household with different last names should attend on the day that corresponds with the oldest sibling's last name.

- **Wednesday, September 2 & Thursday, September 3:** All students in grades 1-12 will attend. (KG will have their own schedule with KG Screening and a Staggered start. Information will be sent to families regarding the KG schedule).
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Please note, the last day for students had previously been adjusted and will be Friday, May 28, 2020.

18. Will Eaton Community Schools be providing a remote learning option?

- A. Yes. Eaton Community Schools will be providing a remote learning option. Details are still being determined. The remote learning option this fall will be significantly different than it was in the spring.

It is very important for parents and students to recognize that Eaton Community Schools Remote Learning for the 2020-21 school year will be very different than last spring. The extended school closure last spring "snuck up" on us. Teachers, administrators, parents and students did the best they could, given the unprecedented circumstances. This school year, the Remote Learning/Instruction/Education accountability for students and teachers will be nearly identical to that of the accountability in the physical classroom.

There will be further, more detailed information coming out towards the end of the week of August 17 at the District level and the building levels. We are now able to start getting our class lists and schedules together. You will also be able to see some information on the Remote

Learning Registration Forms that were sent out when we initiated the Remote Learning Registration process.

We thank you for your patience as all of us continue to try and navigate through these (here it is again) unprecedented and fluid times.

19. What supports are we providing for parents assisting students with remote learning?

- A. The Eaton Community Schools' website (www.eaton.k12.oh.us) will provide resources for parents and students pertaining to remote learning, as well as other important information related to the 2020-2021 school year.

20. Will remote students attend "live" and be required to log in during normal school hours? - updated 8.12.2020

- A. Students in grades 6-12 will be required to follow a live schedule during the school day. Students will be required to have their camera on at all times while attending class. The only difference is that they will be learning remote instead of physically being in the classroom. Students will be held accountable the same as students who are physically in the classroom.

Students in grades 3-5 will have the opportunity to follow a live schedule during the school day and will also be given the opportunity to complete their education through recordings at a later time that day. Students will be required to have their camera on at all times while attending class. Students will be required to log in and make progress every day for attendance purposes.

Students in grades K-2 will not be LIVE however, there will be scheduled appointments with the teacher via Google Meets that will be live. Teachers may provide recorded lessons along with assignments for students to work on throughout the day. Students will be required to log in and make progress every day for attendance purposes.

21. What are the expectations for remote learners? - updated 8.12.2020

- A. Students must log in on a daily basis and complete assignments in order to be counted as attending. Attendance will be taken each day the same as students who are physically present.

The expectations and accountability for classwork and grading will follow district policy for On-campus instruction. Courses taken by students participating in remote learning will be included in calculating GPA and class rank in accordance with district policy and the same as if the student was physically present.

Some elective courses may not be an option for remote learning. Students may be required to take electives they did not previously register for, in order to obtain the minimum required credits. Some courses may require a student to obtain equipment from campus in order to complete coursework virtually, i.e. Family & Consumer Science, Art, etc. Remote learners in grades 6-12 will receive their schedules at a later date than in-person learners.

Students in grades K-8 may not be able to participate in some or all specials, i.e., Art, Music, Gym, Technology, and Library.

Students enrolled in remote learning will be required to remain in the program for a minimum of a nine (9) week grading period. If a written request to change to In-Person learning is not made before the end of the current grading period the student will be automatically continued to be enrolled in remote learning education. This written request must be made at least ten (10) calendar days prior to the last day of the nine (9) week grading period and sent to the building principal.

Students must have access to reliable internet service and/or the means to provide consistent access to the internet. Remote learning during the 2020-2021 school year will require additional data than what was used during the 2019-2020 remote learning. We are estimating that a minimum of 5 GB will be needed per day. You may want to contact your internet provider.

Students who do not have access to internet service may request a HotSpot by contacting the Building Office where your child attends. Chromebooks will be issued to Eaton students who register for at home remote learning per the schedule in this FAQ document.

Parents will be responsible for maintaining communication with their child's/children's teacher to create a learning partnership.

We ask parents to understand that conditions surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic are continually evolving and Eaton Community School's remote learning plan is subject to change based on federal, state and local guidelines.

22. What will the attendance responsibility be for remote learners? - updated 8.12.2020

- A. Remote learners must log in on a daily basis and complete assignments in order to be counted as attending. Attendance will be taken each day the same as students who are physically present. Remote learners are responsible for the attendance policy as outlined in the Student/Parent Handbooks.

Students in grades 6-12 will be required to follow a live schedule during the school day. Students will be required to have their camera on at all times while attending class. The only difference is that they will be learning remote instead of physically being in the classroom. Students will be held accountable the same as students who are physically in the classroom.

Students in grades 3-5 will have the opportunity to follow a live schedule during the school day and will also be given the opportunity to complete their education through recordings at a later time that day. Students will be required to have their camera on at all times while attending class. Students will be required to log in and make progress every day for attendance purposes.

Students in grades K-2 will not be LIVE however, there will be scheduled appointments with the teacher via Google Meets that will be live. Teachers may provide recorded lessons along with assignments for students to work on throughout the day. Students will be required to log in and make progress every day for attendance purposes.

23. What if my child is sick and can not participate in remote learning? - updated 8.12.2020

- A. Parents should communicate with the building where their child attends to report their student absent for the day. Failure to do so will result in an unexcused absence. Please see the Student/Parent Handbook for the attendance policy.

24. What is the Code of Conduct for remote learners? - updated 8.12.2020

- A. All school rules as indicated in the Student/Parent Handbooks apply to remote learners.

[Click Here for the High School Handbook](#)

[Click Here for the Middle School Handbook](#)

[Click Here for the Bruce Elementary Handbook](#)

[Click Here for the East Elementary Handbook](#)

25. What should I expect for data usage with Eaton Community Schools remote learning? - updated 8.12.2020

- A. Students must have access to reliable internet service and/or the means to provide consistent access to the internet. Remote learning during the 2020-2021 school year will require additional data than what was used during the 2019-2020 remote learning. We are estimating that a minimum of 5 GB will be needed per day. You may want to contact your internet provider. Students who do not have access to internet service may request a HotSpot by contacting the Building Office where your child attends.

26. Who should we contact if our Chromebook is not working? - updated 8.12.2020

- A. If your Chromebook is not functioning properly, please contact the building where your child attends. Please notify your teachers so they are aware of the issue.

27. My child still has a Chromebook from the spring, can we use this during the 2020-2021 school year? - updated 8.12.2020

- A. No. Chromebooks from spring 2019-2020 have been disabled and must be returned to the district office. A new Chromebook will not be issued until the original device is returned or has been paid in full. Multiple E-mails and One Calls have been made in regard to the Chrome Books that have not been returned from last spring.