



# Bradford Exempted Village School District Fall 2020 Restart DRAFT Plan

*Last updated: August 10, 2020*

It is the intent of Bradford Exempted Village School District to open school this fall by educating our students in an environment that will be considered as close to “normal” as possible while implementing safety protocols to protect both students and staff. This restart plan was prepared in collaboration with the Darke County schools, the Darke County Educational Service Center, the Darke County Health Department and administrative and teacher leaders from our great district. These plans follow the guidelines set forth by our state and local leaders and are subject to change with very little or no notice. **These plans will remain in effect until the guidelines are lifted from the mandates of COVID restrictions.**

According to the American Academy of Pediatrics, “dangers of social isolation outweighs the risks of in-person classes for most children.” Our district’s plans take into consideration the health and safety of our students and families, as well as the district staff and the community as a whole. While providing effective teaching and student learning, the goal is to also support our students social, emotional, physical and behavioral health.

With little notice, this plan may change with directives of our local, county, and state officials and/or based on the Ohio Public Health Advisory System. We hope to continue with our “option 1” as long as we are able. Transitions to online learning will occur only when needed because of an increase in COVID activity in the district or surrounding areas as a mandate by the local or state authorities, or to protect our students and staff as indicated by district administration.

## **TIMELINE**

- Plan released to the public for questions on July 27, 2020
- Special Board meeting to answer questions and possibly vote Tuesday, Aug. 4
- Regular Board meeting to vote (if needed), Monday, Aug. 10
- Proposed first day of school for students, possibly moved to Tuesday, Sept. 8, 2020. Assuming this happens, many changes will potentially change with our calendar including the end day of instruction

## **COMMUNICATION**

Please email superintendent, Joe Hurst at [JHurst@Bradford.k12.oh.us](mailto:JHurst@Bradford.k12.oh.us) at any time with any questions. A Frequently Asked Questions section will be developed on the school website to share these important questions and answers.

## **OPTION 1**

### **STUDENTS IN-PERSON AND AT SCHOOL DAILY WITH SAFETY PROTOCOLS**

#### **Daily Expectations of Students and Parents**

- Parents/families will complete daily checks prior to students coming to school.
- Daily checks include communicating with the school **any** of the following: Temperature, Fever (100.0 degrees or higher), Cough, Sore Throat, Shortness of Breath, Direct Contact with COVID-19, etc.
- Alert teachers/staff of any changes in wellness or symptoms
- Face coverings are “strongly recommended” by the CDC for students in grades 3-12 especially when within six feet of others unless they are unable to do so. While socially distanced, students are not required to wear masks in the classrooms; however, students will be required to have a face covering available at all times and asked to wear it when social distancing cannot be achieved such as in high congregate settings like class transitions and on the school bus.
- It would be respectful for students to properly wear a face covering around staff and students that may have high-risk health factors, especially when six feet of social distance cannot be achieved
- Any student that has been identified at school with possible symptoms will be required to wear a mask while in transit to the nurse’s clinic and/or isolation.
- Students will be asked to wash and sanitize their hands regularly through the school day
- **Students will be encouraged to bring their own water bottles as the water fountains will be shut off during the school day allowing access only to the bottle fillers**

#### **Student Illnesses**

- Any student with a fever over 100.0 F should stay home.
- Any student that has the following symptoms of COVID-19 should stay home from school and should see their primary care provider to be assessed for COVID-19:
  - Any of the following symptoms: cough, shortness of breath, or difficulty breathing.

**OR**

- Two of the following symptoms: fever (measured or subjective), chills, rigors, muscle soreness, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, GI issues (nausea and vomiting or diarrhea).

**OR**

- Any of the following symptoms: cough, shortness of breath, or difficulty breathing, fever (measured or subjective), chills, rigors, muscle soreness, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, GI issues (nausea and vomiting or diarrhea) **AND** an epidemiological link to a case of COVID-19.

### **Returning to School after Illness**

- If a student is diagnosed as having COVID-19, they must meet the following criteria to return to school:
  - 3 days with no fever (without using fever reducing medication) **AND**
  - Other symptoms improved **AND**
  - 10 days since symptoms first appeared
- 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.
- Any other illnesses should be handled in the routine manner according to district procedures.
- To return to school the child must be transported to school by the parent and must be checked by the school nurse.

### **Daily Expectations of Teachers and Staff**

- Will wear face coverings when working within 6 feet of students unless:
  - Doing so would significantly interfere with the learning process;
  - Are not advisable for health reasons;
  - There is a functional (practical) reason to not wear facial coverings;
  - Kitchen staff will wear facial coverings while serving food
  - Bus drivers will wear facial coverings while students board and unload the bus
- Daily wellness checks/questionnaires will be required
- Alert administration of any changes in wellness or symptoms
- Quarantining guidelines and considerations will be followed as outlined above
- Disinfect classrooms and areas in between student/group use
- Note...staff will not be required to wear face coverings when working alone in assigned work areas (as long as this follows the guidance of state and local requirements)

### **Visitors and Volunteers**

Visitors and volunteers will generally be discouraged from visiting the facilities during the school day. Safety protocols such as taking temperatures, face coverings, and a health questionnaire will be implemented for all necessary visitors.

### **Protective Measures**

Bradford EVSD has taken great measures to ensure the safety of our students and staff by creating social distancing wherever possible and being vigilant on disinfecting our school. Purchases of additional hand sanitizing stations, disinfectants and barriers have made our building much more safe for our students and staff against the COVID-19 virus. We will establish routines for students to sanitize their hands and wash them on a regular basis. We will provide a limited supply of facial coverings for our staff and our students ensuring that all will have access, but it is the responsibility of the student to have access to face coverings during the school day. Students will be asked to have a face covering when needed.

### **Lunchroom Measures**

Lunchroom protocols will reflect social distancing and no touch POS (lunch account program) operation. Students will be able to travel through the kitchen to select their food options, while keeping a distance from the other students. While most current options will remain, parents will be encouraged to use their PaySchools account or send checks with their children to minimize cash transactions. Elementary students will eat their lunches in their classrooms and Junior High and High School students will eat in the cafeteria observing social distancing recommendations.

### **Bus Protocol**

- Student temperatures will be checked as soon as they board the bus. If a temperature of 100.0 degrees is observed the student will be returned to their parent at home as soon as possible
- Since social distancing cannot be achieved, students that ride the bus will be required to wear a mask. Transportation privileges may be revoked when a student refuses to properly wear a mask on the bus
- Students will board the bus and sit in assigned seats filling the back of the bus first. Students will unload the bus beginning in the front
- Students from the same households (family members, common babysitting house, etc.) will be required to sit together
- Time will be allotted between routes to disinfect the bus
- Driver and any employee(s) on the bus will be required to wear a face covering when they are within six feet of students

### **Equipment**

We will encourage students to have their own supplies for class so sharing is kept to a minimum. Staff members will be provided with additional cleaning supplies to ensure every effort is made to sanitize equipment between use of different students. Water bottle filling stations will be available to students only to fill students containers.

### **Class Transition**

Schedules are being recreated to minimize hallway traffic. Realizing that this is unavoidable, students will be asked to spend a minimal amount of time in the hallways or at their lockers. Students will be asked to wear masks while in the hallways

### **Field Trips and Assemblies**

To avoid gatherings and communicable contact, field trips and assemblies will be minimized or eliminated until further notice.

### **Junior High and High School Plan**

- Students will follow an Orange (periods 1-4) and Black (periods 5-8) Schedule every other day.
- Class periods will be approximately 80 minutes long.
- Class sizes will be capped at 15 students per classroom.
- Any class with over 15 students will have students moved to an overflow classroom to learn remotely or moved to a larger space to keep students socially distanced wherever possible.
- Students will be released to go home at 2:20pm each day until restrictions are lifted and a normal schedule of 8:10-3:10 is put back into place.
- Students who may need to stay until 3:10 will be placed in a study hall at the end of the day.

### **Elementary Plan**

- Students will be in self-contained classrooms of no more than 16.
- Students will be asked to wear face masks in common areas.
- Students will transition to special classes such as art, gym and music with extra time for teachers to disinfect as well as support teachers, Title 1 or special education services.
- Students will eat lunch in their classrooms and a recess will be provided in the classroom after lunch.
- Students will take an additional recess with their classroom at a time determined by their homeroom teacher.
- Students will be left in their self-contained classroom until dismissal occurs.

\*\*\*\* If one of our counties goes to red then special classrooms will come to the classrooms for instruction.

### **Face Masks/Coverings**

Within reason, Bradford EVSD will enforce all recommendations of the state and local authorities. While a facemask mandate is in place, we will abide by the order/requirements until the mandate is lifted, unless other alternatives are available.

### **Online option for selected/special circumstances**

We realize that there are special circumstances that each family and student faces when returning to school in a different way. If students have circumstances that would not allow them to return to school as described, please talk with your principal to explore alternative settings. Online options will be available for those qualifying students to commit for a semester or full year during the 2020-2021 school year only. If exploring this option, students will be responsible to meet and keep up with entrance and assignment deadlines. Students and their families will need to commit to this method of education no later than two weeks before the start of school

### **Option 2**

#### **REMOTE LEARNING (when we are all required to learn remotely)**

While this is not the primary goal of Bradford staff, we realize that the circumstances relative to COVID can rapidly change the direction and structure of our educational environment. Our staff has worked diligently to prepare for the probability of exercising a remote learning plan in the event of high absenteeism, COVID identification within our school or community or a mandate through governing agencies. Students, parents and staff will work collaboratively to overcome obstacles presented by the change in structure and ensure the best education possible under these circumstances.

\*\*\*visit <https://darkecountyhealth.org/> for more Darke County Health information and <https://www.miamicountyhealth.net/> for Miami County Health information.

Please visit [www.Bradford.k12.oh.us](http://www.Bradford.k12.oh.us) to see our Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)