



McLean County USD 5 Early Learning Program COVID-19 Phase 4 Reopening-Fall 2020

This document outlines Unit 5's early learning plan as of July 27, 2020. Local and State positivity rates, cases, and regulations may cause the District to make changes to the start of the 2020-21 school year. As we look to reopen schools under Phase 4, we have developed the following structures as derived from [IDPH/ISBE Starting the 2020-21 School Year](#) to provide a safe and instructionally effective environment to do so.

Half-Day Pre-K Classrooms: regular schedule Morning: 7:45-10:15 Afternoon: 11:45-2:15
Monday-Friday

Number of students per class:

Blended classroom: 10-15

Special education self contained classroom: no more than 10

Full-Day Pre-K Classrooms: 7:45-12:00 Monday-Friday

*each day staff will provide families and students an additional "online learning activity" for approximately 20 minutes of instruction

Number of students per class: 12-15

August 24-28 All Pre-K students will begin with a week of remote learning. This will be a balanced approach for parents and students to learn about our EL program and time to connect with the teacher. Hardcopy packets will be available August 4 from 8am-6pm at each school. This packet is for all students, regardless of if you choose the online or in person learning option and will be available outdoors on a table to grab and go.

August 31: In person and online instruction will begin

ONLINE LEARNING PLAN/OPTION:

Due to new guidelines from ISBE pre-K students **will be allowed to choose online learning for the entire first semester as an option.** This was not in our original survey, so if this is something your family would like to do please email your building principal and they will get you added to the list. This will also hold your child's spot if they choose to return to in person instruction second semester. Creative Curriculum will be delivered using the family portal of Teaching Strategies. Hardcopy lessons will not be provided. If a family needs technology, please contact your building principal. Instruction will be 20-60 minutes per day. Families who decide that their child will participate in the online option must commit to online instruction for the entire first semester. In order to have proper staffing in place, we will not allow students to start online and then move to in-person learning. Students participating in online learning will be assigned to a Unit 5 teacher who is licensed to teach pre-k. The teachers assigned may not be a teacher from the student's home school or grade level.

Building Principals and emails:

Brigham: Erin O'Grady: ograde@unit5.org

Fairview: Gina Tenuta: tenutagj@unit5.org



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Sugar Creek: Kristina Peifer: peiferk@unit5.org

Overarching guidelines include the following:

- Ensure that all students and staff are provided with a safe working environment
 - Ensure that physical space is utilized in a way to ensure social distancing to the best of our ability
 - Ensure that appropriate protective equipment is utilized
 - Ensure that all students receive appropriate access to instruction and learning.
- PPE, Cleaning and Sanitation Procedures
- All students and staff will be required to wear masks. Schools will have a variety of PPE available for students with sensory or other special needs.
 - Additional hand sanitizer stations will be installed strategically near entrances, throughout the building and inside classrooms.
 - Classrooms will be cleaned and fully sanitized in between sessions (for half-day programming) and each night (for “full-day” programming).
 - On-site laundering facilities are being explored

Physical Spacing

- Some classroom furniture and materials will be removed to allow for ease of passage and adequate preventative distancing.
- Student seating will be assigned and arranged to support social distancing.
- Floor markings will be placed on classroom floors to indicate areas that are appropriate to sit to provide preventative social distancing in centers.
- Classroom items made of fabric or plush materials will be removed.
- Hallway movement times will be scheduled to limit the number of staff and students in the hallways.
- Hallway signage and markings will be in place to ensure 6 feet social distancing.
- Schedules for gross motor time will be developed to maximize social distancing
- Staff will bring students directly to their classrooms, preventing congregating in one location.

Center Materials Usage

- Staff will work to reduce students' sharing of materials. Where possible, additional manipulative sets are being ordered to prevent shared materials.
- Toys that cannot be cleaned and sanitized will not be used.
- Toys that children have placed in their mouth or that are otherwise contaminated by body secretions or excretions will be set aside until they are cleaned by hand by a person wearing gloves. Clean with water and detergent, rinse, sanitize with an EPA-registered disinfectant, rinse again, and air-dry.
- Children's books, like other paper-based materials such as mail or envelopes, are not considered a high risk for transmission and do not need additional cleaning or disinfection procedures.
- Instructional materials will be paired down to those which are most impactful, limiting the



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number of items to facilitate a continuous cleaning cycle.

- Materials that are cloth and fabric will be limited.
- Hands-on student materials, especially those that easily absorb air particles, will be removed and/or replaced with other materials that may be cleaned.
- High-touch items and surfaces will need to be cleaned on an ongoing basis
- Classroom sand and water table access will be suspended until further notice
- Dramatic play dress up center will include limited hard surface items

Age-appropriate Strategies to Support Students for PPE Expectations

- Staff will work to support and acclimate students to the use of personal protective equipment, such as masks.
- Daily reminders, signage, and classroom routines will be structured to support handwashing, social distancing and safety.
- Students and staff will be provided with clear window masks to facilitate development of important language acquisition skills
- Communication will go out in advance of school to encourage parents to begin transitioning children to wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and gradually increasing usage building up to the launch of the school year

Student Drop off/Pick Up Plan

- Staff will utilize hand-sanitizer between each set of students they escort into the building.
- All students will use hand sanitizer upon entrance.
- Maximize social distancing wherever possible.