

COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan

Fremont Public Schools

08-07-20

Preparedness Plan Assurances

The District agrees to meet all of the following requirements of Executive Order 2020-142

- The District assures that when it provides in-person instruction to its students without disabilities, the district must also provide in-person instruction to its students with disabilities, consistent with their individualized education programs (IEPs).
- The District assures that when schools are closed to in-person instruction, districts must strive in good faith and to the extent practicable, based upon available resources, technology, training, and curriculum, as well as the circumstances presented by COVID-19, to provide equal access to any alternative modes of instruction to students with disabilities from birth through age 26. This assurance includes the provision of auxiliary services under section 1296 of the Revised School Code, MCL 380.1296.
- The District assures that while any state of emergency or disaster related to the COVID-19 pandemic continues, it shall comply with guidance from the United States Department of Education, including its Office of Civil Rights and Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, and the Michigan Department of Education concerning the delivery of alternative modes of instruction to students with disabilities in light of the impact of COVID-19.
- The District assures that it shall, to the extent practicable and necessary, make individualized determinations whether and to what extent compensatory services may be needed for students with disabilities in light of the school closures during the 2019–2020 school year.
- The District assures that during **Phase 1, 2, or 3** of the *Michigan Safe Start Plan* it will close its buildings to anyone except: (a) District employees or contractors necessary to conduct minimum basic school operations consistent with a Preparedness Plan, including those employers or contractors necessary to facilitate alternative modes of instruction, such as distributing materials and equipment or performing other necessary in-person functions. (b) Food-service workers preparing food for distribution to students or their families. (c) Licensed child-care providers and the families that they serve, if providers follow all emergency protocols identified by the state.
- The District assures that during **Phase 1, 2, or 3** of the *Michigan Safe Start Plan* it will suspend athletics, after-school activities, inter-school activities, and busing.
- The District assures that during **Phase 1, 2, or 3** of the *Michigan Safe Start Plan* it will provide for the continued pay of school employees while redeploying staff to provide meaningful work in the context of the Preparedness Plan, subject to any applicable requirements of a collective bargaining agreement.

- The District assures that in **Phases 1, 2, or 3** of the *Michigan Safe Start Plan* it will provide for the continuation of food distribution to eligible students.
- The District assures that during **Phase 4** of the *Michigan Safe Start Plan* it will prohibit indoor assemblies that bring together students from more than one classroom.
- The District assures cooperation with the local public health department if a confirmed case of COVID-19 is identified, and agrees to collect the contact information for any close contacts of the affected individual from two days before he or she showed symptoms to the time when he or she was last present in school.

Introduction to Planning

Open Houses

Pathfinder: In Person by Teacher Appointment (August 24, 25, 26, 27)

Daisy Brook: In Person by Teacher Appointment (August 25, 26, 27)

Fremont Middle School: By Video (YouTube, School Website, and Facebook Aug. 21)

Fremont High School: By Video (YouTube, School Website, and Facebook Aug. 21)

Lunches

Breakfast and Lunch will be served daily. Sack lunches may be the norm for the first couple of weeks as we get comfortable with new schedules and programming. We are currently working on a program to allow free breakfast and lunches for all students this year and will know by August 24 if this will happen.

After School Program

The After School Program (ASP) will once again be available to families for students in grades K-8 at each of the buildings. The ASP will begin on September 1 and continue each day after the school day ends. Should the District move to Phase 1-2-3 instruction, the ASP would be temporarily suspended.

Bus Transportation

ALL FAMILIES will need to register their children for bus transportation this year, regardless of whether they have been bus riders previously. The district is arranging new bus routes and will need to have a clearly defined method for contact tracing in the event students get sick. Bus registration can be found at www.fremont.net. Or call Chris Howell at 924-8271.

Planning for Phase 1-2-3 Instruction

In the event that Fremont Public Schools is directed to move to Phase 1, 2, or 3, the district will begin remote learning for all students. **(We are currently in Phase 4)**

The district plans to use a blended learning model on instruction using Google Classroom as the primary platform for instruction. For those students that do not have a device, the district will provide devices in grades K-12 to the extent feasible. Students without internet devices or internet access will have access to instructional materials through weekly instructional packets. Instructional materials (i.e. paper, pencils, rulers, folders) will be made available to families that do not have them. All students will have access to grade-level/course textbooks/resources as needed to complete their work. Students will not be penalized for inability to fully participate provided families stay engaged with school personnel in developing personalized and realistic education plans for their child. The district will do everything feasible and reasonable to meet student/family needs and allow for full participation.

Teachers/Staff will be expected to make weekly contact with students and have two-way communication. This may be done through the use of technology (virtual meetings, email, or weekly phone calls). For students with technology access teachers will also communicate multiple times each week through the instructional platform Google Classroom. If students do not have access to technology, teachers will provide instructional packets that focus on essential content, building relationships, and maintaining connections. We will encourage relationships between students through technology, phone, text, or by having students write letters to classmates.

For students with technology access, content will be delivered through Google Classroom. Teachers will be accessible for synchronous instruction (virtual meetings/office hours/livestream) at least once per week and more often if livestreaming instruction is feasible, and asynchronous instruction through pre-made videos/lessons on a regular basis. For those students without technology, the main mode of delivery will be through hard copy instructional packets or by flash drive for those students who have a flash drive capable device. This instruction will be supplemented with phone conferencing to support instruction. Packets and flash drives will be provided during meal distribution. Packets and flash drives will be mailed or dropped off to students who do not participate in meal distribution, or can be picked up at designated pick up locations.

For students with technology access, teachers will monitor student access and assignment completion on a regular basis within Google Classroom. Teachers will provide feedback to students on assignments through the instructional platform as they are completed. Teachers will differentiate instruction within the platform to meet each student's needs. For students without technology access, instructional packets will be collected each week during meal distribution. Teachers will review the instructional packet and provide feedback to the student during their weekly communication (phone call, virtual meeting, or email). Feedback from the teacher will include differentiated work as needed, along with examples to support student learning. An example of this may be providing a student that is struggling with double-digit subtraction additional practice and several written examples with the steps. A phone call would also be used

as a follow-up if needed. If the student is not participating in meal distribution or pick-up, completed packets may be returned via postage-paid envelopes provided by the district.

The plan will be communicated through our School Messenger communication app, according to the preferences our parents/guardians have chosen in that system. Parents will receive an email with the plan attached, and/or a voice message and/or text message directing them to our district website where they can access. The plan will be posted in a prominent location on our district website, and a link will also be posted on our district and building Facebook pages.

For our students in dual enrollment courses we will be working with the provider to determine next steps. We will ensure that the students have the appropriate materials and support to complete these courses. The students will be given credit or no-credit. For students enrolled in CTE programs we will work with the CTC Principal/Director to ensure our students have the ability to complete these courses. When needed, the district will ensure the student has the necessary resources.

If a student has access to technology, teachers will use the instructional platform to monitor student wellness, engagement, and completion of assignments. They will also keep a log of communication with students and families. If a student does not have access to technology, teachers will keep track of which students are completing the weekly instructional packets. They will also need to keep a log of all communication with students and families. Inconsistent completion and/or communication with a parent or student will be raised to the principal or counselor level to develop a plan to connect with the student and family. Additional support agencies may be sought to make these connections (31N Coordinator, DHHS, ISD supports etc.)

The district will survey all parents to determine current mental health needs and provide an online form for parents/students to request support. Based on the survey results or form requests, counselors (school counselor, 31N Coordinator, ISD supports) will reach out to individual students and families to determine what they may need. The counselors will help connect the family to outside agencies, if needed, to help meet their needs. Teachers will monitor and assess the needs of students and families through their weekly communications. If a need is identified, the teacher will elevate that need to the principal or counselor to make the necessary follow-up. The principal will hold weekly virtual meetings with teachers and other key staff to identify any additional students or families in need.

Summary of Phase 1-2-3 Learning

- School Buildings are closed
- Learning takes place remotely
- Families receive a school Chromebook (as feasible) with a flash drive to assist in learning
- Fremont teachers prepare lessons (including video lessons), and communicate regularly with families and students.
- Unlike the spring session from March thru May, teacher expectations are required.

Planning for Phase 4

In the event that Fremont Public Schools continues in Phase 4 the district will hold “In-Person” instruction in each of the grade-level buildings. **(We are currently in Phase 4)**

Face Coverings

- Face Coverings are encouraged but not required for students in grades K-5. Students in grades K-5 will wear masks when walking from their classroom to other areas of the building, for example gym class or lunch.
- Face Coverings are required for students in grades 6-12. Mask breaks will be given throughout the day. Face coverings are not required at lunch.
- The expectations for the wearing of face coverings and how to obtain clean face coverings will be included in all district to parent communications, all handbooks, all student orientations, and all staff orientations. (Aug. 1 - Aug. 30)
- Students and parents will be required to watch a safety video on the wearing of and expectations for maintenance of face coverings. Students and parents will sign-off on their awareness of these policies before the students are permitted to enter the classroom on the first day of school. (Aug. 1 - Aug. 30)
- Building, grounds, and transportation signage will be prominent throughout all school facilities and clearly identify who is required to wear face coverings in each designated area of the building, grounds, or bus. (Completed by Aug. 26)
- Face coverings will be ordered and available to each student and staff member on a daily basis. These will be placed on busses and in the classrooms every evening by the custodial and transportation staff. (Delivery taken by Aug. 28)
- Individuals (staff or students) who seek a medical exemption from facial coverings will need to meet with the building principal to provide documentation.
- Exempted individuals will be recorded in a master database and issued a lanyard or sticker to display on their student or staff ID indicating exemption.
- Grade K-5 students will not be required to wear a face covering once they are situated in the classroom unless the classroom activity places them in close (2 feet or less) proximity to other students, and when they transition from the classroom to other areas of the building.
- Students who are capable of wearing a face covering and refuse to do so in an area where a face covering is required will be issued a face covering by a school official (teacher, paraprofessional, administrator, playground aid, etc.) and asked to put the covering on. The instance will be documented as a log entry in Skyward.
- Students showing patterns of non-compliance will be removed from the school building and placed into remote instruction until the student agrees to comply with this safety protocol. Parents will be notified of each instance of non-compliance by the administration or school safety liaison. Continued removals from the school building will result in permanent placement into remote instruction with the student being banned from coming to the school site.
- Guests to the school building (educational liaisons, substitute teachers, etc.) will be issued a disposable face covering upon signing in at the main office and will be instructed

to wear the face covering at all times. Instances of non-compliance will result in the guest being escorted from the building by the building principal, secretary, or other staff. Guests may also be screened for symptoms. Records will be kept, including time and date.

- In instances of uncertainty about individuals not wearing face coverings, these matters will be relayed to the building administration for review and decisive action.

Hygiene

- Every classroom in grades K-5 will be supplied with a fixed or portable handwashing station
- Students in each classroom in grades 6-12 will have hourly opportunities for handwashing.
- Supplies (paper towels, soap, hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol for safe use by staff and students, tissues, trash receptacles) will be checked daily and restocked in the classroom.
- Teachers will contact the office immediately if supplies run out during the school day.
- Each classroom will have a hygiene protocol with timelines that are posted and communicated via bulletin boards and the like. It will include
 - Hand-washing schedule
 - Room and materials cleaning schedule
- Teacher or school nurse will teach the following to students on the first day of school and reinforce weekly or more often as needed (this may be done via video)
 - proper handwashing on the first day of school and reinforce weekly or more often if needed
 - how to cough and sneeze into their elbows, or to cover with a tissue and dispose of it in the trash
- Proper mitigation strategies including hand washing and sneezing will be communicated to families via newsletters, web pages, bulletin boards, and the like. Parents and caregivers will be asked to review and reinforce with their students.
- Custodial/Maintenance staff will
 - Procure adequate soap, hand sanitizer, paper towels, tissues by August 1, November 20, February 20, and May 20
 - Post signage related to cleaning and hygiene strategies in each room, restroom, throughout the hallways by August 20
 - Monitor hygiene supplies and refill as needed three times daily
 - Procure hand sanitizing stations as deemed necessary during walk-through with building leader by August 1
- Sharing school supplies will be limited, and each student will have their own supply box for materials. Teachers/Building administrators will create a supply box list for parents (August 27)
- Students will keep personal items separate from other students in individually labeled cubbies, containers, or lockers.
- Classroom supplied resources will be limited to student use and disinfected between each use.
- Students in all classrooms will be spaced as far apart as feasible.

- As feasible, all desks will be arranged to face the same direction toward the front of the classroom.
- Teachers will maintain six feet of spacing between themselves and students as much as possible.
- Family members or other guests will be allowed only under extenuating circumstances.
- Signage will be posted to indicate proper social distancing.
- Classroom windows will be open as weather permits. Considerations will be made for students with allergy-induced asthma.
- Efforts will be made to social distance students and staff in the hallways, and when feasible limit the number of persons in the hallways.
- Staff members will monitor arrival and dismissal to discourage congregating and ensure students go straight from a vehicle to their classrooms and vice-versa.

Cleaning

- District Level Administrators and Building Operations will meet to review all guidance related to cleaning and disinfecting of buildings and to review the Building Operations the MI Safe Schools: Michigan's 2020-21 Return to School Roadmap. (Aug. 17)
- An inventory related to all cleaning supplies that are in compliance with the EPA-approved disinfectants related to COVID will be taken and orders will be made to address increased cleaning protocols. (Aug 27)
- Cleaning stations will be identified around the building that hold materials for usage in different wings. (Aug. 27)
- All classrooms will be provided spray bottles with EPA-approved disinfectant, paper towels, face shield and gloves in order to address new cleaning protocols. Staff must wear gloves, a mask and face shield when cleaning unless using an EPA-approved disinfectant that allows for not wearing the above PPE.
- Each building custodial team and administrator will tour their building and identify areas of frequent usage throughout the building. A map will be created and kept secure in the head custodian room and office to ensure compliance when custodial substitutes are in the building. (Aug 28)
- Custodial staff will walk the building wiping all high frequency usage areas throughout the school day and following any evening activities in the building. Staff will note the time and date and initials on a chart that is kept daily for areas of high-frequency usage.
- All specials classrooms i.e. art, music, gym and media centers will have EPA-approved cleaning supplies stored in the classroom away from students. The teacher of record for the area will wipe down all frequently used materials after each class has exited with EPA-approved disinfectant. This will occur prior to the entrance of the next class that would be using the same equipment.
- Classroom teachers or students will wipe down the students desks everytime students exit the room at the elementary or after every period at the secondary level with EPA-approved disinfectant. Locked storage units with ventilation for cleaning materials will be available for all staff as needed. All classrooms will have the appropriate EPA-approved disinfectant in their rooms.
- Playground equipment will be cleaned on a regular basis.

- A training on cleaning materials and protocols will be provided to the staff through a meeting the first week of school. This training will show the use of PPE when cleaning, protocols for the classroom and storage of cleaning materials.
- Frequently touched surfaces including light switches, doors, benches, and bathrooms will undergo cleaning at least every four hours with an EPA-approved disinfectant.
- Libraries, computer labs, arts and other hands-on classrooms will undergo cleaning after each class period with an EPA-approved disinfectant.

Athletics

Fremont Public Schools will follow the guidelines of the Michigan High School Athletic Association for all athletic programs and student athletes for the 2020-21 school year.

Screening

For School Staff and Administration:

Per EO 2020-145: Conduct a daily entry self-screening protocol for all employees or contractors entering the workplace, including, at a minimum, a questionnaire covering symptoms and suspected or confirmed exposure to people with possible COVID19.

For Students:

It is recommended you screen students daily before arrival to school. The school should determine the screening method based on local school conditions.

Due to the time needed and interruption to education on site health screenings cause, the health department and the CDC does not currently recommend universal symptom screenings of all students' grades K-12 be conducted by schools. Parents or caregivers should be strongly encouraged to monitor their children for signs of infectious illness every day prior to sending students to school, school activities, and school sports.

A recommendation for what parents should ask is outlined below:

Student Screening

Before leaving for school each day, please be sure to use the following screening tool for each of your children. If your child has any of the following symptoms, that indicates a possible illness that may decrease the student's ability to learn and put them at risk for spreading illness to others, and should stay home.

MARK ALL THAT APPLY

Section One: Symptoms

- Temperature 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher when taken by mouth
- Sore throat
- New uncontrolled cough that causes difficulty breathing (for students with chronic allergic/asthmatic cough, a change in their cough from baseline)
- Diarrhea, vomiting, or abdominal pain
- New onset of severe headache, especially with a fever

Section Two: Close Contact/Potential Exposure

In the past 14 days has your child:

- Had close contact (within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes) with a person with confirmed COVID-19; OR
- Had close contact (within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes) with person under quarantine for possible exposure to COVID-19; OR
- Had international travel or have been on a cruise

If the answer is YES to any of the symptom questions, keep your child(ren) home from school. Additionally, if the student has one of the symptoms above and ANY of the exposure risks, the parent or guardian should call their health care provider or urgent care center.

- A copy of our screening and exposure plan will be submitted to the County Health Department. This plan will be reviewed on a regular basis with the District Administrative Team and the Health Department along with the status of any referrals from the prior month.
- Students may have temperatures taken at different times throughout the school day, especially if they report not feeling well to the office.
- Each school building will identify a remote and secluded room to serve as an isolation area. This room will be outfitted with appropriate PPE, and students will be monitored by office staff.
- Parent communication will be made immediately with clear and concise directions on where and how to pick up the student.
- The district nurse (Shelly Klochack) will contact the student/family after removal in order to plan for a return to school.
- During the time of quarantine at school, the student (as feasible) will be asked to self-identify the location and individuals they came into contact with for the past 48 hours to the best of their recollection. Priority will be placed on those individuals with whom they were in close contact for a sustained 15 minutes or more.
- The health department will be notified after parents have been reached to assist in contact tracing and notification of vulnerable individuals.

- Families will be encouraged to monitor their children for symptoms of COVID-19. The presence of any symptoms, including cough or shortness of breath, should prompt the family to keep the student home from school and to follow up with a primary care provider. Go to www.fremont.net to access the Fremont Public Schools daily family screening tool. (Aug. 17)
- Symptomatic students sent home from school and will work with the district nurse (Shelly Klochack) to determine a plan for returning to school following Public Health Department District #10 guidelines.
- The district will confer with the Department of Public Health District #10 in regards to screening procedures as changes occur.

Testing and Procedures

What happens when someone at school gets COVID-19? School and local health department learn of a student or staff member diagnosed with COVID-19

If we become aware of a case of COVID-19 in a student or staff member, we will notify the health department right away. The health department will notify the district contact person when they become aware of a case. Only a select few at the school will know the identity of the person infected with COVID-19. Those few individuals are critical to helping the health department figure out who were close contacts to the case and determine what areas of the school need special attention for disinfection and cleaning. Other than those few individuals, the person's identity is kept confidential in respect of their privacy as well as following regulations of FERPA (for schools) and HIPAA (for the health department).

A person with COVID-19 is considered contagious beginning 2 days (48 hours) before they started having symptoms. If they never have symptoms, they are considered contagious starting 2 days (48 hours) before their COVID-19 nasal/throat swab test was performed. Close contacts to a person with contagious COVID-19 are at risk of getting sick. They must be identified and be quarantined.

What is a close contact?

For COVID-19, a close contact is most often someone that has been within 6 feet (about 2 arms' length) of an infected person for at least 15 minutes, with or without a face covering. Every case is different, however, and the health department has to look at how COVID-19 is spread and how we get infected when figuring out close contacts. The health department helps determine close contacts every day and routinely investigates contacts to many types of contagious diseases.

Parent Guidelines

It will be very helpful for parents to keep note of where their student is going and who they are spending time with outside of school. This will help greatly in finding close contacts should someone become infected. You may also understand from this list the importance of assigned seating and keeping students from mingling together as much as possible in order to keep the

spread of disease to a minimum. We know kids don't like assigned seats or losing freedoms but please help encourage them and remind them why this is important.

Students should not go to school or any school activities or sports if having symptoms of COVID-19. If they start having symptoms of COVID-19 while at school, they will need to be sent home.

Instruction

Fremont Public Schools ensures that every student:

- Has access to standards-aligned, grade-level instruction, including strategies to accelerate student learning.
- Is assessed to determine student readiness to engage in grade-level content
- Is offered scaffolds and supports to meet their diverse academic and social-emotional needs

In addition, teachers will:

- Review student data to identify overall gaps and trends in student learning to design systemic supports and interventions.
- Conduct a review of each students' IEP in partnership with parents and IEP team members to reflect each student's evolving needs based on time away from associated services including OT, PT, and Speech while school buildings were closed.
- Procure any additional standards-aligned tools or materials to support differentiation, intervention, and remote learning, based on students' needs as feasible.

If remote learning (Phase 1-2-3) occurs, Fremont Public Schools will activate plans to monitor and assess the following:

- **Connectivity and Access:** Ensure that all students and families have adequate connectivity and the devices necessary as feasible to successfully engage in and complete schoolwork.
- **Attendance:** Develop systems to monitor and track students' online attendance
- **Student Work:** Teachers will assess the quality of student work and provide feedback to students and families. Students will self-assess the quality of work, reflect on teacher feedback, and learning progress.

School Day:

Instruction in Phase 3 will take place remotely as school buildings will be closed.

Instruction in Phase 4 and 5 will take place in buildings and will consist of face to face learning with a classroom teacher. The school day will begin at the normal starting time (or within a few minutes either way of last year's schedule). Pending approval, the school day will come to an end at approximately 2:10 pm each day. This schedule allows for smaller class sizes throughout the school day and will better ensure social distancing five days per week throughout the first semester of the school year. Parents will be informed should changes occur for the 2nd semester.

The release time of 2:10 allows for after-school access to academic support for students through the academic interventionist program.

A complete daily schedule will be available on the school website. (Aug 21)

The After School Program will be available each day for students in grades K-8, and will begin at 2:10 pm each day, and continue through 6:00 pm.

Professional Learning

The District:

- Will provide adequate time prior to school starting for schools and educators to engage in intentional curriculum planning and documentation to ensure stability of instruction whether buildings are opened or closed.
- Identify students who are not engaged in remote learning and a plan will be developed to provide additional supports, if needed.
- Share knowledge and ideas around the use and effectiveness of digital tools and resources that support remote learning.
- Offer restorative supports for teachers and learning around equity and implicit bias, social-emotional learning, and culturally responsive education.

Busing and Student Transportation

Parent Letter and Registration of Students

All families must register for bus transportation for the 2020-21 school year prior to August 31.

August 5, 2020

Dear Fremont Families,

Sometimes difficult situations present themselves and, while they create challenges, they also create opportunities to grow. The Governor's Return to School Roadmap has provided such an opportunity for us to increase safety measure in transporting your children to and from school. The information shared with you today is in effect during phase 4 and 5 of the MI Safe Start Plan.

Click the link below to access the NEW STUDENT TRANSPORTATION REQUEST FORM:

https://www.fremont.net/downloads/transportation_department/transportation_form.pdf

Parents, we need your help. If your students are riding a bus in the fall, we need a new transportation form filled out and turned in by Monday, August 24, 2020. We understand this may create challenges for some families; however, this is necessary to comply with contact tracing guidelines. We will again accept transportation requests on September 8, 2020 after the first week of school.

Safety protocols

- The following are required in compliance with the Governor's roadmap:
- Buses will be thoroughly cleaned and sanitized before and after all routes.
- The bus driver, staff and all students in grades preK-12, if medically feasible, must wear facial coverings while on the bus and use the provided hand sanitizer as they enter.
- All siblings will be required to sit together.
- All students will have assigned seating; they must remain in that seat and not move to another seat at any time while on the bus.
- No eating or drinking on the bus.
- Students will not be permitted to ride other buses home with other students; no bus passes will be issued.
- Transfer students between buildings will be assigned to a bus, and parents will need to fill out a transportation form.
- If a student shows signs of illness on the way to or from school, they will be required to sit in the front seat of the bus.

We look forward to seeing your children this fall, and we will continue to keep safety first as we encourage and support one another. Please feel free to reach out to the Transportation Department with any questions or concerns at 924-4390.

Sincerely,

Chris Howell

Director of Transportation

Additional Busing Information

- Signage will be added to each bus to address the use of face masking of all students and drivers, use of hand sanitizers and cleaning protocols.
- Busses will be properly cleaned after the departure of the last child from each run once the bus has returned to the transportation garage.
- Face masks will be available at the entrance of the bus in the event that a student does not come to the bus equipped with the necessary item.
- Communication will be sent out to families related to the mandatory nature of wearing a face mask on the bus and that all staff and students, if medically feasible, must wear it in order to be transported.
- Bus drivers, weather permitting, will keep windows open on the bus both in route and when stopped.

Summary of Phase 4

- Students will be in school buildings and learning will take place with a classroom teacher
- Students in Grades K-5 do not have to wear masks throughout the school day, but only when transitioning from their classroom to gym, art, or lunch.*
- Students in Grades 6-12 will have to wear masks throughout the school day. Mask breaks will be designated throughout the day.
- Masks are required to be worn on school buses to and from school
- Families may apply for mask exemptions from a medical doctor
- Frequently touched surfaces in every classroom will be disinfected hourly.
- Each classroom will have a HEPA Air Purifier designated for classroom usage.
- The School Day begins at approximately 8:00 am and ends at 2:10 pm. (Actual class times will be posted on the school website by August 21
- Class lists and class schedules will be available by August 21.
- Public Health Department #10 Guidelines will be followed should students exhibit symptoms of Covid-19.

*Subject to change by Executive Order

Planning for Phase 5

During Phase 5, facial coverings will be highly recommended rather than required. All other parts of Phase 5 will follow Phase 4.

School Year Expectations

As we make final preparations for the upcoming school year, there are still a number of things that may change. Each week we continue to receive direction, guidance, and clarification on requirements, rules and expectations.

We are planning for school to begin on August 31, and for those parents who would like their kids to return to school, this will happen.

The safety and well-being of each of our students and staff is our primary concern as school begins. We are taking all actions possible to ensure that health protocols are in place and being followed.

We face quite possibly the two greatest health crises in our history – the risks inherent with Covid-19, and the risks to our student population that have been on the rise over the past six months:

- Increased rates of suicide
- Increased rates of drug use
- Increased rates of depression and anxiety
- Other mental health issues
- Hunger for many children
- Obesity for some children
- Lack of social-emotional support
- Risks associated with lack of social engagement

For parents, there is stress and anxiety in whatever decision is made for returning to school or not. Each family must make their own decision, and trust in the Lord that this is the best decision for them. These are unprecedented times. There is no book to follow or rules to play by. We are planning to partner with families to keep our kids and staff as safe as possible while giving the quality educational experience each of our kids deserves.

At Fremont Public Schools we are planning for a year that may include a series of changes, adjustments, and potential missteps along the way. What we do know is that our administration team and school board have been making preparations since May for a return to learning. Our teachers and staff have been planning since June for the return of school. These next three weeks will more than likely include additional changes to which we will keep you informed.

Should you have additional questions or concerns, feel free to call the administration offices at 231-924-2350 or email khaggart@fremont.net. You are more than welcome to email your building principal as well.

Pathfinder Elementary	- Jodi Ferris – jferris@fremont.net
Daisy Brook Elementary	- Fran Clemence – fclemence@fremont.net
Fremont Middle School	- Wes Zerlaut – wzerlaut@fremont.net
Fremont High School	- Scott Sherman – ssherman@fremont.net
Quest High School	- Tracy Sanchez – tsanchez@fremont.net