**Plan of Re-Entry 2021-2022**

Halfway R-III Schools is dedicated to educating our students, while creating a safe and sanitary environment conducive for learning. The beginning of the 2021-2022 school year is upon us and we are still dealing with lingering effects of COVID 19. DESE is requiring schools again to have a plan of Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services posted on our website. With this being so, we would like to say that we, as a school district, are excited to see our students back in the classroom as we feel it is very beneficial for student learning to have social and face-to-face interaction with our teachers.

The Halfway R-III school district Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services plan will have sanitary, social distancing, student/faculty monitoring, and other safety measures in place. We believe our plan creates a path for students to return to learning in a way that protects the health and well-being of everyone in our schools. The plan also addresses recommendations and guidelines provided by local, state, and federal agencies. Please note that as the school year progresses, we may modify and adjust our plan as necessary. We ask for your understanding, patience, and flexibility, as we navigate government guidelines and protocols.

We plan on bringing our students back to school on Tuesday, August 24th. We will follow a plan of re-entry until the threat of COVID 19 subsides and our extended daily protocols are no longer needed. After reviewing our plan, I encourage you to call or email my office with questions, or concerns. Please know that each decision made regarding our re-entry plan, and the modifications that may need to happen in the future, will be guided with the desire to do what is best for our students, employees, and community.

The Halfway R-III school district is excited to welcome our students back into our classrooms. We are going to make the 2021-2022 school year the best it can be!

Sincerely,

Lance W. Roweton

Halfway R-III Superintendent

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**Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services**

* **Students will attend class on a daily basis.**
* **Social distancing will be put in place where possible.**
* **Cleaning and sanitizing practices will take place in all areas daily.**
* **Students will eat breakfast and lunch in the cafeteria as normal.**
* **Walk and talk for JH/HS will be as normal.**
* **Buses will be sanitized after each route.**
* **Frequent handwashing and hand sanitizing will be reviewed with students and encouraged.**
* **There will be reasonable accommodations made for students with disabilities.**
* **Some diagnostic and screening testing may be done to determine gaps in learning due to COVID-19.**
* **Masks will be worn grades 3-12 if the state or local government mandates that they be worn or school administration deems it necessary. As of now masks are recommended but not mandated by the Polk County Health Department. Therefore, Halfway R-III Schools will recommend, but not mandate that masks be worn when school starts.**
* **Contact tracing will be done in the case of a positive COVID test in our school.**
* **Vaccinations for faculty and staff will be provided as requested.**
* **Fully vaccinated faculty/staff/students will follow the PCHC guidelines in regards to quarantining.**
* **Counselors will be available in our school daily to provide emotional support for students and staff.**
* **If requested this plan can be offered in an alternate language.  Please contact the district office if you require assistance in this option.**
* **If our district is required to shut down due to Covid, Halfway Schools will offer virtual education, packets of work, and any other methods of education deemed necessary to ensure that the educational process continues.**
* **We will review and revise this plan every 6 months, but will be able to adapt and adjust as needed to respond appropriately to the Pandemic.**
* **This plan was developed with public input and when we review our plan we will again ask for our community’s input and support.**

**WHEN YOU ARE SICK**

**AT-HOME SCREENING**

**Parents are expected to perform a daily screening before a student arrives at school.  Parents and caregivers play an important role in limiting the spread of COVID-19 by actively screening their children for symptoms at home, prior to coming to school. Keeping your child home when they feel sick helps to protect other students, school staff members, and community as a whole.**

**Sick Students at School**

**Students who are sick or not feeling well will be sent to the nurse. If the nurse determines the student has COVID like symptoms, a mask will be placed on the student and the student will be sent to a separate room to be monitored. The office will call the parent and we will request immediate pick up of the student. We will follow the PCHC guidelines for return to school after illness.**

**Employees**

**Employees are expected to follow the same screening procedures required for students and stay home if they are exhibiting symptoms. Employees must report any symptoms or potential exposures to an Administrator and the School Nurse and follow district directions.**

**Return to School After COVID**

**If a student is quarantined for any length of time due to COVID 19, the student will receive virtual learning. Getting back to school could take some time. If we have positive cases with students or staff, we will follow the current guidelines of the Polk County Health Center for return. We will communicate those guidelines on a case by case basis.**

**SYMPTOMS ALERT**

**Be aware of these COVID symptoms: fever, cough, rash, sore throat, shortness of breath, congestion/runny nose, diarrhea, nausea, fatigue, headache, muscle pain, lack of appetite and lack of smell/taste.**