

Junction City High School

2021-2022 COVID-19 Plan



Junction City High School (JCHS) was proud to provide our school community with an in-person instruction option and safely remain open during the 2021-2022 school term. Through the strict implementation of layered prevention strategies, JCHS will review and revise its plan based on newly released guidance and changes to reduce the transmission of the virus.

References

1. https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/more/science-and-research/transmission_k_12_schools.html
2. American Academy of Pediatrics. COVID-19 Guidance for Safe Schools. January 5, 2021. https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/clinical-guidance/covid-19-planning-considerations-return-to-in-person-education-in-schools/external_icon
3. Doyle T et al. COVID-19 in Primary and Secondary School Settings During the First Semester of School Reopening – Florida, August-December, 2020. MMWR 2021; March 19, 2021.

Planning Committee

Merrier Jackson, Principal
Marcia Fiorentino, Assistant Principal
Stephen Green, Assistant Principal & School Safety Compliance Liaison
James Neff, Assistant Principal
Ruth Stephenson, Assistant Principal
Matt Westerhaus, Activities & Athletic Director
Margie Pinaire, JCHS Scholarship Coordinator
Chelsea Todd, Instructional Coach
Michelle Schultze, Nurse
Emily Russell, Counselor

Junction City High School 1100 Blue Jay Way Junction City, KS 66441

Educate Locally; Impact Globally
Celebrating 20 Years of Progress Through CTE Partnerships

PRIORITIES

Fall COVID Instructional Model

In accordance with USD 475, Geary County Schools, Junction City High School will provide full-time in-person instruction for the 2021-2022 school year. JCHS will support this model with intensive mitigation strategies and specific monitoring, containment, and class cancellation plans. Plan modifications are made as public health data changes and in conjunction with the USD 475 Board of Education.

All public health measures required by the local Health Agencies regarding quarantines, contact tracing, and other safety measures will be honored.

School Liaison, Communications Plans, and Data Collection

Mr. Stephen Green will serve as the School Safety Compliance Liaison. Mr. Green will be responsible for engaging with students, parents, faculty, staff, and administrators to answer questions or concerns about health and safety requirements regarding COVID-19 matters (e.g., school nurse).

A Communication Plan with the most up-to-date policies and protocols related to COVID-19 has been developed for staff, students, and families. Expectations around the frequency of communication are designed to ensure detailed updates on any time-critical information regarding policies, protocols, or health data changes. These plans shall include information on how the community will be notified of any changed policies, canceled classes, or other modifications or restrictions. Communications Plans are made available in relevant languages of families in the community and accessible to those with visual and hearing impairments.

JCHS will educate our school community on the new expectations related to ensuring that students are educated and engaged in the new expectations related to school health policies and protocols. As part of this requirement, multiple media sources will be used to communicate information for the age groups. Time will be set aside at the beginning of the school year, and frequent reminders to review the new policies and protocols.

Expectations around the frequency of communication are developed to ensure detailed updates on any time-critical information regarding policies, protocols, or health data changes. JCHS will develop a plan for notifying the community of changed policies, cancel classes, or other modifications or restrictions. COVID plans are easily accessible, including but not limited to being visible on the main landing page of the school websites.

FACILITIES

The facility maintenance and custodial teams will follow the current CDC and Geary County Health Department guidelines for cleaning and mitigation. JCHS will provide information to staff and students regarding the cleaning and mitigation protocols for their classrooms.

Hand sanitizing stations and cleaning supplies will be available in all classrooms. Enhanced cleaning protocols will be in place as well.

OPERATIONS PLANS

Daily Operations

The following are the daily operation policies in place for 2021-2022:

- Masks are required for all staff, students, and visitors during the 21-22 school year regardless of vaccination status.
- Vaccinated students or staff members exposed to Covid-19 will have the opportunity to test to stay at school.
- Public health measures required by the local Health Agencies regarding quarantines, contact tracing, and other safety measures will be honored.
- Vaccinations are not required but are strongly encouraged.
- JCHS will continue cooperation with local Health Agencies for vaccination opportunities for students and adults based on eligibility.
- Hand sanitizing and cleaning supplies will be available in all classrooms.
- JCHS will continue to emphasize handwashing.
- Air handling enhancements and enhanced cleaning protocols will continue in the buildings.
- Nurses will continue to monitor for illness and follow existing COVID-19 protocols should there be concern regarding student or staff illness.
- Students and staff will be strongly encouraged to stay home when they are sick.
- Staff will utilize sick leave time should they have to quarantine based on Health Agency guidelines.
- A revised COVID-19 protocol will be developed, based on the framework used during 20-21, to guide how USD 475 will address those who are possible cases or have been confirmed with COVID-19.

Child Nutrition

JCHS will continue to determine eligibility for and make available free and reduced-price meals and snacks and free milk to all eligible students. JCHS will comply with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) regulations and policies for school meals and milk, including the meal pattern requirements. Students will be provided the opportunity to take breakfast or lunch per federal guidelines at no cost.

The Household Income Survey will be used in place of the federal F/R lunch form during the 2021-2022 school year.

Transportation

JCHS will operate at full capacity while maximizing health and safety protocols, as well as considerations outlined in the plan. Bus seating will be assigned, and seating charts provided to the School Safety Compliance Liaison, Mr. Stephen Green. Passengers are required to wear a face mask or cloth face covering during transit.

Passengers should load and unload the bus from the front row to the back row (where the first passengers onto the bus sit in the front row) and then unload the bus in a controlled manner upon arrival at the school from front to back.

HEALTH PRACTICES AND PROTOCOLS

JCHS will familiarize students and staff with the standard public health practices used to prevent the spread of diseases. These practices include the proper wearing of masks, frequent handwashing and hand sanitizer, respiratory and cough etiquette, and enhanced cleaning/disinfection of surfaces. Hand sanitizer with at least 60% ethyl alcohol or 70% isopropyl alcohol (for staff and older students who can safely use hand sanitizer) is positioned throughout the building in common areas.

Reporting Illnesses and Addressing Vulnerable Populations

- JCHS will instruct students and staff to inform the school if they are sick with COVID-19 related symptoms and if they had known contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19 and contacted the school population.
- Students and staff in close contact have the opportunity to test to stay.
- The Geary County Health Department will handle the quarantining of students.
- JCHS will follow the Geary County Health Department's order of quarantine for students.
- JCHS nurses will assist Geary County Health Department in contact tracing if necessary.
- JCHS will educate staff and families about when to stay home. The school will:
 - Communicate when to stay at home or any updated guidance
 - Instruct staff and students (or their parents and guardians) to perform a self-assessment before leaving for school to identify fever and other possible COVID-19 symptoms
 - Communicate this expectation and provide parents with reminders about the symptoms consistent with COVID-19 that require keeping their students at home
 - Establish and communicate school-wide sick protocols, including signs and symptoms of COVID-19, and temperature thresholds requiring students or staff to stay home

HEALTH MONITORING PLAN

Planning and Distribution of Information

JCHS will work closely with the Geary County Health Department to provide information to students and families affected by quarantine or close contact. JCHS will provide information within the guidelines of FERPA and HIPAA.

Containment Plan

JCHS will work closely with the Geary County Health Department for contact tracing and the quarantining of students. The Geary County Health Department will make all decisions regarding the quarantining of students. Students and staff in close contact have the opportunity to test to stay.

CANCELLATION OF CLASSES AND REOPENING PLANS

JCHS has set clear policies for faculty and staff regarding individual roles and responsibilities in the event of a shutdown occurring during the school year in its communication plan. In addition, priority for the continuity of learning will be made available to allow for school sessions to continue remotely.

ACADEMICS

Special Education

JCHS will continue to work collaboratively with the Special Education Department to implement the requirements under IDEA to provide a free and appropriate public education (FAPE). Students will work in the least restrictive environment (LRE) while protecting the health and safety of students, individuals providing education, specialized instruction, and related services.

Although the nature and severity of a student's disability may require unique considerations, it will not be the sole driver of programming decisions. JCHS will not make programming decisions based on a student's disability category. Protocols will also consider the student's developmental level and skills.

English Language Learners (ELLs)

English Language Learners are entitled to FAPE and will continue to have access to the general education curriculum and a supplemental language instruction education program at JCHS.

When returning to the school buildings, language instruction education programs will continue to receive native language support as part of their school's designated bilingual program model. As with other language instruction education programs, when returning to traditional schooling, bilingual programs must continue. JCHS will communicate with parents and guardians with limited English proficiency in a language they understand as required by Title III of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. During traditional schooling, communications regarding school closures due to COVID-19 may be provided through translation and interpretation.

FAMILY AND STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

Family Support and Communication

JCHS will comply with all state and federal family engagement requirements (e.g., School Governance Councils and Title I requirements) during the COVID-19 pandemic. We will provide families with clear and ongoing communication about what to expect during and before reopening. Including, but not limited to, guidance on the school protocols related to health and safety guidelines.

JCHS will continue to engage families and students as the reopening moves forward to ensure they are informed and receive feedback.

Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) and Mental Health

JCHS will develop a detailed plan to reengage all students, staff, and families. We will identify strategies to engage populations and specific students that have disengaged. The JCHS staff will continue to identify issues related to abuse and neglect in the context of the pandemic and comply with all mandated reporting requirements.

After-school programming

Programs receiving funding from KSDE through the State After School, and 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21CCLC) programs, will consult with KSDE for individual grant-specific guidance.

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION (CTE)

In conjunction with maintenance and custodial services, CTE will develop a plan for cleaning and disinfecting shared equipment in the shop or lab before and after each use.

STAFFING AND PERSONNEL

Professional Development

JCHS will prioritize mandatory staff training before the beginning of the school year that covers signs and symptoms of COVID-19, Standard Public Health protocols, Hygiene Practices, PPE, Reporting Illnesses, and supporting SEL. Plan ongoing training as changes occurs in recommendations and public health data.

ACTIVITIES AND ATHLETICS

Clubs and activities meeting after school will follow the same safety protocols that are in place for daily classroom activities.

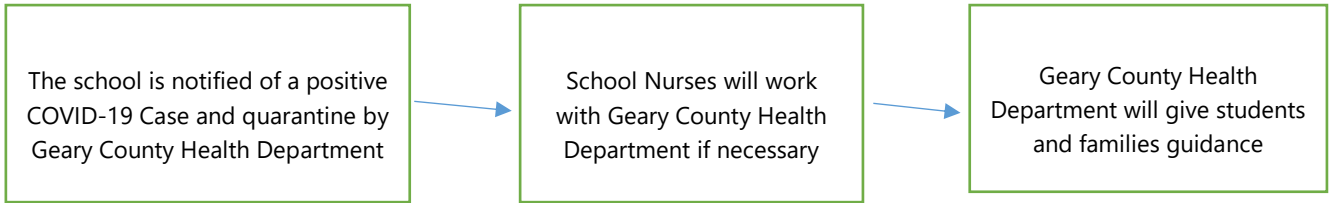
Athletic participation will follow guidelines set forth by the Kansas State High School Activities Association (KSHSAA).

Students who participate in clubs or athletics will also follow the quarantine guidelines of the Geary County Health Department.

Appendices

JCHS COVID-19 Communication Plan

Communication about cases should maintain confidentiality following the ADA, HIPAA, and FERPA and include messages to counter potential stigma and discrimination.



Roles and Responsibilities of Junction City High School Staff

| Person | Roles and Responsibilities |
|-------------------|--|
| Stephen Green | School Safety Compliance Liaison |
| Michelle Schultze | School Nurse; work with the health department to contact trace |
| Julie Dennis | School Nurse; work with the health department to contact trace |
| Rebecca Comfort | Health Technician; assist Nurses as necessary |
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Glossary

Close Contact-A person who has been less than 6 feet for more than 10 minutes, UNMASKED

Containment - Quickly identifying cases of coronavirus through testing, placing infected individuals in isolation, tracking who infected persons might have been in contact with, and potentially quarantining those who came into contact with infection so that the disease doesn't continue to spread

FERPA – Family Education Rights and Privacy Act - a Federal law that protects the privacy of student education records.

HIPAA – Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act - a federal law that required the creation of national standards to protect sensitive patient health information from being disclosed without the patient's consent or knowledge.

Mitigation - mitigation activities are actions that people and communities can take to slow the spread of a new virus.

Quarantine - This involves separating well persons who have been exposed to the infection from other well persons during the incubation period of an illness.

School Safety Compliance Liaison – Works with transportation, nursing, and Geary County Health Department to coordinate information.

Testing- Nasal swab for quick antigen testing.

Test to Stay – The testing protocol for staff or students that are identified as a close contact. This will entail daily testing for ten days. Daily negative tests allow the student or staff member to stay at school.

Vaccinated- A person who has had both vaccinations and is 14 days post second vaccination

What are the signs and Symptoms of COVID-People with COVID-19 may experience the following symptoms: fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and Diarrhea.