

**QUAPAW PUBLIC SCHOOLS
READY FOR LEARNING
SCHOOL REOPENING PLAN
2020-21**



UPDATED: JULY 21, 2020

July 13, 2020

Dear Quapaw Parents and Students:

For the past 8 weeks Quapaw Public Schools have been working on plans and procedures for the 2020-21 school year. Many of the following items came as recommendations from the federal, state and local levels. The safety precautions and requirements we are obligated to follow will drastically change the school environment at all levels for the coming year.

Our main focus is on student and staff safety as we go through this pandemic period. As we prepare for the next school year, I want to provide you with a glimpse of how learning will look different at Quapaw Public Schools during the 2020-21 school year:

Academic Schedule

The goal of QPS is to offer two types of programs for students during the coming year. One is a traditional schedule. Classes will take place on campus. The second program we will offer is a virtual learning environment outside the school facilities to help our students and families who may be dealing with health issues and concerns. A survey will be coming out this week for parents, who would prefer their student be in the virtual program for 2020-21. In the case school facilities have to be shut down during any part of the coming year for the COVID-19 pandemic, all students will move to distance learning for a specific period of time.

Transportation

The issue of safe transportation is probably one of the biggest concerns we have as a school district. How to safely transport students and provide safety to our transportation personnel. All bus riders for the 2020-21 school year will be required to wear a mask while being transported. Buses will be full and to insure safety we are asking all riders to provide a mask that must be worn at all times on buses. We will also encourage siblings (families) to sit next to each other on buses. Buses will be sanitized after each route.

Food Service

School meals (breakfast and lunch) will be eaten in classrooms during the 2020-21 school year. Large groups in meeting areas such as the cafeteria spaces have been recommended to not be used during the coming year. In case school facilities have to be shut down during the year for COVID-19 cases, meals will be delivered to students as it was done during the past spring.

Technology

Quapaw Public Schools have bought additional technology to allow students to revert to more virtual learning throughout the year if necessary.

Athletics/Activities

At present time the fall activity season (softball, football, cheerleading) will begin as scheduled. Information on spectators at contests, snack bars and other safety measures will be distributed during the month of August.

Safety Concerns

Quapaw Public Schools number one goal is student and staff safety. Temperature checks will take place each morning as students and staff enter the school facilities. Any students with a temperature greater than 100 will be sent home immediately. Students who develop symptoms or are exposed to COVID-19 should immediately communicate with the school to initiate quarantine procedures.

Masks are optional in the facilities. All facilities will be cleaned throughout the day based on CDC and guidance from the State Health Department. Parents and visitors are asked to call or e-mail the school when needing assistance. We are limiting the amount of outside individuals and visitors entering the school. All outside entrance doors will be locked. Water fountains will not be accessible. We encourage students to bring a water bottle from home. The only outside food that is permissible will be student lunches. No food for parties will be allowed in the buildings during the coming year. Face masks or face shields will be used in some classes such as science classes where labs will be performed. Recess time will be staggered to permit small amounts of children on the playground. Field trips will be limited and encouraged to be virtual. Outside groups will be limited as well in using school facilities during the 2020-21 school year.

I believe these changes in response to COVID-19 will enable us to provide the very best education and one that is safe and rewarding for each and every Quapaw student. The changes I've outlined above are how we will begin the school year, but it is our great hope that these restrictions will not be permanent. Our administrative team will continue to monitor the mandates issued by state and federal agencies and we will respond accordingly as we plan for the new school year. Regardless of what "normal" will look like in the future, Quapaw Public Schools will continue its mission of preparing our students to be successful young people.

More information will be coming in the days ahead as we begin the new school year on Thursday, August 13. Please understand this is a very fluid situation that can change at anytime.

If you have any questions please contact any of the building administrators or myself.

Elementary School Principal: Sheri Compton
scompton@qpswildcats.com

Middle School-High School Principal: Tamara Bacon
tbacon@qpswildcats.com

Superintendent of Schools: David Carriger
dcarriger@qpswildcats.com

Sincerely,

David Carriger
Superintendent
Quapaw Public Schools



QPS Ready for Learning -- School Reopening **August 2020**

Questions & Answers

Topics:

General Back to School Information

Options for Learning in 2020-2021

Student Support

Face Coverings/Masks and Safety

Safety Transportation

The School Day

GENERAL BACK TO SCHOOL INFORMATION

PLEASE NOTE: For the past 8 weeks, Quapaw Public Schools have been working on plans and procedures for the 2020-21 school year. Many of the following items came as recommendations from the federal, state and local levels. The safety precautions and requirements we are obligated to follow will drastically change the school environment at all levels for the coming year. This document will update as new information becomes available.

What is the first day of school for students?

The first day of school is Thursday, August 13, 2020.

Arrival Time for Students:

Building doors will open at: 7:45 a.m.

The starting and dismissal times for all schools are as follows:

Classes Begin at: 8:05 a.m. Student Dismissal: 3:25 p.m.

If our family travels in August, will my child be able to return to school immediately or must he/she quarantine for 14 days?

Students and staff members will be asked to answer screening questions each day. If the answers to all questions are No, then the student may attend school that day. The questions are:

- *Have you had an unexplained cough, difficulty breathing, sore throat, or loss of taste or smell?*

- *Have you been in close contact with an infected person (COVID-19) within the previous 14 days?*
- *Have you had a fever of 100 degrees or higher within the last 48 hours?*

OPTIONS FOR LEARNING IN 2020-2021

How will you fill any gaps in learning for my child from the previous school year?
Quapaw Public Schools teachers develop lessons and units that are aligned to the Oklahoma State Standards. These Standards describe what students must know and be able to do in each academic content area. Teacher will be communicating with teachers from the previous grade level to determine key skills and learning targets that were not taught in the spring of 2020.

How will teachers assess student skills?
Quapaw Public Schools teachers will assess student skills to determine readiness levels. Teachers will focus on student strengths and develop lessons to meet the needs of each learner. One new program that will be used for Math and Language Arts is Exact Path. This is a program of instruction that can be aligned to individualized learning paths.

What are my child's options for learning in 2020-2021?
The goal of Quapaw Public Schools is to offer two types of programs for students during the coming year. One is a traditional schedule. Classes will take place on campus. The second program we will offer is a virtual learning environment outside the school facilities to help our students and families who may be dealing with health issues and concerns. A survey will be coming out shortly for parents, who would prefer their student be in the virtual program for 2020-21. In the case school facilities have to be shut down during any part of the coming year for the COVID-19 pandemic, all students will move to distance learning for a specific period of time. Any mandated transition to virtual (off-site) instruction would continue to be provided by the child's current teacher. Schools will work closely with government and health officials to monitor the CDC guidance and state education agency guidelines for schools.

What will virtual learning look like?
Virtual students will address the same key skills and concepts in a virtual setting as the students enrolled in a traditional classroom. Licensed Quapaw Public School teachers will teach students. Virtual students will receive access to the same special services as students attending on-site and will be allowed to participate/attend extracurricular activities and other events. OSSAA guidelines must be followed.

Virtual classes utilize web-based curriculum, Google Classroom, online assessments, educational games, and interactive tools. Students will be expected to participate in the virtual environment daily; however, schedules may be fluid to meet the needs of students. Attendance will be taken daily. Families who opt for virtual learning for their child(ren) will be provided with a device for home use.

What instruction/assistance will the district offer parents who opt for virtual learning?
Teachers of record will be assigned to students to assist them with their learning needs through the academic year. Parents will be provided with ongoing assistance, to help their child with virtual learning at home learning through documents and training opportunities.

Will paper packets still be available for virtual learners?
No. Paper packets will only be available for students with specific Individualized Education Plan (IEP) accommodations.

Is there a cost associated with virtual learning?
No. There is no cost associated with virtual learning. Quapaw Public Schools will provide each student with a device such as a Chromebook, Chrometablet, online resources, a licensed teacher, and resources aligned to the Oklahoma Academic Standards. Families who opt for virtual learning should plan to have Wi-Fi available.

What about technology needs?
Devices will be available for students to check out from Quapaw Public Schools. Families will need Wi-Fi access that allows for multiple users.

What about Wi-Fi access?
Families will be responsible for the cost of Wi-Fi.

Will grading remain the same?
Student work shall be graded according to Quapaw Public School policy. Grade-level standards shall be taught and assessed by the student's teacher. The grading policy will be followed for each learning environment.

STUDENT SUPPORT

How will the district accommodate students with special needs? Students with weakened immune systems?
Students with special needs or weakened immune systems will be accommodated through both traditional and virtual instruction. If parents have concerns about their child, who may be at high-risk because of COVID-19, they may explore the virtual learning option to allow their child to continue their education offsite.

How will the Social Emotional Learning (SEL) needs of our students be addressed?
Our partners at Grand Lake Mental Health will help teachers address specific SEL needs of their students due to COVID-19. SEL tools and sites are available to parents to help them understand the needs of their child. Counselors will be available to support students, families, and teachers.

How will the district serve students who have special needs (Special Education)?
In the event of a school closure, students will participate in live instruction with scheduled ZOOM video conferencing sessions. Quapaw Public Schools Special Services

will work with families to meet the needs of their students. More information will be available in the upcoming days.

FACE COVERINGS/MASKS AND SAFETY

Will we be required to wear face coverings?

*Masks or face coverings are optional in the school facilities. All students riding school transportation (buses/vans) will be required to wear a facemask at all times. Face masks or face shields will be used in some classes such as science classes where labs will be performed. All facilities will be cleaned throughout the day based on CDC and guidance from the State Health Department. **Please Note: The CDC and the Oklahoma Department of Education are recommending staff and students wear a face covering.***

Do parents/guardians supply masks for students or will the district supply one?

Parents/guardians should provide face coverings for their child(ren) who ride district transportation.

Will students and adults be screened daily for COVID-19?

Yes. Temperature checks will take place each morning as students and staff enter the school facilities. Any student or staff member with a temperature greater than 100.4 will be immediately sent home.

We ask all students and staff to self-screen by answering the Oklahoma Department of Health screening questions each day prior to reporting to school. The questions are:

- Have you had an unexplained cough, difficulty breathing, sore throat, or loss of taste or smell?*
- Have you been in close contact with an infected person (COVID-19) within the previous 14 days?*
- Have you had a fever of 100 or higher within the last 48 hours?*

If a student arrives at school sick, what happens?

Students who are ill, not feeling well, or have a fever should be kept home from school. If a child becomes ill while at school, the typical health protocols will be followed to ensure the safety of children and employees. School personnel shall contact a parent/guardian to request that they pick up their child from school.

How will hand washing be implemented for students?

Elementary students will have scheduled time to wash their hands throughout the day. Staff members will be encouraged to wash their hands often throughout the day. Middle school and high school students will be encouraged to wash their hands, and hand sanitizer will be provided at entry to each classroom.

What about cleaning and sanitizing? How will Quapaw Public School provide a safe, sanitized environment?

The Quapaw Public School custodial department will follow all CDC and Oklahoma Health Department recommended cleaning, sanitizing, and disinfecting guidelines for

school facilities. Surfaces frequently touched by multiple people will be cleaned and disinfected multiple times daily.

Will Quapaw Public School facilities be available for rent or use during the coming school year with the concerns over COVID-19?

Quapaw Public School Facilities will only have limited use or rent during the 2020-21 school year because of the COVID-19 pandemic and cleaning procedures that must be followed.

SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION

Will bus transportation be provided? Will students wear masks on buses?

Yes. Bus transportation will be provided for all students attending on site instruction in Quapaw. The issue of safe transportation is probably one of the biggest concerns we have as a school district. How to safely transport students and provide safety to our transportation personnel. All bus riders for the 2020-21 school year will be required to wear a mask while being transported. Buses will be full and to insure safety we are asking all riders to provide a mask that must be worn at all times on buses. We will also encourage siblings (families) to sit next to each other on buses.

THE SCHOOL DAY

Will students still have the opportunity for activities such as art, PE, music, and library?

Yes, the district is developing plans for all students to experience these activities.

Will elementary students have recess?

Yes, the district is developing plans for student recess.

Will classrooms be arranged differently?

Teachers will be encouraged to clean out their classrooms and take home personal belongings to create as much space as possible in classrooms to separate desks as much as feasible.

Will students attend every day? Or will an alternate schedule be utilized?

Yes, Quapaw students will attend every academic calendar day. The attendance location may vary from traditional face-to-face instruction to virtual instruction depending on requirements or pandemic regulations at that time.

What about extracurricular activities and sports in the fall?

Activities will follow the OSSAA activity requirements for the fall, winter and spring seasons. Additional guidelines will be coming out in August.

What about programs and large group gatherings?

These activities will be paused until further direction from the CDC changes on large group gatherings.

Where will students eat breakfast and lunch?

School meals (breakfast and lunch) will be eaten in classrooms as we start of the 2020-21 school year. Large groups in meeting areas such as the cafeteria spaces have been recommended to not be used during the coming year. In case school facilities have to be shut down during the year for COVID-19 cases, meals will be delivered to students as it was done during the past spring.

May visitors come for lunch?

At this time, no visitors will be allowed to come for lunch at school.

May volunteers come to school to help?

At this time, volunteers will not be allowed at school.

Quapaw Public Schools Virtual Policy

The goal of the Quapaw Public Schools virtual option is to provide a hybrid opportunity for students to learn in an individualized manner that will lead to greater educational success.

Students who would be candidates for the virtual option are

1. Students who work independently and excel with little instruction or supervision.
2. Students who have life circumstances that may prevent them from succeeding in a regular classroom setting.
3. Students who may need more flexible learning time to accommodate necessary jobs.
4. Students who need to recover credits.
5. Students who would like challenging courses that may not be offered on campus.

While virtual learning may help certain students, it is not for all students. Students who wish to participate in the virtual school must apply and be accepted by a committee of school personnel that may include a minimum of two teachers, the school counselor, and an administrator. In some cases mental health care workers or law enforcement may be included on the committee. The following criteria will be considered.

1. Students who wish to apply for virtual school at Quapaw must be enrolled at Quapaw Schools and meet residency or transfer requirements.
2. Enrollment for students with an IEP and/or 504 will be based on the decision of the IEP/504 team as they determine the best educational placement for the individual.
3. Students may work on or off campus. Students may not travel back and forth throughout the day. Students attending virtual school will be given a schedule that accommodates either attending all day as a virtual or part of the day as a virtual student.
4. Students working from home must have access to reliable wifi. The school will not provide internet access for students attending virtual school.
5. The platform used for virtual school will be Google classroom. Generally, students will be “attending” class by doing coursework posted on Google classroom. Students will be able to receive instruction through videos posted by teachers. When students need to meet with a teacher face to face, they must contact the teacher to schedule a time to meet with the teacher.
6. Virtual students will be expected to follow **ALL** policies of the district, including attendance. Students will also be required to attend classes on campus after accumulating 4 unexcused absences as well as being referred to truancy court.
7. Virtual students will be expected to participate in all required state testing. Students will be required to be on campus for required state tests.
8. Virtual students will be expected to take all semester finals on campus. (Middle and High School)

Quapaw Public Schools Virtual Student Application

Date: _____

Name: _____ Grade Level: _____

DOB: _____ Current Credits (MS/HS only): _____ Current GPA: _____

What wifi provider will you be using? _____

Are you applying for full-time virtual or part-time virtual? _____

If part-time, what classes or subjects are you requesting to take on campus?

Reason for requesting to become a virtual student:

COVID-19 Facts

Center for Disease Control

COVID-19 is mostly spread by respiratory droplets released when people talk, cough, or sneeze. It is thought that the virus may spread to hands from a contaminated surface and then to the nose or mouth, causing infection. Therefore, personal prevention practices (such as hand-washing, staying home when sick) and environmental cleaning and disinfection are important principles that are covered in this guide. Fortunately, there are a number of actions school staff can take to help lower the risk of exposure to and the spread of COVID-19 during school sessions and activities (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC], 2020).

One of the actions that can be taken to help lower the risk of exposure is the use of face coverings. Face coverings may be challenging for students (especially younger students) to wear in all-day settings such as school. Face coverings should be worn by staff and students (particularly older students) as feasible, and are most essential in times when physical distancing is difficult. Individuals should be repeatedly reminded not to touch the face covering and to wash their hands frequently. Information should be provided to staff, students, and students' families on proper use, removal, and washing of cloth face coverings (CDC, 2020).

Symptoms of COVID-19

People with COVID-19 have reported having a wide range of symptoms – from mild symptoms to severe illness. Children have similar symptoms to adults and generally experience mild illness. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. People with these symptoms may have COVID-19:

- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fever
- Chills
- Muscle pain
- Sore throat
- New loss of taste or smell

This list is not all-inclusive. Other symptoms have been reported, including gastrointestinal symptoms like nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea (CDC, 2020).

Universal Precautions Recommended by the CDC

Hand Washing

Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially after you have been in a public place or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing. If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.

Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

Physical Distancing

Avoid close contact by putting an appropriate distance between yourself and others. Remember that some people without symptoms may be able to spread the virus. Keeping an appropriate distance from others is especially important for people who are at higher risk of getting very sick.

Masks and Face Shields

Cover your mouth and nose with a cloth face cover or a plastic face shield when around others. You could spread COVID-19 to others even if you do not feel sick. Everyone should wear a mask or shield when they have to go out in public, for example to the grocery store or to pick up other necessities. Cloth face coverings should not be placed on young children under age 2, anyone who has trouble breathing, is unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance. The cloth face cover or plastic shield is meant to protect other people in case you are infected.

Cover Coughs and Sneezes

If you are in a private setting and do not have your cloth face covering, remember to always cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or use the inside of your elbow. Throw used tissues in the trash. Immediately wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not readily available, clean your hands with hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.

Clean and Disinfect

Clean AND disinfect frequently touched surfaces throughout the day.

Health Concerning COVID-19

If a staff member or student tests positive

If a staff member or student is confirmed as a positive case of COVID the building site shall immediately inform the Administration Office. The Superintendent of Schools will then notify all appropriate agencies. A designated member of the administration team will contact all known contacts of the patient via the most effective means of communication. The building site shall identify and close the area of the building where the individual spent more than 30 minutes. Wait for at least 24 hours, or as long as possible, before staff disinfects the area with approved cleaners.

Quapaw Public Schools, along with health officials, will determine if school closure is warranted and what additional measures the school must take to contain exposure.

Return to School Criteria

If a child/staff member exhibits symptoms with a fever:

- Fever free for at least 72 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications; or
- A medical release from a certified physician

- If a child/staff member is feverish with no symptoms:
 - Fever free for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications
- If a child/staff member has a COVID diagnosis:
- 10 days have passed since the date of the first positive COVID-19 diagnostic test;
 - Symptom-free and wear a protective face covering for an additional 10 days.

Response to Disease Levels

Level 1: We anticipate opening at this level on August 14th and reassessing conditions after Labor Day:

- No positive cases of COVID-19 on campus;
- No directives from local and/or state agencies to reduce capacities;
- School is fully open with COVID-19 well-being protocols in place;
- QPS will offer parents the option of either in-person instruction or virtual program (semester-long commitment).

Level 2: The increased threat of COVID-19 and or reduced capacity mandated. A social distance model will be implemented if the following occur:

- Health or government officials require reduced capacities;
- The threat has increased due to confirmed or suspected cases on campus;
- QPS officials determine that a reduced capacity is needed beyond what is possible with the number of students present for the in-person model;
- Students previously in the in-person track will transition to a social distance model;
- Students previously on the virtual track will remain in the virtual model;
- The social distance model will consist of 2 days of in-person instruction and 3 days of at-home virtual instruction.

Level 3: Virtual learning for all students due to the increased threat of COVID-19 and/or mandated closure. 100% virtual learning platform will be implemented if:

- Health or government officials direct schools to close in order to mitigate COVID-19 transmission.
- QPS officials determine that closure is needed.

Instructional Models

Option #1 ALL ON-SITE Traditional Classroom Setting	Option #2 ALL ONLINE Virtual/Online Education
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remain a QPS student • In-person learning, conversations, and engagement • Social interaction with peers and staff for preparation of living in a connected world • Immediate access to learning • Learning Management System (LMS) - connects all teachers, students, and parents for seamless learning transitions • 24-7 online access to submitted and/or graded assignments • Technology provided • Participate in school-sponsored activities and programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remain a QPS student • Available for all students, grades K-12th • Accessible anywhere • Flexible schedule • 24-7 online access to submitted and/or graded assignments • Supervised by QPS certified teachers • Communication between teacher and parent, with regular updates provided • Technology provided, as needed • Participate in school-sponsored activities and programs, <i>as long as the student is enrolled in one hour during the regular school day and physically on campus during the class period.</i>

**This plan is subject to change based on local, state, and federal recommendations for health and safety.*