

Cochrane – Fountain City School District

2023-2024

Ready to Learn Plan

*ARPA/ESSER III - Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and
Continuity of Services Plan*

Updated August 18, 2021

Updated Oct 20, 2021

Updated November 17, 2021

Updated August 17, 2022

Updated February 15, 2023

Updated July 10, 2023

Updated December 20, 2023



C-FC Mission Statement

In partnership with families and the community, C-FC provides a safe and supportive environment for all students. By providing a high-quality education that promotes academic and emotional growth, we empower students to be life-long learners and productive, responsible community citizens.

* Please note that we will be returning to the 2022-2023 school year with the priority on in-person teaching and learning. We will be returning to the traditional practice of staying or returning home when ill and being in the building when healthy. The different practices laid out in the following pages allow us to pivot if needed and keep us eligible for ESSER funding. Please understand that the health and well being of our staff and students is a fluid situation; therefore, this is a fluid document, and the Administration may make changes if new guidance and circumstances arise. The goal is to balance the safety concerns and risks, with the desire of our community and parents to have students in school. C-FC reserves the right to modify this plan at any time.

Introduction

On March 11, 2021, the American Rescue Plans (ARP) Act was signed into law. In it, the U.S. Department of Education is providing an additional \$121.9 billion for the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER III Fund). This legislation will award grants to state educational agencies (SEAs) for providing local educational agencies (LEAs) with emergency relief funds to address the impact that COVID-19 has had, and continues to have, on elementary and secondary schools across the nation.

Wisconsin will receive \$1,540,784,854 in ESSER III funds from the Act, with 90 percent being awarded to school districts with amounts determined in proportion to the amount of Title I, Part A funds they received in summer 2020 from funds under Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The remaining funds will be used for state-level activities to address issues caused by COVID-19.

This plan describes how the LEA or district will resume and sustain safe in-person instruction and address learning loss caused by COVID-19.

Instructional Options

Face to Face Learning	All students in grades 4K - 12 will begin the 2022-23 school year with a five-day per week, face-to-face instructional model.
100% Virtual	For families and students who prefer a 100% virtual option, the district will continue to offer instruction through Rural Virtual Academy (RVA). RVA provides asynchronous, online learning. Students are enrolled and considered C-FC students. Students work at their own pace but must finish the coursework within the semester. Entry into and exiting from virtual instruction can only occur at the beginning or end of a semester. Contact Dave Williams @ 608-687-4391 x 250 if interested.
Remote Learning	<p>Remote learning will not be available as a daily instructional option for the 2023-24 school year. Remote learning may be used in exceptional instances for extended periods of time such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Health department issued quarantine● Extreme medical issues in collaboration with medical professionals● Unusually long periods of inclement weather <p>In such cases, Administration will make the final decision regarding the use of remote learning.</p> <p>Closure due to pandemic In the event of school closure due to the pandemic, the district has purchased and issued students in grades 1-12 Chromebooks. Students in grade K have iPads. Students will be expected to actively attend class through Google Classroom</p> <p>Snow days / Inclement Weather Remote Learning The district calendar includes 3 snow/inclement weather days. Instruction will not occur on these 3 days. The next 3 snow/inclement weather days will be made up, sequentially, on the in-service days in March, April, and May. Remote learning will occur on any additional snow/inclement weather days. This will maintain compliance with Wisconsin Statute 121.02(1)(f) which specifies the number of hours of instruction a school district must provide during a school year.</p>

The CDC recommends that all decisions about implementing school-based strategies should be made locally, collaborating with local health officials who can help determine the level of transmission in the community. The Cochrane-Fountain City School District continues to work with the Buffalo County Health Department to implement mitigation strategies for the safety of students and staff.

Health Measures

The Cochrane-Fountain City School District employs one full-time school nurse who will continue to offer health services in-person or virtually. The school district also employs one full-time school counselor and one temporary school counselor to provide mental health support for families.

Pre-Screening

Please use the Daily Symptom Check Chart to pre-screen your student for illness prior to sending them to school. Staff should also use the Daily Symptom Check Chart. <https://www.cfc.k12.wi.us/district/ReadytoLearn.cfm>

Do not send your student to school if they have any of the following:

- A temperature of 100.4 or above. Students must be fever-free without the use of for 24 hours.
- Vomiting /Nausea
- Diarrhea
- Coughing that won't stop
- Severe pain

Safety Measures

Hand Washing /Sanitizing and Respiratory Etiquette

Handwashing and respiratory etiquette are taught to students with high emphasis in the primary grade levels. Signage is posted throughout buildings as reminders of handwashing and respiratory etiquette. In addition, hand sanitizing stations/liquids are available in all classrooms and common areas.

Face Coverings

At the start of the school year, Aug 28th, face coverings are optional for all students, staff, and visitors inside school buildings. All students and staff will comply with applicable federal transportation guidelines that are in effect during the 2022-23 school year. Currently, face coverings are optional when riding the school bus.

A decision to change the recommendation of using face coverings may be made by taking the following into consideration:

- The Buffalo County risk metrics
- Conversations with the county that go beyond the numbers. For example, if the county risk metric has increased but new cases are in the Mondovi School District, that may not necessarily impact C-FC.
- The number of COVID + cases among staff or students
- The number of staff or students quarantined due to close contact
- The grade level(s) of students or staff impacted by positive cases or quarantine
- CDC & DHS recommendations
- Vaccination rates of students and staff
- Availability of vaccinations to students and staff

Continue cleaning protocols

The District uses cleaning solutions that are rated to kill the SARS virus. Enhanced sanitation procedures have been implemented and continue at all schools focusing on high-touch surfaces. The District has set the HVAC to maximize air flow and ventilation.

Social Distancing

If essential to learning, social distancing may be encouraged.

School-Based Testing (*Required parent/guardian permission)

Students who are displaying symptoms may be given a Rapid Antigen test and a sample may be taken for PCR testing.

- Negative Result (Rapid Test) – Student will be allowed to return to school when fever-free for 24 hours.
- Positive Result (Rapid Test) – Student will be sent home to quarantine for 5 days since the first symptoms began. They can return to school on day 6 if they are symptoms and fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications.

Accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies and practices

When the circumstances of individual students require deviation or exceptions from measures designed to protect the health and safety of students, 504 and IEP teams will determine if modifications and/or reasonable accommodations are needed for individual students with disability-related issues.

Vaccinations

All staff and students ages 5 and over were provided the opportunity to be vaccinated.

Testing, Close Contact, & Quarantine Protocols

The Cochrane-Fountain City School District in partnership with the Buffalo County Health Department will no longer be providing contact tracing or requiring quarantining. The District provides current health information to staff, students, and families about the signs and symptoms of COVID-19, when they should stay home, and when they can return to school. Please note this is a fluid situation and as close contact and quarantine protocols may change per CDC and DHS recommendations. Administration may make changes accordingly.

The Cochrane- Fountain City School District recommends students and staff get tested for COVID when symptomatic. Through the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, the District offers on-site testing for staff, students, and immediate family/caregivers of students who are symptomatic or have been identified as close contacts. Parent permission is required for students to be tested.

Vaccinated / Unvaccinated

Regardless of an individual's vaccination status, individuals who are displaying symptoms should be tested for COVID-19. Upon a negative test, students should not return to school until improvement in symptoms and fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications.

Transportation

As of April 18, 2022, the CDC's January 29, 2021, order requiring masks on public transportation conveyances and at transportation hubs is no longer in effect.

Drop-off / Pick-up

Parents are still welcome to drop-off / pick-up their students. Drop-off / pick-up will remain where it is currently on the sidewalk of the front lot (south side of building). To avoid children walking in the lot and between cars, please pick your student up by the sidewalk. Please be aware that student drivers will be parking & driving in the front lot. Because the buses will be using the circle, no cars are allowed in the circle during drop-off/pickup times.

Student Parking

Students driving to school will park in the front lot and enter the building using the main entryway.

Staff Parking

Staff will park in the secure lot by the football field.

Food

Regardless of the mode of instruction, the Cochrane-Fountain City School District will continue to provide meals under the community provision as long as USDA continues the allowance. If school is closed due to a pandemic, the district will assess its ability to distribute meals utilizing the same process it used during the spring of 2020.

- Class snacks are allowed if purchased and individually wrapped. In keeping with the District's Wellness Plan, healthy snacks are encouraged.
- Students should not share food.
- Plastic water bottles are welcome in the classrooms. Students must supply their own water bottle.

Athletics

The district will follow WIAA and Dairyland Conference guidelines/recommendations.

Facility uses by outside organizations

External organizations, groups, or individuals must complete the district's facility use form to reserve any space within the school buildings or school grounds.

https://www.cfc.k12.wi.us/cms_files/resources/Application%20of%20Use%20of%20School%20Facilities.pdf

Visitors

Visitors and classroom volunteers must check in the main office and have administrative approval to be in the building.

Continuity of Services

Student Academic Needs

The District conducts a summer school program to assist all K-12 students with academic recovery. The District plans to continue full-time, in-person instruction, with limited exception. Additional instructional personnel have been added to implement further academic recovery efforts in core curriculum areas.

Student Social, Emotional, and Mental Health Needs

Additional counseling staff have been added to the mental health staff to address our students' social and emotional learning needs.

Staff Social, Emotional, and Mental Health Needs

The staff's social, emotional, and mental health needs may be addressed through the Employee Assistance Program provided through the District insurance program.

Other Staff Needs

The District will follow national, state, and local governing agencies' laws and directives concerning staff employment and benefits.

Periodic Review

District response on ensuring periodic updates to its plan

The Cochrane-Fountain City School District will periodically review and as needed, revise the plan for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services. The plan will be reviewed at least every six months, and the school system will seek and consider public input during the review process. Plan revisions will consider updated CDC and County Public Health guidance on safely reopening schools if any are issued.

Public Input

The Cochrane- Fountain City School District has taken the following steps to make its plan available to the public.

- The plan is posted at <https://www.cfc.k12.wi.us/district/ReadytoLearn.cfm>
- The plan is available in multiple languages using our web provider powered by Google Translate.
- The plan was sent to parents, students, and employees via our Infinite Campus messaging system.
- The plan was shared at the Cochrane-Fountain City School Board meetings on August 17, 2022.
- An opportunity for public comment was available through surveys on August 14, 2021, and September 30, 2021, and during the August 17, 2022, Board meeting.
- Upon request, a parent who is an individual with a disability as defined by the ADA may be provided with the plan in an alternative format accessible by contacting our district office.