

Mount Vernon City School District
Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan
American Rescue Plan (ARP)

The Mount Vernon City School District's plan is on the www.mvcsd.us website and was submitted to the Ohio Department of Education at continuityplan@education.ohio.gov on June 23, 2021. The Mount Vernon City School District will offer in-person instruction to the greatest extent possible under the guidelines provided by the Governor's Office, Ohio Department of Health, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Ohio Department of Education. Our instructional staff will focus on the design and delivery of engaging, in-person instructional experiences similar to our instructional approach prior to the pandemic. With guidance from state and local agencies for the operation of school facilities to effectively maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff, the Mount Vernon City School District has adopted the mitigation strategies below:

1. Maintain the Health and Safety

A. Wearing of masks

- At this time, school employees and students will not be required to wear face coverings. Depending on the current conditions of the pandemic and guidance from state and local agencies, this may be subject to review.
- Any staff or students will be permitted to wear face coverings/masks if they choose.

B. Physical Distancing

- All reasonable efforts will be made to ensure adequate distancing between staff, students, and the public in all school facilities, school properties, and school events.

C. Handwashing and Respiratory Etiquette

- Students will be properly instructed and trained on proper handwashing techniques and protocols.
- Hand sanitizing dispensers will be available in multiple places throughout each building, school properties, and school events.
- Signage will remain in public areas to remind staff, students, and visitors of proper handwashing techniques and protocols.
- Students will be properly instructed and trained on appropriate respiratory etiquette.

D. Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities

- Custodial staff will continue with the same cleaning protocols and routines established during the 2020-2021 school year.
- Specialized equipment and supplies such as "mistifiers," Clorox wipes, etc., were introduced in the 2020-2021 school year and will be available as needed during the 2021-2022 school year.
- Specialized ventilation filtration devices have been purchased and installed to help mitigate the air quality and spread of germs in the buildings.

E. Communication Procedures

- Mount Vernon City School District will cooperate with the Health Department's in terms of communication and contact tracing including the length of isolation and quarantine periods.

F. Diagnostic and Screening Testing

- Mount Vernon City School District will recommend students and staff be tested if COVID-19 symptoms arise.

- Mount Vernon City School District expects parents/guardians to conduct a wellness check before sending a student to school. Students with a temperature over 100 degrees Fahrenheit.

G. Efforts to provide vaccinations to educators, other staff and students

- Mount Vernon City School District will provide pertinent information regarding vaccination opportunities and advantages to all students and staff as it is developed and provided to the district. We will take measures to work with and assist the county health department.

H. Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to the health and safety policies

- Appropriate accommodations for students will be made available on a case by case need as mandated by an Individualized Education Plan (IEP).

2. Ensuring Continuity of Services

A. Academic Services

- Mount Vernon City School District plans to implement in-person, face-to-face learning for the 2021-2022 school year.
- Teachers will continue to monitor student progress and address learning gaps within the classrooms through Tier 1 instruction and interventions. Gaps in student learning will be identified through various classroom diagnostics, district assessments, and benchmark testing. Students who show need will receive Tier 2 and 3 intervention both in and out of the classrooms.
- Mount Vernon City School District will continue to use NWEA MAP to assess students to ensure that students are progressing as expected and interventions are made as needed through the Response to Intervention protocol.
- Mount Vernon City School District will add reading specialists at each of the 6 elementaries, add academic intervention tutors and implement after school tutoring programs.
- To support and increase our teachers' ability to effectively assess and address learning loss, Mount Vernon City School District will implement computer based interventions to deliver individualized instruction to close achievement gaps
- Mount Vernon City Schools will offer a summer reading initiative and an academic enrichment opportunity in partnership with 'SPI'.
- Summer School programming will be offered to high school students that are in need of credit recovery with scholarships available as needed.
- In the event Mount Vernon City School District needs to close for an extended period, the district will transition into remote learning for students. All students will have work assigned through Google Classroom and utilize their chromebooks to complete assignments.

B. Social-Emotional and Mental Health

- Social and emotional needs will be assessed by school counselors, school social workers, and classroom staff through the lenses of Ohio's Social and Emotional Learning Standards and district screening tools. Additional feedback, input and/or referrals will be provided by staff, families, and student self-reporting.
- Mount Vernon City School District utilizes Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS) K-12
- The position of District Behavior Specialist will support students and families, including low-income students, children with disabilities, English learners, racial and ethnic minorities, students experiencing homelessness, and children in foster care by locating community resources for the purpose of promoting parent effectiveness and student achievement

C. Food Service

- During 2021-2022, we will continue to provide free breakfasts and lunches to all students while in-person.
- If the school closure has to occur due to pandemic reasons, the Mount Vernon City School District will implement the same or similar food service program used during the 2020-2021 school year.

3. Periodic Review

- Mount Vernon City Schools will continue to access and adjust procedures in accordance with state and local guidelines. The district will review the plan semi-annually.

4. Community Input

- Mount Vernon City Schools will continue to gather community input from stakeholders through Thought Exchanges, district communications and Board meetings. The district will use this information to make and needed revisions to this plan.