

# Arbon Elementary Reopening Plan

## Fall 2020

The Arbon School Board and staff have made the decision to begin the 2020-2021 school year on August 24, 2020. While it is our goal to have school continue as normally as possible, some changes have been made to help protect students and staff from the spread of COVID-19. Our plan for reopening includes recommendations from state health officials and was drafted with input from both parents and staff.

This plan is a living document that may be updated in accordance with new guidance from the Centers for Disease Control, the Governor's office, the State Board of Education, and our local health district. There may also be changes made to this plan as we determine what works well and what is not working for our school.

It is imperative that we have the support of students, parents, and staff so we are able to keep our school open this year. We ask that everyone do their part to follow these guidelines while at school and also be aware and cautious while out in public. We also ask that everyone please monitor their health closely and stay at home if they are sick or experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 that are not attributable to another condition.

We are looking forward to a great year and hope that the effects of the current pandemic will be minimal on our small school. Please reach out to the school board if you have any questions.

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## Reopening Plan

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### General Practices:

- Students and staff will practice social distancing when possible and reasonable
- Masks are recommended for students and staff, but are not required
- Water fountains will be turned off, students will need to bring their own no-spill water bottles that will be refilled by staff when needed
- Sanitizing stations will be available throughout the school
- Regular hand washing will be incorporated into the daily schedule
- Sanitation of high traffic areas will take place along with regular scheduled cleaning
- Students will have assigned hooks in the hallway for belongings, aides will be asked to sanitize hooks at the end of each day
- Students and staff with a fever at or above 100.4 degrees fahrenheit will be asked to remain at home until temperature normalizes
- A student or staff member that becomes sick while at school should be sent home as soon as possible
- Handwashing education will be taught at the beginning of the school year and may be repeated as necessary

- The school will share “Stop the Spread” information with focus on preventative measures and symptoms
  - Any student who must remain at home due to illness, or who chooses to stay home as a precaution, should contact their teacher about what steps should be taken to remain caught up on school work. The school board will lend support when decisions need to be made regarding distance learning.
  - If any person with connections to the school (students, staff, contractors, parents, spouses, etc.) tests positive for COVID-19, the school board will work closely with the local health district to determine what action should be taken. Due to the small size of our school, these situations will be handled on a case-by-case basis.
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#### **On the Buses:**

- Students who ride the buses will have assigned seats and be grouped by family, social distancing will be practiced as much as possible
  - Wearing masks on the bus is HIGHLY encouraged
  - Buses will be sanitized daily
  - Temperatures will be taken as students board the buses, per the school’s request. Students with fevers at or above 100.4 degrees fahrenheit will not be permitted to ride the bus and asked to stay home. Questions regarding this policy should be directed toward the school board, not the bus drivers.
  - We ask parents to ensure that students wash and/or sanitize their hands before boarding the bus. Hand sanitizer will be available on the bus if needed, but in order to save time we ask that this responsibility rest primarily on parents and students rather than on bus drivers.
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#### **In the Classroom:**

- Students will be asked to social distance as much as possible
  - Desks will be spaced to accommodate social distancing as much as possible and reasonable
  - Textbooks will be assigned to each individual student
  - Students should avoid sharing supplies and materials as much as possible
  - Tables used for teaching groups will be sanitized after each use
  - Students, with the help of staff, will be asked to sanitize desks, chromebooks, and other materials at the end of each day
  - Students and staff will be asked to wash and/or sanitize hands upon entering and leaving the classroom
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**Lunch:**

- Weekly hot lunch will not be served during the first trimester. This change will be re-evaluated prior to subsequent trimesters.
  - Staff will use general safety and cleanliness precautions while preparing individual lunches
  - Students should social distance as much as possible during lunchtime
  - Tables and countertops will be sanitized after each lunch period or more often if needed
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**Recess/Physical Education:**

- Physical education will be held outside when possible
  - All equipment that is used during recess or PE should be placed in a designated area after each use to be sanitized before it is put away
  - Snacks will be eaten outside when weather permits
  - Each student should bring their own individual helmet for activities that require one
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**Misc:**

- No field trips will be scheduled at this time
  - Any food brought into the school for parties, etc. should be pre-packaged or prepared in a certified kitchen. No homemade treats please. (This policy does not include food brought for individual lunches.)
  - There will be no awards for perfect attendance this year
  - Community members, including staff, should contact a member of the school board before using the building for personal use. Extra sanitation measures will need to be taken during clean-up.
  - Due to the ongoing pandemic, Arbon Elementary will not be accepting any new, out-of-district students for the 2020-2021 school year
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## Help Keep School Open

**Daily Health Checks:** We need everyone's help in our effort to keep school open. In cooperation with Southeastern Idaho Public Health, we ask that as students and staff prepare for school each day, they ask themselves these questions:

**Since your last day in school have you had any of these symptoms that are NOT attributable to another condition?**

- Fever (over 100.4 F) or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Extraordinary fatigue
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea
- Muscle or body aches
- Unusual or extreme headache
- Sore throat
- New loss of taste or smell

**If the answer to any of these symptoms is YES, we ask that you:**

- DO NOT come to school
- Contact your healthcare provider for guidance to determine if testing for COVID-19 is recommended

**If you (staff) / your child (parent) has tested positive for COVID-19 or was directed by a healthcare provider or Southeastern Idaho Public Health to stay home, DO NOT come to school UNTIL:**

- You/your child has isolated for at least 10 days from symptom onset and at least 3 days have passed since symptoms have improved, **OR**
- Your medical provider has determined an illness other than COVID-19 to be the cause of symptoms and has cleared you to come to school

**If you (staff) / your child (parent) has had close contact (within 6 feet for more than 15 minutes) with someone testing positive for COVID-19, we ask that:**

- You DO NOT come to school UNTIL you/your child has isolated for 14 days and experiences NO COVID-19 symptoms
- If symptoms DO present during the isolation period, follow instructions above for seeking medical guidance and possible testing for COVID-19

**For questions or concerns about this plan please contact Ashlee Fitch (208)-240-0140 or another member of the school board.**