

# MESD Alliance Fall 2020 Reopening Overview

DRAFT v1

We are excited to share our initial plans for reopening MESD Alliance schools this fall. In this document, you will find information about our initial plan to safely reopen using a hybrid instructional model. This plan was developed using guidance from the Oregon Department of Education, the Oregon Health Authority, the Centers for Disease Control, Multnomah County Health Department, and MESD School Health Services. We also had meetings with the Oregon Youth Authority and Linn County Detention Center, our site stakeholders, and partners.

As we reopen, our goals are:

1. Maximize the health and safety of all our students and staff, including those identified as medically at risk;
2. Ensure equitable access for all students, including those who are Black, Indigenous, a student of color and/or LGBTQIA+, to the full range of educational services and quality instruction; and
3. Provide individualized, specially designed instruction to all students in accordance with their learning needs, including students who are on IEPs, 504s and English Language Learners.

## **Question: What is included in your plan?**

Our plan takes into account eight main areas for reopening as directed by the Oregon Department of Education's (ODE) blueprint. These areas include (1) public health protocols, (2) facilities and school operations, (3) response to outbreak, (4) equity, (5) instruction, (6) family and community engagement, (7) mental, social and emotional health, and (8) staffing and personnel.

## **Question: When will I know if students will be back in person or will continue with distance learning?**

We are providing a hybrid of in-person and distance learning. Students will attend their school hours according to the schedule, which by the ODE contract is 5 ½ hours a day. We continue to monitor conditions and listen to feedback. Any final changes will be made by August 15, 2020 and communicated directly to all parents, students, staff and stakeholders.

## **Question: Where can I access the initial reopening plan draft?**

[Detailed Reopening Plan for MESD Alliance 7/8/20 Draft \(18 pages\) \(PDF\)](#)

[Detailed Reopening Plan for Ocean Dunes 7/20/20 Draft \(17 pages\) \(PDF\)](#)

[Detailed Reopening Plan for Ponderosa Creek 7/20/20 Draft \(17 pages\) \(PDF\)](#)

[Detailed Reopening Plan for Riverside 7/20/20 Draft \(17 pages\) \(PDF\)](#)

[Detailed Reopening Plan for Three Lakes 7/20/20 Draft \(17 pages\) \(PDF\)](#)

We will be updating this plan based on feedback from stakeholders like you and as additional guidance is released. Our next scheduled draft will be posted August 3, 2020, whereupon we will ask for additional feedback. Our final plan will be available August 15, 2020.

**Question: How will you keep students and staff safe? Will the adults and students be required to wear masks?**

Health and Safety are our priority.

- All staff will be provided with and required to wear masks and/or face shields.
- Students who are 12 years and older are required to wear masks, except when medically not appropriate or as determined by site protocol. Masks will be provided.
- All students will be required to wash hands or use hand sanitizer before entering the building and when making transitions to other instructional spaces.
- All students will be supported with frequent hand-washing before and after meals.
- Staff will clean all touch-point surfaces before school and on a schedule multiple times throughout the day.
- Physical distancing (6 feet or more) will be maintained to the greatest extent possible.
- A stringent disinfecting and cleaning schedule will be followed according to a checklist, sanitizing all areas of the classroom between each class.

**Question: What is the process if a student or staff member becomes sick with COVID-19? How will I be informed?**

All staff are required to take temperature and answer four Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) health questions before entering the building. If students or staff become sick, they will be isolated/sent home and we will follow the protocol suggested from the CDC which includes notification of parents, through the Oregon Youth Authority (OYA) and Linn County. Students and/or staff identified as being positive with Covid-19 will be quarantined for 14 days and not allowed back to school until they have been symptom-free for the CDC recommended time: currently 14 days.

**Question: What if a student becomes sick at home? How do we communicate with the school?**

If a student becomes sick on-site, as all students live where they attend school, OYA and Linn County will enact their protocol for isolation and the student will not attend school. They will, however, be provided with school work to do, should they feel well enough to study.

**Question: Will students be penalized for not attending school in person?**

By law, students who are incarcerated are to attend school if they do not have their high school diploma. However, if a parent has concerns around this, we will come together to share, listen, and make a decision on a case-by-case basis. All students live in the same unit that they attend

school in, so there is not an additional vector of exposure to the student by attending school, so this is not an additional risk to them for being exposed.

**Question: What if I do not feel comfortable with my student attending a school site? Can I have online distance learning full-time as an option?**

Yes. Please contact Joy Koenig, Principal, at 541.791.5900 or [jkoenig@mesd.k12.or.us](mailto:jkoenig@mesd.k12.or.us) to discuss options.

**Question: Will you be able to meet the individualized needs of students with IEPs?**

Yes, absolutely. Our special education teacher, staff, and MESD team will work with families and the student to ensure that the student is provided with FAPE in the least restrictive environment possible, in accordance with the student's IEP. Our Special Education teacher is on site every week and practices physical distancing as she meets with students.

**Question: Will there be opportunities for parents and guardians to learn how to navigate the devices for home learning? When will those take place?**

Yes. We will be hosting multiple sessions beginning in late August. We will communicate with families about those sessions through our MESD district communication. We will also hold a virtual family night in October, as we will not be holding the in-person large group meeting at this time.

**Question: If I have additional questions about plans for reopening schools, who can I reach out to?**

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English/Spanish *se habla español*