

# Opening Bloom-Carroll Local Schools for the 2020 – 2021 School Year



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A PLAN OF ACTION TO RESET AND RESTART EDUCATION

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# Section 1: Introduction

## Operating Principles

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- ❑ It is the goal of the Bloom-Carroll LSD to fully open schools on schedule. The status level of the BCLSD will be determined at the discretion of the Superintendent. The Superintendent will consider guidance from the Governor, the Ohio Department of Health, the Fairfield Department of Health, and the BCLSD Board of Education in making this determination along with parent and staff input.
- ❑ All operating procedures will be devised with the goal of protecting the health and safety of our students and staff by considering the guidance given by the CDC, the Ohio Department of Health, the Fairfield Department of Health and the American Academy of Pediatrics. While risks can be minimized, plans cannot completely eliminate all risks.
- ❑ Our mission will be to support the academic, social, emotional and physical needs of our students and staff.
- ❑ Students, Staff, Families and our Community will need to realize our plans need to be flexible, and we stress that everyone must show patience through this process. Local pandemic conditions may determine the opening mode of instruction or alter the mode of instruction throughout the school year.
- ❑ This presentation will not fully encompass the totality of the regulations and guidance given to Bloom-Carroll Locals Schools by the state of Ohio. For questions regarding specific situations not covered, please contact the appropriate building administrator.

## Section 2: 2020 – 2021 Phases of School and Delivery of Instruction



COVID-19  
Status Green

- All Students Attend School – Normal Schedule or Modified Time Schedule
- Increased Safety Protocols and Cleaning

COVID-19  
Status Yellow

- 50% Attendance (Last Name: A-K, L-Z)
- HYBRID Alternating Days (M/W, T/TH, & Scheduled Fridays)

COVID-19  
Status Orange

- Specific Building(s) Closure Due to Outbreak
- Online/Remote Learning in Closed Building(s) Only

COVID-19  
Status Red

- All Students Stay Home
- Complete Online/Remote Curriculum

## Section 2: 2020 – 2021 Phases of School and Delivery of Instruction



COVID-19 - Status Green

All Students Attend School – Normal Schedule

Increased Safety Protocols

- Green status would be a full opening of school on a normal schedule for in-person instruction with increased safety protocols to reduce the potential spread of COVID-19. Please review section 3 for safety protocols.
- Green status may be instituted if Fairfield County is under a Level 1 or 2 on the ODH Ohio COVID-19 Risk Level Advisory System.
- All students and staff will be required to wear cloth face coverings (face masks). Families must provide cloth face coverings for students that cover the nose and mouth. Please review this plan for additional guidance on facial coverings.

# Section 2: 2020 – 2021 Phases of School and Delivery of Instruction



COVID-19 - Status Green (Modified)

All Students Attend School Monday-Friday – Modified Time Schedule

Increased Safety Protocols

- All K-12 students will attend school Monday-Friday unless the student is enrolled in the 100% online Remote Learning VLA program.
- School dismissal times will be adjusted by 45 minutes** to provide teachers with planning and support time for online students and for additional cleaning of buildings. The school times will be as follows:
  - BC Middle & High Schools (Grades 5-12): 7:30 a.m. - **1:25** p.m.
  - BC Intermediate School (Grades 3-4): 8:45 a.m. - **2:30** p.m.
  - BC Primary School (Grades K-2): 9:00 a.m. - **2:50** p.m.
- Parent pick-up and afternoon bus routes will begin at the dismissal times outlined above for students in K-12 attending in-person in a BC school buildings. Students attending the career center or a school outside our district will still have their normal bus schedules.
- Safety protocols outlined in this plan will continue to be followed.
- Face masks continue to be required unless the individual meets an exception outlined by state orders.
- The Modified Green Status does not impact the requirements placed on the district by ODH and OHSAA in regards to athletics.

## COVID-19 - Status Green (Modified)

### All Students Attend School Monday-Friday – Modified Time Schedule

- ❑ All students will attend school Monday-Friday unless the student is enrolled in the 100% online Remote Learning VLA program.
- ❑ School dismissal times will be adjusted by 45 minutes to provide teachers with planning and support time for online students and for additional cleaning of buildings. The school times will be as follows:
  - ❑ BC Middle & High Schools (Grades 5-12): 7:30 a.m. - 1:25 p.m.
  - ❑ BC Intermediate School (Grades 3-4): 8:45 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
  - ❑ BC Primary School (Grades K-2): 9:00 a.m. - 2:50 p.m.
- ❑ Afternoon bus routes and parent pick-up will begin at the times outlined above for K-12 students attending in-person instruction in a BC school building.
- ❑ This schedule will begin on Monday, October 5, 2020

## Bloom-Carroll Local Schools

2020-2021 BEGINNING 10/5/2020: STATUS MODIFIED GREEN

August '20						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

September '20						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

October '20						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

November '20						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

December '20						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

January '21						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

February '21						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

March '21						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

April '21						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

May '21						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

- Group 1: M/W/scheduled Fridays - Last Name Letter A-K
- Group 2: T/TH/scheduled Fridays - Last Name Letter L-Z
- No School for Students
- End of Grading Period
- All Students Attend - MODIFIED TIME SCHEDULE

BC Middle & High Schools (Grades 5-12): 7:30 a.m. - 1:25 p.m.  
 BC Intermediate School (Grades 3-4): 8:45 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.  
 BC Primary School (Grades K-2): 9:00 a.m. - 2:50 p.m.



## Section 2: 2020 – 2021 Phases of School and Delivery of Instruction



COVID-19 - Status Yellow

HYBRID 50% In-Person & 50% Remote Learning (Last Name: A-K, L-Z)

Alternating Days (M/W, T/TH, Scheduled Fridays)

- Yellow status would be instituted due to extensive social distancing protocols in classrooms and on buses mandated by federal, state, or local health officials. Yellow status may be instituted if Fairfield County is under a Level 3 on the ODH Ohio COVID-19 Risk Level Advisory System.
- Students with their last name beginning with the letter **A-K (Group 1)** would attend in-person instruction on Monday, Wednesday, and scheduled Fridays. Students with their last name beginning with the letter **L-Z (Group 2)** would attend in-person instruction on Tuesday, Thursday, and scheduled Fridays.
- Students would be provided lessons and materials for their non-attendance days in review or preparation for the next in-person attendance day. An every other day schedule will be provided and posted on our website.
- If a family/household has school-aged children with different last names, then the students will attend in-person classes on the same days. Please contact the District Office to coordinate a schedule for in-person classes.



COVID-19 - Status Yellow

HYBRID 50% In-Person & 50% Remote Learning (Last Name: A-K, L-Z)

Alternating Days (M/W, T/TH, Scheduled Fridays)



2020-2021 HYBRID ALTERNATING SCHEDULE: STATUS LEVEL YELLOW

Group 1: Last Name Letter A-K

Group 2: Last Name Letter L-Z

August '20							September '20							October '20						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1			1	2	3	4	5					1	2	3
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31
30	31																			

  

November '20							December '20							January '21						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7			1	2	3	4	5						1	2
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
29	30						27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30
														31						

  

February '21							March '21							April '21								
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S		
	1	2	3	4	5	6			1	2	3	4	5	6						1	2	3
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24		
28							28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30			

  

May '21						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

  

Group 1: M/W/scheduled Fridays - Last Name Letter A-K

  Group 2: T/TH/scheduled Fridays - Last Name Letter L-Z

  No School for Students

  End of Grading Period

87 Group 1 Days of Instruction

87 Group 2 Days of Instruction

\*To provide equitable days of in-person instruction, Group 1 will have more scheduled Fridays due to the number of scheduled Mondays off school.

1st Quarter - 20/20 days

2nd Quarter - 23/23 days

3rd Quarter - 21/21 days

4th Quarter - 23/23 days





## Section 2: 2020 – 2021 Phases of School and Delivery of Instruction

COVID-19 - Status Orange

Specific Building Closure Due to Outbreak

Online Learning in Closed Building Only

- Orange status would be instituted due to a closure of a specific building(s) order by the Fairfield Department of Health or District.
- Students assigned to the closed building(s) would stay at home and our teachers assigned to the closed building would use virtual and online platforms to deliver instructional programming. Students would be expected to be engaged in remote/online learning during their regular school hours unless otherwise excused.
- Plans for food services and devices would be shared with families at the time of the closure.
- All staff members may be expected to report to school during their normal work hours unless determined otherwise by the superintendent.

## Section 2: 2020 – 2021 Phases of School and Delivery of Instruction



COVID-19 - Status Red

All Buildings Closed

All Students Transition to an Online/Remote Learning Curriculum

- Red status would result from an Executive Order from the Governor, the Ohio Department of Health, the Fairfield Department of Health or as determined by the Superintendent. Red status may also be instituted if Fairfield County is under a Level 4 on the ODH Ohio COVID-19 Risk Level Advisory System or if staff absenteeism outpaces available substitutes.
- Our students would stay at home and our teachers would use remote platforms to deliver instructional programming.
- Information about accessing online lessons, food distribution, and technology distribution would be announced at the time of the order to close schools.
- All staff members may be expected to report to school during their normal work hours unless determined otherwise by the Superintendent.

# Section 2: Fairfield County Risk Level Ohio Public Health Advisory System



## Ohio COVID-19 Risk Level Guidelines for the Public

LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3	LEVEL 4
<b>Public Emergency</b> Active exposure and spread. Follow all current health orders.	<b>Public Emergency</b> Increased exposure and spread. Exercise high degree of caution. Follow all current health orders.	<b>Public Emergency</b> Very high exposure and spread. Limit activities as much as possible. Follow all current health orders.	<b>Public Emergency</b> Severe exposure and spread. Only leave home for supplies and services. Follow all current health orders.

**LEVEL 1–4 REQUIRE COMPLIANCE WITH ALL HEALTH ORDERS**

<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/public-health-advisory-system/>

# Section 2: Virtual Learning Academy

## VLA



We will provide a Virtual Learning Academy (VLA), if a child is unable to physically attend school due to health related concerns or special circumstances.

- Please carefully review and complete the following online learning option form <https://forms.gle/Yp3bkqQD5oELDKXDA> ASAP and contact the building administrator(s) or curriculum director after August 1, 2020.
- Online learning cannot fully replicate the learning experience found with in-person instruction. Please consider all pros and cons in your decision. Medical authorization may be required.
- It is expected that families pursuing this option commit to a minimum of a grading period (9 weeks) for online/home-bound learning and should not fluctuate back-and-forth between in-person and online learning.
- Additional expectations will be posted on the District's website.
- Please visit the following link to learn more about VLA <https://www.jcesc.k12.oh.us/VLA.aspx>
- In the event of a school shutdown, teachers will be prepared to provide online instruction to all students impacted by a school closure. If you plan for your child attends in-person instruction you do **NOT** need to complete this form or notify the District.

# Section 3: Healthy Learning Environments



## The Reality: Educational Programs are Inherently Designed for Social Interaction, Not Social Distancing

At Bloom-Carroll, the following will be essential to create a healthy learning environment:

- Vigilantly Assess for Symptoms
- Wash and Sanitize Hands and Teach Effective Personal Hygiene Practices to Prevent Spread
- Thoroughly Clean and Sanitize School Environment to Limit Spread on Shared Surfaces
- Social distancing, as much as possible.
- Implement Face Covering Policies for Students and Staff



## Section 3: Healthy Learning Environments

**Risk Mitigation: Cleaning procedures before, during, and after the school day.**

Prior to the start of the school day

- All commonly touched items will be disinfected with cleaners approved to kill the coronavirus.
- All hand sanitizer and soap dispensers checked for daily use.
- Buses will be cleaned in preparation for the morning routes.

During the school day

- Desks and commonly touched items will be cleaned.
- Hand sanitizing stations and soap dispensers will be refilled as needed.
- Buses will be cleaned in preparation for the afternoon routes.

At the end of the school day

- Deep cleaning of all schools will be completed on a daily basis.
- Areas used for extracurricular activities will also be cleaned after usage.



# Section 3: Healthy Learning Environments



The following items have been ordered in preparation for providing a healthy learning environment at Bloom-Carroll:

- Hand sanitizer and hand sanitizing stations.
- EPA/FDA approved cleaning and disinfecting products effective in killing viruses, including COVID-19.
- Face masks and face shields.
- Non-touch infrared scanning thermometers.
- Heavy duty gloves for bus drivers & custodians.
- Social distancing barriers where applicable.
- Disinfecting Foggers to quickly disinfect large rooms and equipment efficiently.
- Signage for safety reminders.





## Section 3: Healthy Learning Environments

### General Safety Strategies for Good Hygiene:

- Parents & staff assess for COVID-19 symptoms prior to school. If you feel ill, please stay home and do not return to school until you meet CDC criteria or are cleared by a medical provider.
  - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>
  - Anyone with symptoms will be sent home. (Fever 100 or higher or any additional symptoms).
- Practice social distancing whenever feasible.
- Hand washing and sanitizing.
- Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with your elbow or a tissue and dispose of the tissue.
- Clean and sanitize frequently touched items and surfaces.
- If there is a confirmed positive case of COVID-19 in your home, please contact your child's school and health provider.
- Utilize Personal Protective Equipment.



## Section 3: Healthy Learning Environments

### General Safety Strategies: Redesigning the School Day

- District officials will work closely with local health department officials.
- Post signage about hygiene in many accessible areas. Time will be provided between classes or during the day for hand washing.
- Hand sanitizing dispensers will be installed and available in every classroom and high traffic area.
- Visual marking reminders for social distancing.
- Daily cleaning and disinfecting protocols for high touch areas and surfaces.
- Provide health and safety education related to COVID-19 for students and training for staff.
- As feasible, keep groups or cohorts of students together.
- As feasible, move teachers to classrooms rather than students.



# Section 3: Healthy Learning Environments

## General Safety Strategies: Redesigning the School Day

- As feasible, utilize outdoor learning spaces or large indoor areas to maximize social distancing for learning areas. (cafeterias, libraries, gymnasiums, auditoriums).
- Reduce students in cafeterias during lunch. As feasible, allow students to eat in traditional classrooms or outdoors with supervision.
- Move non-essential furniture and equipment out of the classroom to increase distance between students.
- Turn student desks the same direction. As feasible, avoid group seating arrangements.
- One-way hallways and stairways, when possible.
- Establish secondary clinics, exclusively for students & staff showing symptoms of COVID-19.
- Limiting nonessential visitors and volunteers from campuses and buildings.
- Encourage alternative meeting options for volunteer activities that require in-person meetings. Boosters/PTO, etc. Meet remotely, outside, or another location.
- Monitor student absenteeism closely – may be an early warning sign of larger health concern.



## Section 3: Healthy Learning Environments

### General Safety Strategies: Redesigning the School Day

- Limit the number of students using the restrooms at one time (1 or 2 as grade level appropriate).
- Monitor prevention inventory of PPE, sanitizer, soap, cleaning/disinfecting supplies, etc.
- Encourage students to pack lunches or provide packaged food items.
- Limit the number of students in food serving lines.
- Facial coverings will be required unless an exemption applies per ODH orders.
- Purchase and implement barcode scanners at POS terminals for student lunches rather than entering ID on keypads.
- As feasible, utilize safety barriers.
- Reduce congregate gathering location: hallways, gymnasiums, cafeterias before or after school.
- As feasible, stagger class changes and arrival and dismissal procedures.



## Section 3: Healthy Learning Environments

### General Safety Strategies: Redesigning the School Day

- As feasible, increase natural air circulation (opening windows) in buildings with consideration given to safety, weather conditions, and other health concerns (asthma, allergies, etc.).
- Close traditional drinking fountains and permit students to use water bottles. Installed cup dispensers next to traditional drinking fountains.
- Playgrounds: Disinfect high touch surface points daily and disinfect playground equipment, limit use, and encourage play in open outdoor spaces.
- Manipulatives & Equipment: reduce or eliminate the use of shared items (PE/Music/Art, math manipulatives)
  - Assign technology devices to students rather than random selection. Disinfect devices frequently.
- Flexible arrival and dismissal times for high schools junior and seniors depending on individual's schedule.
- No field trips until further notice.

# Section 3: Healthy Learning Environments



## Guidelines for Face Coverings (Masks)

- The CDC and ODH provide comprehensive guidance for the use of face coverings to help slow the spread of COVID-19.
- Wearing a face masks can help to reduce the spread of respiratory illnesses and may decrease the chances of needing to close schools.
- Facial coverings (mask) is any material that covers an individual's nose, mouth, and chin.
- All **visitors** to a school building will be required to wear a face covering.

# Section 3: Healthy Learning Environments



## Guidelines for Face Coverings (Masks)

- Per ODH orders (8/13/20), all students and staff are required to wear facial coverings at all times when:
  - In any indoor location including, but not limited to, classrooms, gymnasiums, offices, locker rooms, hallways, cafeteria, and/or locker bays;
  - Outdoors on school property or waiting on a school bus and unable to consistently maintain a distance of six feet or more from individuals who are not members of their households; or
  - Riding a school bus.
- Students will be responsible for providing their own facial coverings at school and on the bus.** Students should plan to have multiple face coverings as part of the back to school supplies.
- Face shields may be an alternative when an individual is communicating or seeking to communicate with someone who is hearing impaired or has another disability, where the ability to see the mouth is essential for communication, or where a cloth face covering might present a safety hazard (i.e., science labs)

# Section 3: Healthy Learning Environments



## Guidelines for Face Coverings (Masks): Exemptions

- Medical exemptions signed by a licensed healthcare professional must be submitted to the school nurse prior to the first day of school.
- Exemptions: The requirement to wear a facial covering does not apply when:
  - The individual has a medical condition including respiratory conditions that restricts breathing, mental health conditions, or a disability that contraindicates the wearing of a facial covering; or
  - The individual is communicating or seeking to communicate with someone who is hearing impaired or has another disability, where an accommodation is appropriate and necessary;
  - The individual is activity participating in outdoor recess and/or physical activity where students are able to maintain a distance of six feet or more or athletic practice, scrimmage, or competition that is permitted under a separate ODH order;
  - The individual is seated and actively consuming food or beverage;
  - Where students and staff can maintain distancing of at least six feet and removal of the facial covering is necessary for instructional purposes, including instruction in foreign language, English language for non-native speakers, and other subjects where wearing a facial covering would prohibit participation in normal classroom activities, such as playing an instrument;
  - Students are able to maintain a distance of six feet or more and a mask break is deemed necessary by the educator supervising the setting;
  - The individual is alone in an enclosed space, such as an office; or
  - When an established sincerely held religious requirement exists that does not permit a facial covering.



# Section 3: Healthy Learning Environments



## General Safety Strategies for Transportation:

Clearly challenges exist to implement social distancing on school buses. Most routes include 60-70 rostered students and our buses have 24-26 seats. Financial constraints, limited licensed bus drivers, and schedules present significant challenges to achieve social distancing guidelines on school buses.

We will continue to offer school transportation to all students. **Parents should notify the transportation office at [transportation@bloomcarroll.org](mailto:transportation@bloomcarroll.org) as soon as possible if students choose to use alternative transportation.**

- Parents should conduct daily health checks of their child and not send an ill child to school.
- Students from the same family will be assigned to sit together.
- Buses will be cleaned and disinfected before and after routes (MS/HS & Elementary).
- Students should wear facial coverings unless they are unable to do so for reasons as outlined in ODH orders.
- Hand sanitizer will be available on buses and at entrance and exit points of school buildings prior to loading and unloading buses.
- Drivers will be required to follow employee guidelines for wearing facial coverings (unless a reason for exemption applies).
- Drivers will dismiss students from one bus at a time upon arrival to school.
- Ventilation – Natural air circulation (opening windows) is recommend with consideration given to weather conditions and other health concerns (asthma, etc.).

# Section 4: Responding to a Confirmed COVID-19 Case



## Guidelines for Responding to a Confirmed Case are Established in Conjunction with State and Local Health Officials

- If a confirmed case has entered a school, health officials might need to implement short-term closure procedures. If this happens, the CDC recommends the following procedures regardless of the level of community spread:
  - Once learning of a confirmed COVID-19 case for a student or staffer, **the school's health official(s) should immediately contact the county health department.**
  - A confirmed case is a positive COVID-19 lab test according to local health officials.
  
- Fairfield Department of Health Guidance
  - Definition of Direct Exposure per FDH
    - Being exposed to an individual, 6' or less, with a confirmed case of COVID-19 for more than 15 minutes.



## Section 4: Responding to a Confirmed COVID-19 Case

### Close Contact\* to Confirmed COVID-19 Individual?

- Individual should self-isolate/quarantine for 14 days
- Self-monitor for symptoms
  - Check temperature
  - Watch for fever of over 100 F, cough, or shortness of breath, or other COVID symptoms
  - If no symptoms for 14 days, return to school
- \*Close contact is defined as being within 6 feet of a CONFIRMED infected individual, for at least 15 minutes at ONE TIME, in the time period from:
  - 48 hours before the COVID positive individual tested positive for COVID-19 until 10 days after the test (if COVID-19 positive individual is asymptomatic); OR
  - 48 hours before symptom onset for the COVID-19 positive individual until 10 days after symptom onset, AND as long as no fever for at least 24 hours (without fever-reducing meds), AND other symptoms (cough, aches, etc.) have improved (if COVID-19 positive individual is symptomatic)



## Section 4: Responding to a Confirmed COVID-19 Case

When can an individual who is COVID-19 positive return?

### Health Official Guidelines

- Individual may return to school after all of the following has occurred (symptom-based strategy):
  - They are free of fever (without the use of medication) for at least 24 hours
  - Symptoms have improved
  - At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared
- In addition, students and staff who are well but are taking care of or share a home with someone with a case of COVID-19 should follow instructions from local health officials to determine when to return to school.

# Section 4: Responding to a Confirmed COVID-19 Case



**Guidelines for Responding to a Confirmed Case are Established in Conjunction with State and Local Health Officials**

- Prepare for a possible short-term closure for an initial consultation with local health officials.** This initial short-term move to **Red** or **Orange** status allows time for the local health officials to gain a better understanding of the COVID-19 situation impacting the school. This allows the local health officials to help the school determine appropriate next steps, including whether an extended dismissal duration is needed.
  - Ultimately, local health officials have the expertise to determine the necessary length of closure and scale of response.**
  - During school closures, we may consider canceling extracurricular group activities, school-based afterschool programs and events (e.g., assemblies, spirit nights, field trips and sporting events).
  - Staff, students and their families may be discouraged from gathering or socializing anywhere.
  - Students unable to attend school will be required to transition to an online/remote learning platform until the student is cleared to return to school by local health officials or their medical provider.



## Section 4: Responding to a Confirmed COVID-19 Case

Guidelines for Responding to a Confirmed Case are Established in Conjunction with State and Local Health Officials

- Coordinate with local health officials to communicate dismissal decisions and the possible COVID-19 exposure.
- Communicate with staff, parents and students.
  - Self-monitor for symptoms and contact your healthcare provider.
  - Consider potential stigma and discrimination of those infected.
  - Confidentiality of the students or staff members will be preserved to the extent possible considering health and safety issues.



## Section 4: Responding to a Confirmed COVID-19 Case

**Guidelines for Responding to a Confirmed Case are Established in Conjunction with State and Local Health Officials**

- Clean and disinfect thoroughly.**
- Coordinate with local health officials to determine next steps to mitigate the outbreak.**
  - Close off areas used by the individuals with COVID-19 and wait as long as practical before beginning cleaning and disinfection to minimize potential for exposure to respiratory droplets. Open outside doors and windows to increase air circulation in the area. If possible, wait up to 24 hours before beginning cleaning and disinfection.
  - Cleaning staff should clean and disinfect all areas (e.g., offices, bathrooms and common areas) used by the ill persons, focusing especially on frequently touched surfaces.
  - If surfaces are dirty, they should be cleaned using a detergent or soap and water prior to disinfection.
  - For disinfection, most common EPA-registered household disinfectants should be effective.
  - Additional information on cleaning and disinfection of community facilities such as schools can be found on CDC's website.



## Section 4: Responding to a Confirmed COVID-19 Case

Guidelines for Responding to a Confirmed Case are Established in Conjunction with State and Local Health Officials

- Make decisions about extending the school closure.**
  - During closure (after cleaning and disinfection), schools and programs may stay open for staff members (unless ill) while students stay home. Keeping facilities open:
    - Allows teachers to develop and deliver lessons and materials remotely, thus maintaining continuity of teaching and learning; and
    - Allows other staff members to continue to provide services and help with additional response efforts.
  - Decisions on which, if any, staff should be allowed in the school should be made in collaboration with local health officials. Administrators will work in close collaboration and coordination with local health officials to make dismissal and large event cancellation decisions.





## Section 5: Additional Resources & Information

- [www.bloomcarroll.org](http://www.bloomcarroll.org)
- [Ohio K-12 School Guidance](#)
- [American Academy of Pediatrics: Guidance for School Re-entry](#)
- [ODE COVID-19 Information for Schools](#)
- [ODE Reset and Restart Planning Guide](#)
- [Ohio Department of Health COVID-19 Information](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)
- [Fairfield Department of Health](#)