

Bridge Creek Public Schools
2022-2023



SAFE RETURN AND CONTINUITY OF
SERVICES PLAN

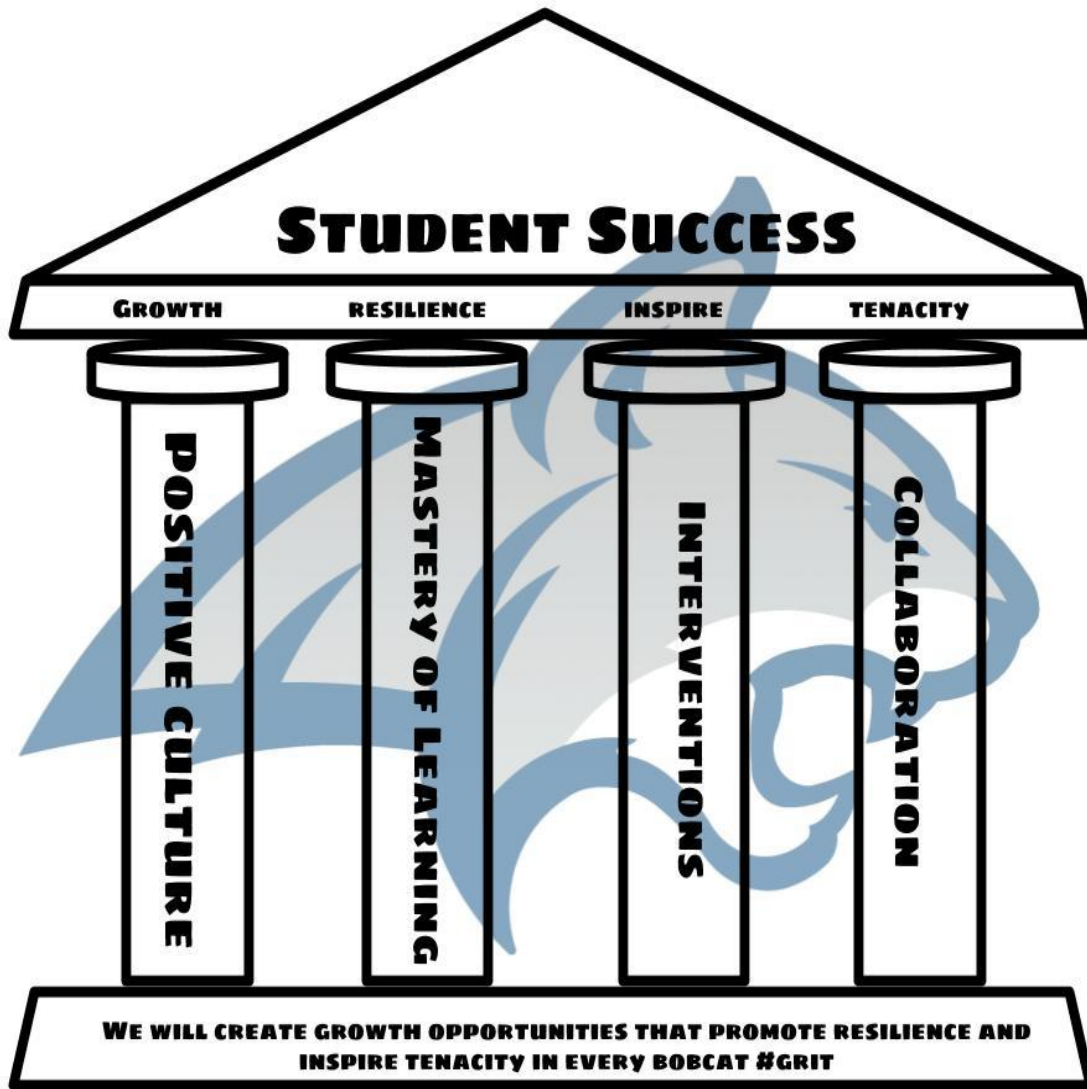
#grit

The 2019 - 2020 School year started off as any other school year, but ended as no other year. Our world, country, and state is now facing a global pandemic that is impacting every facet of our lives. We experienced this first hand at the end of the 19-20 school year having to abruptly transition to distance learning for all.

Distance Learning is not a new concept, however it was very new on this scale for every student, teacher, and parent involved in a traditional school. My how our world has been forced into an indefinite change.

The 2020-21 School year started off by delaying the beginning of school in order for staff and schools to plan for the inevitable quarantines and infections that we would face and how to keep the continuity of learning for those students and families who chose distance learning as well as in person. Our custodial staff also worked very hard to prepare and keep our buildings as clean and sanitary as possible in order to keep the virus infections as low as possible. We saw months that we had to shut buildings down due to the numbers and months that we felt we had finally reached a new normal.

Our Goal at Bridge Creek Public Schools is to continue to offer in person learning with safety protocols to help mitigate COVID as well as an interlocal virtual school with surrounding districts for families concerned with safety. There will be challenges in returning to normal; however, if we work together we can create a **positive learning environment**, based on **collaboration** and **mastery**, which will allow us to **intervene** and meet the needs of all our Bobcats! #grit!



This document will be a fluid document as is the situation we find ourselves in. The revision of this document will occur every 6 months after approval by the Oklahoma State Department of Education. The contents of this document is a combination of many conversations with colleagues, stakeholders, and healthcare professionals with public comment after posting on our school website (www.bridgecreekbobcats.org)

Everyone should prepare for limited disruption. The 2022-2023 school year should look considerably more normal than last year doing the best we can to establish protocols and stability for students, staff, and families. However, this public health crisis is unprecedented and circumstances and advice from health professionals continue to develop. Because keeping the community healthy depends on self-assessment, we are asking individuals with known exposure or displaying symptoms to consider wearing a mask when on campus.

The development of this plan follows two guiding principles:

1. Limit exposure where possible: We will social distance where possible. Masks are recommended but not mandatory especially for unvaccinated children and adults. We will look at all avenues to space out when feasible. Some suggestions provided by other plans are not reasonable for our specific conditions due to space, human behaviors, or budget constraints.
2. Learning must remain constant: Bridge Creek Public Schools will continue to deliver instruction to students virtually or traditionally (face-to-face). We know disruption during a public health crisis like COVID-19 is very likely. Although we can expect disruption during the school year, consistent lesson delivery from teacher to student will remain strong through a more traditional face-to-face method or through a remote learning environment. Google classroom will be the learning management system Pre-K through grade 12. We have listened to parent requests for a streamlined remote learning environment, and teachers have been preparing for improved remote learning with new content and accountability for grades and attendance during the 2022-2023 school year. To meet the needs of our students we will also be offering a 100% virtual education option.

The SAFE RETURN AND CONTINUITY OF SERVICES PLAN is derived from the Oklahoma State Department of Education (OSDE) Ready Together Oklahoma. ([click here](#))

ARP ESSER III Safe Return Plan Requirement areas:

1. Universal and correct wearing of masks
2. Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/pods)
3. Hand washing and respiratory etiquette
4. Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation
5. Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health department
6. Diagnostic and screening testing
7. Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities
8. Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies
9. Coordination with State and local health officials.
10. Describe how the LEA will ensure a continuity of services, including but not limited to services to address students' academic needs and students as well as staff members' social, emotional, mental health and other needs, which may include student health and food services.



Within each area, protocols are discussed with the understanding that conditions for each area are subject to change depending on the uncertain circumstances related to COVID-19.

Communication with Parents and Community

All communication with parents and the community will be delivered through Infinite Campus messenger (email and text) and the district Facebook page. Parents should also connect to each site's Facebook pages. Direct communication with site principals and teachers through email will be used on a regular basis. All staff email addresses and phone numbers can be accessed through our website at www.bridgecreekbobcats.org. BCPS is committed to strong communication and responsive action. If you need assistance and cannot reach your site, you may reach out to David Morrow, Superintendent at dmorrow@bridgecreek.k12.ok.us.

1. UNIVERSAL AND CORRECT WEARING OF MASKS

In collaboration with local and state health departments, Bridge Creek Board of Education, Faculty and Staff, and community, BCPS will determine when universal mask wearing is necessary. Any one that has been exposed to a known case or who are experiencing symptoms are asked to consider wearing a mask over both their nose and mouth tightly so as not to expire into the air. Pursuant to **SB 658**, a mask mandate will only be considered when a state of emergency exists. At this time all of the components of SB 658 must be followed.

It is important that all families partner with us in monitoring the health of your students and families. Below is a self assessment that you can help us by taking daily.

Self Assessment

1. Do you have a fever of 100 or greater? Yes/No
2. Do you currently have any flu like symptoms? Yes/No
3. Do you have a cough or shortness of breath? Yes/No
4. Have you had a sudden loss of taste or smell? Yes/No
5. Have you been out of the state/country in the last 14 days?
6. Have you been exposed to a person who has tested positive for COVID-19?
yes/no

If you answered yes to any of the above questions please notify your site office before coming on the school property.

Students who start displaying COVID symptoms at school will be sent to a designated isolation room. School staff will follow an established protocol for taking the student's temperature and notifying parents.

If a quarantine of any nature is required (fully immunized individuals do not have to quarantine), we will consult our health care advisor as well as our county health department for the most recent protocols to protect everyone.

2. Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing

Cafeteria

Social distancing will be implemented where possible.

Each site will determine protocols for:

- Limiting the number of students in the cafeteria as schedules allow
- Students eating in classrooms, large classrooms or gyms, or in open air areas

Transportation

Bridge Creek plans to resume traditional transportation. Students will be encouraged to social distance on buses when possible; however, parents should not expect 6 feet of space between riders on school buses. **BCPS asks that if using district buses is not necessary for your family please personally transport your children.**

To protect drivers and students while riding the bus we will:

- Increase ventilation on buses by lowering windows when possible
- Encourage students to wear masks
- Clean and disinfect buses after each route

Facility Use by Outside Organizations

Facility use by outside organizations will be determined on a case by case basis. Consideration will be given for organizations which are able to commit to guidelines for limiting exposure to the virus. Additional cleaning fees will be required.

Before/After School Program

We will continue to offer before and after school programs for our kids. Latchkey will be the provider for our before/after school program.

**BCPS is currently assessing costs associated with purchasing additional rooms to be able to social distance students and activities as well as purchasing and installing ionizing

filtration systems for the district. When funding becomes available, final decisions will be made.

3. Hand washing and respiratory etiquette

Handwashing, Hand Sanitizers, and Class Transitions

A consistent schedule of times and procedures will be established throughout the day for proper hand hygiene, hand washing, and limiting exposure to the virus during class transitions. Where possible the number of hand sanitizing stations has been increased in school sites. The school will provide extra hand washing stations to minimize the time out of the classroom.

- **Hand Hygiene**

- Hand sanitizer dispensers are located near each office for visitors to use before entering the building

- Each classroom teacher will establish a set of classroom protocols for hand hygiene

- Students will be encouraged to wash and/or sanitize their hands after sneezing/coughing

- Students will be encouraged to cover coughs and sneezes with tissues or by coughing into the inside of the elbow.

- **Water Fountains**

- Water fountains will be off

- Students must bring their own bottles of water and will not share with others

- **Class Transitions**

- Students will be guided and encouraged to keep moving through hallways without congregating in groups

- Each site will create visual cues to encourage social distancing and speedy traffic flow

- Each student will maintain distancing guidelines when possible during transitions.

Covering coughs and sneezes and keeping hands clean can help prevent the spread of serious respiratory illnesses like influenza, respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), whooping cough, and COVID-19. Germs can be easily spread by:

- Coughing, sneezing, or talking
- Touching your face with unwashed hands after touching contaminated surfaces or objects
- Touching surfaces or objects that may be frequently touched by other people

Covering coughs and sneezes and washing hands are especially important for infection control measures in healthcare settings, such as emergency departments, doctor's offices, and clinics.

To help stop the spread of germs:

- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze
- Throw used tissues in the trash
- If you don't have a tissue, cough or sneeze into your elbow, not your hands

Remember to immediately [wash your hands](#) after blowing your nose, coughing or sneezing.

Washing your hands is one of the most effective ways to prevent yourself and your loved ones from getting sick, especially at [key times](#) when you are likely to get and spread germs.

- Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds
- If soap and water are not readily available, [use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer](#) that contains at least 60% alcohol to clean hands

Important Tip: It is important to teach children proper hygiene all the time, but especially to remind them about good habits during a public health crisis like COVID-19. One habit is proper handwashing. According to CDC guidelines, follow these five steps every time you wash your hands.

1. Wet your hands with clean, running water (warm or cold), turn off the tap, and apply soap.
2. Lather your hands by rubbing them together with the soap. Lather the backs of your hands, between your fingers, and under your nails.
3. Scrub your hands for at least 20 seconds. Need a timer? Hum the "Happy Birthday" song from beginning to end twice.
4. Rinse your hands well under clean, running water.
5. Dry your hands using a clean towel or air dry them.

4. Cleaning Schedules and Protocols

Bridge Creek Schools uses EPA recommended cleaning products and CDC recommended disinfecting procedures. Increased cleaning and disinfecting measures will be implemented in the following areas:

- **Bathrooms**
Additional sanitization using a fogging sprayer at the end of the day.
- **Classrooms**
Sanitized using an fogging sprayer on a regular basis
Each classroom will have disinfectant spray/wipes for teachers to disinfect as needed
Each classroom will have hand sanitizer for students and staff to sanitize hands in classrooms where soap and water are not available
Students and staff will limit the sharing of supplies, utensils, devices, toys, books and learning aids in a health care recommendation emergency.
- **Buses**
Each bus will be sanitized after the morning route as well as the end of day.
- **Cafeteria**
Students will use hand sanitizers located at the beginning of the serving line
Students will practice social distancing as much as space allows
The cafeteria will be sanitized daily using the fogging sprayer.

5. Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments

The district nurse will contact trace when appropriate for students and staff, then the upload into the Oklahoma State Department of Education's contact tracing computer system. That system then notifies the county health department for further communication with the state, local, territorial, and tribal health departments.

6. Diagnostic and screening testing

In collaboration with our local health department, physicians, and clinics, BCPS will provide employees and students with a list of providers that can diagnose and screen for COVID.

7. Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities

BCPS hosted an adult vaccination clinic in the instance that local health officials determine a need in the community.

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

Student with Special Needs

Individualized Education Plans (IEP), 504s, English Language Academic Plans will be followed with the assistance of site principals. District related services providers such as speech and OT/PT will be in contact with students and parents to arrange for continued services within the constraints of this public health crisis. If necessary or requested, IEP and 504 meetings will be held virtually. All IEP/504 team members are required to participate. For information about Special Education and English Language Services, you may contact Brandi Radtke @ bradtke@bridgecreek.k12.ok.us.

9. Coordination with State and local health officials

BCPS will communicate with the Grady County Health Department and other health agencies when the need arises regarding all positive cases and subsequent quarantines that are school related. All positive contacts and quarantines are funneled through the COVID portal at the Oklahoma State Department of Education.

10. Describe how the LEA will ensure a continuity of services, including but not limited to services to address students' academic needs and students as well as staff members' social, emotional, mental health and other needs, which may include student health and food services.

Academics & Growth

Achieving our core mission to educate children is a challenge during the COVID-19 public health crisis. Bridge Creek Schools is committed to keep learning constant throughout the school year. Our goal is to provide flexible learning pathways for families who may be impacted by health concerns either due to an immunocompromised system, underlying health issues, or due to a short period where family members are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms.

Learning Pathways

- **Traditional/Remote* - Grades PK-12**

- Traditional academic school day
- All courses/classes taken at regularly assigned school site
- In-person instruction
- *Remote Learning will be determined by the district, county, or state in the event of an outbreak
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- **Blended Pathway - (virtual and face to face) - Grades 6-12**

- A student appropriate schedule will be developed with the purpose of scheduling all face to face classes consecutively when possible.
- Counts as a school day (not a traditional absence if student completes online lessons within the allotted time)
- Students continue to learn new material with teacher support
- May include pre-recorded or live lessons/tutorials
- Support and contact from Bridge Creek faculty as needed
- Extra Curricular Activities will be available in this format.
- All virtual classes will be offered through the Tri-City Learning Academy



- **Virtual - Grades K-12**

- Student takes all courses online through Tri-City Learning Academy
- Students continue to learn new material through online platform
- Requires semester commitment
- Student learning plans are directed and monitored by TCLA faculty
- Requires Computer and Internet access
- Course fees may apply
- Application Required

- Participation in extra-curricular (Sports, band, choir, etc.) activities will be permitted.
 - Some classes may not count toward NCAA eligibility requirements.
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All students will be enrolled in traditional education unless arrangements are made with Tri-City Learning Academy.

*** Remote learning days may also be used in the event of cancellations including, but not limited to, inclement weather or other unforeseen factors.**

To enroll your student in the virtual option, parents will need to complete a request with Tri-City Learning Academy. Parents can access the request on our website or contact the site office.

Access to Technology

Devices will be provided for students on a need basis. Teachers and principals will help identify students who need technology assistance and a checkout system will be utilized.

A one to one computer/device initiative for grades 6-12 will be implemented by the school principal at the beginning of the school year. *A \$25 technology fee will be required.

Social Emotional Support

Our mission is to ensure all students and their families feel welcome and safe at school. This mission is especially important during the COVID-19 public health crisis. Whether students are learning through on campus instruction or virtually at home, we work to promote a feeling of community with all students and families.

In response to the increasing needs of families for the 2021-2022 school year, Bridge Creek Schools will assist in the following:

- Social Emotional Learning (SEL) curriculum to assist students in building skills in self-awareness, self-regulation, and collaborative interaction
- Providing additional training for teachers in trauma-informed practices
- Providing health, wellness, and community resources for students and families on our website
- Two additional counselors were hired in order to have more access to services which include offering free/reduced application forms when families financial situation changes and enrolling students in our Back Pack program.

Conclusion

We thank you in advance for your flexibility and understanding as we continue to navigate this health issue together. Bridge Creek is an amazing community and I have no doubt that we are all committed to keeping our kids safe and providing them our absolute best. It is going to be a great year!

If you have questions, comments, or need assistance with this plan contact David Morrow, Superintendent at dmorrow@bridgecreek.k12.ok.us.