

Carver Public Schools

Considerations for In-Person Summer Programming

Summer 2020

The safety and well-being of students, families, educators, and staff will continue to be the top priority as we plan for in-person services.

Families, in consultation with their medical providers, should ultimately make the decision as to whether their children will attend in-person summer instruction if available. Parents who have students or immediate family members with high-risk medical conditions are encouraged to discuss with their healthcare provider whether the program is a safe option for the child, if additional protections are necessary, and what supports can be offered to best help their child understand and adhere to the health and safety requirements.

What we have done to prepare and plan for In-Person Summer Learning

A COVID-19 response leader for the district has been assigned. Scott Knief, Superintendent, will be in that role for the summer sessions.

The state guidelines did not allow for any in-person summer learning earlier than July 6, 2020. Carver will begin July 13, 2020 to ensure everything is in place.

Instruction will be provided for a maximum of 2 hours a day in order to minimize the need for toileting younger students and for eating in school. This also minimizes the length of time people are gathered together inside.

All parents have been sent a summer permission and contact information form. This form must be completed before a student can begin in-person summer services. The form can also be found on the Carver Public Schools website.

Carver Public Schools has developed the following re-opening plan for a small amount of summer in-person services for those students who have the most significant needs for in-person service..

Summer Re-Opening Plan

Training:

All staff providing in-person summer services will attend a safety training by the school nurse on July 8, 2020 from 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Training will include the use of and disposal of PPE, cleaning procedures, and identifying symptoms in students.

Parent communication:

All parents will provide contact information that includes an active email address and home, work, and mobile phone numbers as well as one additional emergency contact person (provided through parent contact information form).

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Updates or emergency announcements will go out through the Blackboard Connect system and will be posted on the website. Parents have been sent information on how to share safety procedure information with their students in developmentally appropriate ways.(See CDC guidance for parents and COVID-19.)

Building Capacity and Class Size:

At this time, the guidance from the state is to keep summer programming enrollment at less than 50% of a school's capacity. Carver will be well under 50% of capacity for in-person summer services this year.

The guidance from the state at this time is to have no more than 10 students and 12 people total in a classroom (i.e., 1-2 teachers/staff with 10 students). For summer 2020, Carver is keeping classroom size to 6 or less people in the classroom.

Therapists will create schedules that stagger their time in classrooms to minimize the number of people in a room. Therapists have been asked to work with families to determine which therapy area is a priority for in-person to minimize the number of different therapist/child interactions that take place face to face.

Each group of students will have one classroom that only they are using. The morning group will be in one set of classrooms and the afternoon group will be in another set of classrooms.

Pick up and Drop Off:

Student pick up and drop off will be staggered among different doors. Parent/Guardians will be told which doors to use for pick up and drop off. Parent/Guardians should stay at their cars and students will be brought to them. Late drop off will be at the front door. Parent/Guardians should call their student's teacher if they are dropping their student off late.

Other Building Adjustments:

A COVID-19 Medical Waiting Room has been established in both buildings for students exhibition symptoms that could be COVID-19. A nurse is on duty at the Elementary School and will travel to the Middle High School if needed. An administrator or assistant will be available at the Middle High School until the nurse gets there.

Drinking fountains will be closed. Parent/Guardians will be asked to provide water for their students.

A cleaning and disinfecting plan that identifies what items must be cleaned, sanitized, or disinfected and with what frequency has been developed.²³ Rooms and busses will be cleaned and disinfected daily.

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Visitors:

Visitors are not permitted in summer school programs. Parent/Guardians should not be in the building except in cases of an emergency.

Physical Distancing:

All desks and work areas have been placed to keep 6 feet distance between students and between staff as feasible.

Physical distancing will be encouraged for students and staff at all times not just while in the classroom.

- Students will be assisted in distancing when entering the building and classroom.
- Markers will be provided on the floors and outside to help with lining up.
- Students will be prompted to not hold hands, hug, or get too close to others.

Note about Masks/face coverings as provided in the full State guidelines:

As the primary route of transmission for COVID-19 is respiratory,^{5 6 7} masks or face coverings are among the most critical components of risk reduction.^{8 9 10} Masks/face coverings protect the general public against COVID-19 infection,¹¹ with a recent retrospective study estimating near 80% effectiveness in reducing COVID-19 transmission, especially when worn prior to symptom onset.¹² In the United States, states advising face masks/face coverings be worn in public saw a decline in their COVID-19 growth rates,¹³ and community-wide mask/face covering usage contributed to control of COVID-19 in Hong Kong.¹⁴

All students are required to wear a mask/face covering that covers their nose and mouth. Face shields may be an option for those students with medical, behavioral, or other challenges who are unable to wear masks/face coverings.

Exceptions to mask/face covering requirements will be made for those for whom it is not possible due to medical conditions, disability impact, or other health or safety factors.

Adults, including educators and staff, are required to wear masks/face coverings.

Mask breaks will occur during any summer school session that is an hour or more in length. Teachers will try to provide mask breaks every half-hour. Mask breaks will be provided outside or with windows open and with students at least 6 feet apart.

Masks/face coverings should be provided by the student/family, but the school will have extra disposable face masks available. The district will be getting some transparent face coverings for students who need more visual cues and for use during speech and language sessions.

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Masks/face coverings are required to be worn by everyone on the bus during school bus transportation. Bus windows will be opened when weather permits. Parent/Guardians will need to buckle and unbuckle students in the bus if needed. Parent/Guardians must wear face masks when on the bus.

School nurses and staff who are required to provide close contact with students will follow the guidelines for PPE provided by the state that may include use of goggles, face shields, gloves, and disposable gowns especially if the staff may come into close contact with bodily fluids.

Hand Washing:

Students and staff are required to exercise hand hygiene (hand washing or sanitizing) upon arrival to school, before eating, before putting on and taking off masks, and before dismissal. If handwashing is not feasible, hand sanitizer with at least 60 percent ethanol or at least 70 percent isopropanol content can be used.²

- If students have sensitivities to any particular soaps or hand sanitizers please let the teacher or administrator know.
- Hand sanitizer will be available outside during outdoor play.

Activities:

Teachers will utilize and create games and activities that encourage social distancing and will not allow games that require contact, such as tag.

Students will all have personal material bins for supplies such as writing utensils, scissors, manipulatives, etc.

There will be no field trips or swimming trips this summer.

Medication Administration:

There is a nursing plan in place for administering medication including a plan for the treatment of students with asthma and other chronic illnesses. School health professionals will work with primary care providers (provided they have parental consent to do so) to identify alternatives to certain treatments such as nebulizer treatments.

Screening Upon Entry is Not Advised:

Carver will not be screening students or staff upon entry to the building. Parent/Guardians and staff will be provided with a symptom checklist to help in screening for symptoms each morning. No one should attend school if they have symptoms that may indicate COVID-19 or if they believe they have been exposed to someone that has COVID-19.

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Ventilation:

We will ensure that ventilation systems operate properly and increase circulation of outdoor air as much as possible by opening windows and doors, using fans (must be inaccessible to young students), and other methods. Unless used as an emergency exit, all interior doors will be propped open to reduce the number of people touching the door during the day and to increase ventilation.

Outdoor spaces:

Staff will enforce protocols for safe use of outdoor spaces:

- Outdoor services and toys, such as balls, will be cleaned.
- Students will use hand sanitizer/wash hands before and after going outside.
- Teachers will mandate and supervise physical distancing while playing outside.

Staffing:

Inform staff: We will provide staff with information about COVID-19, including how the illness is spread, how to prevent its spread, symptoms, and when to seek medical assistance for sick students or employees.

Absenteeism: We will have a system to monitor absenteeism to identify any trends in employee or student absences due to illness, as this might indicate the spread of COVID-19 or other illness.

Back-up staff: We will have a plan for securing trained back-up staff in order to maintain sufficient staffing levels.

Sick leave: The district has sick leave policies that allow staff to not come to work if they have symptoms of COVID-19. Symptoms include:

- Fever or chills
- Signs of a lower respiratory illness (i.e., cough, shortness of breath, lowered oxygen saturation)
- Fatigue, sore throat, runny nose or congestion, headache, body aches/myalgia, or new loss of sense of taste or smell