Boyer Valley Community School District's Return-to-Learn Plan

The Boyer Valley Community School District developed a Return-to-Learn Plan for the 2020-2021 school year as directed by the Iowa Department of Education. Within the District's Return-to-Learn Plan are three different learning situations. The three different learning situations are explained within this document. We planned for three different learning situations and will move from one to another if conditions related to COVID-19 change within the state, community or school buildings. Staff, students and parents should prepare for all three learning situations for the 2021-2022 school year. Even though we have three learning situations developed, we continue to believe that the On-Site Learning situation is the optimal learning environment for students. We have a high quality staff in the Boyer Valley Community School District and believe students attending in brick-and-mortar buildings receiving instruction from teachers and support from staff is the ideal situation for learning.

The plans may change as the situations change and additional guidance is given out.

On-Site Learning

On-Site Learning occurs when a decision is made that buildings can operate, and students can return to school. Currently, we are planning for On-Site Learning. The adopted calendar and assigned (normal) schedule for students will be followed.

- When students return to school on August 23, they will receive training on school procedures, which includes accessing digital material through Schoology and other essential technological functions. Communication will be prepared that will help with troubleshooting technology questions during hybrid learning or virtual learning, and the communication will be available to students, teachers, and parents.
- As an extra safety measure, students and staff may bring a mask or shield to school daily. During movement outside of the classroom, such as walking in the hallway to different classes, students and staff may wear a mask or shield.
- Students are encouraged to bring their own mask or shield to school. During group conversations, discussions regarding the requirement of masks or shields to be worn occurred. Valid points brought up by group participants regarding the complications associated with the requirement that masks or shields be worn included: some students are sensory sensitive, and masks affect them negatively; masks are not appropriate for very young children to wear nor appropriate for some students with illnesses to wear; facial expressions are important for students to see as they learn to read, speak and socialize. There are educational reasons why shields are better to use than masks. We will rely on CDC recommendations to finalize our decision.
- Cleaning supplies will be available. Hand sanitizer will be available in each classroom and office. We will monitor CDC guidance and make adjustments to procedures when needed.
- All parents are expected to take their child/children's temperature before they leave home when going to school or activities. Our top priority is the health and safety of students and staff.
- High-touch areas in the buildings and classrooms will be cleaned more frequently during the day and thorough cleaning will not be restricted to after the building is vacated. Another safety precaution for the beginning of the year is limiting access to the buildings. Parents and volunteers will not be able to visit classrooms unless previously given authorization through the

office as a health and safety precaution. Access of outside agencies will be determined on a case-by-case basis during on-site learning.
- If your child is sick and it is determined that the child should be sent home, a parent will be contacted and expected to come to school to take their sick child home and to help prevent further spread of possible COVID or other viruses/sickness in the building.
- Before the 2021-2022 school year starts, the attendance policy will be reviewed; guidelines for parents regarding when to keep sick children home will be reviewed; expectations for starting school will be developed and communicated; promotion, grading policies may be reviewed; acceptable use policy will be reviewed, schedules for students and staff will be developed; and communication with parents regarding technology will be developed and shared. Communication for families will be accessible in the language of the family.

Virtual Learning

Virtual learning occurs when a decision is made for an emergency closure of a building or both buildings. If a single building closes due to a COVID-19 outbreak and there is a need for sanitization, the students and staff in that building will immediately transfer to virtual learning. If there is a wider outbreak of COVID-19 and both buildings close, the students and staff will immediately transfer to virtual learning.

- Virtual learning may be utilized for single classrooms to mitigate COVID-19 exposure beyond the classroom. With proper notification, learning provided to students during virtual learning will be required with attendance taken by teachers, grades issued and credit awarded.
- Connectivity is a top priority for the District's Return to-Learn Plan. We are relying on the State of Iowa to provide internet connectivity to families that are unable to acquire this on their own. We will deliver all instruction and complete all learning virtually in the case of an emergency closure if internet connectivity is provided to families. If internet connectivity is not available to families, hard copies of learning materials will be provided.
- The BVCSD provides chrome books to all students in grades 6-12. The chrome books are internet accessible and can be taken home by students. The BVCSD provides chrome books/ipads for students in PS-5 for their individual use. If virtual learning is implemented, all PS-12 students will take devices home.
- Boyer Valley Community School District will use Schoology as the Learning Management System to be used in the classroom and outside of the classroom. The consistency in processes benefit students and families during virtual learning.
- Professional development for teachers, training for students, and training for parents focusing on a virtual learning situation will be provided. Additional professional development will occur during the school year as needed.
- If students can return to school on August 23, they will receive training on school procedures, which will include accessing digital material through Schoology, and other essential technological functions. Communication will be prepared that will help with troubleshooting technology questions during virtual learning, and the communication will be available to students, teachers, and parents as needed.
- Access to the building during virtual learning is limited. Parents can contact the building principal to retrieve essential materials for their child, such as learning devices, medications, and clothes.

Outside agencies that use the building will not be permitted to access the building during a virtual learning situation.

- Food security for students will be addressed during virtual learning through the school lunch program as allowed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.
- Teachers will hold office hours and will be communicated by each instructor.
- Essential staff and non-essential staff will be identified and paid accordingly. Because of the ever-changing conditions surrounding COVID-19, identifying essential staff and nonessential staff will occur if an order is made to initiate Virtual Learning and guidance provided at the time of the order will be considered. Of course, staff and student's health and safety were a top priority for focus group participants and others who provided feedback for the Return-to-Learn Plan.
- Sanitation of building or buildings occurs during virtual learning implementation.
- Before the 2021-2022 school year starts, the attendance policy will be reviewed; guidelines for parents regarding when to keep sick children home will be reviewed; expectations for starting school will be developed and communicated; promotion, grading policies may be reviewed; acceptable use policy will be reviewed, schedules for students and staff will be developed; and communication with parents regarding technology will be developed and shared. Communication for families will be accessible in the language of the family.

Hybrid Learning

Hybrid learning occurs when a decision is made by the Governor or District Health Department that buildings can operate with half capacity and social distancing maintained.   Access to the building during hybrid learning is limited to half capacity and social distancing will be practiced within the classrooms. Desks and learning stations will be spaced to allow students to maintain a 6' distance from one another.

- During movement outside of the classroom, such as walking in the hallway to different classes, students and staff, may wear a mask or shield. Students are encouraged to bring their own mask or shield to school.
- Cleaning supplies will be available. Hand sanitizer will be available in each classroom and office.
- We will monitor CDC guidance and make adjustments to procedures when needed.
- During Hybrid Learning, the students and staff schedules may be adjusted.
- During Hybrid Learning, students attend school on-site every other day. Families with more than one child in school will be on the same schedule so that all children will attend the same day. By designing a hybrid model that holds on-site instruction for students every other day we ensure all classes are provided to students. Similar to virtual learning, a top requirement for hybrid learning to be most successful is providing connectivity to every student. We are relying on the State of Iowa to provide internet connectivity to families that are unable to acquire this on their own. We will be prepared to deliver instruction and support students virtually during hybrid learning if internet connectivity is provided to families. If internet connectivity is not available to families, hard copies, and materials downloaded to student devices will be provided.
- The BVCSD provides chrome books to all students in grades 6-12. The chrome books are internet accessible and can be taken home by students. The BVCSD provides chrome

books/ipads for students in PS-5 for their individual use. If hybrid learning is implemented, all PS-12 students will take devices home.

- Boyer Valley Community School District will use Schoology as the Learning Management System to be used in the classroom and outside of the classroom. The consistency in processes benefit students and families during Hybrid Learning
- Professional development for teachers, training for students, and training for parents focusing on a virtual learning situation will be provided. Additional professional development will occur during the school year as needed.
- If students can return to school on August 23, they will receive training on school procedures, which will include accessing digital material through Schoology, and other essential technological functions. Communication will be prepared that will help with troubleshooting technology questions during virtual learning, and the communication will be available to students, teachers, and parents.
- Teachers will hold office hours and will be communicated by each instructor.
- Essential staff and non-essential staff will be identified and paid accordingly. Because of the ever-changing conditions surrounding COVID-19, identifying essential staff and nonessential staff will occur if an order is made to initiate Hybrid Learning and guidance provided at the time of the order will be considered.
- Sanitation of building or buildings occurs during Hybrid Learning implementation.
- Before the 2021-2022 school year starts, the attendance policy will be reviewed; guidelines for parents regarding when to keep sick children home will be reviewed; expectations for starting school will be developed and communicated; promotion, grading policies may be reviewed; acceptable use policy will be reviewed, schedules for students and staff will be developed; and communication with parents regarding technology will be developed and shared. Communication for families will be accessible in the language of the family.