



## Overview

As we plan for a return to school, Southeast Polk is committed to a continued focus on academic excellence as well as providing for the health, safety, and emotional well-being of students, staff, and community. The Southeast Polk Return to Learn plan is designed to provide onsite learning for students during the upcoming school year in a safe environment while being flexible and responsive to the challenges of COVID-19. The health and safety of our students, staff, and community is always our top priority and we designed our plan accordingly.

This current draft of our plan is based on information and guidance from public health officials and the Department of Education. It will be revised and adjusted based on any new data and guidance. We appreciate the support and collaboration from parents and the community as we work to provide continued learning opportunities while assuring the health, safety, and emotional well-being of students, staff, and community.

### **Health and Safety**

Southeast Polk Community School District will collaborate with the Polk County Health Department, Iowa Department of Public Health, and local healthcare providers to provide guidelines to meet appropriate public health and safety needs.

**The general message to families, students, and staff is to stay home if you are not feeling well.**

- Southeast Polk will plan for appropriate, building-wide social distancing as possible and as needed.
- We recommend all students and staff take their temperature at home daily and perform a self-screening before coming to the school buildings.
- Staff will be required to wear a facial covering and perform a wellness check upon arrival into the building.
- It is recommended that students have their own cloth face covering and wear them throughout the school day.
- Students exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 will be isolated in a designated area and will be required to wear a mask (either their own or school provided) until a parent/guardian comes to pick up.
- Frequent and regular handwashing protocols will be implemented.
- Additional cleaning and sanitizing procedures will be in place.



## ***Teaching and Learning***

Southeast Polk has created some instructional models to implement based on the spread or containment of COVID-19. Based on the feedback of students, staff, and families, our goal is to have face to face instruction as it is safe to do so.

Based on the guidance from the Iowa Department of Education, Southeast Polk has created models for Onsite Learning, Online Learning, and Hybrid Learning. Our plan includes a flexible approach, understanding that we may start the school year with one instructional schedule model and, as new information becomes available about health and safety, we may transition to a different model.

**Onsite Learning** is a face to face delivery model for all students. This pathway includes safety measures that include facial coverings, distancing, and additional cleaning.

**Online Learning** is a continuous learning model that is delivered online. This is a required model that will include new learning and participation of all students.

**Hybrid Learning** is a flexible learning model where some students will receive instruction face to face and some will be provided instruction online. There are multiple phases of the hybrid model depending on public health guidelines.

More information on these models as well as additional guidelines for the Return to Learn plan will be released pending further guidance.

Our priorities include:

- Ensuring that basic needs (food, housing, and childcare) are met during the pandemic.
- Providing for the health, safety, and emotional well-being of students, staff, and the community.
- Making sure that parents and families have the resources they need to continue learning.
- Clear and consistent communication regarding expectations and adaptations.