

Start Plan

A summary of In-Person, Hybrid and Distance Learning plans, and general health and safety information for the school year.



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General Information

Welcome back!

Tri-County School is committed to ensuring the continuity of learning for students under exceptional circumstances that may require full or partial closure of our school. In the situation where school is directed to close for the safety of the community, alternative means for students to access instruction remotely will be initiated. It is our priority to provide students with high quality instruction to ensure the continuity of their educational program to meet the learning expectations in an online or distance learning environment. Tri-County School's distance learning platforms align with the same standards and expectations for learning as in our classroom environment.

Changes and modifications may need to be made to this Start Plan as situations, experiences and challenges arise. This means more information may come out as we progress through the start of the school year.



Introduction

This document is a summary of our general requirements as well as the three learning plans. Students have the option of “At-Home Learning” within the In-Person and Hybrid Learning Models. In any of the learning models, all students will be held to the same academic expectations and rigor. Please refer to the descriptions in this handout and the full documents that will be posted on Tri-County School's webpage for more detailed information.

- **In-Person Learning Model** - Students attend school with normal hours and classroom settings (At-Home Learning option available).
- **Hybrid Learning Model** - Students attend school with a modified schedule and work is completed In-Person and via Distance Learning platforms, Google Classroom and packets (At-Home Learning option available).
- **Distance Learning Model** - All students enrolled at Tri-County will complete academic work at home via Distance Learning platforms, Google Classroom and packets.

General Information



Symptoms & Exposure Prescreening

- Tri-County School is asking that parents/guardians be diligent about prescreening their students daily. Any individual with a temperature of 100.4°F or higher is required to stay home. Also, any individual exhibiting the symptoms of COVID-19 should stay home.
- Any staff or student experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 will be required to follow the Tri-County Decision Tree isolation and quarantine guidelines on page 4.
- Students' temperatures will be taken prior to entering the building each day.
- A medical room will be designated for ill students waiting to go home.
- In the event of a confirmed case or exposure, Tri-County School will coordinate with the Minnesota Department of Health and the Regional Support Team to determine an appropriate course of action.



COVID-19 Symptoms

COVID-19 symptoms include the following:

- Fever of 100.4°F or greater OR chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

Tri-County Decision Tree

Symptoms of COVID-19 that include ONE of the following: fever (100.4°F or higher), new or worsening cough, difficulty breathing, new loss of taste or smell. **OR include TWO or more of the following:** sore throat, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, chills, muscle pain, excessive fatigue, new onset of severe headache, new onset of nasal congestion or runny nose.

Students or staff who have symptoms consistent with COVID-19 should STAY HOME or GO HOME, UNLESS they meet exclusion criteria below.

COVID-19 Exclusion Criteria	INDIVIDUAL	HOUSEHOLD
Positive COVID-19 Test	ISOLATE STAY HOME at least: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 14 days since symptoms first appeared AND • no fever for at least 24 hours (without medication) AND • improvement of other symptoms. <i>If NO SYMPTOMS, 14 days from test date.</i>	QUARANTINE STAY HOME at least 14 days.
Symptoms with NO COVID-19 Test	ISOLATE STAY HOME at least: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 14 days since symptoms first appeared AND • no fever for at least 24 hours (without medication) AND • improvement of other symptoms. 	QUARANTINE STAY HOME at least 14 days.
Negative COVID-19 Test	NO REQUIREMENTS CAN return to school if previously sent home.	NO REQUIREMENTS
Close Contact of Suspected or Confirmed COVID-19 POSITIVE individual	QUARANTINE STAY HOME at least 14 days. <i>Close contact is being within 6 FEET for 15 MINUTES or more of a person who tested positive for COVID-19.</i>	QUARANTINE STAY HOME at least 14 days.
Other Diagnoses that explain symptoms or if connected to a pre-existing condition	STAY HOME until symptoms have improved. FOLLOW your healthcare provider's direction. <i>Please provide a note from the healthcare provider upon return.</i>	NO REQUIREMENTS

When you **ISOLATE**, you separate **SICK** people from people who are not sick.
QUARANTINE separates **WELL** people who were exposed to see if they become sick.

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS, please call the school at 218-436-2261.
PLEASE REPORT ABSENCES by calling us at 218-436-2261
or emailing attendance@tricity.k12.mn.us

General Information



Face Coverings

- Per the state's Safe Learning Plan for 2020-2021 all staff, K-12 students, and other people entering Tri-County School will be required to wear a face mask.
- Face masks will not be required at lunch, recess, band, PE or during socially distanced mask breaks scheduled by the teacher (when possible).
- Face mask exemptions will be allowed but must include certification by a physician.
- Face masks should comply with Minnesota Department of Health guidelines, covering the nose and mouth and fitting snugly against the sides of the face.
- Disposable face masks will be available to staff, students, and visitors that do not provide their own.
- Face shields can be used as an alternative for students in grades Kindergarten - 8th grade when wearing a mask is problematic. Face shields should extend below the chin and wrap around to the ears laterally and be cleaned frequently. Purchasing of the face shields will be the responsibility of the parent/guardians.



Visitors

- Only students and staff will be allowed in and out of the school buildings during school hours.
 - VPK and Head Start parents are allowed to escort their students to the classroom for the first two weeks of school, but must also be screened and wear a mask.
- Visitors will have limited access to the building, by appointment only. Make an appointment by calling the office at 218-436-2261.
- All visitors will be required to wear a face mask. A disposable face mask will be provided to you if you do not have one.
- Upon entering the building, visitors will be required to pass a COVID-19 prescreen questionnaire and have their temperature taken to ensure no fever.

General Information



Transportation

- All students and bus drivers will be required to wear a mask in school vehicles. If a student forgets, a mask will be provided for them when they get on the bus.
- To help avoid the spread of COVID-19 or any illness, we are asking that families be diligent in the prescreening process prior to sending their student(s) on the bus.
- Students will be assigned seats by families on the bus per the state's guidelines.
- There will be sanitizer provided on each bus for students if they need or want.
- Every school vehicle will be sanitized between uses.



Building Use, Cleaning & Sanitizing

- As always, Tri-County School is committed to maintaining a safe and clean learning environment for staff and students. Cleaning and sanitizing will follow CDC guidelines. We will also be conducting extra cleaning and sanitizing at high traffic and frequent contact points.
- Staff, students, and visitors will be directed to specific entrances to help minimize congestion in any one area throughout the day.
- Hand sanitizer will be made available throughout the building for staff and students.
- Paper towel dispensers will be installed in the most frequently used bathrooms as an option to use in place of the hand dryers.
- Teachers and staff will ensure students wash their hands often.
- Traditional water fountains will not be available, but students are encouraged to bring a water bottle to fill at one of the school's contactless bottle filling stations.
- In order to cut down on hallway congestion, 7-12th grade students will be encouraged to carry a backpack with some of their school items (including technology devices) to and from class.

General Information



Transitioning

- All transitions between learning models will be communicated to parents/guardians via School Messenger, Tri-County Facebook page, and Tri-County School webpage.
- In the event of a transition between any of the learning models, staff will use the next 2 days as workshop days to prepare for the new learning model.
- These will be noninstructional days for students.
- When the end of a closure is announced, students are to return packets, technology, and all other school materials when in-school sessions resume.
- If a student is currently in the In-Person model and families choose to change to the At-Home option, staff will use the following 2 days to prepare the student's At-Home Learning materials. These will be noninstructional days for the student.
- If a student is currently in the At-Home option and wishes to return to In-Person, families are asked to give notice 5 days prior to returning to In-Person. This will allow the student time to wrap up At-Home work as well as give the teacher time to prepare for the student's return to the classroom.

In-Person Learning



Face coverings are required.



Daily symptom checking.



Visitors must have an appointment.

For more details, see the General Information section.



Learning Schedule

The traditional learning model will occur for in school students during regular school hours with the exception of the last ½ day each week (typically Friday) which will be used as Distance Learning time (see attached calendar and schedule). Students will be dismissed at 12:30 on these days

- Staff will use this time to plan and prepare quality lessons, materials, and videos for all students and use it as an additional opportunity to contact students choosing At-Home Learning with this model.
- Childcare will be provided for any student PreK-6th grade who may need it due to family work schedules. This care will be supervised by school staff and will be provided at no cost to families. Regular MASH will run the other days of the week.



At-Home Learning Option

Per the Executive order, families will still have the option of choosing At-Home Learning with the same educational expectations and rigor of those attending In-Person.

- At-Home learners will be offered meals in a grab-and-go format from a designated area in the school. Meal prices will be based on your free and reduced meal application.



Common Areas

Use of common areas and hallway passing times will be staggered for all grades in an effort to reduce hallway congestion.



Attendance

Due to extenuating circumstances, traditional attendance guidelines may not be appropriate. We believe that student learning needs are best met with consistent attendance and engagement.

- Teachers and Administration will address with families any concerning attendance patterns on a case by case basis taking into account absences based on the Minnesota Department of Health Decision Tree.
- Please call the office 218-436-2261 or email attendance@tricounty.k12.mn.us with any attendance changes or updates by 8:25 AM each day.

In-Person Learning



Face coverings are required.

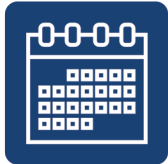


Daily symptom checking.



Visitors must have an appointment.

For more details, see the General Information section.



In-Person Learning School Calendar

	SU	M	T	W	TH	F	SA
AUGUST	30	31					
SEPTEMBER			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					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	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			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						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		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		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					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	
MAY							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					
JUNE		1	2	3	4	5	

August 31/Sept 1/2/3 - Teacher Workshops (Open House 5pm-7pm)

September 7 - Labor Day (NO SCHOOL)

September 8 - First Student Day

October 15/16 - EM Break (NO SCHOOL)

November 6 - End of Quarter 1

November 12 - PT Conferences

November 13 - Quarter Break (NO SCHOOL)

November 26/27 - Thanksgiving Break (NO SCHOOL)

December 23-January 3 - Winter Break (NO SCHOOL)

January 4 - School Resumes

January 18 - MLK Day - Teacher Workshop Day

January 22 - End of Quarter 2

February 15 - President's Day Break (NO SCHOOL)

March 26 - End of Quarter 3

April 2/5 - Spring Break (NO SCHOOL)

April 8 - Early Dismissal and PT Conferences

May 28 - Last Senior Day/Graduation 6:00 pm

May 31 - Memorial Day (NO SCHOOL)

June 2 - Last Student Day & End of Quarter 4

June 3 - Teacher Workshop Day (NO SCHOOL)

* Makeup Days (in order) Dec 23, Apr 5

DAYS PER QUARTER

Quarter 1	42
Quarter 2	43
Quarter 3	44
Quarter 4	45
	<hr/>
	174

DUTY DAYS

Student In Person Days	138
Student DL/Teacher Prep Days	36
P-T Conferences	2
Workshop Days	6
	<hr/>
	182

KEY



Denotes Staff Workshop Day



Denotes No Student Day



Denotes End of Quarter



Denotes student half day & DL/Prep second half & Graduation



Denotes P-T Conferences



Denotes student half day in-school & DL/Teacher prep second half

Hybrid Learning



Face coverings are required.

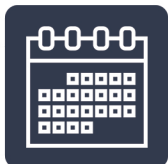


Daily symptom checking.



Visitors must have an appointment.

For more details, see the General Information section.



Learning Schedule

In this model, students will complete academic work through both In-Person and our Distance Learning platform, Google Classroom and packets.

- The last day of the week for all grades (typically Friday) will be designated as Distance Learning time. Staff will use this time to be available for virtual office hours to assist Distance Learning students and At-Home learners, plan curriculum, clean, and sanitize.
- PreK through Grade 3 will attend school all other days of the week with normal school hours.
- Grades 4-12 will be divided into predetermined groups (A & B) based on families. No family will be separated into two groups.
 - Each group will attend school in the building (typically two days a week), per the Hybrid calendar (to be approved by Tri-County Schools Board of Education).
 - On the days students are not in the school building, they will do Distance Learning through Google Classroom and packets.



Childcare

- Childcare for students PreK-6 will be offered for those students who are children of Tier I workers during their Distance Learning days.
- MASH will be available as normal for students on the days they attend school in the building.



Technology

Students will be provided a technology device, if needed.



Meals

Meals will be delivered to At-Home and Distance learners who reside out of Karlstad city limits, while students who live within city limits will pick up. Meal prices will be based on your free and reduced meal application.

Distance Learning

Please note: In the event of full Distance Learning, this model will apply to all students.



Learning Schedule

- Students will complete all academic work at home with instruction provided by their regular Tri-County School teacher(s).
- Packet delivery and pickup for students in grades PreK - 5 will run every Tuesday and Friday after the initial packet delivery.
 - Families with students who reside in the city limits of Karlstad are asked to pick up and drop off their packets from Main Entrance #1.
 - Families with students who reside outside of the Karlstad city limits are asked to have a covered tote or cooler placed outdoors as a drop off and pick up point.



Contacting Staff

Tri-County Staff will strive to be available via Google Classroom, Google Chat, or school email during normal school hours. Office hours may be adjusted per necessity of classroom need.



Meals

Meal delivery will be offered to students who reside out of Karlstad city limits and available for pick up for students who live within city limits. Meal prices will be based on your free and reduced meal application.



Technology

Students will be provided a technology device, if needed.



Childcare

Childcare for students PreK-6 will be offered for those students who are children of Tier I workers.

You may qualify as a Tier I worker if you work in one of the following fields: healthcare, Emergency Medical Services, law enforcement, correctional services, public health, firefighter, or court personnel. Call the school to verify if you qualify as a Tier I worker.

Distance Learning

Please note: In the event of full Distance Learning, this model will apply to all students.



Attendance

State laws on class attendance will be adhered to during any distance learning.

- Grades PreK-6 will be monitored by completion of work.
- Grades 7-12 will be tracked daily through attendance of class sessions.



Activities

All school activities are postponed for the duration of any school closure or as mandated by district administration, MSHSL, or state executive order.



Communication

Tri-County School will communicate information by School Messenger.



High School Class Schedule

All 7-12th grade students enrolled at Tri-County will be required to attend virtual class according to the schedule below.

	Mon. & Wed.	Tue. & Thur.	Friday
Period 1	8:30-9:20	Teacher prep	Work day for students and staff.
Period 2	Teacher prep	9:23-10:13	
Period 3	10:16-11:06	Office hours	
Period 4	Office hours	11:09-11:59	Office hours for virtual student tutoring.
Period 5	12:30-1:20	Office hours	
Period 6	Office hours	1:23-2:13	
Period 7	2:16-3:06	Office hours	

We're Here For You.

Upcoming Meetings

Tri-County will be hosting two parent informational meetings on Monday, August 16 at 7:00 AM and 7:00 PM. These meetings will be held in person at the school (social distancing and masks required), but will also be available via Zoom. The links to these meetings are posted on the Tri-County webpage and on Tri-County School's Facebook page.

Please bring any questions or concerns you may have to one of these meetings if possible.

Other Questions

If you are unable to attend one of these meetings, or if you have questions after the meetings, please use the following contact information to reach Superintendent, Ryan Baron.

Main Office: 218-436-2261

Email: barrya@tricity.k12.mn.us

Thank You

Thank you for your trust, support and cooperation as we navigate this unprecedented time.