# St. Elizabeth's School Fall Reopening Roadmap

#### August 7, 2020



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#### Introduction

This reopening roadmap is the result of several months of research and collaboration among members of the COVID task force, the leadership team, and the Board of Trustees. Grounded in research, directives, and recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Colorado Department of Education, Children's Hospital Colorado, Association of Colorado Independent Schools and the Governor of Colorado, we have also kept our <u>core values and mission</u> at the forefront of our work and decisions. We are grateful for the diligence and dedication shown by so many in preparing for the 2020–2021 school year.

The strategies, plans, and protocols below represent the most current research and have been reviewed by our nurse at Children's Hospital. As the pandemic continues to unfold, we will continue to update our approaches to health and safety and we will keep you informed of those updates. Our community's commitment to the health and safety practices in our roadmap not only safeguards the SES community, but helps us do our part in protecting the well-being of our broader community as well.

This document shares SES's plans for reopening school safely for students and faculty/staff, how the school will maintain wellness within the community, and the role that our community will play moving forward.

Sincerely,

Steve Marsters Chair, Board of Trustees Adriana M. Murphy Head of School



#### **Guiding Principles**

Guiding Principles for Reopening Roadmap	Protecting the health and safety of every member of our community	Maintaining our close-knit community
Ensuring the delivery of a program that meets learners where they are and stretches and supports them	Fostering equity and inclusion across every aspect of our school	Demonstrating creative problem-solving around space and fiscal stewardship

#### Summary of Our Roadmap

We will begin in-person learning on Mon., Aug. 31<sup>st.</sup> Our first week of school (Aug. 31–Sept.
4) will be half-days to allow for adjustment to our new health and safety protocols.
Parent-Student-Teacher Conferences will be Aug. 24–Aug. 27; sign-ups will be available via ParentSquare soon.

Students who have a medical reason (a doctor's note must be provided) or an at-risk person at home may opt for virtual learning. <u>Complete this form</u> by Aug. 17 if you would like to enroll in this option.

Parents will also be asked to complete a daily screening at home for COVID symptoms via ParentSquare (more info coming soon). Upon arrival to school, students will get a temperature check by a member of our trained Screening Team.

In school, students and teachers/staff will follow our enhanced health and safety protocols including wearing face masks, engaging in hand hygiene, distancing, grouping in cohorts, and limiting the number of adults interacting with students.

In accordance with cohorting recommendations, we will not offer EDP or after-school enrichment.

We will continue to monitor our program and make adjustments as needed.

# Making Our Learning Community SAFE



#### **Health and Wellness**

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- Only students and faculty/staff will be permitted in the building.
- Masks will be required at all times on school premises by students and faculty/staff, except when outside and 6 ft. apart. Optional face shields will be available to colleagues. Every student will be required to have three cloth masks that can stay on easily at school for their use.
- Every student will be required to bring their own hand sanitizer to school.
- All students and faculty/staff will have temperature checks upon entering the building.
- Hand sanitizer must be used upon entering any classroom.
- All students and faculty/staff will be required to wash hands or use hand sanitizer before entering the classroom, before and after eating, before and after bathroom use, before and after recess and approximately every 2 hours.
- The school will be sharing an app based system that all community members will utilize daily to enter health data prior to entering school.
- The school will continue to update our health protocols based on recommendations by the CDC, the CDPHE, and CDE.

#### Safety Protocols & Physical Distancing

- Arrival and departure will take place through multiple entry points to minimize interaction
  - Students will be staying in their cohorts throughout the day, though they will have opportunities for recess, PE, and other specials. We are currently working on a schedule that would honor our belief in educating the whole-child and honor CDPHE/CDE guidelines to limit the number of adults with whom students come into contact with each day
  - All students are being outfitted with individual supplies (e.g., art supplies, pens, pencils, etc.) to avoid cross-contamination
  - All classroom and instructional spaces have been inventoried and are being reconfigured with individual desks or additional tables to ensure at least adequate spacing
  - Students and teachers will wash hands or use hand sanitizer before a different teacher enters the room
  - All soft items that would require laundering (e.g, stuffed animals, blankets, etc.) will be removed from classrooms or replaced with easily wiped alternatives

#### **Cleaning Protocols & Building Upgrades**

- At the end of every day, all classrooms and offices will be disinfected and cleaned
- High touch surfaces will be cleaned throughout the day
- PE equipment will be cleaned after each use
- Library books will be wiped down and taken out of circulation for 3 days before being recirculated

- An assessment of the ventilation and air flow system of the building has been done by an outside organization and we will be upgrading our exhaust fan to increase fresh air flow throughout the building
- The nursing suite will be upgraded to enable isolation of students exhibiting signs of COVID. There will be new door with a plexiglass window added that will allow for isolation as well as privacy
- We continue to upgrade our technology with increased bandwidth and improvements to our hardware

#### **Schedule Adjustments**

- Arrival and departure will take place at multiple entry points. Please hang in there with us as we navigate this together!
- Large group assemblies for students will be held virtually, in class.
- Large group meetings (more than 10) for faculty/staff will be held virtually, at school
- All afterschool programming, clubs and classes will be cancelled until at least January.
- All afterschool athletic activities have been postponed until at least January.
- Lunch will take place in classrooms.
- We are currently working on Lower and Middle School schedules that would enable students to stay in their cohorts, meet the teachers-per-day guideline by the CDE, explore project-based learning, and have intentional time with specials.
- Special thanks to Kim Frantz and Kari Nichols and all our teachers for their tremendous flexibility and creative thinking!

## **Keeping Our Community HEALTHY**



## Layers of Mitigation

SES uses a layers-based approach to mitigation. We follow the most effective practices from Tier 1 for minimizing risk and layer them with practices from Tiers 2 and 3 to complement and enhance our mitigation efforts.

Tier	<b>Risk Mitigation Practice</b>	
1	Hand Hygiene Distancing Face Coverings Vaccination	Tier 1: Core principles, most effective at minimizing risk
2	Screening Exclusion Cohorts Touch-free Surfaces	Tier 2: Practices to complement the effect of Tier 1
3	Enhanced Cleaning Contact Tracing Airflow/Ventilation Communication	Tier 3: Existing practices that, when steadily maintained, further enhance Tiers 1 and 2

From: <u>Risk-Based Approach to Reopening Schools Amid COVID-19</u>

#### **Daily Procedures for All Students**

- The school is adopting an app based system that will require parents to enter students' health data prior to entering school each day.
- All students will have their temperature taken upon arrival at the school entrance.
- If a student has a temperature of 100 degrees or higher, school staff will call the child's parents with instructions that the child needs to go home immediately and seek medical attention before returning to school.
- If a student becomes ill during the day, they should tell their teacher immediately and report to the Office for assessment.
- All students exhibiting an elevated temperature or COVID symptoms will be sent home.



#### When to Keep Your Child at Home

- Fever
- Respiratory symptoms (cough, difficulty breathing) not a previously diagnosed condition (i.e., allergies)
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Rash
- Contagious illness
- Chills/sweats



#### What If...

What if	Response Protocol
a student, staff or family member experiences COVID-19 symptoms?	Stay home and contact the school $\rightarrow$ Consult with physician $\rightarrow$ Get a test $\rightarrow$ Isolate $\rightarrow$ Arrange for Virtual Learning $\rightarrow$ Plan for Safe Return
someone doesn't experience symptoms until they are at school?	Go to the Office→ Isolate→ School will call home to arrange for immediate pick up→ Keep that person at home • Call PCP for guidance • Contact the school with an update • Receive clearance from a PCP to return to school.
someone in my child's cohort tests positive for COVID-19?	<ul> <li>Person stays home until released from isolation (usually 10 days after symptom onset, 24+ hours fever-free, and improving symptoms).</li> <li>Class/cohort stays home for a 14-day quarantine.</li> </ul>
two or more people from separate households with confirmed COVID-19, with onset within 14 days in a single classroom or cohort	•All students and staff with COVID-19 stay home until released from isolation (usually 10 days after symptom onset, 24+ hours fever-free, and improving symptoms). • Class/cohort must quarantine for 14 days.

See more: Managing COVID-19 Symptoms and Exposure in Schools and COVID-19 Guidance Cases and Outbreaks in Schools.pdf



# Building Our Community SPIRIT



## Putting the Unity in Community

Our mission to build an intentionally inclusive Episcopal School with a commitment to excellence that inspires learning and transforms lives remains as strong as ever. A pandemic will not break us. Rather, we have used this time to:

- Strengthen opportunities for collaboration and innovation
- Deepen our relationships with community partners, including other independent schools and organizations across the country
- Reflect on our curriculum and identify areas for further integration of social-emotional learning and equity
- Remind ourselves that our community is a precious gift and we must take care of it

These last few months have also served as a powerful reminder that although humanity is sacred, there is much work still to be done to create equity, justice, and belonging.

## See you at Conferences!

