

District Health and Safety Guidelines and the Bulldog Pledge

Dear Families, Students, and Staff,

The health and safety of our students and staff is very important. Throughout the summer we have been working diligently with administration, staff, and public health officials to review and develop guidelines related to the Coronavirus (COVID-19).

As we transition back to school, we are asking for your help in keeping our buildings “COVID-19 Free” by following our district’s guidelines, pledging to report your child’s illness, and keeping students at home when necessary.

The Centers for Disease and Control and Prevention (“CDC”) indicates you may have COVID-19 if you have:

- Fever 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

EXAMPLE

Please sign the pledge electronically in Final Forms

Our best defense against viruses is avoiding transmission. By following the recommendations of the CDC and the health department, we can reduce illness in our schools. Each parent, student, and staff member must do their part. We are asking for your commitment along with all parents and staff to:

- **Keep sick students home.** If your child has symptoms listed above or a fever of 100 degrees or higher, seek appropriate medical attention and keep students home until they are symptom-free and fever-free for 24 hours without fever-reducing medication. If your child has tested positive for COVID-19, your child must be kept at home until he/she is symptom free for 3 days (72 hours). **By delivering your child to school or placing your child on the school bus, you are assuring the district and other parents that your child is not ill and is fever-free.**
- **Report absences.** Report your child’s absence and share possible COVID-19 symptom information with our attendance secretary or school nurse, so we can track possible case numbers.
- **Remind children of the following important health habits:**
 - **Wash hands.** Practice good hand hygiene by washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.

- **Cover** your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Use an elbow if no tissue is available.
- **Do not share** personal items – pens, pencils, cell phones, electronic devices, laptops, water bottles, drinks, food, or unwashed utensils.
- **Avoid close contact** with people who are sick. If your child has had close contact with a person with COVID-19, keep your child at home.
- **Avoid touching** your eyes, nose, and mouth whenever possible.
- **Abide** by the district's mask policy and physical distancing procedures.

Without question, students returning to school buildings includes risks of contracting COVID-19. Those risks are very serious, particularly for persons at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19. Even with everyone following the district's guidelines and all cleaning efforts, risks remain. We take our responsibilities to students very seriously, and we will continue to monitor COVID-19 with health officials, implement revised safety protocols as needed, and provide updates to our families.

Sincerely,
 Shawn Haughn, Superintendent
 Bloom-Carroll Local Schools

Example

Please sign the pledge electronically in Final Forms

The Bulldog Pledge -- for Staff/Parents/Students

I have read and understand the importance of following the district's guidelines and policies created in collaboration with our local health department and CDC guidance in reducing the known risks associated with students returning to school buildings.

I pledge to follow the district's guidelines and policies and join other students, parents, staff, and community members in their efforts to keep our schools safe and students healthy.

As a student or staff member, I further pledge to stay home and call in my illness when I have a fever over 100 degrees, have symptoms included in the guidelines, had close contact with a person who has COVID-19, or tested positive for COVID-19.

As a parent/guardian, I further pledge to keep my child or children home if they have: a fever over 100 degrees, have symptoms included in the guidelines, had close contact with a person who has COVID-19, or tested positive for COVID-19; and, I will make arrangements in advance to prepare for this possibility.

Parent/Guardian _____
 Date _____

Student _____
 Date _____

Staff Member _____
 Date _____

Parents/guardians who do not wish to send their child to school due to health concerns, may contact the child's building principal for information regarding other educational options.