



PUTNAM COUNTY R-I SCHOOLS

2021-2022 School Year

Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan (SRCSP)

The document is current as of the date listed below and will change as new information is made available through the proper health authorities such as the Putnam County Health Department. The success of this plan is dependent upon adherence by all involved to the guidance and recommendations contained herein and those offered by local, state, and federal health organizations. This outline contains provisions that are feasible, practical, acceptable, and tailored to meet the needs of our students, staff, and patrons.

Note: This living document will continue to be periodically reviewed and revised no less than every six months. Putnam County R-I Schools cannot prevent the possible transmission or contraction of COVID-19 for any individual. *Putnam County R-I Schools has taken the stance from the beginning and continues to be a school of personal choice as far as vaccines and mask-wearing are concerned.*

Original Document posted on 6/23/21
Revised 7/16/21, 8/12/21, 12/13/21

Stakeholders involved in periodic review of the plan: Superintendent, Building Principals, Director of Special Education, Directors, Business Manager, Communication Specialist, HS Student Council Officers, At-Risk Coordinator, and District Improvement Teams.

Understandable Language

Putnam County R-I will make available interpreters/translators as well as deaf interpreters who translate or interpret all documents for those families needing information in a different language or sign-language. All other languages are translated through Google Translate. The district employs a district-wide language coordinator who will ensure documents and any form of communication are in the family's native language.

Mitigation Strategies

Putnam County R-I Staff, Students and Community Visitors are encouraged to be knowledgeable of all [CDC Guidance](#). In most instances, the Putnam County R-I Board of Education has voted on being less stringent than the CDC. Staff, Students, and Community Visitors have the option to follow either the BOE or CDC regulations.

On December 7, 2021, all school districts in the state of Missouri received a letter from Attorney General Eric Schmitt outlining a Missouri court judgment on November 22, 2021, in Cole County Circuit Court. *Robinson v. Missouri Dept. of Health and Senior Services*. Per Attorney General Eric Schmitt, “all mask mandates, quarantine orders, and other public health orders that are based on any of the invalidated regulations or issues outside the protections of the Missouri Administrative Procedure Act are null and void...Your school district should stop enforcing and publicizing any such orders immediately.”

On December 9, 2021, the Putnam County RI Board of Education voted 6-0 to return to pre-pandemic procedures regarding student illness. Students and Staff who test positive for COVID-19 should stay home for 10 days from symptom onset. The School District will also follow MSHSAA regulations as applicable.

Universal and correct wearing of masks

Masks allowed, but not mandated.

Physical distancing

Student activities and athletics will be conducted following MSHSAA guidelines to the extent they are permissible under local, state, and federal guidelines.

Handwashing and respiratory etiquette

Teaching and reinforcing handwashing, sanitizing, coughing, and sneezing etiquette.

Hand sanitizer will be provided at multiple locations throughout the school.

Students should bring personal water bottles from home. They should be labeled with the student's name and in a clean, sanitary condition.

Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities and improved ventilation

Increased cleaning for high-touch services

Frequent changing of air filtration

Adjusting for outside airflow

Contact tracing, isolation, and quarantine

Per guidance from Attorney General Eric Schmitt, there will no longer be contract tracing or quarantine. Students and Staff who test positive for COVID-19 should stay home for 10 days from symptom onset.

Diagnostic and screening testing

Testing is available at area hospitals and clinics.

Vaccinations to the school community

Available at the local public health authority or clinic.

Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities

Accommodations as necessary or as mandated by Individual Education Plan.

Continuity of Services

Education

The Putnam County R-I School District will ensure all students have access to rigorous learning activities aligned to the Missouri Learning Standards during extended school closure. Staff members will continue to be at work (unless they are symptomatic) from 8-3:45 and will continue to teach virtually using Google Classroom (and/or other online platforms.)

The district will be able to provide all students with Chromebooks. The district will have hotspots located on campus for student use in the case where a student does not have internet access at home. In a situation where families request packets as opposed to online learning, students will receive packets that follow the same guidelines as the electronic assignments. Instructors will record or provide videos for students to use when working through packets of materials that will be able to be viewed on the school-provided device even when the internet is not available. The teacher will use exact copies of the online material in their packets when possible. In situations where exact copies cannot be made, the teacher will create similar activities with the same level of rigor and expectations as the electronic version. The packets will be provided in a timely and consistent manner for students in each building (elementary and junior high/high school) along with feedback. Teachers will then set office hours for student consultation each week. The office hours will be available to conference with individual students, answer questions from parents, and provide specific feedback regarding performance.

Teachers will have expectations that are communicated before an extended closure for establishing and maintaining office hours and communicating through school email, SIS, Google Classroom, Google Meets, Gmail, and other communication and learning platforms. The expectation will be that all teachers will provide daily feedback and support to students to ensure the student is making progress towards meeting learning goals aligned with the Missouri Learning Standards. This contact can be done using teleconferencing or video conferencing, depending on the needs of each family. Various methods will be used to collect student work and will be arranged on an individual basis. Packets can be dropped off at the school office, can be picked up by district administrators, can be mailed back to the school, etc. Teachers and district administrators will work with individual families to determine the best method of returning work. Teachers will use their office hours to provide feedback from the previous week and to dispel any misconceptions, which prevent a student from making adequate progress. Grades from virtual learning and packet learning will be recorded in the district's student data system, SIS, in which every student and parent has access district-wide. Corrected work and feedback will be returned to students with the upcoming week's work unless noted by the instructor.

Students with Disabilities

The impact of the loss of instructional time and related services, including mental health services, as well as occupational, physical, and speech-language therapy during the period of school closures are significant among this population-

Educational and Therapy Services will be provided to all students with disabilities as indicated in their IEP. If a family is unable to access a Virtual Platform, packets will be provided.

Health and Nutritional Services

Parents should continue to reach out to coordinate well-child care and immunizations with their health care provider. To limit the risk for other vaccine-preventable diseases during this critical period, immunization compliance should continue to be prioritized. Free breakfast and/or lunch would be provided when resources are available and the situation allows.

Social, Emotional, and Mental Health

The social, emotional, and mental health needs of our staff and students are a high priority. Our Building Counselors and At-Risk Coordinator will be available during school hours each day even in the event of a closure. Counselors will work together to determine students who are more high-risk and need to be contacted. Other teaching staff will also communicate with the Building Counselors regularly regarding specific students.

Virtual meetings and/or phone calls with any of them can be scheduled. Students or staff requiring more mental health support, including those who are exhibiting suicidal ideation, should be referred for additional services.