



Back-to-School Health Update

09/21/2020

Hello Ellis Families,



My name is Lexi McCartt and I am the nurse for Ellis Elementary School. Along with the rest of the Ellis staff members, I will be working to help keep students and staff members safe during this unprecedented time. Keeping our students safe is of utmost importance during this time and we cannot do it alone—we need YOUR help! Please review the following information that will help align and guide us as we proceed back to school.

Immunization Records

As always, current immunization records are due before the child may start in the ECE program. Please make sure to bring in these records before you bring your child to school.

Masks

Who should wear a mask or a face cover?

The CDC recommends that children under 2 should not wear a facemask; for that reason, our recommendation is that **children ages 3 and older within the school setting should wear masks. No child should wear a mask while napping.**

Additionally, children between the age of 3 and 5 will be supervised when they are wearing a mask. If the mask is creating discomfort or resulting in the child touching their face frequently, we will reconsider whether a mask is appropriate for that child. **Parents dropping off and picking up children will be asked to wear masks while they are on school grounds. Additionally, parents and guests will not be allowed to enter the building.** Masks are required for staff caring for children and interacting with parents.

The district has provided each student with a reusable mask that will be distributed on the first day of school. It is the responsibility of the parent to wash the mask and make sure it is worn to school by the student each and every day.

Mask Hygiene

Masks should be washed after each day of use and anytime they become soiled. Be sure to dry the mask completely between uses. We recommend washing and drying your mask on the highest heat setting of the washer and dryer. It's a good idea to have more than one mask or face covering available to allow time for washing and drying after each use.

Screening

Before arrival to the school, each student should be screened at home by a parent or guardian before being sent to school. The screening should consist of a temperature check and a series of questions relating to symptoms of and exposure to COVID-19. View this document for instructions on screening: Can I send my child to school today? [English](#) | [Español](#) | [Vietnamese](#) | [Chinese](#) | [Somali](#) | [Arabic](#) | [Nepali](#) | [French](#) | [Russian](#) | [Amharic](#)

Important: If your child is exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 (fever of 100.4°F or higher, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, sore throat, body aches, nausea or vomiting, increased tiredness, loss of smell or taste, or if your child simply looks “unwell”) please, do not bring your child to school.

Hand Hygiene

We will be implementing frequent hand washing throughout the school day. This is important in preventing the spread of germs. We ask that you help encourage frequent hand washing at home. Proper hand hygiene consists of 20 seconds of scrubbing with soap before rinsing hands. *Hint: singing the alphabet song once is usually 20 seconds!*

Thank you for your cooperation in helping keep our students and families safe! If you have any questions or concerns or you need resources related to COVID, feel free to reach out.

Sincerely,

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