



## **DMS 21-22 Return to School Plan**

### *Disclaimer:*

The conditions surrounding the COVID 19 Pandemic are continually evolving, and Durant Middle School and DISD's Safe Return to School Plans will be evaluated to adapt to continuing trends of the COVID 19 virus, especially in Durant and Bryan County.

### *Acknowledgements:*

The District P.L.A.N. 2.0 and Durant Middle School Campus Plan were developed by a variety of stakeholders including parents, teachers, nurses, administrators, counselors, custodial, maintenance, and transportation staff. We wish to thank all of the individuals who contributed time and perspective to the development of these plans.

### **The Durant Middle School – Safe Return to School Plan**

Durant Middle School is committed to ensuring that all students, staff, and community members remain healthy and safe. All staff members will be required to do a daily screening of themselves before school. Parents will also be required to do a daily screening of their student(s) before school each day. By coming to school, staff members/parents certify this screening has been completed for the day. When attending school, DMS strongly encourages all students to use proper hand washing and use hand sanitizer when entering and leaving all rooms.

### **Masks**

As you may be aware, Senate Bill 658 (effective July 1), prohibits school mask mandates unless there is a declared state of emergency by the governor. Oklahoma, at this time, is not under a state of emergency. However, we are closely watching COVID – 19 data and are particularly concerned about the Delta variant that is continuing to spread throughout our state. We STRONGLY ENCOURAGE students, teachers, and staff to wear masks at school.

### **Grades 7-8**

Masks are encouraged at all times with the exception of meals and PE.

### **Transportation**

Masks are encouraged by ALL ages while riding the bus.

DMS is committed to the safety of your student(s) by adhering to best practices and the following safety measures:

- **Morning Drop-off**
  - Doors open at 7:30
    - 7<sup>th</sup> grade student entry (West Commons)
    - 8<sup>th</sup> grade student entry (East Commons)
  - Additional staff have been added to monitor students
    - A staff member will be located at each entry point
    - Staff members will also be stationed at each holding location
  - Holding locations
    - When entering the building, 7<sup>th</sup> grade students will have 2 options:
      - Go to the auditorium and sit in every 3<sup>rd</sup> seat and every other row
      - If eating breakfast go to the cafeteria and sit in every 3<sup>rd</sup> seat
    - When entering the building, 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will have 2 options:
      - Go to the gym and sit in every 3<sup>rd</sup> seat and every other row (utilizing both sides of the gym)
      - If eating breakfast get breakfast from the cafeteria and then go to the East Commons and sit in every 3<sup>rd</sup> seat
- **Clear Bottles**
  - If your student(s) chooses to bring a water bottle to school, it must be clear
  - In order to reduce exposures, water bottle filling stations have been added to replace traditional water fountains
- **Classrooms**
  - Any additional chairs, tables, couches, etc... have been removed to maximize spacing
  - All classrooms will utilize assigned seating charts
  - All classrooms will be cleaned with electrostatic sprayers nightly
  - All classrooms have been fitted with hand sanitizer stations
- **Chromebooks**
  - In order to reduce exposure, each student will have an assigned Chromebook
  - In the event a student goes to distance learning, a Chromebook will be available to take home if needed
- **Deliveries**
  - To help minimize the amount of people in our front office area, Durant Middle School will not accept deliveries of any kind from outside of the school to DMS Students. If an extenuating circumstance warrants the delivery of an item to a student, parents must call the office to make a request. Requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- **Bathrooms/Public Areas**
  - Additional cleaning measures will be taken in order to keep all bathrooms and public areas sanitized
- **Passing Period**

- In order to maximize spacing in our halls, we will be using a staggered passing period
  - 7<sup>th</sup> grade students will be released 2 minutes prior to the regularly scheduled bell
  - 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will be released 2 minutes after the regularly scheduled bell
  - Combined classes of 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> grade students will use the regular bell schedule
- **Stairways**
  - All stairways will be one-directional (with arrows depicting the flow)
- **Lunch**
  - To maximize spacing... we have added an additional lunch location. Students will now eat in either the cafeteria, east commons, or cheer gym.
    - The additional location in the cheer gym will allow for better spacing and less congestion.
  - Students are strongly encouraged to clean their hands when entering and exiting the cafeteria/commons/cheer gym.
- **Isolation room**
  - In the event a student/staff member exhibits COVID symptoms, they will be moved to the DMS "Isolation Room" for evaluation
- **Extra-curricular**
  - All facilities will be sanitized daily with electrostatic sprayers and social distancing encouraged when applicable
- **Afternoon bus riders**
  - 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders will sit in the auditorium to maximize spacing
    - Students will sit in every 3<sup>rd</sup> seat and every other row
- **Afternoon pick-up**
  - In order to maximize hallway space, 7<sup>th</sup> grade students will be released two minutes early from their last period class
    - 7<sup>th</sup> grade students will be picked up from the West Commons and will be encouraged to wait outside, when weather permits
    - 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will be picked up from the East Commons and will be encouraged to wait outside, when weather permits

***\*\*Loitering after school will not be permitted\*\****