How to reopen K-12 schools in the safest way possible: A Path Forward on COVID-19.

"It's not about making the right choice.It's about making a choice and making it right."J.R. Rim



The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston

School of Public Health





msdcenter.org

Today's Speakers:



Steven Kelder, PhD, MPH Epidemiologist, UTHealth School of Public Health in Austin <u>steven.h.kelder@uth.tmc.edu</u>



Shreela Sharma, PhD, RD, LD Epidemiologist, UTHealth School of Public Health in Houston <u>shreela.v.sharma@uth.tmc.edu</u>



Shana Green CATCH Implementation Manager, CATCH Global Foundation shana@CATCH.org



Angela Whitaker-Williams, AIA Principal and Austin K-12 Practice Leader, Perkins & Will angela.whitakerwilliams@perkinswill.com



Vandana Nayak, AIA Principal and Texas K-12 Regional Practice Leader, Perkins & Will vandana.nayak@perkinswill.com

Racial disparities have existed in the US for a long time. And now, a global pandemic. Kids are experiencing this stress without many of their normal social systems: friends, school, church, sports, daily routine, mental stimulation and physical activity.

Just in case you are confused

- SARS-CoV-2 is the coronavirus
- COVID -19 is coronavirus disease, 2019







Reopening schools is widely seen as essential to fully reopening the economy



Science <u>cannot</u> ensure 100% protection - Not Yet
 Science <u>can</u> offer risk reduction strategies



Until a COVID-19 vaccine or treatment is available, prevention and mitigation will be necessary

- <u>Rule of Law:</u> Watch for executive orders and proclamations at Federal, State, and County levels
- <u>Rule of Science:</u> Watch the 7 to 14 day moving average reductions in deaths per 1000/day AND (with testing) new cases
- 3. <u>Rule of Place:</u> Don't permit exposure
 - Super spreading <u>people</u>:
 - Symptom screening, testing, contact tracing
 - Physical distancing, quarantine, recovery confirmation
 - Super spreading <u>environments</u>:
 - High density, high contact, high traffic
 - Passing objects (books, paper & pens, folders, toys, sports equipment, etc)



Planned response for school exposure/outbreaks that address closures, furloughs, cleaning, and disinfection



- 4. <u>Rule of People:</u> Train students and staff to protect themselves and reduce risk
 - Turn down the anxiety/stress with safe and fun physical activities
 - Social distance: with 3-foot bubbles, floor markings, desk arrangements
 - Hand washing & sanitizer stations in all rooms; Stock bathroom with soap/ & towels
 - Up to date PPE for staff; Masks for children who forget to bring their own
 - Surface and touchpoint cleaning and disinfection (see CDC guidance)
- 5. <u>Rule of Policy:</u> Controls must be designed, implemented, monitored, and adapted.
 - Distance learning and non-punitive sick/stay at home policies
 - Coordination between campus, health care, and public health systems in the community
 - Daily communication between parents, faculty and staff, health care, and public health



Bookmark These Websites



TEA: Summer Instruction, Activities and School Visits: Guidance for Reopening and Student Interaction Updated May 22, 2020 https://tea.texas.gov/sites/default/files/covid/covid19-summer program operational considerations.pdf

CDC. Considerations for Schools and Mass Gatherings

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/schools.html https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/large-events/index.html

CDC: City, State & Territorial Health Department Websites

https://www.cdc.gov/publichealthgateway/healthdirectories/healthdepartments.html https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/open-america/surveillance-data-analytics.html

CDC: Cases and Deaths by County

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-updates/county-map.html

UT Austin COVID-19 Modeling Consortium

https://covid-19.tacc.utexas.edu/ https://covid-19.tacc.utexas.edu/projections/

John Hopkins: All State Comparison of Testing Efforts

https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/testing/states-comparison/testing-state-weekly-change



Mandatory Staff Training

COVID-19 Basics

Learn more about COVID-19 and what you can do to stay safe and prevent spread of the virus.



Understanding the COVID-19 Pandemic

Johns Hopkins University is hosting a free, publicly available course entitled Understanding the COVID-19 Pandemic: Insights from Johns Hopkins University Experts.



Frequently Asked Questions

How do I self-quarantine? How long can COVID-19 live on surfaces? What will it take to develop a vaccine? Johns Hopkins experts answer your most frequently asked questions about coronavirus.



Protecting Your Health

Johns Hopkins experts offer best practices for protecting your health, the health of others, and preventing the spread of coronavirus.

PUBLIC HEALTH

Evidence and experts to help you understand today's COVID-19 new

Public Health on Call

Experts from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health answer questions and discuss the latest developments in the COVID-19 public health crisis. New episodes are posted daily.

JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY & MEDICINE

CORONAVIRUS RESOURCE CENTER

https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/#covid-19basics



Rate of Positive Tests in Texas, June 1, 2020



UT Austin COVID-19 Modeling Consortium

An interdisciplinary network of researchers and health professionals building models to detect, project, and combat COVID-19

96% probability that the daily death rate is declining

Deaths Per Day for Texas



Source: https://covid-19.tacc.utexas.edu/projections/

UT Austin COVID-19 Modeling Consortium

An interdisciplinary network of researchers and health professionals building models to detect, project, and combat COVID-19

97% probability that the daily death rate is declining

Deaths Per Day for San Antonio-New Braunfels, TX



Source: https://covid-19.tacc.utexas.edu/projections/

Cases & Deaths by County

Other Languages
Print Page

Cases by County



*Data courtesy of <u>USAFacts.org</u> downloaded each day at 5:00am EST or when earliest update is available. Refer to <u>USAFacts.org</u> for data collection and processing methodology. Official verified statistics from CDC are provided on the <u>US Cases page</u>.

Cases by County -				
County 🌲	Total Cases 🛎	Percent of State's	Cases per	Total Deaths 🛎
Harris	12,276	18.9%	260	232
 Dallas 	10,234	15.8%	388	229
 Tarrant 	5,513	8.5%	262	165
Travis	3,272	5%	257	93
_				



https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019ncov/cases-updates/county-map.html

Total Number of Cases
0
□ <20
22 - 28
29 - 55
56 - 97
98 - 204
205 - 574
575 - 12,276

COVID 19 Symptom Tracking – Why? There is an urgent need to capture in real-time "hot spots" of COVID symptoms among people to anticipate potential increases in community transmission

- This is critical because of:
 - the novelty of the virus
 - the speed of the pandemic
 - the short interval between exposure, symptoms, and clinical outcomes

Useful because "hot spots" of symptoms occur almost 5-7 days prior to COVID infections (Drew et al., Science, 2020)

We have an app that you can implement as part of "reopening safely" strategy. The symptoms tracked through the app predicted COVID cases 5 to 7 days ahead of diagnosis



Drew et al., Science, 05 May 2020

COVID 19 Symptom Tracker App

-19 COVID Symptom Tracker

- Easy to use, free, secure app to track COVID 19 symptoms. Takes 1-3 minutes to complete. Includes informed consent (IRB approved). UTHealth will analyze de-identified data for Texas.
- Can be downloaded in the App store on the iphone or get it on Google Play
- For Apple: <u>https://apps.apple.com/us/app/covid-</u> <u>symptom-tracker/id1503529611?ls=1</u>

ForAndroid/Google: <u>https://play.google.com/store/apps/</u> <u>details?id=com.joinzoe.covid_zoe</u> COVID 19 Symptom Tracking – How?

Families <u>use the app daily</u> to record symptoms for all family members, <u>even if they are well</u>.

- Increased symptomatic activity for consecutive days indicate potential increase in COVID
 - Aggregate data available at zip code, city, county level

If many people in a zip code report increasing levels of symptoms, <u>schools and businesses in these areas could</u> <u>use this information to implement additional mitigation</u> <u>strategies.</u>

For more information go to: <u>https://go.uth.edu/COVIDtracker</u> or contact: Drs. Shreela Sharma and Bijal Bala at <u>Shreela.V.Sharma@uth.tmc.edu</u> and Bijal.A.Balasubramanian@uth.tmc.edu



1-4 5-9 10-14 Age group (yrs)

Children and Adolescents Respond Differently to COVID-19

.9

- 1. Many children are asymptomatic
 - 75% of infected children do not have symptoms (asymptomatic)
- 2. Children who test positive for COVID-19 experience a mild form of the disease
 - Children and younger adults without underlying conditions, such as impaired lung function or immunosuppression, have a much lower risk of severe forms of COVID-19 than other age groups
 - Children requiring ICU or PICU is 0.6-2% of those admitted to hospital
- 3. Child-to-other transmission rate is rare, but not well understood
 - Children have smaller lungs, localized to upper respiratory tract (vs lower), less sputum, less respiratory inflammation
 - Previous vaccines or simultaneous viruses in the mucosa of lungs and airways could limit the growth of SARS-CoV2 by direct virus-to-virus interactions and competition and may be protective (trained immunity)
 - The presence of other, which are common in young children, Angiotensin converting enzyme 2 (ACE-2) is an entry receptor for SARS-Cov-2
 - Virus confirmed in feces and sputum. Studies inconclusive on viral load.
 - Answers may be available from Asia and Europe by mid-June



ACE-2 is the host cell receptor responsible for mediating infection by SARS-CoV-2, the novel coronavirus responsible for coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19).



- ACE-2 is an Entry Receptor for SARS-CoV-2
- ACE-2 has been shown to exhibit a protective function in the cardiovascular system and other organs.

Zhou, P., Yang, X., Wang, X. et al. A pneumonia outbreak associated with a new coronavirus of probable bat origin. Nature 579, 270–273 (2020).

Kuba, K., Imai, Y., Ohto-Nakanishi, T., & Penninger, J. M. (2010). Trilogy of ACE2: A peptidase in the renin–angiotensin system, a SARS receptor, and a partner for amino acid transporters. *Pharmacology & therapeutics*, *128*(1), 119-128.



Lower ACE2 expression in children relative to adults may explain why COVID-19 is less prevalent in children.



Nasal Gene Expression of ACE2 in Different Age Groups

Bunyavanich, Do & Vincencio. Nasal Gene Expression of Angiotensin-Converting Enzyme 2 in Children and Adults. JAMA. Published online May 20, 2020



Multi-System Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C).

There is limited information currently available about risk factors, pathogenesis, clinical course, and treatment for MIS-C a Kawasaki-like illness found in children.

An individual aged <21 years presenting with:

- Feverⁱ
- Laboratory evidence of inflammationⁱⁱ,
- Evidence of clinically severe illness requiring hospitalization,
- With multisystem (>2) organ involvement (cardiac, renal, respiratory, hematologic, gastrointestinal, dermatologic or neurological); AND
 - No alternative plausible diagnoses; AND
- Positive for current or recent SARS-CoV-2; or COVID-19 exposure • within the 4 weeks prior to the onset of symptoms

Fever >38.0°C for \geq 24 hours, or report of subjective fever lasting \geq 24 hours

"Including, but not limited to, one or more of the following: an elevated C-reactive protein (CsRP), erythrocyte sedimentation rate (ESR), fibrinogen, procalcitonin, d-dimer, ferritin, lactic acid dehydrogenase (LDH), or interleukin 6 (IL-6), elevated neutrophils, reduced lymphocytes and low albumin



https://www.heart.org/-/media/files/health-topics/answers-by-heart/what-iskawasaki-disease-300320.pdf?la=en



Cardiovascular Conditions

Kawasaki disease is a children's illness. It's also known as Kawasaki syndrome or mucocutaneous lymph node syndrome. About 75 percent of people with it are under age 5. Boys develop the illness almost twice as often as girls. In the United States, it's more frequent among Asian-American children, but it occurs in children of all races and ethnicities.





What will Happen if Schools Stay Closed?



1. For many students school is the safest place they can go

- 2. Pressure to reopen will increase from parents, politicians, and business community
- 3. Students receive a lower quality education
- 4. Digital education is not well suited to Title 1, economically disadvantaged, or disabled students
- 5. Students may be unable to stay on task due to:
 - Lack of supervision or neglect, reduced social learning
 - Inadequate learning space at home
 - Unreliable or poor internet access, and insufficient computer access
 - Increased distraction e.g., responsibility to care for younger siblings
 - Learning only on their smart phone
 - Physical or mental abuse at home
 - Partying or substance use at home

6. Lowered risk of transmission (or death) to siblings, parents, vulnerable grandparents or older adults



What will Happen if Schools Reopen?

- 1. Students will stop watching screens and engage their pre-frontal cortex
- 2. Students receive better quality education, education disparities will be reduced
- 3. Student mental health will improve and they will sleep better.
- 4. Students will get healthy breakfast, lunch, and snacks;
- 5. Students will be more physically active
- 6. Students will have access to nursing, counseling, social services
- 7. Parents, school personnel, and first responders can get back to work, get paid, and save lives
- 8. Federal and state funding may be available to support school safety
- 9. Students difficulty with social distancing, handwashing, constant hygiene, and masking
- 10. Schools difficulty reorganizing to meet recommended COVID controls and safety standards
- 11. Students will transmit COVID-19 to each other, faculty, staff





Fewer childhood vaccines have been given during the COVID-19 pandemic*

To avoid outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases and keep children protected, vaccinations and well-child visits are essential

*Compared with January-April, 2019

CDC.GOV

bit.ly/MMWR5820

MMWR

Santoli JM, et al. Effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Routine Pediatric Vaccine Ordering and Administration — US, 2020. MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep 2020;69:591–593.

A Changing Situation



- On April 14, 2020 Texas issued statement that **public schools will remain closed for the academic year** and until further notice. This is still in force.
- As of May 5, 2020 Phase 2 of the Re-opening of Texas has begun
- <u>Several organizations have recently proposed strategies to reopen schools</u>:
 - American Federation of Teachers: A plan to safely reopen Americas schools
 - American Enterprise Institute: A blueprint for back to school
 - ACHA: Considerations for Reopening Institutions of Higher Education in COVID-19 Era
 - Texas Education Agency: Recommendations for adjusting school calendars
 - CDC: Considerations for Schools and Mass Gatherings
 - UNICEF: A Framework for Reopening Schools
 - The COVID Tracking Project: www.covidtracking.com



SCHOOLS DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

ALL

YES



The purpose of this tool is to assist administrators in making (re)opening decisions regarding K-12 schools during the COVID-19 pandemic. It is important to check with state and local health officials and other partners to determine the most appropriate actions while adjusting to meet the unique needs and circumstances of the local community.

Should you consider opening?

- ✓ Will reopening be consistent with applicable state and local orders?
- ✓ Is the school ready to protect children and employees at <u>higher risk</u> for severe illness?
- ✓ Are you able to screen students and employees upon arrival for symptoms and history of exposure?

ALL

YES



Are recommended health and safety actions in place?

- ✓ Promote <u>healthy hygiene</u> practices such as <u>hand</u> washing and <u>employees</u> wearing a cloth face covering, as feasible
 - Intensify <u>cleaning,</u> <u>disinfection</u>, and ventilation
 - Encourage <u>social distancing</u> through increased spacing, small groups and limited mixing between groups, if feasible
- ✓ Train all employees on health and safety protocols



Is ongoing monitoring in place?

- ✓ Develop and implement procedures to check for <u>signs and symptoms</u> of students and employees daily upon arrival, as feasible
- ✓ Encourage anyone who is sick to <u>stay home</u>
- ✓ Plan for if students or employees get sick
- Regularly communicate and monitor developments with local authorities, employees, and families regarding cases, exposures, and updates to policies and procedures
- Monitor student and employee absences and have flexible leave policies and practices
- ✓ Be ready to consult with the local health authorities if there are cases in the facility or an increase in cases in the local area

ANY NO MEET SAFEGUARDS FIRST \rightarrow open and monitor

cdc.gov/coronavirus

ALL

YES

a) Follow state and local orders

- b) Protect high risk
- c) Testing capacity and tracing



For teaching and learning:

- Increased social distancing in the classroom and common areas.
- Non-punitive sick/stay at home policies and arrangements for tele-learning
- Virtual Library
- Virtual Field Trips
- Links to approved content
- On-line learning via virtual courses & at-home learning support
- Special needs education and service logs: 504
- Technology deployment: devices and hotspots
- Virtual student counseling





For transmission reduction:

- Universal masking for school staff and children
- PPE supply for school nurses. Ideally segregated area for febrile or respiratory illness evaluation
- Increased cleaning of high touch surfaces
- Defer sports, arts, town halls, and extracurricular until the epidemiology is better understood
- Implement a tracking and surveillance system for school nurses to identify student and faculty symptoms and exposures
- Established relationship with public health and/or medical consultant to handle problems in real time
- Temperature and symptom screening on arrival, with referral for care if screened positive
- Students who have been/ becomes sick will need to provide evidence of full recovery before returning to school that include negative PCR x 2 (preferred) or asymptomatic/time based



For school staff, facilities, and resources:

- Applying for federal state COVID funding
- Help desk for technical assistance for teachers, parents, students
- Testing for faculty and staff
- Virtual meetings
- Communications: school personnel, parents, students, service providers
- Finding qualified volunteers
- Response plan drafted for school exposures/outbreaks that addresses closures, furloughs, and environmental cleaning.
- Safety and security: Police, Emergency Management



For child and family needs:

- Food distribution: mobile pantries, grab and go
- Transportation and bussing
- Help Desk for technical assistance for teachers, parents, students
- Parent Hotline on helping students with assignments
- Communications: school personnel, parents, students, service providers
- Robust/mandatory case reporting for families





Recommendation: Voluntary Mid-Summer Enrichment Catch-Up Session

- 1. Organize and pilot test for the fall
- 2. Prepare teacher training for mitigation and adaptation
 - Small scale protocol testing
 - Prepare equipment orders for PPE
 - Simulate response to 'case on campus'
 - Experiment with staggered scheduling
 - Determine best practices for increased hand washing, masking, social distancing
 - Determine best practices for nightly school cleaning and bathroom supply replenishment
 - Develop internal and rapid communications system
- 3. Organize and test grab-and-go healthy food program
- 4. Create a safe place outdoors for children to play and exercise



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Road Map for Return

Guidance for a return to school during COVID-19





Holistic Framework



HEALTH PROMOTION

Addresses indirect COVIDrelated challenges



EDUCATION ADAPTATION

Addresses learning & teaching challenges during pandemic



RISK MITIGATION

Addresses transmission & survival of Sars-CoV-2 in K-12 Facilities

We cannot remove all risks.

Home

Working parents

Social engagements

Multi-generational living

Transit to School

Public transportation School bus density / contamination

Entering School

Contaminated high touch surfaces

Fail to socially distance

Public spaces (bathrooms, lockers, lobby, etc.)

Teaching Spaces

Surface contamination

6 ft.

Recirculating air

Strategies at Every Level



Individual

- Personal Protection
- Behavioral

Room Specific

- Social Distancing
- Reduce Surface
 Contamination
- Informational graphics

School-wide

- Air Quality Improvements
- Scheduling
- Reduce High-Touch Surfaces

District or State-Level

- Shelter-in-place Policies
- District Building Closures

Capacity Guidelines



"Select strategies based on feasibility given the unique space and needs of the school. **Not all strategies will be feasible for all** schools."

-CDC, "Interim Guidance for Administrators of US K-12 Schools and Child Care Programs"

Physical Distancing Capacity Guidelines

A. Instructional Spaces

- 1. General Classrooms
- 2. Science
- 3. Art
- 4. Corridors/circulation

B. School Entry

- 1. Bus
- 2. Pickup/Drop off

C. Administrative Spaces

- 1. Waiting/Deliveries
- 2. Offices
- 3. Conference Rooms

D. Common Spaces

- 1. Cafeteria
- 2. Auditorium
- 3. Gym



Capacity Analysis Process





Classroom Capacity

of student desks with
physical distancing
guidelines

Current Schedule

of students scheduled
to be in class during each
period



Shortfall

of students who don't fit in the classroom after accounting for physical distancing



Next Step: Strategies

Options for making up the shortfall, either by new delivery models or creating additional instruction space

Instructional Spaces



Classroom Layout Guidelines

Space student desks 6' apart to support recommended CDC physical distancing guidelines

Minimum

For schools with lower infection risk or greater capacity need

- Provide a 6' radius around all student desks when students are in a stationary **seated position**.
- The 6' radius around each desk **can include circulation** space required to access each desk. Students may need to pass through the 6' area on the way to their desk



For schools with higher infection risk or lower capacity need

- Provide a 6' radius around all student desks at all times
- Provide an **aisle** between each 6' radius so students can circulate through the room without encroaching on another student's 6' radius
- Greatly reduces classroom capacity but minimizes risk of physical proximity





How much is classroom capacity reduced?

EXAMPLE: In a typical high school / middle school classroom...

Pre-pandemic 780 SF (28'x28') No social distancing 28 students



Reduced Density 780 SF (28'x28') 6' distancing when seated Circulation passes through 6' radius 15 students (-46%)





Circulation does not pass within 6' radius 9 students (-68%)



Classroom Usage Guidelines

- Have students **enter and exit the room in order** of their desk's distance from the door to minimize passing in close physical distance
- **Disinfect student desks** before and after each use. Involve students in the disinfection process.
- **Disinfect teacher desks** between every class period if teachers are rotating between classrooms
- Expect students to break the rules of physical distancing in the classroom, either on purpose or by accident



Corridors & Commons

- Maintaining distances of 6' between students in corridors may not be feasible for all schools
- Mark 6' distances on the floor and/or walls to provide visual indicators for students and teachers as they move through the corridor
- If possible, discontinue the use of lockers and cubbies until physical distancing recommendations have been lifted
- If it is not possible to discontinue the use of lockers, determine which students have lockers 6' apart and schedule times for locker access based on where student lockers are located
- Post **signage** reminding students of healthy behaviors and handwashing
- Provide sanitizing stations throughout
- DO NOT institute any corridor usage policies or circulation paths that would disrupt emergency egress routes or prevent students from seeking the nearest exit, or confuse students in the event of an emergency



Corridors



For Reference: RE-populated Classroom Images



Germany Aisle marks on the floor and desks against the wall



China Students wear hats to promote distance



Germany Alternating occupied and unoccupied desks



Richardson ISD Immersion Studio at Berkner STEM HS with 360° Screen

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Building Entry



School Bus Capacity

- Maintain 6' separation between students
- Carefully consider loading and unloading sequence (first student on sits in furthest back seat and is the last student to exit the bus)
- Consider signage or some other means to mark desired seating locations and to restrict access to unused seats
- Typical school buses are nominally 8' wide, length varies depending on row spacing and capacity
- Wearing of masks while on bus should be considered
- Disinfect between routes
- Consult bus manufacturer for possible ways to shield driver.
- Prepare for increased parent drop-off and pick-up, encourage walking and biking







6 ft. Diameter

Perkins&Will

Hand Sanitizer Station

Reception



Reception Congestion Points:

- Entry / Exit Door
- Reception Desk
- Closet
- Waiting Area
 - cell phone lot
 - Outside
- Sanitation Station
- Nearest Restroom

Workplace Strategies



Administrative Spaces



Offices

- Provide 6' distance around all occupied seats
- Depending on the size of the office, guest chairs may be unusable





6 ft. radius circle is placed at a practical stationary work position (**chair location will vary on plans**)

Diagrams shown are reference examples. Analysis of your specific furniture may differ.







Conference Rooms

- Provide 6' distancing between all conference seats when in use
- Mark available and unavailable positions on the table using tape or signage



Small Meeting Room



Medium Meeting Room



Large Meeting Room

Shared Spaces



Cafeteria

Layout

- Provide **6' distance** around all occupiable seats
- Mark available and unavailable positions on the tables using tape and/or signage
- Add shields at payment and checkout points
- Consider creating **instructional areas** in the cafeteria to increase the teaching capacity of the facility
- Designate sanitizing and handwashing areas
- Post **signage** reminding students of healthy behaviors and handwashing

Operations

- Have students eat in their classrooms if possible
- Provide single individually wrapped portions
- Use only **disposable** wares



Cafeteria

PRE-PANDEMIC Typical 30" x 12' folding table Capacity 12/table 100%

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PRE-PANDEMIC Typical 60" folding table Capacity 8/table 100%

6 ft. Diameter

SOCIAL DISTANCING Typical 30" x 12' folding table Capacity 3/table 25% pre-pandemic capacity





SOCIAL DISTANCING Typical 60" folding table Capacity 2/table 25% pre-pandemic capacity

SOCIAL DISTANCING Typical 36" x 12' folding table Capacity 4/table 33% pre-pandemic capacity



SOCIAL DISTANCING Typical 60" folding table Slightly overlapping circles Capacity 3/table 37% pre-pandemic capacity

Gym

- Whenever possible, **hold PE classes outside** to allow for maximum physical distance between students
- Avoid any activities that would bring students into close physical contact
- Due to the level of movement and heavier breathing, **increase the distance** between students to 10'
- Mark visual indicators on the floor and/or walls to illustrate 10' increments
- Consider repurposing the gym for instructional space for teaching/ virtual learning to increase the teaching capacity of the building as large events will not likely be taking place
- Disinfect equipment after each use
- Avoid activities that would require multiple students to touch or **handle the same equipment** (e.g. basketball)
- Provide sanitizing areas and access to handwashing
- Post signage reminding students of healthy behaviors and handwashing



Environmental Messaging



Graphic Approach



Plan Analysis



Custom Graphics



New Protocols

Graphic Approach



Distancing – Circulation



Distancing – Floor Graphic



Health & Physical Education in the COVID Era



Now is the Time to Act

"Never let a good crisis go to waste. It's an opportunity to do the things you once thought were impossible."

> - Rahm Emanuel, Former White House Chief of Staff under President Obama & Mayor of Chicago



What's Now Possible?

- Communicate connections of health behaviors to mental health and immune health which supports student learning
- Health & physical educators are essential wellness and whole child leaders
- Engage parents more in health education, including PE



Importance of Health & PE

- Whole Child approach
- Meet the social & emotional needs of all kids
- Teach / reinforce self-care practices
- Teach students to build a healthy immune system
 - Healthy nutrition
 - Physical activity

- Hygiene
- Sleep



What Will Health & PE Look Like in the Fall?

- Possible education scenarios:
 - In-person model
 - All virtual
 - Hybrid / combination
- PE teacher can lead teaching and reinforce new routines for physical distancing


What Will Students Need?

- Basic skill development and remediation
- Developing skills for individual games and lifetime fitness activities
 - Dance, locomotor movement
 - Walking, Biking, Running
 - Throwing at a target, ball handling
- Emphasis on fitness especially if students have been likely less active during school closures and over the summer
- Emphasis on enjoyment and stress relief



In-Person Scenario

- Teach outdoors, if feasible
- Reduce class sizes
- Focus on teaching key concepts & skills
- Prepare for limited space
- Minimize equipment & have students participate in disinfecting routines



Distance Learning Scenario

- Address access issues provide both virtual instruction and hard copy packets
- Minimize equipment and provide options for modifying equipment needed
- Provide variety of activity options, focus on moving & having fun



Hybrid Scenario

- In-person instruction focused on concepts and skills
- Practicing and reinforcing skills at home
- Use challenges and calendars to promote regular daily activity



"Jump the Circuit" CATCH Activity University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension



Physical Educators as Wellness Champions

- Teach concepts and skills to promote and maintain health and physical activity
- Empower classroom teachers to incorporate meaningful movement experiences during instruction time (in-person & virtual)
- Lead coordinated effort to create & support healthy environments at school and home



Ms. Mueller's "CATCH Tip of the Week" Camras Elementary (Chicago, IL)



CATCH Health at Home

COVID-19 Response | At-Home & Distance Learning Resources

Educator resources via



Parent resources via



catchinfo.org/health-at-home

Summary

- Health and physical education are essential core subjects
- Health & physical educators are key leaders to coordinate efforts to create & support healthy school and home environments
- CATCH Global Foundation is available (with training and resources) to assist with planning and implementing a whole child approach as schools reopen



Thank You! Any Questions?



Steven Kelder, PhD, MPH Epidemiologist, UTHealth School of Public Health in Austin <u>steven.h.kelder@uth.tmc.edu</u>



Shreela Sharma, PhD, RD, LD Epidemiologist, UTHealth School of Public Health in Houston <u>shreela.v.sharma@uth.tmc.edu</u>



Shana Green CATCH Implementation Manager, CATCH Global Foundation shana@CATCH.org



Angela Whitaker-Williams, AIA Principal and Austin K-12 Practice Leader, Perkins & Will angela.whitakerwilliams@perkinswill.com



Vandana Nayak, AIA Principal and Texas K-12 Regional Practice Leader, Perkins & Will vandana.nayak@perkinswill.com