



## GUIDELINES FOR OPERATING DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

### Health & Safety Protocols

- Any individual displaying symptoms of being sick, whether COVID-19 symptoms or other, must stay home. Individuals must also stay home for 14 days if they have symptoms of COVID-19, have tested positive for COVID-19, or have been exposed to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 in the past 14 days.
- If a student or staff member tests positive, they may return to school when it has been at least ten days since symptoms first appeared **AND** at least 24 hours with no fever without fever-reducing medication (Tylenol, ibuprofen, aspirin, etc.) **AND** symptoms have been improved for 72 hours.
- If a child becomes ill while at school and the illness can be explained by overeating, overexertion, etc., the child will be sent to the sick room and observed for 30 minutes. If the symptoms do not improve after 30 minutes, parents will be contacted and required to pick up their child as soon as is possible.
- Students three and older will be required to wear masks upon entering the school and during their time at school. Note to parents: please have your child change his/her mask every day. Also, please ensure that masks are washed before reuse. Teachers will regularly provide times for students to take the masks off – this can occur when students are 6 feet apart and working in their own spaces in the school building, or when 6 feet apart and playing outside. When off, each child's mask will be stored in a brown paper bag.
- Students' desks will be socially distanced and desk shields will be provided for each student in K-8. Preschool students will be socially distanced and have their own areas to work and play in as much as possible in the classroom.
- Regular and thorough handwashing will be strongly encouraged.
- High touch areas, bathrooms, and classrooms will be disinfected at least once a day as per the health department guidelines.
- Students will be discouraged from sharing personal school equipment or other personal items.

### Screening

- Parents and students will be screened before entering the school building. The screening will utilize a temperature, visual wellness, and verbal symptom check.
  - Parents are asked to drop off their children at the front entrance to limit the number of people in the school building.
  - Children and staff with temperatures of more than 100.4°C degrees, or other COVID-19 symptoms, will not be permitted to enter the school.
  - Parents will be required to wait until their child is checked in before leaving the premises.
- Pick-up of students will happen outside the building. For preschool parents, please be advised that your child will be taken to the lobby by the preschool teacher or assistant at the appropriate pick-up time for collection. Parents of older students may call the appropriate classroom for student release.

## **Lunch Time & Recess**

- Students in K-8 will eat lunch outside or in the cafeteria. Social distancing will be enforced where possible. Preschool students will eat in the classroom and be spaced as far apart as possible.
- Sports that do not allow for appropriate physical distancing will be eliminated from PE and recess.

## **Prevention**

- Each student will have school supplies that belong to him/her, as opposed to shared supplies. Sharing of toys will be limited as feasible.
  - As always, students must be up-to-date on their immunizations, and while a flu shot is not a required immunization, in accordance with the CDC guidelines, we are strongly recommending that all students receive a flu shot.
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## **Learning Impacts**

Child at home due to illness: If a child is at home due to illness, the teacher will work with the family to ensure the child's learning continues in the best way possible. This may entail distance learning, work packets, phone tutoring, or other methods. The best distance learning experience may be different for each child, and so the teacher will work with the family to come up with an educational plan.

Staff member out sick: If a staff member is at home due to illness that is not related to COVID-19, the FCCS teachers will ensure that the teacher's class is covered so that school can continue. Since we are a small school, this may mean the K-4 or 5-8 classes combining if a substitute teacher is not available. If the preschool teacher is out sick, Mrs. Breese will cover the preschool classroom, and a substitute will be found for her class.

School closure: If there is an outbreak of COVID-19, in coordination with the local health department, as well as the Rocky Mountain Conference, FCCS may need to close. The closure could be for 24 hours for thorough cleaning and awaiting test results, or for several weeks, depending on the outbreak and extent of exposure. Depending on the length of the closure, FCCS may employ distance learning in order to keep education going for students. The details surrounding closures and distance learning are impossible to predict, and so if a closure and/or distance learning is necessary, FCCS administration and the school board will communicate details to families at that time. Please be advised that the school is required to report positive Coronavirus tests to the Larimer County Health Department and RMC.

Extracurricular Activities and After School Sports: At this time, FCCS will not offer extracurricular activities or Adventurers or Pathfinders clubs. As rules and regulations from the state change, it is possible that we may begin offering these activities again. FCCS will communicate these changes with families if and when they occur.

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## **Disclaimers**

While the staff at FCCS will do everything possible to limit the spread of COVID-19 and other illnesses in our school community, communicable diseases are present in our society, and despite our best efforts, we cannot guarantee that children enrolled at FCCS will not be exposed to or contract COVID-19 or any other illness. Parents are responsible for understanding the risks of enrolling their child in in-person school during this time.

Please note that the guidelines in this document are subject to change at any time as more information becomes available. When changes are made, they will be communicated with families as soon as possible.