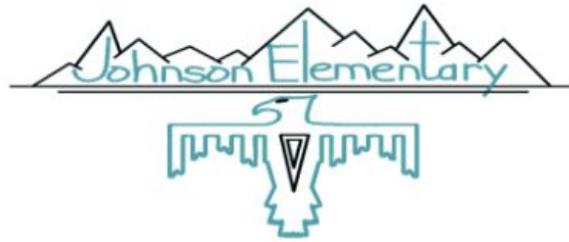


JES Return To Learn  
2020-2021



**Exceptional Teaching Exceptional Relationships**

Welcome to the 2020-2021 school year! We are excited to welcome your learners and start a new school year full of academic, social and emotional growth. Our hope at Johnson Elementary School (JES), is to foster a positive and supportive learning environment where children can thrive. Along with our mission, our number one goal going into the 2020-2021 school year is to ensure the safety and well being of our students, staff and community.

**Return-to-Learn Plan**

The Colorado Department of Education (CDE) and Colorado Department of Health and Environment (CDPHE) have developed [guidance](#) for opening schools based on three phases. The [MCSD Return-to-Learn Plan](#) is rooted in this guidance.



**STAY AT HOME**



**SAFER AT HOME**



**PROTECT OUR NEIGHBORS**

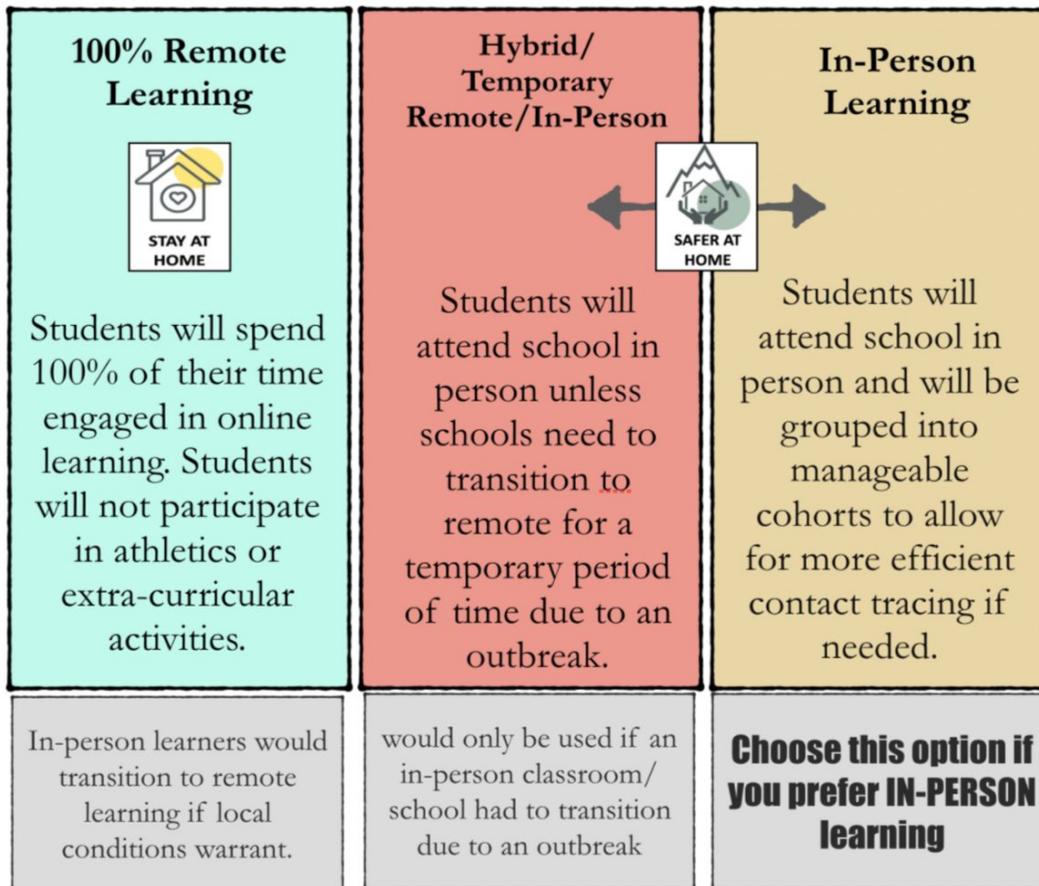
High COVID-19 Incidence in the community.	Moderate COVID-19 Incidence in the community.	Low COVID-19 Incidence in the community.
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Johnson Elementary School's Return to Learn Plan follows the guidance and phases from MCSD, CDE and CDPHE

## Johnson In-Person Learning Plan

In-person learning plays a vital role in a child’s academic and social-emotional development. We recognize that in-person learning may not be each family’s preference until there is a viable treatment solution or a vaccine to COVID-19. The purpose of the Return to Learn Plan (Plan En Espanol) is to provide MCS D students, families and staff with information about learning options (in-person and online). This document outlines the highlights of returning to school in August whether a person chooses in-person learning or online learning.

Students learn in-person, at school when we are in the Safer at Home phase or Protect Your Neighbor phase. Students learn remotely(online), from home when we are in the Stay at Home phase. The graphic below shows what an in-person learner may experience during the school year.



Families choosing the Learn from Home option, which is 100% online from home, will be able to transition to in-person learning each quarter if they choose, as long as space is available.

### **Grade Level Cohorts**

In order to align with best practices for social distancing, Johnson Elementary will minimize movement throughout the school. Students will be placed and kept in grade level cohorts and will spend their day with that group of students. We plan to provide access to specials (like music, art and physical education), lunch and recess time. The use of outdoor learning spaces and activities will take place as much as possible, so it will be important for families to send their child to school prepared for outdoor learning. Our goal is that once students are in their classroom, learning looks and feels as natural and normal as possible given the guidance from state and local public health departments.

### **Morning Routine (Drop Off, Breakfast, Health Screening, Soft Start)**

JES drop off and morning routine will begin at 7:40 AM. Doors will be opened no later than 7:40 AM for students to enter the campus. Students eating breakfast at school can be screened at the red hallway door (north side) and enter the school to pick up their breakfast (to be eaten in their classrooms). To minimize mixing of cohorts **the main playground will be closed during this time.**

Upon arrival, students will go to their assigned health screening station (see cohort assignments below). Screeners and students will follow the MCSD screening protocol. After passing the screening students will go to their classroom to start the school day. JES will be implementing a “soft” start, meaning students can go straight to their classrooms as they arrive. When entering the room they can follow their class’s regular morning routine.

All staff and students will be screened before entering the building. Students will be placed into screening cohorts. Each screening cohort will enter the building through a different entryway. Parents are encouraged to screen their child’s temperature at home. Children with a temperature of 100.4 or greater should stay home from school.

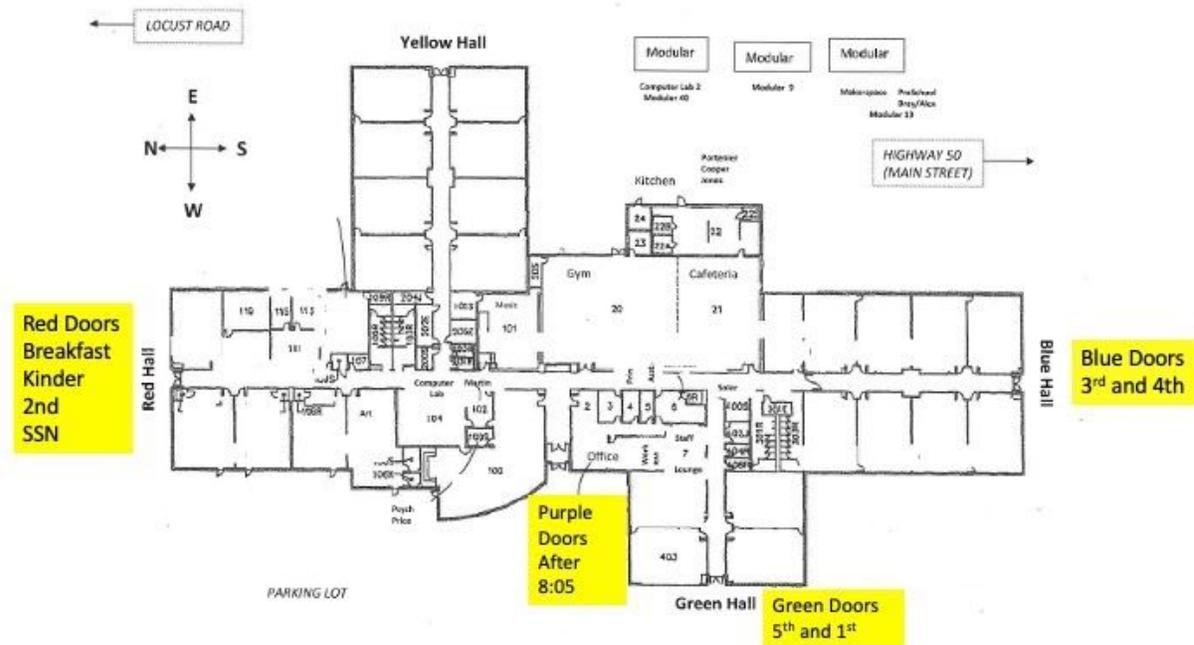
Students will be asked the symptom following questions:

- New or worsening cough
- New or worsening shortness of breath
- Use of fever reducing medications in the past 12 hours

Once screened, students will head immediately to a grade level classroom to begin an activity.

- Screening cohorts:
  - Kindergarten, SSN, 2nd- Red door (north side of building)
  - 5th grade, 1st grade- Green Door (west side of building)
  - 3rd grade, 4th grade- Blue Door (south side building)

After 8:05 all students need to enter through the purple doors to be screened at the front office. Parents should call from their car to sign in their child. There is not a need to walk their child to the door. Students arriving after 8:05 will be marked tardy.



## Lunch Routine

Grade level cohorts will go to the cafeteria for lunch every day. Students will follow our normal lunch procedure for the cafeteria and will sit at one of the tables assigned to their cohorts. To meet social distancing guidelines, there will be a maximum of 6 students sitting at a table. Stickers will be on the benches illustrating where students can sit. Cafeteria expectations will be the same as they have been in the past: a safe, calm and positive atmosphere where all students can enjoy their lunch.

Each cohort of students will have a scheduled 20 minute lunch. Some grade levels will have recess before lunch while others will have recess after lunch to ensure that the cafeteria can be thoroughly cleaned between cohorts. The kindergarten, 3rd, and 5th grade students will have recess before lunch. The 1st, 2nd, and 4th grade cohorts will have recess after eating. A five minute break between grade levels has been scheduled for tables and benches to be wiped down and disinfected. Outside spaces will also be utilized for lunch weather and supervision permitting. It is anticipated that students bringing their lunch will be able to eat outside in a supervised area.

## Dismissal

Dismissal will take place in an orderly manner beginning at 3:05 pm on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Wednesday dismissal will begin at 2:10 pm. The goal is to try to spread out parent pick up to ensure the safety of the whole Johnson community and expedite each child's reunion with their family at the end of the day. To ensure the safety of all the students and allow for maximum focus and flexibility of all the staff, JES will not allow students to be

checked out between 2:50- 3:05 pm on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and 1:55- 2:10 pm on Wednesdays.

Teachers will escort students (parent pick up and bussers) to their assigned dismissal area outside of the school in the following order:

- 5th grade
- 4th grade
- 3rd grade
- Kindergarten
- 1st grade
- 2nd grade

Parents picking up K-2 will pick up in the parent pick up loop. Parents picking up 3-5 will be picking up using the parking lot loop. If you are picking up children from multiple grades please use the pick up area for the youngest student. To ensure the health and safety of our students and staff parents NEED to stay in their vehicles while picking up their children. Children will be quickly escorted to parents.

### **Mitigation Procedures and Policies**

- **Handwashing-** Regular hand washing and sanitizing will take place every hour for students and staff. At minimum, students will wash their hands with soap and water first thing in the morning (after breakfast), prior to lunch, and immediately following lunch/recess. During other hours in the day, students can use hand sanitizer or soap and water to wash their hands. Students with sensitive hands can opt to limit hand sanitizer use. They will be able to wash hands with soap and water. Students will be able to bring their own hand sanitizer in their backpacks. Please label your child's hand sanitizer.
- **Drinking Fountains-** Students are encouraged to bring reusable water bottles to school as bottle filling stations will be accessible for all students. As part of COVID-19 safe standards, drinking fountains will not be accessible and turned off for student/staff use. Please include your child's name on their water bottle.
- **Student Supplies-** Students supplies will be bagged and labeled for individual use. Any shared classroom items will be cleaned according to MCSD COVID guidelines
- **Mask use by students and staff-** Prior to the start of the school day, students in preschool through 4th grade need to wear cloth masks that cover their nose and mouth prior to being screened each day. Kindergarten through 4th grade students are encouraged to wear masks during in-person instruction or group activities where social distancing is improbable. All 5th grade students are required to wear cloth masks that cover the nose and mouth throughout the school day when moving about the building and participating in in-person instruction that requires them to violate the social distancing requirements.

Face shields may not be used in place of a mask. Masks will be available for any students that forget their mask but we encourage them to pack an extra mask in their backpack. We also suggest labeling your child's mask.

Staff are required to wear a cloth mask that covers nose and mouth at all times while on duty and will have a mask on their person at all times, even in their classrooms, offices, etc. Face shields can not be substituted for a mask. When working in a space without other staff members, it is not expected that staff wear a mask. However, when another individual joins the workspace (i.e. visits a staff member's desk, classroom, or office) both staff members are expected to don their mask if social distancing is not possible.

### **Special Considerations / Exceptions**

- **Mask Breaks-** 5th grade classes will establish scheduled "mask breaks" throughout the day. These breaks will take place in settings where students can maintain appropriate social distancing of 6 feet.
- **Meal Times-** Students will not have to wear masks during meal and snack times and schools will encourage social distancing during these times.
- **PE and Recess-**MCSD recognizes that during periods of moderate-to-vigorous physical activity students will need to remove their masks. Those activities will take place outdoors whenever possible. Students will not be required to wear masks during recess times outside.
- **Group activities, discussions, other similar activities-** JES will encourage teachers to utilize outdoor spaces and larger communal areas that allow for social distancing exceeding 6' when instruction requires masks not be worn, but will never require a student to lower their mask, even if the above conditions are met.
- **Teaching Preschool & Primary Grades-** MCSD recognizes that teachers providing P-2 instruction related to teaching things like phonics, phonemic awareness, language, and many Special Education instructional situations require students to see an instructor's face. MCSD will provide face shields that instructors can wear. This will allow them to mitigate the risk of contagion while still protecting themselves and their students. However, MCSD expects that students would be encouraged to wear their masks if social distancing cannot be achieved, regardless of age, in these situations.

### **Health Screening**

The Universal Screening Plan includes a temperature check at home, and a daily on-site screening procedure that will take about 15 seconds per student. Students and staff will be screened prior to entering school each day. This will include a touchless thermometer and a series of symptom questions. The symptoms questions will ask the following:

- New or worsening cough
- New or worsening shortness of breath
- Use of fever reducing medications in the past 12 hours

Anyone with a fever, defined as a temperature of 100.4 or greater, will be screened again within 3-5 minutes to allow for confirmation of a correct temperature. If the temperature remains high, JES has procedures in place to safely and comfortably isolate students discreetly until parents/guardians can retrieve them from school. The goal is to keep staff and students healthy by preventing any infectious disease (ie. COVID 19, Flu) from entering the building.

Staff members or students exhibiting COVID symptoms will not be allowed to participate for 10 days following the onset of symptoms and 72 hours following the resolution of fever without fever-reducing medication. These protocols adhere to guidance recommended by the Colorado Department of Public Health and the Environment: [CDPHE's Cases and Outbreaks in Schools](#)

If a student or staff member fails the screening and is determined to be a probable or COVID positive case, JES will follow the linked MCSD plan: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/13XrCfDZPg5V6P48icCh-Re7uUw5jCmnm9LYNMDa98c/edit#heading=h.tygvxxdbsuf3> .

If students and staff in a quarantined cohort are well enough, they can participate in remote learning during their 10-14 day quarantine period.

**Social Distancing** - Students will practice social distancing in buildings as much as possible. There will be times when appropriate social distancing cannot be attained. In cases such as these, staff and students will be trained in appropriate behavior and practices. In communal areas like the cafeteria, students will be asked to practice social distancing by maintaining at least 3 feet social distance between themselves (goal will be 6 feet if space allows for it).

### **Recess**

Only one grade level cohort will have recess on the playground at one time. Students will be allowed to remove their masks during recess time. Teachers and staff members on recess duty will work with students to ensure a safe playing environment and to encourage students to avoid physical contact while playing. Students will be given the opportunity to wash hands before and after recess.

### **Classroom Environment**

Our goal at JES is to create as normal of a classroom experience as possible. All classrooms will be organized and set up similar to how they were in previous years while allowing for a minimum of three feet for social distancing whenever possible. Students will have their own spaces in their classrooms, utilize their own materials (there will not be community materials at tables), and have the ability to move throughout the classroom.

All classrooms will have “COVID 19 Cleaning Packs” that staff will be trained to use by building custodial staff. All classrooms, entries and communal spaces will have hand sanitizer readily available.

### **Academics and Blended Model**

JES staff have received training and support in implementing a blended learning model. A blended learning model leverages technology to efficiently and effectively provide differentiated instruction to meet each student’s abilities and skills. A consistent blended learning model will also allow for a smooth transition into remote online learning if necessary. JES is committed to streamlining digital learning and communication for families and students.

Every grade level (K-5) will have a website that will house a weekly calendar with connected digital content for the week’s lessons. Students and families can easily access the site for student learning in-person or in a remote learning situation. All content will be connected to our adopted curriculum and instructional scope and sequence. The English Language Arts curriculum is Core Knowledge Language Arts (CKLA). CKLA will be supported with an online learning hub known as Amplify Learning Hub. Bridges will continue to serve as our math curriculum and will be supplemented with various digital resources such as Khan Academy.

JES will provide each student with an individual iPad for use during in-person and remote learning. In addition to grade level websites teachers will utilize Google Classroom to facilitate student collaboration, access to digital content and the submission of digital assignments. Starting in the first week of school, all students will begin learning procedures and protocols to effectively and efficiently utilize their iPad, Google Classroom and their grade level website for learning, collaboration and submitting assignments.

### **Specials**

In an effort to meet cohort recommendations, grade level cohorts will attend the same specials (PE, Music, Computers/library) class for 5 days straight (one week at a time). Specials teachers will only work with two cohorts per week.

Art, music, and library/computer will take place in the specials classrooms. When weather permits, PE will take place outside. During inclement weather, PE will take place in the gymnasium and cohorts will be separated with a dividing wall.

All specials classrooms and used equipment will be cleaned between classes and thoroughly cleaned between cohorts.

### **ESS (Special Education), Intervention Support (WIN Time), G/T and CLD**

### **Exceptional Student Services**

Special Education teachers and Intervention teachers will work in teams to support our students with IEP's and SRD plans. One special education teacher and one intervention teacher will be working with grades K-2 while the other special education teacher and intervention teacher will be working with grades 3-5. All students with IEP's will be given instruction based on their IEP goals and be under the direction of a certified special education teacher. Our students with SRD plans will be given instruction based on their SRD goals under the direction of our Reading Interventionist. All IEP service minutes will be met.

### **Gifted and Talented (GATE)**

GATE programming will be available to GATE students in a 100% digital/virtual environment in order to provide the greatest flexibility, equity of access across school sites and ensure the safety of staff and students. GATE content will be organized by identified content and grade levels. Students will be able to access each area of the GATE content from their general education classroom. Access will most likely during WIN time. GATE facilitators will use Google Classroom and Google Sites to facilitate instruction, collaboration, and learning to identified students.

### **Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CLD)**

Our students with CLD plans will receive support from the CLD teacher as determined by their language need and need for support. The goal is for the CLD teacher to work alongside the classroom teacher in a co-planning and co-teaching model as cohorting guidelines allow. CLD teachers will work directly with "newcomer" language level students in small groups.

### **Remote/Online Learning Plan**

If a grade level has to quarantine or if the school/district is closed due to an outbreak, JES will shift to our online remote learning plan.

Elementary school students opting for MCSD Learn from Home (Online) will participate in daily live lessons that follow their grade level schedule. Students will be enrolled with MCSD Online teachers whose dedicated job is to teach MCSD Online students. Students will receive personalized support, instruction, and connection from MCSD teachers. There will be opportunities for students to interact with one another in collaborative, meaningful ways each day.

### **Parent and Volunteers in the Building**

Community and parent support is valued at JES. We are thankful for the community of volunteers that support our students. While Montrose County is at the Safer at Home, we ask that all volunteer support take place off campus (i.e. prepping materials). Parents and other community visitors to the campus can access the front office, but will not be allowed past that point. Parents can request an in person or virtual meeting by calling the front office at 970-249-2584. Visitors entering the building for scheduled meetings will be screened and must

wear cloth masks. If the county status is raised to Protect Our Neighbors, we will reconsider this policy.

Parent Teacher Council (PTC) will continue to meet through virtual meetings. If you are interested in being a part of this group please contact the front office at 970-249-2584 or look on the website for meeting times. (<https://jes.mcsd.org/cms/One.aspx>)

### **Kindergarten Assessment Day Scheduling and Plan**

In order to familiarize your learner with their new school, kindergarten assessment will take place on two days before the commencement of the kindergarten school year. Half of the kindergarten students will come to school on Thursday, August 27th and the other half on Friday, August 28th for assessments and to learn about our school. The start time for the incoming kindergarten students on these days will be 9 AM. The activities will conclude at 2 PM. Families can drop off and pick up their child in front of the main entrance of the school. Kindergarten teachers and office staff will be there to welcome your child.

Kindergarten teachers and our office staff will be calling families the week of August 17th to schedule the assessment.

Monday, August 31st, Kindergarten teachers will go through the data and determine classes. They will then contact families about their child's class assignment. Kindergarten students do not attend school on this date. Kindergarten students will officially start school on Tuesday, September 1st.

### **Communication**

Parents and families can expect consistent and concise communication. Major announcements will be posted on the JES website (<https://jes.mcsd.org/cms/One.aspx>). Links to the website announcements will be posted on ClassDojo, Facebook, email, and text to families.

Classroom and grade level communication will continue to take place through the ClassDojo email and messaging app. If families cannot access ClassDojo, office staff will contact family to establish the best mode of communication.

### **Transportation**

MCSD in collaboration with Student Transportation of America (STA) will provide our students transportation to and from school on buses in accordance with CDE and CDPHE guidelines following the social distancing and ventilation protocols outlined in both.

#### Guidelines:

- STA protocols will be followed in accordance with the [STA Exposure Control and Response Plan](#) on all MCSD Buses.

- In general both plans have the following common elements: students, staff, and drivers will wear PPE at all times, will load back to front, will socially distance by occupying every other seat, unless they are siblings (as long as it is practical for capacity limitations), and windows will be cracked to increase ventilation.