



OTTO-ELDRED SCHOOL DISTRICT

PK-12 Athletics

Health and Safety Plan

Each school entity should continue to monitor its Athletics Health and Safety Plan throughout the year and update as needed. All revisions should be reviewed and approved by the governing body prior to posting on the school entity’s public website.

AUGUST 2021

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Athletics Health and Safety Plan: Otto-Eldred School District

All decision-makers should be mindful that as long as there are cases of COVID-19 in the community, there are no strategies that completely eliminate transmission risk within a school population. The goal is to keep transmission as low as possible to safely continue school activities.

Depending upon the public health conditions in any county within the Commonwealth, there could be additional actions, orders, or guidance provided by the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) and/or the Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH).

Primary Point of Contact

Each school entity must designate a primary point of contact with defined roles and responsibilities for health and safety preparedness and response planning for sports-related activities. The point of contact will be responsible for responding to all questions related to COVID-19. All parents, student athletes, officials, and coaches must be provided the person's contact information.

Point of Contact Name	Position of Point of Contact	Contact Information
Matthew Splain	OESD Superintendent	mattsplain@ottoeldred.org , (814)817-1380, option 3
Kaci Daniels	OEHS Principal	kdaniels@ottoeldred.org (814)817-1380, option 2
Tim Burris	Activities Director	tburris@ottoeldred.org (814)817-1380, option 2

Key Strategies, Policies, and Procedures

Cleaning, Sanitizing, Disinfecting, and Ventilation

Requirements	Action Steps
<p>* Cleaning, sanitizing, disinfecting, and ventilating spaces, surfaces, and any other areas used by student athletes and sporting activities (i.e., restrooms, drinking fountains, locker rooms and transportation)</p>	<p>OESD Custodial staff will sanitize all district spaces appropriately on a daily basis per the routines established in 2020-21.</p> <p>Identify an adult staff member or volunteer to ensure proper cleaning and disinfection of objects and equipment, particularly for any shared equipment or frequently touched surfaces.</p> <p>Cleaning products should not be used near students, and staff should ensure that there is adequate ventilation when using these products to prevent students or themselves from inhaling toxic fumes.</p> <p>If playing inside, ensure ventilation systems or fans operate properly. Increase circulation of outdoor air as much as possible, for example by opening windows and doors.</p> <p>Use gloves when removing garbage bags or handling and disposing of trash. Wash hands after removing gloves.</p>
<p>Other cleaning, sanitizing, disinfecting, and ventilation practices</p>	<p>UV lighting (artificial and natural) will be used to sanitize equipment as well as other products purchased with the same intent.</p> <p>Ventilation will be utilized in all spaces to the greatest extent feasible.</p>

Social Distancing and Other Safety Protocols

Requirements	Action Steps
<p>* Protocols for social distancing student athletes and staff throughout all activities, to the maximum extent feasible</p>	<p>Coaches and athletes should maintain appropriate social distancing at all times possible, including in the field of play, locker rooms, sidelines, dugouts, benches, and workout areas. During down time, athletes and coaches should not congregate. The focus should be preventing an individual from being caught in a tracing for close contacts.</p>
<p>* Procedures for serving food at events</p>	<p>Concessions will be available per traditional plans. Sanitizer must be available at all locations. Workers must be in good health, free of COVID-19 symptoms to work the event.</p>

Requirements	Action Steps
<p>* Hygiene practices for student athletes and staff which include the manner and frequency of hand-washing and other best practices</p>	<p>Handwashing / use of sanitizer must occur before and after practice / events and during practice/events to the greatest extent feasible.</p> <p>Activities that increase the risk of exposure to saliva must not be allowed including chewing gum, spitting, licking fingers, and eating sunflower seeds.</p> <p>All athletes, coaches, and officials must bring their own water and drinks to team activities. Team water coolers for sharing through disposable cups are not allowed. Fixed water fountains should not be used. Water filling stations will be utilized prior to practice / during events. Parents/booster groups may provide additional drinks during games as needed.</p> <p>Avoid shaking hands, fist bumps, or high fives before, during or after games and practices. Limit unnecessary physical contact with teammates, other athletes, coaches, officials, and spectators (if permitted).</p>
<p>* Posting signs, in highly visible locations, that promote everyday protective measures, and how to stop the spread of germs</p>	<p>Signs will be posted in all areas that host school-related activities.</p>
<p>* Identifying and restricting non-essential visitors and volunteers</p>	<p>Spectators will be permitted at home events, indoors and outdoors. By attending any event, spectators agree to abide by all state orders, current state guidance and school district protocols while at the event.</p> <p>Volunteers will be permitted per school board approval.</p>
<p>Limiting the sharing of materials and equipment among student athletes</p>	<p>Whenever possible, equipment and other personal items should be separated and not shared. If equipment must be shared, all equipment should be properly disinfected between users.</p> <p>Student athlete equipment should be taken home daily for sanitizing or disinfected daily following school procedures.</p>
<p>Staggering the use of communal spaces (i.e., locker rooms, weight rooms, etc.)</p>	<p>Student athletes should arrive at events prepared to participate to the greatest extent possible, minimizing the need for locker room use.</p>
<p>Adjusting transportation schedules and practices to create social distance</p>	<p>Social distance on bussing to the greatest extent feasible. Additional busses may be utilized when participation numbers are high.</p> <p>Provide adult supervision on buses to ensure social distancing of student athletes.</p> <p>Avoid travel to regions/school districts with high rates of infection.</p>

Requirements	Action Steps
Limiting the number of individuals in athletic activity spaces	N/A due to capacity of facilities.
Other social distancing and safety practices	Social interactions with opposing teams should be limited.

Monitoring Student Athletes and Staff Health

Requirements	Action Steps
* Monitoring student athletes and staff for symptoms and history of exposure	<p>Put a system in place consistent with applicable law and privacy policies, having coaches, staff, umpires/officials, and families of student athletes (as feasible) self-report to the school if they have symptoms of COVID-19, a positive test for COVID-19, or were exposed to someone with COVID-19 within the last 10 days in accordance with CDC regulations for COVID-19.</p> <p>O-E student athletes will undergo brief health screening prior to boarding bus for away events.</p> <p>When required by administration, conduct daily health checks (e.g., symptom checking) of coaches, officials, staff, and student athletes safely and respectfully, and in accordance with any applicable privacy and confidentiality laws and regulations and recommend daily self-assessments.</p> <p>A screening with a YES answer to any of the following AND a high fever (100.4) would require the person to mask and be sent home immediately.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Do you have new onset cough or shortness of breath? 2. Have you had a fever or felt feverish (chills) 3. Have you had known exposure to a COVID-19 positive individual?
* Isolating or quarantining student athletes, coaching staff, or visitors if they become sick or demonstrate a history of exposure	<p>Anyone needing to isolate would be removed from the group, with parents/guardians notified immediately. Parents/guardians are responsible to pick up the individual as soon as possible. Impacted individual would be removed to location away from any other individuals, including outdoors.</p> <p>Close off areas used by a sick person and do not use before cleaning and disinfection.</p> <p>If removed from activity due to symptoms, individual should be tested.</p>
* Returning isolated or quarantined coaches, staff or student athletes, to school and/or athletics	<p>After a positive test, participant or staff may return to social interaction 24 hours after resolution of symptoms AND at least 10 days have passed since onset of symptoms. Student should be released by medical provider to resume physical activities.</p> <p>School procedures will be followed in all situations.</p>

Requirements	Action Steps
Notifying coaching staff, families, and the public of cancellation of sports-related activities, school closures and other changes in safety protocols	Communication Resources include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -School Messenger -School District Social Media -Radio / Newspaper -School District website -Email / group contact lists -Phone call to game personnel
Other monitoring and screening practices	Staff, parents and student will be expected to self-monitor before beginning any school-related activity. O-E student athletes will undergo brief health screening prior to boarding bus for away events. As required by administration, additional measures will be put in place to mitigate spread and permit the continuation of extra-curricular events.

Other Considerations for Student Athletes and Staff

Requirements	Action Steps
* Protecting student athletes and coaching staff at higher risk for severe illness	Student athletes or staff that are at a higher risk for severe illness understand their participation is at their own risk. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish and maintain communication with local and state authorities to determine current mitigation levels in your community. • Adopt flexible attendance policies for student athletes and coaching staff. • Offer options for individuals at higher risk of severe illness from COVID-19 (risk increases with age, and people of any age with certain medical conditions are at higher risk), such as virtual coaching and in-home drills that limits their exposure risk. • Limit sports participation to staff and youth who live in the local geographic area (e.g., community, city, town, or county) to reduce risk of spread from areas with higher levels of COVID-19. • Explore offering duties that minimize higher risk individuals' contact with others. • Limit or cancel all non-essential travel as necessary. • Consider level of participation for student athletes at higher risk of developing serious disease.
* Use of face coverings by all coaches and athletic staff	Coaching staff and other adult personnel may wear face coverings (masks or face shields). Masks will be made available to all participants and staff.
* Use of face coverings by student athletes as appropriate	Student athletes may wear face coverings, as tolerated. Masks are currently required on school transportation.
Management of Coaches and Athletic Staff	Athletic staff should be in consistent contact with the Athletic Director regarding any questions, concerns or suggestions related to safety protocols. Athletic staff will be trained in recognition of COVID-19 symptoms, screening procedures and use of PPE/sanitizing equipment a

Athletics Health and Safety Plan Professional Development

The success of your plan for resuming sports-related activities safely requires all stakeholders to be prepared with the necessary knowledge and skills to implement the plan as intended. For each item that requires staff training, document the following components of your professional learning plan.

Prior to the start of each season, training on the Athletic Health and Safety Plan will be done with Coaches, Parents and Volunteers.

Notice to Parents/Guardians: Participation during in-person sports activities, and participation in sports in general, is voluntary. While the District will implement this plan and its guidelines to the best of its ability, the District cannot ensure that your child will not be exposed to COVID-19 while participating. As a parent, you must consider your child's and your family's, unique circumstances (medical and otherwise) and make a determination as to whether or not you will permit your child to participate and assume any associated risks of participation. Please also be advised that, in order to protect the health and safety of all student athletes and staff members, your child plays an important role by complying with these guidelines and you, as a parent, play an important role in educating your child about the importance of these guidelines and the importance of practicing good habits to prevent the spread of viruses.

Due to the number of coaches per season, an in-person training will be completed by the Athletic Director and HS Principal.

Athletics Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors/Trustees for **OTTO-ELDRED SCHOOL DISTRICT** reviewed and approved the Athletics Health and Safety Plan on **July 29, 2021**

The plan was approved by a vote of:

_____ **Yes**

_____ **No**

Affirmed on: **July 29, 2021**

By:

(Signature of Board President)

Cynthia Murphy

(Print Name of Board President)