



Mount Olive Lutheran School
Return to Learn Plan
Created 6/29/2020
Revised 8/12/2020

The leadership of Mount Olive Lutheran School is diligent in working to provide and implement a model for instruction that best facilitates students' learning. No matter what limitations may be imposed on our instruction by public health guidelines and the Iowa Department of Education, this commitment will remain in place for teaching and learning during the 2020-21 school year.

Academic Plan for 20-21

Mount Olive Lutheran School will begin in-person classroom instruction on August 26th. If you have a family situation that requires students to go to online learning, the teacher will work with each individual family to best meet their needs.

To limit the number of people that come in the building parents will drop off and pick up students at the door.

- Preschool - 1st grade students will use the main church doors.
- 2nd - 4th grade students will use the main school doors.
- 5th -8th grade students will use the lower level doors on the Northside of the building.

Temperatures will be taken at the door each day. If a student has a temperature of 100.4 or higher will be sent home.

Students and teachers will be required to wear masks as they enter the building, in hallways, and common areas. Students can wear masks in their classroom if they desire, but are not required. Teachers that are in multiple classrooms per day will be required to wear masks.

Mount Olive Teachers will teach and reinforce washing hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds following CDC guidance on when and how to wash your hands. If soap and water are not readily available students will use hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol (if applicable or age- appropriate) using CDC guidance.

Student Gathering Limitations

Schools may not be able to guarantee that physical distancing can be met in all school settings throughout the entire school day, during school activities, or with transportation. This is similar to when children congregate in their community.

During school hours students will not gather in groups larger than two classes at any given time. This means that lunch for many of the students will take place in their classrooms, recesses will be limited to smaller groups, and chapel will take place in classrooms via online platforms.

Junior high teachers will sanitize classrooms prior to switching rooms to different classes. Art will take place in the students' classrooms. The schedule has been changed in order to block times with each teacher to limit the number of classroom switches.

Band will only meet for one on one or very small group lessons at this time.

Student Illness

All students will begin their school day by washing their hands. Washing of the hands will take place every time the student leaves the classroom. Mount Olive will post signs on how to stop the spread of illness, properly wash hands, and promote everyday protective measures.

When a student exhibits symptoms of being ill, the child will be sent to the Sick Bay for a health assessment. Once in the Sick Bay location, the office staff will complete a health assessment, including asking questions of the student and a temperature check. If a student does not exhibit symptoms that warrant being sent home, but does need medication for a headache or other ailment, medication will be provided following the medication forms signed by the parent. The student will be sent back to class.

If it is determined that the child does have COVID-19 symptoms, parents will be notified, and the student will be sent home. Students will be sent home when exhibiting the following symptoms: fever equal to or greater than 100.4 degrees, cough, or shortness of breath. The family will be asked to have their student assessed by a healthcare provider before returning to school. A doctor's note or the official results of a COVID-19 test must be provided for school re-entry. A positive test for COVID-19 must be reported to the school as soon as possible.

At this point, the following guidelines from the Iowa Department of Health should be followed:

- Students and staff ill with COVID-19 symptoms or who have been identified as close contacts to a COVID-19 case should be excluded from school.

- Students and staff who have symptoms of COVID-19 that test positive by PCR OR who decline testing should self-isolate at home until:
 - At least 10 days have passed since their symptoms started AND
 - Fever free for 3 days (without the use of fever-reducing medication) AND
 - Other symptoms have improved.

- Students and staff who test positive for COVID-19 by PCR and did not have any symptoms should self-isolate at home until:
 - At least 10 days have passed since the day they were tested AND
 - No symptoms since the day of testing

If a student has a positive test for COVID-19, any families that may have been impacted by the positive student will receive a phone call from the school, protecting the confidentiality of the positive student. All other families in the school will be notified via email that there has been a positive test in the school. The Polk County Health Department will be notified of any positive cases of COVID-19 in the school, and they will proceed with contact tracing.

If there is an outbreak in the school, we will work in conjunction with the Polk County Health Department to determine if/when it is necessary to close a classroom or the whole school. At that time, Distance Learning will be provided to Mount Olive Lutheran students affected by the closures.

Social Distancing

Perfect social distancing in the school setting is not possible. However, the following steps will be taken in order to limit exposure to keep children safe. Plexiglass will be used to help create barriers when distancing is not possible.

Desks in the classroom will be set to or as close as possible to 3 feet away from one another. Additional furniture in the classrooms will be eliminated for now to help create this space.

The school will be divided into three wings this year. The early childhood wing which consists of preschool, kindergarten, and 1st grade will use the bathroom in their hallway and in the church narthex. The doors that separate this wing from the rest of the building will be closed when not being used. This wing will use the center north doors to exit and enter the building for recess.

The elementary school wing which consists of second, third, and fourth grade will use the bathrooms in their hallway and will use the side door to go in and out for recess.

The junior high wing which consists of grades fifth through eighth will use the restrooms in the lower level and will use the lower level west doors to enter and exit for recess.

Before and After Care

Before and After Care will keep the separation of wings that are also provided during the school day.

Early Childhood Before and After Care will take place in Mrs. Leyhe's classroom.

Elementary Before and After Care will take place in the social room.

Grades fifth through eighth grade will take place in Mr. Emily's classroom.

Cleaning

The school will be cleaned and sanitized daily using cleaning supplies purchased for Mount Olive by our cleaning company that is designed to kill the Covid-19 virus and lessen the likelihood of spreading Covid-19 in this manner. Teachers will also be encouraged to sanitize their rooms during the school day.

Forced Closings

Mount Olive Lutheran must and will comply with any closings that are forced by the local, state, or federal government. If this would occur, Mount Olive would transition to online learning, with the plan to return to in-person learning as soon as forced closure was lifted.

Mount Olive Lutheran School will supply students who need a Chromebook or IPAD use of these devices during any forced closure or long term absence due to Covid-19.

** This will be a living document. Changes may occur if the situation changes and Iowa Department of Health provides more information on best practices to keep students healthy.