



# FARWELL AREA SCHOOLS

Steve Scoville - Superintendent  
(989) 588-9917 Fax (989) 588-6440

399 East Michigan Street, Farwell, Michigan 48622

## Return to In-Person Instruction & Continuity of Services Plan

**October 2023**

Under the American Rescue Plan: Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief III (ARP: ESSER III) local districts are required to develop and maintain a Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan. This plan outlines and details the district's plan for a safe return to, or maintenance of, in-person instruction and must include information regarding the district's implementation of the Center for Disease Control's (CDC's) most current guidance at the time of development.

Farwell Area Schools deeply values in-person instruction and has implemented the practices detailed below in order to maintain the in-person learning environment.

The District may make adjustments to this plan in response to information learned regarding current and future variants of COVID-19 or other communicable disease and transmission rates in individual buildings, across the district, or if the risk of severe illness, hospitalization, or death increases. If such adjustments are needed, the plan will be shared again for public input. The plan will also be reviewed every six months during the life of the ARP ESSER III grant and updates will be completed if needed. The plan will be shared for public input during those intervals as well.

**The district will comply with any and all local, state, and federal mandates/orders.**

Instructional Services	
Continuity of Instructional Services	<p><b>Elementary (Grades Pre K - 3):</b> Elementary students attend school five full days in-person on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. This mode of instruction will remain in effect for the remainder of the school year. FAS is only offering remote learning on an individual basis. Families who preferred remote learning should contact their child's office.</p> <p><b>Middle School (Grades 4 - 7):</b> Middle school students attend school five full days in-person on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. This mode of instruction will remain in effect for the remainder of the school year. FAS is only offering remote learning on an individual basis. Families who preferred remote learning should contact their child's office.</p> <p><b>High School (Grades 8 - 12):</b> High school students attend school five full days in-person on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. This mode of instruction will remain in effect for the remainder of the school year FAS is only offering remote learning on an individual basis. Families who preferred remote learning should contact their child's office.</p>

	..... FAS works to continuously support the social-emotional and mental health needs of students across the district in Pre School through twelfth grade. Utilizing available grant funds, the district has worked to increase staffing in the areas of counseling, social work, and psychology beginning in the 2021-22 school year. Hiring has been ongoing and we work to continue to increase staffing in this area.
<b>Health and Safety Protocols</b>	
<b>COVID-19 Testing</b>	Testing will not be required but test kits may be offered to families if provided by the State. Athletic testing will not be required unless mandated by the MHSAA or a local, state, or federal agency and/or a sanctioning body.
<b>Cohorting</b>	Mixing of student groups will be permitted. The District may consider temporarily restricting mixing of student groups where feasible as deemed necessary based on the local conditions.
<b>Face Coverings (Masks)</b>	Staff, students, volunteers, and visitors may wish to wear a face covering regardless of the current level of community transmission and are supported in doing so. The District will abide by all laws, lawfully executed orders, regulations, etc. pertaining to facial coverings.
<b>Facilities: Cleaning, Disinfecting, Ventilation</b>	The District will follow regular cleaning and disinfection procedures. Additional cleaning and/or disinfection procedures within a classroom, school, or across the district will be implemented as needed based on local conditions. The District will utilize MEDIFY Air, air filters to improve ventilation in school buildings.
<b>Food Services</b>	Normal food service operations will occur. Additional health and safety protocols may be implemented as required by the Central Michigan Health Department.
<b>Hand Hygiene &amp; Respiratory Etiquette</b>	Proper hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette are encouraged and expected. Supplies, including hand sanitizer, will be maintained in order to facilitate proper hand hygiene.
<b>Health Screening &amp; Student Illness</b>	Parents/guardians are encouraged to conduct a daily wellness check to ensure students are well enough to attend school. Students should not be sent to school when they are ill. A child who has had a fever or is vomiting cannot return to school until they are fever free for 24 hours. Parents/guardians should follow medical professional and/or health department guidance regarding exclusion periods for communicable diseases.
<b>Vaccinations</b>	The District does not require staff or students to be vaccinated against COVID-19. CMHD, MDHHS, and CDC recommend COVID-19 vaccination as the leading public health prevention strategy to end the COVID-19 pandemic as well as keep schools, extracurricular activities, and sports safely operational and in person.

### **Mission:**

Together with family and community, the Farwell Area Schools will educate all students in a supportive environment, engaging them in learning through a variety of challenging experiences to ensure success in an ever-changing world.