

Cherokee Immersion Charter School

Return to In-Person Learning Plan

Osiyo Immersion School Family,

Cherokee Immersion Charter School will return to full-time in-person learning on August 12, 2021. Through a collaborative effort with Cherokee Nation Tribal Administration, Cherokee Nation Health, the Cherokee Nation Education Department and the Department of Cherokee Language we have developed a plan that follows the Center for Disease Control & Prevention and the Oklahoma State Department of Education guidelines for in-person learning. Below is a list of guidelines and safety measures that addresses every phase of your student's daily schedule while they are on the Immersion School and Sequoyah High School Campuses. Please be aware that this plan may be adjusted at any time to address the health and safety of our school community. At the end of this document you will find additional resources and school contact information. **Virtual and/or distance learning arrangements may be made on a case-by-case basis. Please contact the Cherokee Immersion Charter School office to discuss available options.**

In Person Attendance and Participation

Students will follow the existing daily schedule as outlined in the Student Handbook:

- Students may arrive at the Immersion School as early as 7:30 am.
- Breakfast will be served 7:45 am to 8:15 am.
- Lunch will be served 11:00 am to 11:30 am.
- Classes begin at 8:30 am (8:10 am for 7th and 8th grades).
- The school day ends at 3:30pm (3:15 pm for 7th and 8th grades).
- Attendance will be monitored and recorded, including tardiness.

Daily Schedule with Safety Protocols in Place

Arrival:

- **Each Student will be tested for COVID-19 on the first day of school (Thursday, August 12th) and each Monday after that. Testing will begin at 7:30 am on designated testing days. Please plan on waiting in the drive through line for the duration of the 15 minute period required for test results.**
- Students will undergo a screening process and temperature check. A BinaxNOW Covid-19 Rapid test will be administered by school staff while students remain in their vehicles in the drive-through line. This will require a shallow swab swipe in each nostril. The process is pain free.
- Parents/Guardians/Caretakers should follow the guided drive-through route to the main entrance.

- After testing, students will be parked and will remain in their vehicles for 15 minutes while awaiting test results.
- In the event of a positive test result, students will be required to immediately leave campus with their parents. They will be encouraged to seek a subsequent, or second test, and will need to follow the proper quarantine protocol.
- Students receiving a negative test result will be allowed to exit their vehicle and report to their classroom. They will be escorted to their classroom by a school staff member. Parents or guardians will not be allowed to enter the school building. There will be no exceptions to this policy at this time. Students will be required to wear a face mask once they exit their vehicle, and will be required to wear it throughout the school day. All students regardless of vaccination status will wear a mask while indoors.
- With proper social distancing practices in place, students and staff may have periods of time while outdoors where masks may be removed.

Entering School Buildings and Classrooms

- Hand-sanitizing stations will be available at the main entrance of the school and in each classroom.
- Students and staff will not loiter in hallways or commons areas.
- Once students enter their classrooms they will remain with their grade-level cohort for the remainder of the school day. They will not mix with another class. This will allow the school staff to conduct accurate contact tracing if necessary.
- Any visitor who wishes to enter the school building must make an appointment with the teacher or staff member they wish to meet with. There will be no exceptions to this policy at this time.

Classroom Management

- Face masks will be worn at all times.
- Seating arrangements will provide adequate social distancing (6 feet).
- A seating chart will be created for each class to allow the school staff to conduct proper contact tracing if necessary.
- Each student desk will be equipped with a clear plastic barrier, or partition, for student safety.
- Each classroom has a functioning central heating and air conditioning unit with an adequate air return system for proper ventilation and air circulation.
- Break times will be coordinated among the teaching staff in order to maintain grade-level cohorts.

Meals and Snacks

- Breakfast, lunch and snacks will be served to students in their classrooms.
- Weather permitting, classes will be allowed to eat meals outdoors.
- On the days students are on campus for in-person learning, they will receive breakfast and

Recess/PE/Common areas

- Any equipment or materials commonly shared by students will be sanitized after each use.

- Scheduling of the playground and other commons areas will be strictly monitored to maintain grade-level cohorts.

After School Program

- After-school programming will be available when students are on campus for in-person learning.
- The After School Program will operate between 3:30 pm and 5:30 pm.
- Students must be picked up by 5:30 pm.
- The After School program will follow the same safety measures and guidelines as the regular school day.

Extra-curricular/Off-campus Activities

- Extra-curricular activities and off-campus trips will resume at the beginning of the 2021-2022 school year.
- As the circumstances surrounding our local Covid-19 response continue to hopefully improve, extra-curricular activities and trips will continue to operate as regularly scheduled and at full capacity.
- As with any public safety response, schedules and our level of participation in all extra-curricular activities are subject to change as the state of our pandemic response dictates.

Transportation

- If students do have to be transported on a school bus, a seating chart will be created for contact tracing purposes.
- Social distancing protocols will be in place.
- Buses will be sanitized after each trip.
- Bus windows will be lowered, if possible, during travel.

Covid-19 Exposure

What defines exposure?

- 15 minutes or longer in close contact (less than 6 feet) with Covid-19 positive person or person exhibiting symptoms.
- Not wearing a mask while being in contact with a Covid-19 positive person.

Student household: Student quarantines

- If a member of your household tests positive and your student has been exposed to that family member, then your student must stay home from in-person school.

When Students display Covid-19 symptoms while at school

- The student will immediately be quarantined in the school office and parents/guardians will be notified to pick up the student.
- The student will be advised to test for Covid-19 and enter quarantine protocol
- If your student does test positive please notify the school.

Contact Information for Exposure or Testing Positive to COVID-19

Regardless of vaccination status, if you or your student(s) have received a COVID-19 diagnosis by testing positive using a lab-confirmed test, please do the following:

1. Notify Cherokee Immersion Charter School administration or Superintendent Corey Bunch immediately. You will be referred to the Cherokee Nation Public Health (CNPH) for guidance. School administration works closely with CNPH for quarantine protocol.
2. Notify Cherokee Nation Public Health-Epi (COVID-19) Hotline (539) 234-4030.

Sanitation/disinfection practices

- Regular handwashing throughout the school day
- Hand sanitizing stations at all entrances and classrooms
- Wear masks at all times.
- Sanitizing of student desks, equipment and materials throughout the school day
- Clorox 360 sanitation device at the end of the school day

Cherokee Immersion School Contact Information:

Office Phone- (918) 207-4900

Jeromie Hammer, Principal

(918) 718-5569

Jeromie-hammer@cherokee.org