

SAFE RETURN TO IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION 2021-22 SCHOOL YEAR

(This is a working document that is constantly updated)

District Name: Garaway Local School District

District Address: 146 Dover Road, Sugarcreek, OH 44681

District Contacts: Superintendent Dr. James Millet, Director of Student Services
Jeffery Williams, Treasurer Sheryl Hardesty: (330) 852-2421

GENERAL INFORMATION

FACE TO FACE INSTRUCTION: For the 2021-2022 school year, Garaway Local School District will be 100% in-person, five days a week (unless otherwise directed by a state health mandate). We successfully completed the last two nine weeks of the 2020-2021 school year in this format and only had 10 weeks of blended learning during the 2020-21 school year.

On June 2, 2021, Ohio ended all health mandates related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Ohio legislature provided schools with the necessary flexibility to implement remote instruction and learning through the submission of Remote Learning Plans for the 2020-2021 school year. The Ohio Department of Education has not received notice that the legislature will extend these flexibilities or create other legislative authority for remote learning next year. However, current state law includes four options that provide authority for schools and districts interested in providing remote learning approaches for students and families: alternative school; blended learning; credit flexibility; and innovative education pilot program. Garaway Local Schools provides Garaway Virtual Academy as an option for remote learning and credit recovery with an option for blended learning for its special education population. As students with special needs are identified and unable to attend brick and mortar for health reasons our Office of Student Services works with Administrators, parents and Intervention Specialists to provide the best and most effective means of instruction possible. This is different for all special education students as each student has specific needs. The IEP is consulted.

HEALTH AND SAFETY GUIDELINES: Our approach to health and safety for the 2021-2022 school year will follow guidance from the Ohio Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. As a district we will be utilizing ESSER funding to improve our air purification with new Ionization Filtration systems at all district buildings as well as HVAC cleaning and continued disinfection of all buildings.

The District will return to pre-pandemic mitigation strategies. Should health conditions shift or stakeholder feedback necessitate, the district will assemble its Safety Team to review conditions and mitigation strategies and offer necessary revisions.

- Physical distancing: The District will return to pre-pandemic protocols. Physical distancing will be recommended, but not required.
- Handwashing: Handwashing will be emphasized throughout the school day. Hand sanitizers will be placed throughout the buildings and students will be encouraged to sanitize their hand when entering and again when leaving a classroom. Cough and sneeze etiquette will be taught, monitored, and reinforced.
- Contact tracing: Contact tracing will occur based upon CPH guidance for all highly infectious diseases.
- Vaccinations: The district will continue to encourage faculty, staff, and students to be vaccinated. The district is willing to serve as a host site as vaccinations are available.

CONTINUATION OF SERVICES: Garaway Local School District has planned for full in-person instruction for the 2021-22 school year. Please refer to our District Learning Recovery and Extended Learning Plan for information regarding the steps we are taking to help with Learning Recovery needed due to COVID. Please know that our students will continue to be monitored during the school year utilizing our K to 8 ELA and Math i-Ready diagnostics while working in concert with administrators, teachers and families to provide formative assessments within the 9 to 12 ELA, Math, Science and Social Studies classrooms.

LEARNING RECOVERY INFORMATION:

<https://www.garaway.org/LearningRecoveryExtendedLearning.aspx>