

Kester Elementary School

Safe Return to School Plan 2023-24

Introduction

This plan is designed to create the best good faith effort at a safe return to onsite educational services as is possible, while providing a high quality educational experience for our students. The social, emotional, and physical health of our students is very important and must be addressed in the most effective way possible for the long term success and health of all. We strive to impart resilience, critical thinking, and a bold outlook on the future, while providing safeguards against illness to the extent that is reasonable and prudent. The intent of this plan is to single out measures that will significantly reduce contact with and spread of COVID 19, while we return to our primary function – providing high quality educational services for all of our students. We hope to mitigate the spread of COVID 19 when/if it is discovered by having in place: plans for functioning under a short-term quarantine, isolation room for the sick, return to school protocols, and off site services. All directives within this plan are subject to change, as the regulatory interests of the state and county evolve with the COVID 19 outbreak.

Attendance

Our current attendance policy allows 8 absences in each of the 2 semesters before credit is forfeited. This policy will remain in effect for as long as students are attending full time onsite classes. The exception to the policy will be those mandated to isolate by county health authorities. These students will continue to have attendance taken via off site service unless they become too sick to participate. Those that participate in an offsite option will be required to attend the classes at the time of streaming unless another option has been arranged with the teacher or they are too ill to do so. Should another schedule be adopted due to increased COVID 19 cases in the area or other unforeseen circumstance, attendance will be adjusted correspondingly.

Cleaning/Disinfecting

Each day, at the close of the school day, the teacher will disinfect all surfaces that are regularly touched (desks, door knobs, pencil sharpeners, doors, lockers, etc.). All elementary students will be asked to wash their hands any time they re-enter the classroom.

Offsite Instruction

These services may be offered, situationally, at the scheduled class time and will be subject to the attendance policy that is in place.

Masks/PPE

Masks will not be required at any time. Those that choose to wear them will be allowed to wear them at any and all times that they feel it prudent.

Sick Students/Staff

Any student that presents with a fever/not feeling well will have their temperature taken with the touchless thermometer and will be made comfortable in an isolated area, if it is found that they have a fever or they are too sick to stay at school parents or a sub will be contacted. If a staff member or student is tested positive for COVID 19, they will need to follow current protocols from county health authorities for remaining in quarantine and safe return to work/school.

Bus Routes/Transportation

The district does not offer bus routes.

Social Distancing

Classrooms will be organized to allow the most possible space between desks, while maintaining room for each student that must take the class.

Offsite Format

All staff have been trained in the use of Google Classroom. This will be the schoolwide format for delivery of material and collecting assignments for those that are out of school for whatever reason in the future. Each student has access to a school provided computer, in order to best facilitate off-site learning endeavors. Video conferencing may be used by the teacher to provide instruction to the students in some situations.

Wendy Spink 08/08/2023

Heather Gibson 8/8/2023