

Sandhills Public Schools 2020-21 Return to Learning Plan

Purpose statements:

1. It is the desire of our teachers, administration, board, and state department of education that children be in school learning from their teachers.
2. Because of the COVID-19 Pandemic we have to prepare for circumstances beyond our control and prioritize both the health and safety of our students, staff, and community, and the high-quality education that is essential for our student's future success.
3. It is the charge of the Nebraska State Department of Education that schools have in place a plan that will help districts to both act decisively and be flexible to the fluidity that our state is going to be in for the foreseeable future.

Risk Dial:

GREEN Little to no COVID cases in our district and no cases in our student or staff population.	YELLOW Mild COVID spread in our district and very few cases in our student and staff population.	Orange Moderate COVID spread in our district and enough cases in our student and staff population to disrupt learning.	RED Significant COVID spread in our district and enough cases in our student and staff population to force remote learning.
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Screening and Masking:

1. Our plan is to do a temperature and questionnaire screen to all staff and students entering our building each day.
2. Students will not be allowed into the Elementary School until 7:30 a.m. and the High School until 7:40 a.m. each morning.
3. For students who ride the bus to school we will have extra school personnel on the bus to take temperatures so the driver doesn't have to perform the screens.

4. Parents who drop their children off at the bus, must wait until their child passes the screening before they can leave the pick-up site.
5. Parents please make a habit of performing health screening at home and **DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL IF THEY ARE ILL OR RUNNING A TEMPERATURE.**
*The screening guidelines will be practiced regardless of our position on the risk dial.
6. Masking will be determined by what position we are on the risk dial.

<p>GREEN</p> <p>Masks will be recommended but not mandated for students and staff.</p>	<p>YELLOW</p> <p>Masks will be recommended but not mandated for students and staff.</p>	<p>Orange</p> <p>Masks or face shields will be required for Staff and students. There may be circumstances that make masking not required. ADA, IEP, and health concerns will be considered in lifting the mask requirement on an individual basis.</p>	<p>RED</p> <p>We will be in the remote learning environment. All staff who come into the school during remote learning will be recommended to wear a mask.</p>
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- The school will keep a supply of masks on hand for students and staff if they need them, but both are encouraged to provide their own. Mask etiquette will be the same as t-shirts, they need to be appropriate for school and not a disruption to the learning environment.

Policy and Handbook:

We will adhere to the board policies, student handbooks, and staff handbook as much as possible. There may be cases that arise as a result of the Pandemic that make it difficult or impossible to follow our preestablished guidelines. For this instance, the board of education approved a resolution giving the administration the authority to deviate from board policy and handbook guidelines if necessary, only during the Pandemic.

i.e.: At the recommendation of the state department of education we will not be awarding perfect attendance awards this school year. It was determined that having a perfect attendance award encourages students to attend school when they are ill.

Instruction:

The state department of education is requiring that schools not use the start of the 20-21 school year as a remediation time period to make up for lost time during the 19-20 school year. With this directive our teachers will be focusing on level appropriate content. Our curriculum will be vetted to cut down on non-essential topics and focus on core standards. This focus will also aid in a transition to remote learning, should the need arise. In school attendance and remote learning will be determined by our place on the risk dial.

GREEN	YELLOW	Orange	RED
All students and staff will be expected to be in attendance and regular attendance will be recorded.	Student absences will be treated like normal absences. They will be responsible for their make-up work. Teacher will not be required, but can choose, to provide remote learning for individuals who can't attend class.	We would expect to see some groups and staff that would not be able to attend school. Attendance will be modified based on placement and some classes will likely be taught remotely. We should still have the school doors open for those who don't need to quarantine.	Our entire school will be working in a remote learning environment.

1. Parents should expect and be prepared for the inconvenience of more remote learning.
2. Remote learning will look very different this year than it did last Spring. We will expect students to attend every class each day and they should expect a basically normal work load.
3. Grading will still be based on semesters and there will be no break from in school learning and remote learning.
4. Attendance will be taken during remote learning, but it will be up to the state department of education what we do with this data.

- 5. We are planning to adhere to our approved calendar. **The first day for practices and teacher workdays is Monday August 10th, and the first day of class will be Wednesday August 12th.**

Cafeteria:

Our rules for the cafeteria will also be dependent on where we are on the risk dial. One of the main differences with the lunch line this year will be that all extras will be served not picked up buffet style. We will still have all the normal offerings that were on the salad bar, but the students will choose their extras and lunch staff will load their tray.

<p>GREEN</p> <p>Lunch times and seating arrangements will be normal. No sack lunches delivered.</p>	<p>YELLOW</p> <p>Lunch times will be staggered based on class and social distancing will be practiced in the eating area. No sack lunches delivered.</p>	<p>Orange</p> <p>Lunch times will be staggered and social distancing will be enforced. We will provide sack lunch service for those students who are unable to attend school due to illness or quarantine.</p>	<p>RED</p> <p>Lunch service will again be provided through delivery to the 5 drop off sites used last semester. Lunches will include a breakfast for the next day.</p>
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Activities:

Activities at Sandhills will be guided by the recommendations of the NSAA and the NDE. If we are not mandated to cancel contests, we will make every effort to compete in every contest on our schedule. That being said there will be a great deal of communication between the AD's at our schools and the schools we are competing against. Contests can be postponed or cancelled based on the current situation at any of the schools involved in the given contest.

Lockering and Dressing will be determined by our position on the risk dial.

<p>GREEN</p> <p>Participants will be encouraged to practice social distancing in the locker room. Showering will be allowed.</p>	<p>YELLOW</p> <p>Participants will be encouraged to practice social distancing in the locker room. Students will be encouraged to shower immediately on arriving home from practice or contest.</p>	<p>Orange</p> <p>Locker room usage will be minimized. Students will either change in shifts or before they leave for a contest.</p>	<p>RED</p> <p>All contests will be postponed or cancelled.</p>
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Activities (Continued):

One consideration to keep in mind as we work our way through the upcoming school year. We have really tried to make sure kids had all the opportunities they would normally have had, like graduation, prom, etc. Going forward, we already have too many events on our school calendar. With this in mind we will not try to reschedule events that are missed due to COVID-19. Obviously, this will be taken on a case by case basis.

Cleaning and Hygiene:

1. Teachers and students will have responsibilities for sanitizing at the end of each class period.
2. Custodial staff will pay extra attention, multiple times through the day, to the common touch fixtures of the schools. i.e. door knobs, water fountain, faucet handles.
3. Teachers at all levels will help to enforce good hand washing practices. Warm water, soap, and at least 20 seconds.
4. UNL has donated 9 gallons of hand sanitizer along with our normal order to ensure that we have enough on hand to get us through the first semester.

Medically Vulnerable Students and Staff:

GREEN Expected to be in attendance.	YELLOW Expected to be in attendance unless specifically affect by the local cases.	Orange Considerations will be taken to make sure that high risk students and staff are working from the safest environment possible.	RED Remote Learning
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- By in large we will not take considerations for family members of students or staff that are considered medically vulnerable, but exceptions will be considered case by case and must have administrative approval.

Important Dates:

August 4th – 7:00 p.m. – Parent Orientation Meeting at the high school gym in Dunning.

August 10th – First day of fall sports practices, First day of teacher workdays.

August 12th – First day of SCHOOL.

Please don't hesitate to call the school or my cell phone if you have any questions or concerns with the re-opening plan.

School: (308)-538-2224

Cell: (308)-870-2824

J.D. Furrow

Superintendent