

USD 261
COVID Operational Plan
2022-23



“The relentless pursuit of excellence”

Introduction

Ensuring a safe and orderly learning environment, as well as protecting the social and emotional well-being of students and staff is the number one priority of USD #261. The impact of the COVID 19 pandemic on public schools over the past 24 months has made it extremely challenging to educate students.

As a district, we share the priority to provide students and staff with a successful 2022-23 school year. **For this to occur, staff must be available each day to work with students.** With this goal at the forefront of all decisions, the district will implement the following strategies:

1. Continually monitor data from reliable sources, and base decisions on science and data.
2. Utilize local data collected from each facility to assist in the decision-making progress.
3. Continue to encourage students, staff, and the Haysville community to be vaccinated against the COVID 19 virus. The district will work to offer vaccination opportunities.
4. Provide free COVID 19 testing to students and staff
5. Ensure facilities are cleaned frequently throughout the day.

After reviewing multiple data sources and receiving input from staff, parents, health care professionals, Sedgwick County Health Department, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, and the CDC the District proposes implementing the following strategies for the 22-23 school year.

Masking

Unless required by the CDC, KDHE, Sedgwick County Health Department, or determined by the district to be necessary to slow the spread of COVID 19, students and staff will not be required to wear face masks or coverings at school.

Temperature and Symptom Screening

- Health care professionals will follow standard operating procedures when evaluating individuals who present symptoms or an illness; however, temperature checks for students and staff will not be required prior to entering a school facility or event.

Physical Distancing

- No mitigations strategies are in place currently.

Hygiene Measures

- **All students and employees are expected to stay at home when sick or symptomatic.**
- Students and staff will have hourly opportunities to sanitize their hands.
- Posters listing the signs and symptoms of COVID 19 will be placed at all facility entry points, classrooms, restrooms, and hallways.

Hygiene Measures continued

- Encourage staff and students to cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue. Used tissues should be thrown in the trash, and hands should be washed immediately with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Students should use hand sanitizer before entering computer labs, and immediately following the use of a lab.

Facilities and Common Spaces

- High touch points and restrooms will be cleaned frequently.
- Hand sanitizer stations will be available in all facility entryways, classrooms, cafeterias, and other high traffic areas.
- Custodial staff will clean desks, carpet, and high touch points at the end of each school day.
- Cloth furniture is allowed in classrooms.
- Entry points to facilities will be limited.
- Facility and classroom doors will remain open during high traffic times, start and end of school, and transition times.
- Signage encouraging social distancing and hand washing will be posted throughout facilities and classrooms.
- Students may use playground equipment.
- Lockers may be utilized by students.
- Lunch may be held in a cafeteria.
- Students may use school libraries and check out materials.
- Maintain maximum ventilation practices with HVAC, windows/doors, and use of outdoor instruction.
- Water fountain spouts will not be accessible. Students and employees may use bottle fill stations provided in all school buildings.

Health Services

- Nurses and paraprofessionals will wear PPE (KN95 masks and/or other face coverings, gowns, gloves, face shields) while working with students and staff who display symptoms of COVID 19.
- Students and staff displaying a fever of 100.4 or higher, a persistent and disruptive cough (not relieved by inhaler or allergy meds), or loss of taste/smell will be sent home.
- Health care professionals will determine if an area separate from the nurse's office is necessary to care for students with critical medical needs, such as suctioning and tube feeding, to minimize contact with potentially ill children.
- When a child is required to go home for a positive COVID 19 test, Health Services staff will escort the student out of the building to meet their parents.

Nutrition Services

- Each kitchen is required to clean and sanitize every surface after preparing food, and in-between serving at mealtimes.
- Salad bars may be available to high school and middle school students.

Nutrition Services continued

- Students will have lunch and breakfast options.
- On occasion, students may eat outside.
- All students are eligible to receive free breakfast during the 2022-23 school year. Students who wish to participate in the program must present their school issued student ID as they pass through the line to receive a free breakfast.

Defining Exposure Through Travel and Travel-Related Quarantine

- If a student or employee has recently traveled from a location on the [KDHE Travel related Quarantine List](#), the student or employee must remain in quarantine until they have met the criteria for release from quarantine set by KDHE or the local health department.

Learning Options

- Learning is limited to in person or virtual learning. The district will not offer a remote learning option at this time.
- The Board of Education can only authorize 40 hours of remote learning in a school year. The Kansas State Board of Education can authorize up to 240 hours in some circumstances. The Board of Education may approve remote learning for an individual student on a student-by-student basis for extenuating circumstances.

Transportation

- Buses will be cleaned and sanitized at the end of each day.
- Students will have assigned seating.

Visitors to District Facilities

- No restrictions are currently in place.

Student Activities

- Field trips will be allowed as determined by building principal. Students are required to follow the face covering requirements of the location they are visiting.
- The district values the impact extracurricular activities has on students, staff, families, and the community. Currently, visitors are welcome to attend extracurricular activities.
- The number of visitors allowed to attend extracurricular events is not limited at this time.
- Elementary students may participate in recess.

Adjustments to the Plan

- Adjustments may be necessary due to updated regulatory guidelines, positive COVID case trends, or other unforeseen circumstances.

COVID 19 Testing Options

- The District will offer various COVID 19 testing tools to students and staff.
- No student will be tested without written consent from a parent or guardian.

Local Data Collection Tool

- Building nurses will complete and submit the number of positive cases among adults and students to Superintendent on a weekly basis.

Isolation Requirements

Students or staff who test positive will need to follow *requirements* set forth by their doctor, CDC, KDHE, or the ***Sedgwick County Health Department.

***Current requirements set by the Sedgwick County Health Department are as outlined below:

- If you test positive for COVID-19, you must remain at home for 5 full days after you first noticed symptoms or sample date if no symptoms.
 - Symptom onset or sample date (if no symptoms) is considered day 0 of your isolation period.
- If after 5 days you are fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medications AND you have no symptoms or your symptoms are resolving, you can leave your house on Day 6, but continue to wear a well-fitting mask at home and in public for an additional 5 full days (Days 6-10).
 - If you are tested on Day 5 and you test positive, remain in isolation for the full 10 days.
 - If you still have a fever or your symptoms are not resolving after 5 days, you must remain at home until your symptoms are resolving and you are fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications.
 - A negative antigen test on Day 5 is recommended before you leave your house on Day 6 but is not required.
 - You cannot do any activities or go places where you are unable to wear a mask at all times (ex. restaurants or gyms).
- If you are unable to wear a mask at all times (ex. being too young), you must remain at home for 10 days from when you first noticed symptoms.