Back Together - Better Than Ever!
2020-2021
August 24

Please teach best practices at home. KSD will reinforce at school.

Proper Handwashing  Cover Cough/Sneeze  Physical Distancing  Symptom Checks at Home

Transportation
- Parents encouraged to provide transportation
- Bus capacity will be limited by physical distancing
- Masks will be required on the bus
- Bus transportation must be requested

Classroom Environment
- Masks required for students and adults
- Stable groups & physical distancing, as possible
- Supplies will not be shared

Meal Services
- Breakfast and Lunch will be served
- Students may opt to bring their own lunch
- Eat in cafeteria or classrooms with physical distance

Academics
- Focus on essential standards
- Social-Emotional support
- Electives, specials, recess & activities with precautions
- Students may request online instruction through KSD Connect

Cleaning and Sanitization
- Increased sanitization of high-touch surfaces
- Daily sanitization of classrooms and desks
- Water fountains disabled; bottle fill stations available

Mitigation
In the event of confirmed exposure or outbreak:
- KSD will follow guidance from Clay County Public Health Center.
- Alternating day schedule may be used at secondary.

Other important components of school are impacted by the pandemic. The full KSD Re-Entry Plan with additional details can be found here.
OUR MISSION: The purpose of the Kearney School District is the pursuit of excellence, which will enable each student to become a productive, contributing member of a diverse society.

Welcome Back Bulldogs! School Begins August 24, 2020

COMMITTED
KSD is committed to providing students and staff with a safe and healthy learning environment.

PREPARED
KSD staff is prepared to provide engaging learning experiences to ensure student success.

FLEXIBLE
KSD’s plan will remain flexible to adhere to the continuously changing situation and the needs of families.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Universal Precautions</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health and Safety</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daily Self-Screening</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educational Instruction Schedule</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academics</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social-Emotional/Mental Health</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KSD Connect (Online Learning)</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breakfast and Lunch</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kids Club</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleaning and Sanitization</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activities and Athletics</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building Visitors</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic Calendar</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acknowledgements</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Introduction
Coming Together to Keep Students Safe & Learning

Kearney School District is preparing for the start of the 2020-2021 school year. Classes will begin on August 24 following guidelines from Clay County Public Health Center (CCPHC). We plan to have all students attending in-person or online (KSD Connect) as we begin the new school year.

District leadership, with collaboration from parents and community members, has been working to create the best possible plan for our families and staff as they prepare to return to school. Our goal is to provide a quality education, while at the same time providing necessary health, safety, and social-emotional support.

Despite the collaborative and careful preparation, we are prepared to adjust our plan to fit the constant changes going on around us. We ask for the patience of our patrons as we continue to address the ever-changing world in which we are living.

The vision of the Kearney School District is “Pursuing Excellence Today for Tomorrow,” and we remain steadfast in this commitment. Regardless of the challenges we may face, we are confident that we have all the components in place to meet these challenges. We have excellent staff, students, families, and our community support is second to none. We look forward to working in partnership with families as KSD prepares for the beginning of the 2020-2021 academic year!
Universal Precautions
Recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control & American Academy of Pediatrics

As we prepare to welcome students back, it is important to understand how COVID-19 is spread in order for everyone to help do their part to minimize the exposure to the virus. COVID-19 is mostly spread by respiratory droplets released when people talk, cough, or sneeze. Personal prevention practices (such as handwashing, staying home when sick, physical distancing, and face coverings) and environmental cleaning and disinfection are important principles that are covered in this document.

Students will be able to access lessons and assignments through the online platform. We emphasize the importance of staying home when you don’t feel well. Incentives and award programs related to attendance will not be implemented this year.

Handwashing
- **Wash your hands** often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- **Use a hand sanitizer** that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry.
- **Avoid touching** your eyes, nose and mouth.

Cover Coughs and Sneezes
- Remember to always cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze.
- Throw used tissues in the trash.
- Immediately wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- If soap and water are not readily available, use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.

Personal Protection
- **Masks are required for students** when physical distancing is not possible. Reasonable accommodations will be made on a case-by-case basis.
- Students will be expected to provide their own masks.
- **Masks are required for adults** when physical distancing is not possible.
- At least one cloth mask and one clear mask will be provided to employees.
- Sanitizer/cleanser, hand soap, and tissues will be provided throughout all buildings.

Physical Distancing
- Group interactions will be limited.
- Arrangement of classroom furniture will be modified.
- Arrival and dismissal procedures may be adjusted.
- Recess, cafeteria, and hallway traffic may be modified.
Health & Safety

Procedures for COVID-19 Related Symptoms

Before the start of each day, students and staff must complete a self-screening (see page 6). The following procedures were developed based on guidance and direction provided by Clay County Public Health Center and informed by recommendations offered by the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Missouri School Boards Association.

Symptomatic & Positive Cases
- Students will be visually inspected for signs and symptoms of illness as they enter the school and/or classroom.
- Students showing symptoms associated with COVID-19 will be separated in an isolated area and cared for by a staff member until they are picked up.
- Students and staff showing symptoms associated with COVID-19 will be sent home and guided to contact their personal health care provider.
- If a student has tested positive or must quarantine, the student will be able to access lessons and assignments through the online platform.

Exposure & Communication
The CCPHC will contact KSD for any case of school exposure. School exposure, as defined by CCPHC, takes place when a person positive for COVID-19 has been in the school setting two days prior to the onset of symptoms. KSD will follow the direction of CCPHC which may include the following:
- Dismissal of any staff and students in close contact with the individual diagnosed with COVID-19, pending CCPHC guidance.
- Initiation of cleaning and sanitizing protocols as guided by CCPHC.
- Communication to all staff and families of students who were in the same building or campus as the diagnosed individual with guidance provided by CCPHC.
- Sharing of as much information as possible with district families, while still following legal and ethical privacy rules.
- If someone has knowingly come into close contact with an individual who has tested positive for COVID-19, that individual (regardless of whether symptomatic or asymptomatic) will be required to leave the premises, consult with CCPHC, and follow their direction. If this person is a staff member, the Human Resources department will be engaged.

Close Contact Defined
- Per the Clay County Health Department, close contact is defined as being within 6 feet of a person for a period of 15 minutes while the person is exhibiting symptoms or two days prior to the person becoming symptomatic.
Daily Self Screening

Before the start of school each day, families must assess the health of their child. KSD staff members must assess their health each day prior to reporting to work.

WE'RE IN THIS TOGETHER

DAILY SYMPTOMS Checklist

For the health and safety of our community, KSD cannot emphasize enough that if a student or staff member is showing any of the following COVID-19 related symptoms, please do not come to school. Are you experiencing any of the following symptoms today?

○ FEVER 100 DEGREES OR CHILLS
○ COUGH
○ SHORTNESS OF BREATH OR DIFFICULTY BREATHING
○ FATIGUE
○ MUSCLE OR BODY ACHES
○ HEADACHE
○ NEW LOSS OF TASTE OR SMELL
○ SORE THROAT
○ CONGESTION OR RUNNY NOSE
○ NAUSEA, VOMITING, OR DIARRHEA

HAVE YOU COME INTO CLOSE CONTACT WITH SOMEONE DIAGNOSED WITH COVID-19?

Close contact is defined as being within 6 feet of a person for a period of 15 minutes while the person is exhibiting symptoms or two days prior to the person becoming symptomatic.

IF YOU ANSWERED YES, PLEASE SELF-QUARANTINE FOR 14 DAYS FOLLOWING CONTACT, AND LET YOUR SCHOOL OFFICE KNOW YOU WILL BE STAYING AT HOME.
Educational Instruction Schedule

Elementary Instruction
In the event that the district is directed to close school buildings, KSD has developed an alternate program allowing students to continue learning online.

2 Scenarios Based on Guidance

- **Full Capacity**
  - FULLY IN-PERSON EDUCATION
  - 5 DAYS/WEEK

- **School Closure**
  - FULLY ONLINE EDUCATION
  - 5 DAYS/WEEK

Secondary Instruction
In the event that the district is directed by the health department to reduce capacity in order to increase physical distancing, the alternating schedule would go into effect for secondary schools.

3 Scenarios Based on Guidance

- **Full Capacity**
  - FULLY IN-PERSON EDUCATION
  - 5 DAYS/WEEK

- **Reduced Capacity**
  - HYBRID EDUCATION: delivered as a combination of **IN-PERSON** and **ONLINE** education
    - A DAY - Last names A-K
    - B DAY - Last names L-Z
    - Alternating Days
    - *Family members go on same day

- **School Closure**
  - FULLY ONLINE EDUCATION
  - 5 DAYS/WEEK
We are excited to transition back to in-person instruction. Because some important standards may have been difficult to learn through online learning this spring, students will be assessed upon return to school so that all students’ needs can be addressed.

How will my child learn some of these important standards which may have been missed but are necessary in the next course or grade level for success?

- This past spring, teams of teachers collaborated to determine the standards which were to be taught in Spring 2020 and are essential to student success at the next grade level or the next course. These standards will be highlighted in the curriculum, and teachers will spend the first few weeks of school reteaching and reinforcing these standards. This year, at the elementary level, there will be a heavy emphasis on the ELA/Reading and math essential standards.

How will science and social studies content be addressed for elementary students?

- We will continue to embed Social Studies and Science into the curriculum on a regular basis in order to teach the required standards.

Will my child’s school supplies be shared by everyone?

- School supplies brought in by students will not be shared this year. Manipulatives will be thoroughly disinfected between uses. School supply lists will be available on the KSD website.

If students get sick or have to self-quarantine, how will they access instruction?

- Students will be able to access instruction from their teachers and complete assignments by logging in to SeeSaw (grades K-1) and Google Classroom (grades 2-12). Some high school classes will use Canvas.

How will my student’s elective classes (Art, Family and Consumer Sciences, Physical Education, Instrumental and Vocal Music, Library, Theater, Woodworking, etc.) look differently this school year?

- Weather permitting, students may go outside for physical education and/or music classroom activities.

- A larger space will be considered to accommodate for physical distancing if designated classrooms are too small to allow for appropriate student numbers.

- Commonly-touched surfaces and equipment will be avoided when possible. Those surfaces and/or objects will be disinfected before and after use when avoidance is not possible. Cleaning and sanitizing will happen routinely throughout the day.

- Library books will be quarantined for at least 72 hours before they are checked back in to the library collections for recirculation.

- In classes where sharing is necessary, those supplies will be cleaned after each use. For example: paint brushes

Will my child’s class go on field trips or have guest speakers?

- No, however teachers will work to provide rich experiences through virtual trips and online guest speakers.
Social-Emotional / Mental Health Questions & Answers

We understand that during this unusual time, many of our students are faced with additional stress and/or anxiety. As always, KSD wants to partner with families to support students in the best way possible. Please contact your child’s counselor to inquire about available resources.

How will the social/emotional health of my child be addressed when classroom instruction resumes?

- Students in grades 3-12 will complete a Social-Emotional self-assessment upon return to school. For students in grades K-2, a teacher perception assessment will be completed.
- Professional development will be provided for building staff regarding typical childhood reactions to stress and trauma.
- Counselors and social workers will collaborate with teachers on classroom activities to address student mental health upon return to school.
- KSD will collaborate with mental health partners on best practices.
- Teachers will provide classroom lessons on school expectations and structure around health, safety and physical distancing practices to help students re-adjust to a full school schedule.

What type of services are available for my student through the school?

- As always, our school counselors are wonderful outlets for kids when they are feeling stressed or overwhelmed with school or life in general.
- Our district social workers are available when students or families are in need of resources which may otherwise be unavailable to them. This includes, but is not limited to school and hygiene supplies, clothes, food, and mental health services.
- KSD partners with Synergy Services, Tri-County Mental Health and other outside providers to promote mental health. Services available include small group therapy, individual therapy, art therapy, music therapy and more.
The KSD staff is looking forward to bringing our students back to school on August 24. Although we are taking precautions to secure the health and safety of our students and staff, we understand that not all students will return to in-person school due to special circumstances. For this reason we will offer online classes (KSD Connect). The curriculum for these classes will mirror the in-person curriculum, and teachers will be available to support online students. KSD Connect students should expect to spend approximately 5 hours per day on school work in order to be successful with online classes. Students will choose either KSD Connect or in-person instruction and will be required to remain in that modality of instruction for a set period of time as described below. Exceptions to these periods of time will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Questions & Answers

How do I sign up for KSD Connect (online instruction)?
- KSD will send out a Final Commitment communication to all district families on July 27. All responses must be received no later than Sunday, August 2.

Is there a contract for parents/guardians and students to sign for a commitment to KSD Connect?
- Yes, there is a contract which states you understand the format and the time commitment to online learning. Students should plan on spending approximately 5 hours per day in order to be successful with online learning.

Will elective classes be available with KSD Connect?
- Most elective classes will be offered, but there are some hands-on classes which would be difficult to teach online effectively. Therefore, they will not be available through KSD Connect.

Can my student change from KSD Connect to in-person instruction?
- Once a student begins instruction through KSD Connect, they will be committed to that format for the rest of the quarter. If a student chooses to return to in-person instruction, they need to contact their school counselor at least one week prior to the end of the quarter.

Can my student change from in-person to KSD Connect instruction?
- Students may only choose instruction through KSD Connect during the regular enrollment period (5 days prior to and 5 days after the beginning of each semester). Exceptions may be made on a case-by-case basis.

What kind of devices will be available for my student? Can students use their own devices with KSD Connect?
- KSD will provide a Chromebook to all students enrolled in KSD Connect. While students are able to login to the KSD Connect platforms with any device, we can only provide support for the district-issued device.
What type of internet access will I need to have to enroll in KSD Connect?

- Families will need to provide fast, reliable internet access to have a successful online experience.

How will students receive instruction?

- Students in grades K-1 will use the SeeSaw platform for their online instruction. Students in grades 2-12 will receive their online instruction through Google Classroom with the exception of some specific high school classes which may use the Canvas platform. It is possible that some high school students will be learning through two different platforms.

Will my student receive training on how to access their learning platforms?

- Yes, students will be able to access training within the platform.

Will I be able to monitor my student’s online progress?

- Grades for KSD Connect will be posted in PowerSchool. Although we are unable to provide parent/guardian accounts on the platforms, KSD can provide parents with their student’s login information to monitor progress.

What if my online student becomes sick?

- If your online student becomes sick and unable to perform the assigned work for a period of time, the student needs to communicate with his/her online teacher to make arrangements for extended deadlines. Parents/guardians must also communicate with the school office.

Will my student be on the computer the entire time?

- Depending on a student’s grade level, the time on a device will vary. Elementary students may spend time on physical education, art projects, or other hands-on learning activities. Depending on the courses a student is enrolled in, additional time on a device is expected for secondary students.

Will my KSD Connect student be eligible for activities and athletics?

- Yes, please refer to KSD Administrative Procedure IGD-AP(3).

Will I still receive notifications from the district?

- Yes. KSD Connect students are still enrolled as Kearney School District students. You will receive email and text communications from the district, as well as occasional phone calls, through School Messenger. To receive texts, you must opt-in by texting YES to 67587.
KSD encourages parents to transport their students to school in order to adhere to COVID-19 physical distancing guidelines on school buses. While bus transportation is available with limitations, families will need to request service for the 2020-2021 school year by August 2, 2020. Notification to KSD on/before August 2, 2020 of needed student transportation service will provide KSD time to effectively plan for ridership for an August 24, 2020 school start date.

Will my child be required to wear a mask on the bus?
- Yes, students will be required to wear masks. Reasonable accommodations will be made on a case-by-case basis.

How will physical distancing work on a bus?
- Whenever possible, there will be a limit of 1 student or 1 family per seat. Students will load the bus back-to-front with an assigned seat.

How often are school buses disinfected?
- Buses will be disinfected after morning routes, mid-day routes, and afternoon routes.

Will bus drivers have their temperatures checked daily?
- Yes, bus drivers will have their temperatures checked daily along with completing a symptom self screening.

How do I inform KSD that my student needs bus transportation for the 2020-2021 school year?
- KSD will send a Final Commitment communication to all district families on July 27. All responses must be received no later than Sunday, August 2.

Will transportation be provided for special requests for the 2020-2021 school year?
- Due to limitations of students on school buses, KSD can only accommodate transportation to the student’s home residence or daycare provider.

Alternatives for Bus Transportation
- Parent/guardian pickup and dropoff
- Walking to school
- Riding your bike to school
- Carpooling
KSD and SFE (Southwest Food Excellence) are committed to providing quality meals for breakfast and lunch during the 2020-2021 school year. The following procedures have been put into place to ensure the health and safety of students and SFE employees while providing nutritious meals on a daily basis.

How will my child be protected during meal times?
- All SFE staff are thoroughly trained in food safety and will adhere to the public health guidelines. SFE is working on the least amount of touch points as possible and will work to limit contact points with meal service. Cashiers will have plexiglass barriers between them and the students.

Will breakfast and lunch be provided?
- Options will be limited to allow for physical distancing. Breakfast will have a cold and hot option. Various cold and hot entree options will be available for lunch.

My child has allergies. How is KSD ensuring his/her safety?
- Parents can use the NutriSlice website, ksdr1.nutrislice.com, to choose the appropriate menu items for their students.

Will meals be offered if my student is an online student?
- Meals will be offered for online students, and KSD will designate a school and time for pickup of meals.

How will my students be served lunch and practice physical distancing?
- Staggered serving times and use of cafeteria and classrooms will be implemented to help physically distance students.

What limitations for meals will my students see for meal service?
- There will be no salad bar to help with physical distancing.
**Kids Club**

**Questions & Answers**

**KSD understands that Kids Club is an important service to our working families.** We know when school is in session, Kids Club needs to be in session as well. As we begin the 2020-2021 school year, we want families to know that health and safety is a top priority for students participating in the Kids Club program.

**Will Kids Club be available during the 2020-2021 school year?**
- Yes. Kids Club will be available to those who have registered and have a confirmed spot in the program.

**What can I expect when I drop my student off for the morning session of Kids Club?**
- Parents/guardians dropping students off for Kids Club will check the student in with a QR code on their personal device. Since school nursing staff are not yet present, Kids Club staff will take the student’s temperature before entry. Any student with a fever or showing other symptoms will not be allowed into Kids Club. Parents/guardians are being asked to do a symptom self-screening prior to bringing their student to Kids Club each day.

**Will my student still be provided a snack during afternoon Kids Club?**
- Yes. Snacks will be individually packaged for distribution to each student. Kids Club workers will distribute the snacks.

**What precautions will be taken during Kids Club?**
- In addition to morning temperature checks, students will be asked to wash their hands when arriving. Frequent hand washing opportunities will be provided throughout the Kids Club session, and good hygiene practices will be encouraged. Students will be assigned to groups each day to help with physical distancing. Routine cleaning/sanitation will take place before, during and after each session. Kids Club staff will be provided training on COVID-19 symptoms, procedures and cleaning/sanitation protocols. Kids Club staff will also be asked to do a symptom self-screening each day before reporting to work.

**Will masks be required in Kids Club?**
- Students and staff will be required to wear masks while in Kids Club.
Cleaning and Sanitization

Procedures

- Before each day, custodial staff will provide thorough cleaning and sanitization of all occupied spaces consistent with CDC guidance and KSD custodial protocols.

- Throughout the day, custodial staff will clean and sanitize high-use areas at regular intervals.

- While spaces are occupied by students, non-custodial staff may assist with cleaning and sanitizing these areas using KSD-provided cleaning supplies. All materials and methods will be safe for public use.

- Students and staff will use only bottle fill stations as regular water fountains will be disabled. Students and staff are encouraged to bring personal water bottles.
KSD plans to provide students the opportunity to participate in most extracurricular activities. While offering these opportunities, the district will prioritize the health and safety of students and staff by adhering to the CCPHC recommendations. We understand that as we abide by those recommendations, some if not all, of those opportunities may be limited in the extent to which they can be provided.

When competitions/games begin, will spectators be allowed?
- KSD will follow the CCPHC guidance on occupancy as outlined in the Clay County Recovery Plan. Attendance will likely be limited. Events will be broadcast, as possible, through the Bulldog Broadcast Network.

What is the Missouri State High School Activities Association (MSHSAA) and the Greater Kansas City Suburban Conference planning?
- MSHSAA and the Greater Kansas City Suburban Conference Executive Committee may further outline guidelines on how athletics and activities will be offered at district high schools and middle schools. As a district, we understand the importance of offering these opportunities to our students and will continue to make every effort to do so. However, we know there may be decisions made by local, state, or national organizations that may prohibit some if not all extracurricular activities from taking place. To the extent possible, we expect all athletics and activities that can be performed in accordance with the CCPHC recommendations will be available for student participation.

What can parents/guardians do to help?
- Moving forward, this will be a collaborative effort, and safety is our priority. All coaches and students must, prior to reporting to any district site, self-screen for COVID-19 symptoms and exposure. Should they have any current symptoms of COVID-19 or if they come into close contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19, they must stay at home and contact the CCPHC for guidance. They should also report this situation to their assigned coach or sponsor.

Additional Information & Resources:
- Activity Department Website
- Summer Activity Calendar
- Summer Activity Plan
- Clay County Public Health Center Community Recovery Plan
Building Visitors
Questions & Answers

How do I bring medicine to school?
- When you have the medicine and the doctor’s consent form, please arrange a time to meet with the school nurse.

How do I pick my student up early from school?
- Please call when you arrive at school, and let the office know that you need your child to be checked out early. If necessary, a staff member will escort your child to your car and ask that you sign him/her out for the day.

What if my student is late to school?
- You may walk your student into the office and check him or her in. We require that you wear a mask upon entrance to the building and maintain physical distancing protocols. However, if you do not feel comfortable walking your student into the building, please call the office, and a staff member will come to your car and bring your child into the office.

Can I observe in my student’s classroom?
- As we work to limit the number of adults in school during this pandemic, we will be asking parents/guardians not to observe in classrooms at this time. We look forward to returning to previous observation protocols in the near future.

Can I attend school parties or have lunch with my student?
- Unfortunately, to limit the number of adults in the building/classroom, we will temporarily discontinue allowing parent volunteers at school parties as well as parents eating lunch with their student.

I have an IEP/504/parent meeting, can I come to the building to attend?
- Yes. The student’s case manager or teacher will contact the parent/guardian to see how they would prefer to participate. Those parents/guardians wanting to attend the meeting in person will be allowed to do so. Those wishing to participate virtually or over the phone may choose that option.

Will we still be able to hold monthly PTO meetings?
- Yes, however we strongly encourage virtual meetings for the time being! If an in-person meeting is conducted on school property, we ask that PTO meetings limit the number of adults gathering and require that face masks be worn and physical distancing guidelines are followed.

Will I still be able to rent the school buildings or facilities for events?
- No, we are temporarily suspending building and facilities rentals.
In the event the health department requires a school or district to reduce capacity, an alternative schedule may be implemented.
Acknowledgements

KSD Ad Hoc Committee on Health and Safety

KSD Re-entry Task Force