



Introduction

Purpose of Plan

Following the COVID-19 pandemic and mandated school closure, Arkansas schools were instructed to create a re-entry plan for students returning to school for the 2020-2021 school year. This document outlines the South Pike County School District plan for safely returning to school, as well as our transition into blended learning to ensure learning for all students anytime, anywhere. In addition, this document will serve as our District Support Plan and outlines how we will support learning to ensure success for all students in SPCSD.

Ready for Learning Committee Members:

Brad Sullivan, Superintendent
Tanya Wilcher, Director of Programs
Davey Jones, High School Principal
Cindy Lee, Elementary School Principal
Sandra VanCamp, Director of Food Services
Troy Stone, Transportation/Maintenance Director
Brittany Rogers, School Nurse
Genyne Conly, District Treasurer
Grace Hoover, Administrative Assistant
Steve Conly, SPCSD Board President
Courtney Stone, High School Counselor
James Riley, Elementary School Counselor

Traci Jones, LEA Supervisor
Chad Brinkley, Innovation Specialist
Melissa Jones, Curriculum Specialist
Sarita McRae, Technology/Math Coach
Laura Hughes, Technology/Computer Lab
Alma Barnes, Teacher
Stephanie Cross, Teacher
Kayla Kuykendall, Teacher
Cindy Cobb, Teacher
Danny Eckert, Parent
Lacy Womack, Parent
Celeste May, Parent
Micah Harper, Parent



Transportation

In order to ensure the safe transport of students, the following safety measures will be in place:

- Buses will be disinfected after each route. Bus drivers will be trained on proper sanitation procedures.
- Hand sanitizer will be located at the front of the bus for student use when boarding and unloading from the bus.
- Face coverings are optional for students and drivers.
- Seating charts will be made for each route. Students will stay in the same seat each day. Social distancing is still recommended for students riding the bus.

Facilities

To prevent the spread of communicable diseases, it is imperative that our facilities remain as sanitary as possible. School custodians will employ the following safety measures to ensure the health and safety of our students and staff:

- Supplies, such as trash cans, disinfecting wipes, Kleenex, and hand sanitizer will be readily available in every classroom.
- Water fountains will be limited to bottle filling stations and will be utilized on each campus.
- Restrooms will be regularly cleaned and disinfected on a rotation throughout the day.
- Common areas will be restricted to ensure social distancing of students. These areas will also be cleaned and disinfected on a rotation throughout the day.
- Students will utilize hand sanitizer before and after recess. Disinfectant will be sprayed on the playground equipment after each recess period.
- The maintenance supervisor will be responsible for ordering all disinfectants to ensure the safe handling of chemicals.
- Custodians and maintenance staff will be trained on proper environmental surface cleaning and disinfecting practices.
- Maintenance and custodial staff will be provided appropriate PPE to help ensure their safety.



Food Service

Feeding our students is a priority of the South Pike County School District. All students will continue to have access to approved meals, whether they are learning at school or from home. In order to accomplish this task, the Food Service Department will employ the following:

- Tables will be spread out throughout the cafeteria to ensure social distancing.
- No more than $\frac{2}{3}$ of the cafeteria capacity will be utilized at any time.
- Hand sanitizer will be available throughout the cafeteria.
- No self-service will be allowed.
- Cafeteria staff will provide the utensils on the tray. There will be no self-service of eating utensils.
- There will be no money exchanged through the lunch line. There will be a designated time in the mornings for students to bring lunch money to the Food Services staff.
- We will continue feeding remotely as needed for virtual students.
- Food services will continue to use as many pre-packed food options as feasible.
- Food service staff will be trained on proper cleaning and disinfecting procedures.
- Elementary breakfast will be served in the classrooms.
- If we are unable to meet social distancing requirements issued by the Arkansas Department of Health when eating in the cafeteria, alternate locations, including classrooms and outdoor seating spaces, will be considered for meal delivery and consumption.

School Health

At South Pike County School District, the health and safety of our students is our top priority. This includes mental health as well as physical health and safety. To maximize student health during the pandemic, the following health and safety protocols will be instituted on each campus:

- Face coverings will be optional for all students and staff.
- Students will be placed 6 feet apart, when feasible.
- Teachers will stand 12 feet from students when speaking, if feasible. School nurses will have a designated space for healthy students needing routine checks and procedures.



- An isolated space with appropriate ventilation will be designated for students who exhibit symptoms of COVID-19.
- School nurses will assist with the screening process for students, staff, and visitors.
- School staff will be responsible for self-screening using the required screening form and procedures.
- School nurses will assist with the procurement of appropriate PPE for students and staff as needed.
- School nurses will help educate students, staff, and families regarding when children can come to school and when they should stay home.
- Mental health services will continue to be provided to students either in person or through tele-health. Staff will receive training on trauma, mental health, and providing social/emotional support for students.
- Staff will be re-trained on child maltreatment and mandated reporting procedures.

Fiscal Services

It is important for certain fiscal services to continue, even during times of school closure. The essential operations that we must ensure continue at all times include: payroll, accounts payable, and accounts receivable. In the event that our employees who hold these responsibilities are out of the office due to illness or quarantine, we have additional staff trained in the district who can perform these operations. In the event that the school is closed to all personnel, we will ensure ongoing essential fiscal services through the following processes:

- The district treasurer has a secure VPN to work from which will allow for seamless continuation of payroll.
- Most of our financial business is done through direct deposit.
- For employees needing paper checks, they will be printed from a remote location and mailed to the employee.
- An employee will be designated for accounts payable and receivable.
- The mail will be obtained from the post office each day and all bills will be paid in a timely manner.
- Any accounts receivable money issued through the mail will be deposited the same day as received.



Limiting Access

The South Pike County School District welcomes visitors and encourages parent and community involvement. However, in order to ensure the safety and well-being of our students and staff, the following protocols will be enforced on each campus:

- Signs approved by ADH will be placed on all doors.
- The number of visitors will be limited.
- Visitors will report through a single access point in each building.
- Visitors will be screened upon entering the buildings, as required by current ADH guidelines.

Blended Learning and District Support Plan

Learning Management System (LMS)

The South Pike County School District's Learning Management System will be Seesaw for grades K-6 and Google Classroom for grades 3-12.

Guaranteed and Viable Curriculum

Elementary

Literacy: In grades K-6, the SPCSD will use direct instruction for reading, literacy and writing. Heggerty will be used to teach the phonemic awareness literacy component. All literacy instruction will be aligned with the Science of Reading.

Math: In grades K-6, the SPCSD will use Eureka Math (Engage NY). Zearn, a free online resource that supports Eureka Math, will also be available for all students, regardless of learning modality.

High School

- For grades 7-12, the curriculum will be primarily teacher-created units of study based upon essential Arkansas learning standards. Classrooms will be flipped during direct instruction and uploaded into Google Classroom.



- Apex is an online resource that will be used to supplement core instruction in the classroom.
- The district will utilize Virtual Arkansas and Apex for courses not offered on-site.
- Concurrent learning opportunities through University of Arkansas-Cossatot Community College will be available for students who wish to earn college credit.

Personalized Learning

Multiple learning options will be available for students of the South Pike County School District, including:

- 5 days of traditional brick-and-mortar on-site instruction
- Blended learning opportunities
- Digital learning

Assessment

SPCSD will use a variety of assessments for the purposes of: determining our current reality, setting school and district goals, assessing unfinished learning, determining needed interventions/enrichments, and ongoing progress monitoring.

Assessments that will be used include:

- DIBELS
- DRA
- iStation
- Renaissance (STAR, AR, 360)
- ACT ASPIRE
- The ACT
- Teacher-created common assessments
- Classroom formative and summative assessments



Using Effective Technology

Devices

In order to support digital learning, the South Pike County School District purchased every certified staff member (and multiple classified staff members) new MacBook Airs. We are an Apple Distinguished School and have been 1:1 with iPads. We did refresh devices this summer with all students K-12 getting a new Gen 7 iPad along with protective cases for all devices.

Accessibility

Internet accessibility is a barrier that the South Pike County School District is working through. Approximately 75% of our students indicated that they have internet. Of the 25% who do not have internet service, some do not even have cellular service where they live. Approximately 90% of our teaching staff have internet access and are able to teach remotely. In order for our blended learning plan to be effective, internet access is imperative. Therefore, some of the options to ensure accessibility of all of our students and staff, we are exploring the following options:

- Hot Spots - We were allotted 35 Verizon hotspots from the Governor's \$10million initiative.
- Wifi outside APs were installed on all campuses
- Community drive up wifi locations are being installed in conjunction with South Central Connect.

Training for Staff

The faculty, staff, and students of SPCSD will require ongoing training as we transition into blended and digital learning. The following training topics will be offered:

- How to teach/learn in a digital learning environment
- How to engage students in a remote learning setting
- Digital learning etiquette
- Google Classroom training
- Seesaw training
- How to effectively flip a classroom
- Creating videos

During professional development days in June and July, SPCSD teachers were provided training on the areas mentioned above. Teachers were able to sign up for individual or group sessions on topics they needed help with. Teachers have also recorded and shared tutorial videos for their peers to view as often as needed. This process will continue throughout the year as new training needs arise.



Training and Support for Students and Families

All students and families can benefit from additional training on blended learning. Students who attend school on-site and our virtual students will receive training on Google classroom and Seesaw, how to learn in a digital environment, how to stay engaged in a remote setting, and on specific curriculum and online learning platforms. In order to better support our virtual students and families, SPCSD had trainings for students and parents to train on specific needs such as devices, internet access, food services, and more. Our virtual teachers, counselors and technology department will help students and families troubleshoot any problems or issues as they arise.

Communication Plan

Open lines of communication are critical to the success of this plan. In order to effectively communicate with students, parents, and the community, the South Pike County School District will utilize the following communication mediums:

- School Messenger System - Telephone, Text Messaging, and App notification capabilities
- District Website - <https://www.rattlers.org/>
- Social Media (District and School Facebook pages, Twitter)
- Newspaper - our local newspaper reporter receives our school messenger system messages

Special Education

Under IDEA legislation, schools are required to provide services to all students with an IEP. Therefore, modifications and related services outlined in each student's IEP will continue to be provided, regardless of their learning modality.

There will be individualized remote learning plans developed for each student with an IEP. If students receive related services such as speech therapy, occupational therapy, and/or physical therapy, they will continue to receive those services either in-person or via a synchronous learning system such as Zoom or Google Meet.



Dyslexia

Dyslexia services will continue for all students who qualify. Dyslexia services will continue to be delivered either on-site individually or in small groups. For remote students, scheduled sessions will continue. Progress monitoring will continue and the results will be shared with administration.

Attendance

In alignment with the Arkansas State Reported Absence directive, a student will be counted absent if the student is not:

- Present for onsite instruction provided by the district,
- Participating in a planned district-approved activity, or
- Engaged in scheduled instruction at an off-site location, including remote learning.

For digital learners, The South Pike County School District will determine attendance by the successful completion and submission of assignments.

SPCSD Ready for Learning



Ready for Learning Expectations		District Plan
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure the continuity of teaching and learning by providing: 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a guaranteed and viable curriculum that includes: 	<p>All teachers in the South Pike Co. School District have developed curriculum units for each of their courses that address the essential standards of the state of Arkansas. The essential standards that are taught in each course were selected according to how they address the following: 1) Endurance, standard(s) address information students are expected to retain beyond the current course, 2) Leverage, standard(s) are applicable in more than one subject area, 3) Readiness, standard(s) are necessary for the next unit, course, or grade level, and 4) Accountability, standard(s) are addressed on the state high stakes exam.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> blended learning (K-12), and 	<p>Students returning to the classroom in the fall will have a Blended learning environment. Students will report to campus 5 days a week to learn, but both teachers and students will be prepared for remote learning if needed due to illness or inclement weather. Additionally, even though students will be onsite most days, technology; devices and digital lessons or components to lessons may be used. Blended learning allows the student to continue learning grade-level content standards through an educational plan that leverages both technology-based and face-to-face instruction. This is a model we utilize on a daily basis.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> diagnostic assessments (K-8) 	<p>Renaissance Learning</p>

SPCSD Ready for Learning



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify how to address unfinished learning from the prior year by using: 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arkansas Playbook:Planning for Re-engagement 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> district-developed resources 	<p>Grades 7-12 will use teacher-made assessments, created from 2019-20 learning standards, along with 19-20 Aspire classroom/interim data, to identify individual areas of content weakness. Teachers and administrators will break down local data in order to interpret, understand and address areas of content weakness with individual students using robust, scaffolded lesson plans, and a variety of remediation tools.</p> <p>Grades 1-6 will use teacher created assessments, Renaissance, DRA, DIBELS, and iStation to determine individual areas of content weakness/es. The elementary leadership team and teacher grade level teams will analyze data to determine areas of weakness within groups of students and individual students. Homeroom teachers will address the areas of need during a scheduled time of the day with targeted lesson plans and a variety of instructional strategies.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utilize a Learning Management System 		Google Classroom, Seesaw
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schedule teacher training for how to use the LMS 		Individualized training throughout the summer 2020
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schedule teacher training for blended learning (delivery of instruction) 		June 21-22/August 17-20
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide support for parents and students Family and Community Engagement Plan Support Parent Page on DESE Website 		K-6 scheduled training for virtual learners and parents on iPad and curriculum. K-1 scheduled training for on-site learners and parents on iPad, curriculum, and procedures.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide a communication plan for interacting with parents, students, and the community 		Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, SeeSaw and the district website (rattlers.org) will be our primary source of communication.



Support Services and Resources

Arkansas Ready for Learning

<https://dese.ade.arkansas.gov/Offices/communications/arkansas-ready-for-learning>

Arkansas Back-to-School Playbook

<http://dese.ade.arkansas.gov/divisions/special-projects/statewide-playbook>

CARES Info

<http://dese.ade.arkansas.gov/divisions/public-school-accountability/federal-programs/cares-act>

Helping Students Cope - Social Emotional Supports for the Classroom

http://dese.ade.arkansas.gov/public/userfiles/Communications/Ready/Helping_Students_Cope_Social-Emotional_Supports_for_the_Classroom.pdf

Response Levels for On-Site Learning

http://dese.ade.arkansas.gov/public/userfiles/Communications/Ready/Response_Levels_for_On-Site_Learning_FINAL_Updated_8_20_20.pdf

ADH COVID-19 Case Update by County

<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/c2ef4a4fcbe5458fbf2e48a21e4fece9>

ACHI Data

<https://achi.net/covid19/>

School Employee COVID-19 Emergency Leave

<http://adecm.arkansas.gov/ViewApprovedMemo.aspx?Id=4509>