

Scranton School District

Plan for Return to Learning 2020 - 2021

UPDATED 4/15/2021

Any and all of this plan is subject to change based on new guidance from the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH) and Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE).

The Scranton School District will utilize the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH) guidelines and the Arkansas Ready for Learning report issued by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education in planning for re-opening school in the fall. We hope the following information helps to answer many of the questions you may have about re-opening schools.

The Scranton School District is committed to provide as safe an experience as is possible, including a high-quality educational program, opportunities for social interaction, and extracurricular activities, while adhering as much as is practical and possible to the guidelines provided by the Arkansas Department of Health.

What is the first day for students? Has the school calendar changed?

School will begin on Monday, August 24, 2020, as recommended by DESE. This date could change if ADH sends updated guidance but that is not anticipated at this time. The original Scranton School District calendar will not be changed. Days missed will follow the inclement weather/COVID-19 make-up schedule. The days missed August 13-21 will be made up following this schedule. These days will all be made up virtually (online). Students will not report to school.

Are face coverings required?

Faculty, staff, and students are encouraged to wear a face covering during the school day, but it is not required. However, due to the inability to socially distance while riding the school bus, students MUST wear one while they are on the bus.

Do we need to provide masks for our student or will one be provided?

The district will no longer provide masks for students. Bus drivers will have masks available for students who need one while being transported on the school bus.

Will bus transportation be provided?

Yes, the district will provide bus transportation for students. Students must wear a mask while riding the bus. We are planning no changes to bus schedules or bus stops at this time. If any changes to schedules or stops are to be made, the district will notify families as soon as possible so that preparations can be made.

How normal will the day be for a student?

Our goal is for students to have as normal a day as possible while we also provide as much safety as possible. Students will not remain in the same classroom all day, but will be able to transition from one class to another as is appropriate. Frequent and regular sanitation will occur throughout all facilities and buses each day.

Will students at the elementary still have extra classes like PE, art, music, guidance and library?

Yes, students will continue to participate in activity classes, check out library books, and receive guidance and gifted instruction. In some cases, the teacher may present their lesson in the student's classroom to reduce the amount of cleaning necessary. In others situations, such as PE, students may have an assigned area in the gym with specific materials assigned to their group.

Will my elementary student still have recess?

Yes. Elementary students will have outdoor play time with physical distancing being observed as much as is possible and practical.

Will physical distancing guidelines be observed?

Physical distancing will be observed as much as possible and practical, but at times students may be closer than the recommended six foot apart.

Will classrooms be arranged differently to protect students?

Yes, classrooms will be arranged to provide more space between students. That might mean all desks are arranged in rows facing in a single direction. It might result in reading areas with bean bags, couches or comfy chairs being removed. We will make every effort to provide distance, but not to limit students' ability to interact and communicate with others in their classroom. Additionally, supplies and materials will not be shared by students.

Will students attend school every day or will we have some type of alternative schedule?

We plan for students to attend school daily following as close to a normal schedule as possible.

If an individual should test positive for COVID-19, what will happen?

In the event that an individual tests positive, we will follow the latest guidance from the ADH. We will be in direct contact with ADH. This could result in a brief closure of the school buildings to provide time for deep cleaning, sanitation, and contact tracing.

Will students and adults be screened daily?

Both students and adults will complete a daily screening **AT HOME** prior to coming to the school.

Parents of ALL K-12 students are responsible for completing the screening EVERY DAY prior to sending a child to school.

- 1.) Take temperature.
- 2.) Have you had a fever of 100.4°F or greater in the last 2 days?
- 3.) Have you had a cough, difficulty breathing, sore throat, or loss of taste or smell?
- 4.) Have you been in contact with a person known to be infected with COVID-19 within the previous 14 days?

If I don't want my student to return to a traditional classroom, what are my options?

Scranton School District is no longer offering a virtual option for students. If you feel you have an extenuating circumstance or it is medically necessary that your child not attend school in the traditional manner, you **MUST** get approval from your child's building principal.

Will my student eat breakfast and lunch in their classroom?

As with classrooms, we will make every effort to maintain appropriate physical distancing for students during meal times. We anticipate that students will be able to eat in the cafeteria. Proper sanitation of all areas will be completed after each meal. Procedures will not allow students to pick up utensils, self-serve, or share food. Parents are encouraged to send a water bottle with their child each day. Water fountains will not be used.

Will I be able to come to the school and eat lunch with my student, or deliver lunch for them?

For safety purposes, visitors will **NOT** be able to eat lunch at school or deliver lunches for their students. Access to the buildings will be limited to essential business only. Students must bring their lunch to school with them or eat in the cafeteria.

What special precautions will be implemented in regard to cleaning and sanitizing?

Sanitation and cleanliness will be a high priority for our district as we return in the fall. We will regularly and frequently clean high touch surfaces (door knobs, light switches, etc.), classroom furniture, and restrooms on a

continuous basis throughout the day. We have also purchased disinfectant sprays to quickly sanitize rooms between usage. We will also provide time for hand washing and hand sanitizer throughout our campuses.

If a student comes to school sick, what will happen?

If a student comes to school sick, the school nurse will screen the student and check their temperature. If temperature is over the ADH guidance, the student will be sent home and will need to be fever free for 48 hours without medication before returning to school. When the child returns to school they MUST check in with the school nurse before returning to class.

What happens if we have school closures again?

If schools close again, all students will transition to the online learning method. All district teachers have been trained in the use of our online learning management system. Students will be taught how to complete and submit assignments. Teachers will utilize a variety of methods to deliver lessons.

Will our students have the same arrival and dismissal times?

Our current plan is to operate on our normal schedules as much as possible. However, this could change depending on additional guidance or directives from ADH.

What advice do you have for students with special needs (autism, asthma, panic attacks, anxiety, etc.) or students with weakened immune systems and pre-existing conditions?

The district is prepared to accommodate all students through both onsite and offsite instruction. Our Special Education instructors will be taking extra precautions when working with students with disabilities. If parents have concerns about any of their students who may be at high-risk because of COVID-19, they may explore the Online Learning option which allows the student to continue their education from the safety of their own home.