Riverside USD 114 Return-to-School Plan



Guidelines for Riverside Schools

Home of the **Cyclones**

USD 114 in consultation with the Doniphan County Health Department, has developed a plan to support school buildings and the community for reopening schools. USD 114's Return-to-School Plan provides a tiered approach with clear, actionable steps that are advisable before students and employees Return-to-School buildings. This plan will be applicable throughout the 2020-2021 school year.

This approach is built upon guidance and recommendations of local and state health officials; considers the reopening guidelines that have been provided by our state and federal leaders; and it is designed to prioritize the health and safety of students and staff as we open school buildings and deliver instruction for the 2020-2021 school year.

USD 114's Return-to-School Plan focuses heavily on the health and physical requirements necessary for reopening school buildings. USD 114 will continue to provide support to school buildings on navigating the academic, social, and emotional effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on students and employees.

USD 114's Return-to-School Plan provides the expectations and best practices to ensure a safe and successful 2020-2021 school year. USD 114 school buildings are expected to follow these expectations. Individual school buildings have the authority and flexibility to meet their individual needs and be responsive to their stakeholders with approval of the USD 114 Return-to-School Committee and the USD 114 School Board.

Addressing Community Spread in Doniphan County

Low/No Spread

- It is recommended that all persons in the school building will wear a mask, will sanitize hands hourly, and have temperature taken before temperature taken before entering the building.
- Establish and maintain communication with local and state health officials

entering the building.

- Participate in contact-tracing efforts as directed by local health officials (to the extent feasible)
- Post signage in classrooms, hallways, and entrances to communicate how to stop the spread. COVID-19 symptoms, preventative measures (including staying home when sick), good hygiene, and school/district specific protocols
- Establish a protocol for students/staff who feel ill/experience symptoms when they come to school (see When a Child, Staff Member, or Visitor Becomes Sick at School)
- Consider ways to accommodate needs of children, teachers/staff, and families at higher risk for severe illness (see Protecting Vulnerable Populations for considerations)

- Minimal/Moderate Spread Persons in the school buildings may be required to wear a mask, will sanitize hands hourly, and have
- Establish and maintain communication with local and state health officials
- Participate in contact-tracing efforts as directed by local health officials (to the extent feasible)
- Implement **enhanced** social distancing measures (see Transitioning, Large Group Gatherings, and Teaching and Learning)
- Post signage in classrooms, hallways, and entrances to communicate how to stop the spread. COVID-19 symptoms, preventative measures (including staying home when sick), good hygiene, and school/district specific protocols
- Establish a protocol for students/staff who feel ill/experience symptoms when they come to school (see When a Child, Staff Member, or Visitor Becomes Sick at School)
- Isolate and deep clean impacted classrooms and spaces

Definitions

Consider ways to accommodate needs of children, teachers/staff, and families at higher risk for severe illness (see Protecting Vulnerable Populations for considerations)

Substantial Spread

- Coordinate with local and state health officials
- Participate in contact-tracing efforts as directed by local health officials (to the extent feasible)
- Buildings that are closed, remain closed. Implement distance/remote learning (see Serving School Meals and Supporting Teaching and Learning).
- Close off affected areas and if possible, wait 24 hours before cleaning and disinfecting.
- Accommodate needs of children, teachers/staff, and families at higher risk for severe illness (see Protecting Vulnerable Populations for considerations)

For additional guidance on addressing community spread, see the CDC's Considerations for Schools

Face Coverings



Face coverings differ based on the level of community spread and can be found throughout this document. Information will be provided to staff, students, and families on proper use, removal, and washing of cloth face coverings. Any policy regarding face coverings should be sensitive to the needs of students and staff with medical issues that make the wearing of a face covering inadvisable. **CDC Guidance**

Hand Sanitizer



Hand sanitizers should contain at least 60% alcohol and only used with staff and older children who can safely use hand sanitizer. Hand soap should be used for younger children.

CDC Guidance

Clean/Disinfect



Ensure safe and correct application of disinfectants and keep out of reach of children. **CDC Guidance**

USD 114 Return-to-School Plan

Level of Community Spread (as determined by state and local health officials)	Low/No Spread	Minim	nal/Modera	te Spread	Substantial Spread
Instructional Model (as determined by USD 114 administration)	Traditional Model	Traditional	Hybrid	Full/Distance Remote Learning	Distance/Remote Learning
Response (as determined by USD 114 in partnership with local departments of public health and community stakeholders)	School Buildings Open – Implement preventative practices and additional proactive processes/protocols	School Buildings Open - Implement more intensive mitigation strategies; encourage/ enhance social distancing; (see Targeted Closure)	Limited/ Staggered Use of School Buildings – Implement alternating schedules for students; target distance/ remote	Minimal Use of School Buildings – Implement targeted distance/remote learning or adopt building-wide distance/remote learning as necessary	Targeted Closure — Isolate and disinfect affected areas OR Short-term Closure — Close for facility-wide deep cleaning minimum of 5 days OR Extended Closure —

USD 114 Decision Tree:

USD 114 Return-to-School provides guidance and expectations to leadership to implement plans based on the flexible framework to address challenges that may develop throughout the 2020-2021 school year. Instead of a one-size-fits-all approach, the Decision Tree provides a menu of instructional models and responses school leaders can adopt to ensure the continued success and safety of students and staff members.

	Low/No Spread	Minimal/Moderate Spread	Substantial Spread
Practicing Prevention Expectations	 It is recommended that all persons in the school building will wear a mask, will sanitize hands hourly, and have temperature taken before entering the building. Teach and reinforce good hygiene measures such as handwashing, covering coughs, and face coverings Provide hand soap and hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol, paper towels, and no-touch trash cans in all bathrooms, classrooms, and frequently-trafficked areas Post signage in classrooms, hallways, and entrances to communicate how to stop the spread. COVID-19 symptoms, preventative measures (including staying home when sick), good hygiene, and school/district specific protocols. Clean/disinfect frequently-touched surfaces at least daily and shared objects after each use Take steps to ensure all water systems and features are safe Ensure ventilation systems operate properly and increase circulation of outdoor air as much as possible, as long as this does not pose a safety or health risk to students or staff Conduct deep cleaning of schools prior to students/staff returning; schedule periodic cleanings during weekends or school holidays/breaks (to the extent practicable) 	 Persons in the school building may be required to wear a mask, will sanitize hands hourly, and have temperature taken before entering the building. Teach and reinforce good hygiene measures such as handwashing, covering coughs, and face coverings Provide hand soap and hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol, paper towels, and no-touch trash cans in all bathrooms, classrooms, and frequently-trafficked areas Post signage in classrooms, hallways, and entrances to communicate how to stop the spread. COVID-19 symptoms, preventative measures (including staying home when sick), good hygiene, and school/district specific protocols. Clean/disinfect frequently-touched surfaces at least daily and shared objects after each use Take steps to ensure all water systems and features are safe Turn off water fountains and provide bottled water or allow students and staff to bring water bottles from home Ensure ventilation systems operate properly and increase circulation of outdoor air as much as possible, as long as this does not pose a safety or health risk to students or staff Conduct deep cleaning of schools prior to students/staff returning; schedule additional cleanings during weekends or school holidays/breaks 	Use social media and other communications to inform parents, students, and staff about COVID-19 symptoms, preventative measures, good hygiene, and school/district specific protocols Encourage COVID-19 testing CDC Guidance How to Protect Yourself and Others COVID-19 Symptoms COVID-19 and Children Communication Tools Kansas Department of Public Health and Environment website

	Low/No Spread	Minimal/Moderate Spread	Substantial Spread
Transporting Students	Implement standard operating procedures while taking preventative measures such as: Providing hand sanitizer for students and bus drivers Screen students and bus drivers for symptoms of illness It is recommended, bus drivers and students wear face masks/coverings on the bus Limiting field trips (to areas of limited/low transmission) Inspecting buses prior to students returning and as part of a regular rotation Cleaning and disinfecting frequently-touched surfaces on the bus at least daily Airing out buses when not in use	 Provide hand sanitizer for students and bus drivers Bus drivers and students may be required to wear face masks/coverings on the bus Screen students and bus drivers for symptoms of illness and utilize spaced seating (to the extent practicable) Eliminate field trips Clean and disinfect frequently-touched surfaces on the bus at least daily Establish protocols for bus stops, loading/unloading students to minimize congregation of children from different households CDC Guidance What Bus Operations Need to Know 	School buildings are closed; buses may be used to deliver meals or other items to students and families. No transport of students during this time.
Entering School Buildings	Implement standard operating procedures while taking preventative measures such as: Provide hand sanitizer for students and staff Limit unnecessary congregations of students and staff Post signage in classrooms, hallways, and entrances to communicate how to stop the spread. COVID-19 symptoms, preventative measures (including staying home when sick), good hygiene, and school/district specific protocols Establish a protocol for students/staff who feel ill/experience symptoms when they come to school Establish a protocol for visitors: calling front office before entering, screening visitors, requiring use of face coverings/masks, etc. It is recommended that all persons in the school building will wear a mask, will sanitize hands hourly, and have temperature taken before entering the building.	 Post signage in classrooms, hallways, and entrances to communicate how to stop the spread. COVID-19 symptoms, preventative measures (including staying home when sick), good hygiene, and school/district specific protocols. Establish a protocol for students/staff who feel ill/experience symptoms when they come to school (see When a Child, Staff Member, or Visitor Becomes Sick at School) Screen students and staff (to the extent practicable): Take temperatures ideally before entering buildings Isolate and send home if internal temperature over 100.4°F (38°C) Consider safety and privacy concerns (confidentiality should be maintained) Establish a protocol for visitors: calling front office before entering, screening visitors, requiring use of face coverings/masks, etc. Restrict nonessential visitors and volunteers. Establish a protocol for student pickup/drop-off: staggered entry and release (by grade, class, or bus numbers), marked spacing for pickup Persons in the school building may be required to wear a mask, sanitize hands hourly, and have temperature taken before entering the building. 	School buildings are closed; only essential staff report in-person to carry out functions that are absolutely necessary. District/school leaders must remain vigilant and purposeful as they determine roles, responsibilities, and reporting requirements for staff, refraining from blanket reporting requirements District/school leaders should leverage virtual tools and platforms wherever possible to conduct essential business and keep in-person reporting to an absolute minimum during school closures KSDOL Guidance In-person Reporting and Employee Safety Guidance

	Low/No Spread	Minimal/Moderate Spread	Substantial Spread
Serving Meals	Implement standard operating procedures while taking preventative measures such as: Providing hand sanitizer for students and staff It is recommended students and staff wear face masks/coverings while in large group gatherings Conducting cleaning of cafeterias and high-touch surfaces throughout the school day	 Allow student hand washing before and after meal service Provide hand sanitizer for students and staff Use disposable plates, utensils, etc. if needed Mark spaced lines to enter the cafeteria and serving lines (to the extent practicable); designate entrances and exit flow paths; stagger use Conduct cleaning of cafeterias and high-touch surfaces throughout the school day Alternative Serving Models: Serving meals in classrooms Serving meals in cafeterias with: Spaced serving lines (marked on floors) Spaced seating (utilize outdoor space as practicable and appropriate) Longer meal periods for more staggered meal delivery Consider pre-packaged boxes or bags for each student instead of traditional serving lines.	School buildings are closed. For food Distribution Practice established social distancing protocols to the greatest extent practicable Provide PPE to participating staff Reduce contact by distributing during a designated time (ex: Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday) Distribute printed instructional packets/materials and district/school communications along with meals KSDE Guidance Employee Safety Guidance for School Nutrition Programs
Transitioning	Implement standard operating procedures while taking preventative measures such as: It is recommended that students and staff wear face masks/coverings while in large group gatherings. Conducting cleaning of hallways and high-touch surfaces throughout the school day Designating areas of the hallway (i.e. lanes) to walk to keep students separated (to the extent practicable)	Limit mixing between groups (to the extent practicable) For class changes and other transitions throughout the school day: Provide additional time for transitions Designate areas of the hallway (i.e. lanes) as flow paths to keep students separated to minimize congregation of students Plan staggered class (ex: by hall, odd/even room numbers, grade/discipline) changes to decrease number of students in hallways at one time Have the same group of students stay with the same staff (all day for young children and as much as feasible for older children)	School buildings are closed.

	Low/No Spread	Minimal/Moderate Spread	Substantial Spread
Conducting Large Group Gatherings	Implement standard operating procedures while taking preventative measures such as: Providing hand sanitizer for students and staff Limiting unnecessary congregations of students and staff Follow Kansas State High School Activities Association guidelines for sporting events and practices It is recommended that all persons in the school building will wear a mask, will sanitize hands hourly, and have temperature taken before entering the building	 Abide by the maximum number of people allowed to congregate as defined by the local health department. Discourage the congregation of students in parking lots and common areas Stagger the schedule for large group gatherings (i.e. recess and school meals) Identify and utilize large spaces (i.e. gymnasiums, auditoriums, outside spaces – as weather permits) for social distancing Follow Kansas High School Activities Association guidelines for sporting events and practices It is recommended that all persons in the school building wear a mask, will sanitize hands hourly, and have temperature taken before entering the building 	School building are closed. Abide by the maximum number of people allowed to congregate as defined by the local health department
Supporting Teaching and Learning	 Implement standard operating procedures while taking preventative measures such as: Providing hand sanitizer for students and staff Conducting cleaning of classrooms and high-touch surfaces each day Limiting physical interaction through partner or group work Surveying of families' interest in continuing online learning to reduce number of students requiring face-to-face, traditional instruction Establish an academic baseline Administer formative assessments toward the start of the school year Conduct meetings with teachers to identify where students are academically Discuss the shared experience: Helping Children Cope with Changes Talking to Children about COVID-19 Teaching Through a Pandemic 	Survey families to gauge which students may want to conduct their schooling virtually for the 2020-2021 school year Traditional Instructional Model Schools can deliver traditional instruction under Minimal/Moderate Spread by implementing the recommendations outlined in this guidance. Use the master schedule to balance class numbers as much as possible – remove unused desks and furniture in classrooms; maximize social distancing (to the extent practicable) Limit physical interaction through partner or group work Establish distance between the teacher's desk/board and students' desks Identify and utilize large spaces (i.e. gymnasiums, auditoriums, outside spaces – as weather permits) for social distancing	Implement a robust Distance Learning Plan Distribute printed instructional packets/ materials and district/school communications along with meals; designate and communicate collection/drop-off points Resources KSDE Learning Plans KSDE Learning Plan for Students with Disabilities KS Return to School - Navigating Change Deploying Devices, Ensuring Connectivity, and Expanding Access Distance Learning Resources

- Target interventions and supports:
 - Provide additional instructional supports to:
 - students at-risk of not graduating on time
 - students with disabilities (compensatory services)
 - students who struggled in the prior distance/remote-learning environment (i.e. early grades, English Learners, etc.)
 - other students identified as being behind academically by teachers and parents.
 - Identify essential concepts/skills grade levels and provide access to enrichment (fine arts, music, world language, CTE, AP, dual enrollment, physical education/play, STEM/STEAM, etc.)
- Address learning loss:
 - Provide extended learning opportunities through before/after-school programs, Saturday school, etc. for all students who may need or want extra support opportunities
- Prepare for potential future distance/remote learning by increasing current blended learning:
 - Develop a digital learning plan
 - Integrate virtual learning practices:
 - digitizing lessons
 - requiring a certain number of online assignments for each grading period
 - Provide virtual learning/specific professional learning for educators: General and Special Education related

Return-to-School

Roadmap for School Operations and Instruction, KS Return to School -**Navigating Change**

Hybrid Instructional Models

Hybrid models should only be implemented if absolutely necessary and after factoring in additional logistical requirements/costs as well as childcare requirements placed on working families and unnecessary burden on staff. Consider allowing special education students to continue in-person instruction as these students often rely on daily routines and social interactions to address their individual learning needs.

Use of Possible Alternative Schedule Scenarios, if needed

- Alternate A/B schedules
 - Alternating Days: students would be divided into 2 groups, likely geographically. Groups would alternate face-to-face and virtual instruction during the week. One example: Group A would attend Monday and Tuesday and work virtually the remainder of the week. Group B would attend Thursday and Friday and work virtually the other days of the week. Wednesday would be a virtual day for most employees so buildings could be cleaned during the week between groups. Another example: Group A Students Monday/Wednesday and Group B Students -- Tuesday/Thursday; Friday - distance learning for all students, professional learning for staff; using certification flexibility to relocate teachers as needed and allowable
 - Alternating Weeks: Group A Students Week 1 and Group B Students Week 2; using certification flexibility to relocate teachers as needed and allowable
 - Half Days: AM/PM Schedule consult with District Food Service Director regarding best approach to serving school meals
- Target Distance/Remote Learning
 - Elementary Face-to-Face with Secondary Distance Learning: Prioritize 6-12 or 9-12 for continuous distance learning while other students have access to face-to-face instruction spread out across unused schools and classrooms; using certification flexibility to relocate teachers as needed and allowable; see Serving Meals under Substantial Spread for preparing/delivering school meals for students who are remote learning.

- Return-to-School Roadmap for Technology
- Educator's Guide to Safe and Effective Video Conferencing (Education Week)

Professional Learning for Teachers

- Making the Shift to Online Teaching and Learning
- Supporting Students with **Disabilities Online**

American School Counselor Association

School Counseling During COVID-19: Online Lessons and Resources

School Library Media **Specialists**

- **School Media Specialists** Can Help During Crisis (School Library Journal)
- Digital Resource Ideas

Protecting Vulnerable Populations¹



1 Vulnerable Populations

-- Elderly individuals and/or individuals with serious underlying health conditions, including high blood pressure, chronic luna disease, diabetes, obesity, asthma, and those whose immune system is compromised such as by chemotherapy for cancer and other conditions requiring such therapy.

- Implement standard operating procedures while taking preventative measures such as:
 - Establish a point-of-contact with the local health department
 - Identify local COVID-19 testing sites Doniphan County Health Department
 - Provide hand sanitizer for students and staff
 - Provide PPE to vulnerable students and staff as appropriate
 - Allow vulnerable students to complete their coursework remotely
 - Allow vulnerable students and staff to wear PPE throughout the school day (to the extent practicable)
 - Establish a process for regular check-ins with vulnerable students and staff
 - Allow an early transition for vulnerable students to go to classes
 - Limit large group gatherings/Interactions for vulnerable students and staff

- Survey at-risk staff members to gauge their intentions in returning to work while maintaining confidentiality consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and other applicable federal and state privacy laws
- Survey families with vulnerable children to gauge their intentions in returning to a traditional school setting while maintaining confidentiality consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and other applicable federal and state privacy laws
- Provide remote/distance learning opportunities for vulnerable student populations in consultation with parents and public health officials
- Consult with local board attorneys and district human resources officials to offer special accommodations (such as an alternative teaching assignment) for personnel who are members of vulnerable populations
- Adhere to FERPA and HIPPA requirement
- Adhere to state and federal employment law and extended leave allowances

School buildings are closed.

See Entering School Buildings for district/school staff guidance.

Society for Human Resources Management (SHRM)

- **Employment FAQ**
- What to Do When Scared Workers Don't Report to Work Due to COVID-19
- Where can I find government and other reliable resources for workplace issues related to the coronavirus?

National Association of School Nurses

Role of school nurses. providing care, and participating in Return-to-School planning

When a Child, Staff Member, or Visitor Becomes Sick at School



- Work with school administrators, school nurses, and other healthcare providers to identify an isolation room or area to separate anyone who exhibits COVID-like symptoms.
- School nurses and other healthcare providers should use Standard and Transmission-Based Precautions when caring for sick people. See: What Healthcare Personnel Should Know About Caring for Patients with Confirmed or Possible COVID19 Infection
- Establish procedures for safely transporting anyone who is sick to their home if needed.
- Notify local health officials, staff, and families immediately of a
 possible case while maintaining confidentiality consistent with the
 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and other applicable federal
 and state privacy laws.
- Close off areas used by a sick person and do not use before cleaning and disinfection. Ensure safe and correct application of disinfectants and keep disinfectant products away from children.
- Students may return to school after being fever free for 24 hours and without showing symptoms of COVID-19. Should the student exhibit two or more common COVID-19 symptoms as anytime during this process, screening for the virus by the Doniphan County Health Department or physician may be needed.
- Inform those who have had close contact to a person diagnosed with COVID-19 to stay home and follow state KDHE guidance if symptoms develop. If a person does not have symptoms, follow appropriate KDHE guidance for home quarantine.

CDC Guidance

- Symptoms of Coronavirus
- What Healthcare Personnel Should Know About Caring for Patients with Confirmed or Possible COVID-19 Infection
- Standard Precautions
- Transmission-based Precautions

"In consultation with the Kansas Department of Education, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, and Doniphan County Health Department, USD 114 has created these expectations as a blueprint for a safe reopening in our PreK-12 setting. USD 114 takes very seriously the responsibility to keep our students, teachers, school staff, and families safe and to provide the best possible education for our children."

Travis Githens
Superintendent
USD 114 –Riverside Schools

Board of Education Adoption Date: August 10, 2020

USD 114 Reopen plan submitted to KSDE, per KSDE Guidelines, August 11, 2020