

WALSH SCHOOL
DISTRICT RE-1

Delivering on the promise of
public education; shaping the
next generation



2021-2022 Return to Learn Plan

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General Plan for Walsh School District RE-1 Fall 2021-22 Return to Learn

Introduction

The past year was different for all of us. We are excited moving forward this year with routines similar to the past. With that being said, Walsh Schools values the health and wellness of our staff and students so we will work closely with the Baca County Health Department to ensure our policies and procedures reflect the most current rules and guidance. Additionally, the Walsh Schools Covid Taskforce will meet to review and revise this plan should any significant changes occur in our county or immediate area.

We will begin school with no mask wearing or temperature taking requirements. Additionally, there are no limits for spectators at this time. We look forward to seeing you and your students this fall!

Overview of the Plan

Plan A (least restrictive): To be implemented if Covid cases increase significantly in the county.

- Mask use by students 11 years of age and older required when entering or moving in the building
- Mask usage by students under 11 years of age encouraged, but not required
- Mask use by staff required when within 6' feet of students
- Students and staff demonstrating symptoms of illness required stay at home
- All staff need to pre-screen prior to entering the building
- All other adults entering the building will be screened and temperatures documented
- No physical contact among staff and students (hugs, high fives, hand holding, etc.) (?)
- Handwashing and hand sanitizer will be recommended several times throughout the day
- Meals, recess, and passing periods will be arranged by cohort groups to reduce student group interaction
- Buses will be sanitized before and after students are transported; students will sit by family groups on the bus with skipped rows in between groups
- Social distancing between desks and tables will occur to the greatest extent possible

Plan B (additional protocols added to Plan A in the event of local COVID-19 activity):

- Require all staff and students 11 and older to wear masks according to local, state, and federal guidelines
- Social distancing expected at all times, to the greatest extent possible
- Create additional schedule staggering and one way traffic flow to further reduce student contact
- Screening of all students and staff daily, preferably before arrival to school site.

Plan C (additional protocols added to Plan C if we are directed by state or local officials to not have in-person learning):

- Education will be delivered via remote learning

- Each student will have a school device to access learning at home
- Class meetings and content will be delivered to students on a daily basis
- Teachers will be active and engaged a minimum of 5 hours each day
- Deliberate and increased use of textbook digital content and resources, and programs such as Khan Academy, Freckle, etc.

Guiding Principles:

- Employ strategies that minimize risk: risk from the Covid and other viruses and illnesses but also a risk of learning loss
- Prioritize health and safety, including social emotional health
- Change will remain a constant, plan for it and stay flexible
- Our teachers and staff are essential: they need to be able to plan and deliver high-quality instruction and services while also balancing their own health and safety

Other Considerations:

Collaboration

Walsh Schools RE-1 will continue to work closely with Baca County Public Health to stay informed of not only current Covid cases but also local guidelines and requirements related to county health.

Additional information can be found at:

<https://covid19.colorado.gov/data>.

<https://www.cde.state.co.us/families>

Bussing

Calendar

Extracurricular Activities and Sports:

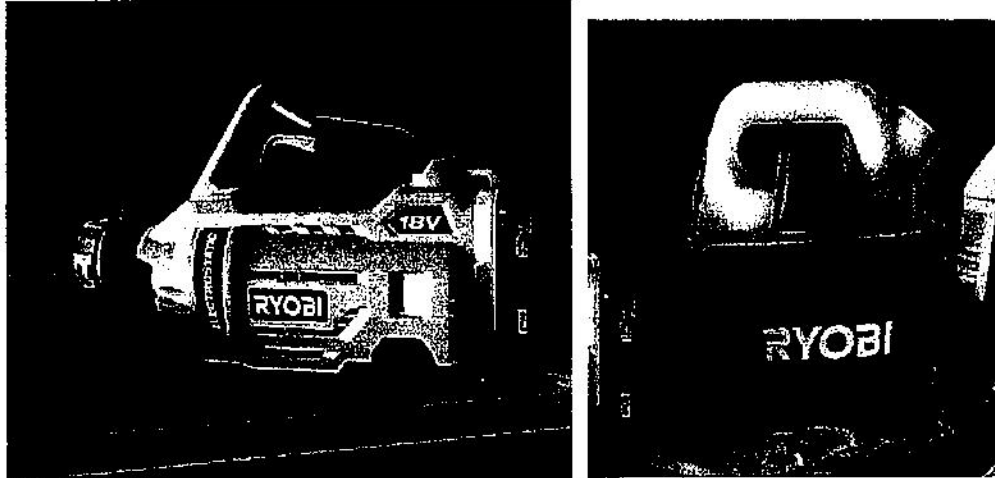
Athletics and other activities at the high school level are governed by CHSAA, the Colorado High School Activities Association. Currently state limitations have been lifted and there are no local restrictions in place. Extracurriculars and sports will begin as normal, however, we will continue to work with County Health to monitor recommendations for limits on the number of spectators and/or place requirements on attendance, such as masks or social distancing. regarding sports and large gatherings in our area. Middle school activities will follow CHSAA guidelines for high schools.

Hallways & Bathrooms

We will continue to recommend students bring a water bottle to school to use our bottle fill water fountains. Using the bottle filling portion of water fountains is more sanitary than traditional water fountains stations and will help decrease passing many different common illnesses. We will continue to encourage social distancing and intentional traffic flow in our hallways, however we have lifted all mask mandates for students and staff. Additionally, we may designate doors as entrances and exits.

Health & Safety

We will continue to encourage handwashing and the use of hand sanitizer as well as continue the use of our sanitizing foggers. Last year regular colds and flu were decreased in part due to these efforts. Hand sanitizer will be available throughout the school buildings and will be encouraged through specifically scheduled times. Frequent hand-washing will be encouraged or monitored/supported (depending on the grade level). Families can support by teaching kids to wash hands well for 20 seconds (songs!) and use hand sanitizer when appropriate. Custodial services will be using electrostatic sprayers with EPA approved disinfectant to clean.



Electrostatic sprayers for cleaning with EPA approved disinfectant

We will clean “high touch” surfaces frequently. We will continue to use no touch thermometers at our schools.

Masks:

Masks will not be required at the beginning of school this year, however they are optional throughout the year. Walsh Schools RE-1 will continue to work closely with Baca County Public Health to stay informed of not only current Covid cases but also local guidelines and requirements related to county health. Masks may be a requirement at some point, but again we will work with our local county health department to stay current on changing regulations and requirements.

Social Emotional Needs:

Social emotional health is as important as physical health. Further, strong, healthy relationships connect kids to their school community and provide a foundation for learning. As such, we have begun implementing classroom circles in order to have regular check-ins with our students. Additionally, we will have a school counselor in our building every other week to support the social emotional health of our students.

Mental Health Resources

<https://www.southeasthealthgroup.org/resources>

Visitors and Events

Visitors will be limited to those who need to be in school buildings. Visitors will continue to check in at the front desk of our schools and we might be taking temperature depending on health department recommendations. Should we need screening protocols for visitors, we will use the same protocols we used last year. Other requirements deemed necessary by district administration may be added to any plan at any time.