



**ISNA WICA OWAYAWA
BACK TO SCHOOL PLAN
SY21-22**

Our back to school plan is designed to ensure that all essential services continue with the least amount of interruption possible; this includes academic instruction, technology accessibility and upkeep, student meals programming, facility maintenance, and enhanced cleaning services.

MISSION STATEMENT

Isna Wica Owayawa, in partnership with the Lakota Nation, will build, strengthen and maintain cultural values while empowering each individual to achieve a passion for education and life-long learning in a changing global society.

Use of Preventative Behaviors

Isna Wica Owayawa recommends that employees always take preventative health measures in their professional and private lives. This includes the use of face masks or shields, physical distancing, hand washing and sanitizing, restricted use of shared objects, and minimizing time spent in common areas. All employees are encouraged to abide by the Oglala Sioux Tribe’s Shelter-In-Place Ordinance 20-18. Failure to abide by this ordinance may result in disciplinary action.

Masks will be required for anyone entering Isna Wica Owayawa facilities. Masks must be worn for the duration of being in the building. Social Distancing will be enforced at all times, with the CDC recommendation of three (3) feet between people. Hand sanitizer is available throughout the building, as well as a small tube being available upon request.

Additionally, Isna Wica Owayawa will be utilizing temperature checks to minimize the chances that a symptomatic individual is on campus. This will include:

- Staff members shall take their temperature at home before reporting to work and, if their temperature is greater than 100.4°F, the staff member will share this with his or her supervisor and complete their work from home or not work. Isna Wica Owayawa is utilizing the CDC’s scale that a 100.4°F temperature is feverish.
- Staff members will have their temperature taken upon their arrival to campus; if a staff member’s temperature is greater than 100.4°F, he or she will be asked to work from home or precautions will be taken to have that individual’s work duties covered by other staff members or a substitute. Staff members with temperatures higher than 100.4°F will not be permitted on campus.
- Staff members will complete a daily tracking log to monitor their temperature, any symptoms, any contacts of less than 6’ and longer than 15 minutes while on campus, any after work contacts and any after work activities attended by the staff member.
- Students will have their temperature checked at home and screen will be completed.
- Students will have their temperature checked prior to boarding the bus and again prior to entering Isna Wica Owayawa.

Employee Travel

- Employees who travel from a known hotspot and/or from out-of-state, excluding border towns, must provide a negative test result to their supervisor.
- Employees are encouraged to practice the recommendations from the CDC when they have to leave their residences for essential supplies and/or medical needs.

OST Vaccination Mandate

As a tribally-chartered organization of the Oglala Sioux Tribe, we are required to comply with Oglala Sioux Tribe Ordinance 21-45, which requires mandatory vaccination unless an accommodation or exemption has been granted on a case-by-case basis. Isna Wica Owayawa will coordinate vaccination efforts with Indian Health Service and other agencies.

Responding to Positive Cases of COVID-19

Isna Wica Owayawa will respond to positive cases of COVID-19 when it impacts students, employees or the services we provide to our students and their families.

Employee Positive Case

1. Any employee who receives a positive test result for COVID-19 should immediately contact their healthcare provider and follow the medical advice given.
2. An employee who tests positive will need to communicate this information to their supervisor as soon as possible and within twenty-four hours. That employee will communicate this information electronically or by phone—not in person.
3. The Principal will follow the action plan. Principal will notify the OST Health Administration Authority of the positive case.
4. The employee who has tested positive must remain at home until their provider has authorized him/her to return to work. The employee will provide a letter from their healthcare provider indicating it is safe for him or her to return to on-campus work.
5. Fourteen days of administrative leave will be given to a staff member who tests positive upon submission of the documentation with additional days determined on a case-by-case basis. Employees who defy the OST Shelter-In-Place Ordinance may not qualify for administrative leave, which will be determined by their supervisor, on a case-by-case basis with appropriate documentation.

Student Positive Case

1. Any student who receives a positive test result for COVID-19 should immediately contact their healthcare provider and follow the medical advice given.
2. Parents/Guardians of the student who tests positive for COVID-19 will need to communicate this information to the Principal or Student Advocate as soon as possible and within twenty-four hours.
3. The Principal will follow the action plan. Principal will notify the OST Health Administration Authority of the positive case.
4. Students must remain at home until a letter or document from the student's healthcare provider is provided to the school indicating it is safe for him or her to return to school.
5. Initiate Student Positive COVID-19 test result flow chart: What-Do-I-Do-Student-Sick-At-School-Flowchart.

Instructional Delivery

Utilizing the OST Risk Level Designation Chart, Isna Wica Owayawa will determine which Operation Level to operate under, on a quarter by quarter basis. During the seventh week of the previous quarter, our School Improvement Team will meet to review the current data available from the Oglala Sioux Tribe, SD Department of Health and the Center for Disease Control to determine the Operation Level for the next quarter. We will communicate informational updates with students, parents, families, and community members on a consistent basis.

Operational Level One: No Spread Full-Occupancy In-Person Learning

Traditional school as we have done in the past years. Sports and extra-curricular activities will be allowed.

Operation Level Two: Minimal Spread Hybrid Learning Plan

Delivery of Instruction is for all students, by parent/guardian consent, on campus receiving direct explicit instruction for the full day, Monday-Thursday. Fridays will be through distance learning utilizing the supplemental programs designed to assist with academic achievement of the students.

Learning Environment- Student desks will have a clear partition on their desks as an added protection. PPE will be provided for all students and employees. The entire building is marked so there will be no congestion in any area.

Parent-Teacher Conferences: Our mid-quarter Parent-Teacher Conferences will continue as scheduled. The teachers will contact the parents to schedule a date and time. The conferences will be held either through a Zoom meeting or a phone call. Parents/guardians who request an in-person conference

Additional Personnel-There are many details that we are to follow to keep the students and employees safe from contacting the virus. We have employed additional custodians for cleaning constantly, bus monitors to ensure the students are remaining in their assigned seats and practicing social distancing, a cook to assist the Food Service program with meal prepping and delivery.

Meals- Students will be eating in their classrooms. Food Service staff will be delivering the meals to the students in their classrooms. Carts were purchased to keep the meals hot and ready to serve. Trays and utensils will be picked up by the Food Service staff for cleaning and sanitizing.

No Sharing-Students will have access to their own supplies so there will be no sharing of anything. Water bottles and backpacks are purchased so

Parents-They are a vital component of our school. We value the opinion and advice of our parents/guardians. They have a right to refuse any of the services offered, as long as it is put in writing and given to the Principal.

Operation Level Three: Moderate Spread Hybrid Learning Plan

Delivery of Instruction is to have two sessions for students, which would minimize the amount of students on campus by half. Students will be on campus for two full days, receiving direct explicit instruction. When the student is not on campus, they will be doing distance learning through online supplemental enrichment programs.

Learning Environment- The classroom spaces are marked to allow for the appropriate amount of students in the classroom based on square footage of the classrooms and the mandatory 6' space between students. Student desks will have a clear partition on their desks as an added protection. PPE will be provided for all students and employees. The entire building is marked so there will be no congestion in any area.

Parent-Teacher Conferences: Our mid-quarter Parent-Teacher Conferences will continue as scheduled. The teachers will contact the parents to schedule a date and time. The conferences will be held either through a Zoom meeting or a phone call.

Additional Personnel-There are many details that we are to follow to keep the students and employees safe from contacting the virus. We have employed additional custodians for cleaning constantly, bus monitors to ensure the students are remaining in their assigned seats and practicing social distancing, a cook to assist the Food Service program with meal prepping and delivery.

Meals- Students will be eating in their classrooms. Food Service staff will be delivering the meals to the students in their classrooms. Carts were purchased to keep the meals hot and ready to serve. Trays and utensils will be picked up by the Food Service staff for cleaning and sanitizing.

No Sharing-Students will have access to their own supplies so there will be no sharing of anything. Water bottles and backpacks are purchased so the students do not have to share a communal space. Water faucets will not be available.

Transportation-We have marked our buses and have hired bus monitors so social distancing and wearing PPE will be enforced. These monitors and drivers will also clean and sanitize after each bus run. This plan adds one additional bus run to our day but it is needed to keep our student occupancy low and to follow the CDC guidelines.

Cleaning and Sanitizing: School staff will be constantly cleaning any area occupied by students and employees, in the building and in the school vehicles. Bathroom breaks are scheduled so they can be cleaned immediately after each use.

Sports and Extra-Curricular Activities-Sports will be allowed for vaccinated individuals. Extra-curricular activities will follow the CDC

Operation Level Four: Substantial Spread School Closed for Students (with exception of Special Student Populations)

Delivery of Instruction: Academic instruction will be provided to all enrolled students, with modes of instruction including online live classes, online on-demand classes, online self-paced classes, and elements of paper-based content for those students who are approved for paper packets.

Structure of Delivery: We are working to ensure that students have access to their coursework, including through the provision of devices (chrome books, laptops, iPads), mobile hot-spots, school supplies, or any other relevant student and family needs.

Home Learning Environment: We will work with families to provide a learning environment in their homes, with student desks, chairs, collapsible cubicle and headphones. We will also provide a bag of school supplies that each student needs to be successful with their academics.

Parent-Teacher Conferences: Our mid-quarter Parent-Teacher Conferences will continue as scheduled. The teachers will contact the parents to schedule a date and time. The conferences will be held either through a Zoom meeting or a phone call.

Meals: Our Food Service and Transportation staff will deliver breakfast and lunch to the student's homes every day that we are in session. Beginning in September we will also deliver fresh fruits/vegetables on Tuesdays and Thursdays. This will be contactless delivery to the homes. Each family was given a cooler for the meals to be placed in.

Sports and Extra-Curricular Activities: There will be no sports or extra-curricular activities allowed.

Transportation: There will be no transportation.

Advocacy Program (Counseling Services): This program is crucial during this time. Our students and their families need the support more than ever. Our Student Advocate has the ability to monitor our classes. She works closely with the teachers to identify students who are in need of support. She contacts the students and checks in with them on a frequent basis. Our Family Advocate works closely with our families. She is the support system for the families. We assist in any way we can to help our families. The Advocacy program reaches out to our students and families on a weekly basis. They also provide assistance to the teachers when there is a need for emotional support. One initiative for the social well-being of the students is a requirement for them to have their cameras on so they can see each other and be able to talk to each other. Teachers are to lead discussions to provide the students time to interact with each other. Our Advocacy program also utilizes different tribal programs to provide services to our students and families, depending on the need and availability of services.

Special Student Populations (Special Education IEP, 504 Services):

- Students will be transported to the school to receive these special services, including the external service providers.
- Students will be on a ratio of not more than 2 students to 1 teacher
- These students will be on a limited time basis, meaning they will not be on campus for more than two hours.

General Provisions

Core Academic Instruction: Our students will receive instruction in English/Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies, Science, and Reading. These content areas will be taught daily by the classroom teachers. Additionally, Computer Literacy, Physical Education/Health, Art, and Career Awareness will be integrated into the curriculum. These classes will be taught at least once a week by the specials teachers. Lakota Language and Culture will be taught daily to all students at a minimum of 30 minutes per day.

Attendance: In all Levels, attendance will be taken every day that classes take place. We will hold our students to the same standards of academic excellence that we always have, and provide the staff with resources necessary to make sure that all students can succeed no matter the method or delivery of instruction. We are required to follow our Attendance Policy, which states a student will be dropped after the 10th consecutive absence. They will be allowed to re-enroll with an Oglala Sioux Tribe Court Order. We will work with OSTDPS on any truancy cases.

Instructional Time: We will follow the Bureau of Indian Education's requirement on instructional hours for our students to the best of our ability. Our Kindergarten students will receive a minimum of 720 hours. Our 1st thru 3rd grade students will receive a minimum of 810 hours. Our 4th-8th grade students will receive a minimum of 900 hours.

Engagement: Each teacher will identify students who are disengaged from their schoolwork (which could be reflected in multiple days of unexcused absences, declining rate or work completed, or other factors that teachers identify) and the parents and family members of the student will be contacted. Our Student Advocate and Family Advocate will be making contact with not only these students but with all students. We will work with the parents to address any needs/issues they see with their student.

For families and students who cannot access online coursework, our teachers and administrators will work with those individuals to ensure that they can access their lessons from the teacher. This may include the creation of paper-based packets with the approval of the Bureau of Indian Education. Logistics for this service will be on a case-by-case basis and only with prior approval of all entities involved.

Grading and Assessments: Isna Wica Owayawa has an evaluation system that is non-traditional. Student progress levels will be assigned to students based on the work that he or she completes during each quarter. Students who are at a Progress Level 0-1 will be referred for additional services, such as 21st CCLC or McKinney-Vento Afterschool Program. The Student Advocate will work closely with the students who are at Progress Level 0-1. Students who are at a Progress Level 2-3 have knowledge of the concept being taught but will need additional enrichment to gain mastery. Students who are at a Progress Level 4 have mastered the concept being taught. The Academic Counselor will work closely with the teachers to ensure the students are progressing. The teachers have their curriculum mapping to drive their instruction for the year. We are utilizing Achieve 3000, NWEA MAPS, Reading Plus, Eureka Math and Moby Max for assessments. The teachers also assess their students based on the standards they are teaching. Each student has a portfolio for progress monitoring.

Technology: Distance learning is available for students through a number of online platforms. Isna Wica Owayawa has selected Google Classroom and Google Meet as the basic platform for classroom use. Teachers may also use supplemental programs in their respective classrooms depending on the subject. Training for the students and parents will be available before school starts to teach the students and parents how to access these

Encouraged Family Practices

Minimizing the spread of COVID-19 is a community effort, and best-practices at home can help reduce the chances of infection. We encourage all families to:

- Understand that these guidelines are developed and influenced by health, educational, and civic professionals committed to your child's wellbeing.
- Communicate regularly with their students about their education and ensure that each student has the in-home supports and an environment necessary for academic learning.
- Screen at home every morning before sending student to the bus.
- Parent/guardian must complete a daily symptom screening check by answering these questions before sending their child to the bus.
 - Has your child had close contact (within 6' for at least 15 minutes) with a confirmed case of COVID-19?
 - Does your child have new or worsening cough?
 - Does your child have a fever of 100.4 or greater?
 - Does your child have chills?
 - Does your child have diarrhea?
 - Does your child have unexplained muscle pain?
 - Does your child have a headache (not related to a known health condition i.e. migraines)?
 - Does your child have a sore throat?
 - Does your child have a new loss of taste or smell?
 - Has your child been vomiting or is experiencing nausea?
- Keep children home if they demonstrate any of the symptoms associated with COVID-19, including but not limited to a fever, cough, and cold- or flu-like symptoms. Call the school at 867-6875 if you are keeping your child at home due to display of symptoms.
- Create a family-plan in the event that your child is sent home from school due to a high temperature, demonstration of flu-like symptoms, and requires quarantine or isolation.
- Talk to your child about changes they may see in school and learning and reinforce the knowledge that these measures are in place for their health and the health of those around them.
- Send your child to school with a mask and remind them to wear it.
- Understand that information and practices in response to COVID-19 change consistently, and know that additional changes may take place in the future.
- Know that as a parent or guardian, you have the right to keep your student home at any time as it relates to the health of your family.



FAQ

To maximize protection from the [Delta variant](#) and prevent possibly spreading it to others, wear a mask indoors in public if you are in an area of [substantial or high transmission](#).

COVID-19

How to Protect Yourself & Others

Updated Aug. 13, 2021

[Print](#)

Protect Unvaccinated Family Members

Some people in your family need to continue to take steps to protect themselves from COVID-19, including

- Anyone not fully vaccinated, including children under 12 who cannot be vaccinated yet
- People with weakened immune systems or underlying medical conditions



Protect Your Family



Get Vaccinated

- Authorized COVID-19 vaccines can help protect you from COVID-19.
- You should get a [COVID-19 vaccine as soon as you can](#).
- [Once you are fully vaccinated](#), you may be able to start doing some things that you had stopped doing because of the pandemic.



Wear a mask

- If you are not fully vaccinated and aged 2 or older, you should wear a mask in indoor public places.
- In general, you do not need to wear a mask in outdoor settings.
 - In areas with [high numbers of COVID-19 cases](#), consider wearing a mask in crowded outdoor settings and for activities with [close contact](#) with others who are not fully vaccinated.
- People who have a condition or are taking medications that weaken their immune system may not be fully protected even if they are fully vaccinated. They should continue to take all [precautions recommended for unvaccinated people, including wearing a well-fitted mask](#), until advised otherwise by their healthcare provider.
- If you are fully vaccinated, to maximize protection from the Delta variant and prevent possibly spreading it to others, wear a mask indoors in public if you are in an area of [substantial or high transmission](#).
- If you are fully vaccinated, see [When You've Been Fully Vaccinated](#).

[Wearing a mask over your nose and mouth is required](#) on planes, buses, trains, and other forms of public transportation traveling into, within, or out of the United States and while indoors at U.S. transportation hubs such as airports and stations. Travelers are not required to wear a mask in outdoor areas of a conveyance (like



Clean and disinfect

- Clean high touch surfaces daily. This includes tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, and sinks.
- **If someone is sick or has tested positive for COVID-19, disinfect frequently touched surfaces.** Use a household disinfectant product from [EPA's List N: Disinfectants for Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#) [↗](#) according to manufacturer's labeled directions.
 - **If surfaces are dirty, clean them** using detergent or soap and water prior to disinfection.



Monitor your health daily

- **Be alert for symptoms.** Watch for fever, cough, shortness of breath, or [other symptoms of COVID-19](#).
 - Especially important if you are [running essential errands](#), going into the office or workplace, and in settings where it may be difficult to keep a [physical distance of 6 feet](#).
- **Take your temperature** if symptoms develop.
 - Don't take your temperature within 30 minutes of exercising or after taking medications that could lower your temperature, like acetaminophen.
- Follow [CDC guidance](#) if symptoms develop.

Related Pages

- › [Prevent Getting Sick](#)
- › [Symptoms](#)
- › [How COVID-19 Spreads](#)
- › [If You Are Sick or Caring for Someone](#)
- › [People at Increased Risk](#)
- › [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- › [Hand Sanitizer Use](#)

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