



SHERIDAN
SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Ready for Learning Plan

Updated 8- 23-2021

Superintendent Jerrod Williams
www.SheridanSchools.org
870-942-3135

Reopening Schools Task Force

Name	Organization	Position/Role
Jameson Archer	Sheridan High School Student Council Sheridan	2020-2021 President
Teri Bibb	School District	Classroom Teacher
Jamie Burris	Baptist Health	Parent and RN
Tiner Burris	Sheridan School District	EEM Student
Bo Carter	Sheridan School District	Technology Coordinator
Josh Clements	Chartwells	Dining Services
Laura Daniel	Sheridan School District	Director of Special Services
Lincoln Daniels	Sheridan School District	Deputy Superintendent, Parent
Vickie Easley	Sheridan School District	Elementary Principal
Dennis Emerson	Sheridan School District	Director of Administrative Services
Jeanne Gartman	Sheridan School District	Classroom Teacher
Brittany Graves	Winston Clinic, P.A.	Winston Clinic Office Manager, Parent
Alisa Gray	Sheridan School District	Director of Federal Programs & Curriculum
Charlie Kinser	Sheridan School District	Teacher, Arena Manager, Parent
Teresa Knight	Sheridan School District	Intermediate Principal, Parent
Stacy Kratky	Sheridan School District	Special Education Supervisor
Zac Davis	SSC, Services for Education	Custodial Services Manager
Deborah Mooney	Sheridan Laundromat & Mini Storage Sheridan	Co-Owner, Parent
Justin Rasnick	School District	Middle School Principal, Parent
Gart Pitts	Windstream	Operations Manager
Jerry Vaughn	Sheridan School District	Interim Director of Teaching & Learning
Stephanie Pugh	Sheridan School District	Classroom Teacher
Matt Scarbrough	Sheridan School District	Athletic Director, Parent
Nick Soapes	Sheridan School District	Sheridan High School Assistant Principal, Parent
Ryane Sorey	Sheridan School District	Jacket Health & Wellness Center Coordinator
Tamara Strawn	Sheridan School District	Assistant Elementary Principal
Cris Bolin	Sheridan School District	Chief Financial Officer
Jerrod Williams,	Sheridan School District	Superintendent, Parent
Dr. Scott Winston, M.D.	Winston Clinic, P.A.	Physician, Owner

7 Actions and Assurances to Ensure SSD is Ready for Learning

1

Ensure the continuity of teaching and learning.

2

Address unfinished learning from the prior year.

3

Utilize a learning management system (LMS).

4

Schedule teacher training for how to use the LMS.

5

Schedule teacher training for Blended Learning (delivery of instruction).

6

Provide support for parents and students.

7

Communicate and interact with parents, students, and the community.

1 Ensure the continuity of teaching and learning.



Guaranteed and Viable Curriculum

To ensure a guaranteed and viable curriculum whether students are learning onsite or at a remote location, the Sheridan School District has contracted with Canvas to provide a district-wide learning management system that will support instruction, communication, assessment, and reporting for onsite and virtual learning.

Onsite students receive core instruction in the classroom setting. Grading, communication, and a portion of the classwork will be submitted through the Canvas LMS. Students absent from onsite instruction will have access to make up work through Canvas. On an AMI day, teachers will be responsible for providing onsite students instruction/materials remotely via Canvas. Students in grades 6-12 enrolled in the Sheridan Virtual Academy will receive instruction and course work through the Canvas LMS. Both onsite and virtual teachers, specialists, and administration collaborate to create a viable curriculum meeting state standards. During the 2021-2022 school year, the Sheridan School District has contracted with the Arkansas River Education Service Coop to provide virtual instruction for K-5 virtual students.

Diagnostic Assessments (K-10)

The Sheridan School District will continue NWEA Maps testing for grades K-10 for the 2021-22 school year. The Maps assessment will give teachers needed student achievement data to guide their instruction and interventions based on the individualized needs of their students.

nwea™

2

Address unfinished learning from the prior year.



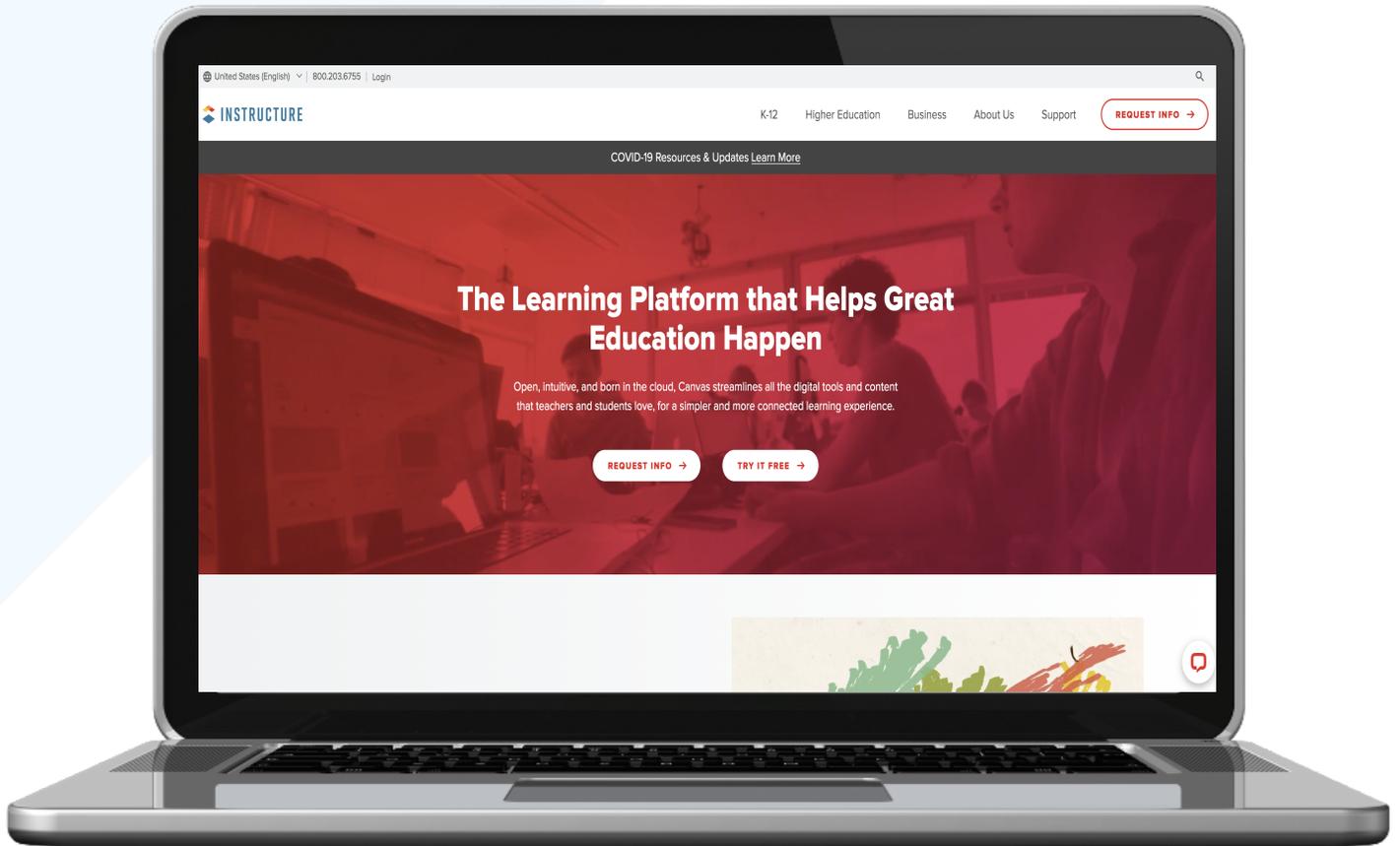
To address unfinished learning, the Sheridan School District utilizes a variety of resources, including unit plans with activities, assessments, rubrics, interventions, and extensions aligned to Arkansas Academic Standards and essential learning outcomes.

Formative and summative assessments are given throughout the year to identify areas of weakness and plan instruction and interventions.

Additionally, the Sheridan School District provided a Summer Camp learning option for K-10 students during the summer of 2021 and plans to do the same for the summer of 2022.

3

Utilize a learning management system (LMS).



Parents and families will have access to the Canvas Learning Management System to communicate and monitor their students' progress.

4 Schedule teacher training for how to use the LMS.

District administrators and staff began having a training level access to our LMS in mid-July of 2020. Teachers officially began completing online training for the LMS on July 31, 2020. Training is ongoing. In addition, the Sheridan School District purchased Tier I support for our Canvas instance. Tier 1 support provides all Canvas users (Administrators and Teachers) access to their Support Team 24/7/365 via online chat, phone, or email/webform.



5 Schedule teacher training for Blended Learning (delivery of instruction).

The Sheridan School District has been working Arkansas' Team Digital since March 2020 in order to develop the most appropriate training pathways for our teachers and administrators. Official training for teachers on the topic of Blended Learning began on Aug. 3, 2020.

6 Provide support for parents and students.

The Sheridan School District will provide a Chromebook with webcam and microphone for all students (virtual and onsite learners). Chromebooks will be used at school using the blended model, virtually for those learning remotely, and available to onsite students if required to “pivot” to learning at home.

We understand that not every family has access to the Internet at home. We have set up Safe Learning Zones in the parking lots at each of our campuses. Should the district have a mass closure, ten school buses with WiFi hotspots will be deployed at strategic locations throughout the school district community. For students learning remotely, teachers will provide flexibility on due dates for assignments and will not require students to log into the LMS at certain times each day to account for those families who do not always have access to the Internet. The Sheridan School District will provide a Chromebook with webcam and microphone for all students (virtual and onsite learners) who request one. Chromebooks will be used at school using the blended model, virtually for those learning remotely, and available to blended students if required to “pivot” to learning at home. The district will maintain a supply of hotspots for families to check out in case they need to temporarily transition to remote learning due to quarantine or illness. Families who need to check out a hotspot should contact their school front office.

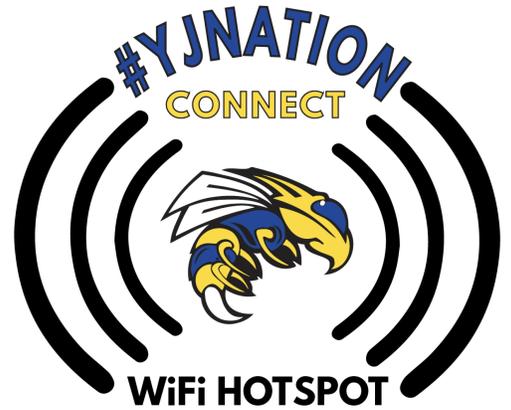
We will continue to provide Grab & Go Meals, mental health services, and intervention services to students who are learning remotely.

The Sheridan School District has provided resources for parents to support them as they make decisions for their student and their family. Below are two helpful resources available on our website.

[FAQ](#)

[SSD Virtual Learning Plan for the 2021-2022 School Year](#)

The Sheridan School District will offer Parent Nights periodically throughout the school year as needed to provide families with training on the Canvas Learning Management System. The number of Parent Nights will be based on need. The Canvas Learning Management System also includes support and training options for parents.



7

Communicate and interact with parents, students, and the community.

The Sheridan School District will communicate and interact with parents, students, and the community in a variety of ways. Methods for communication include direct text messaging to SSD families and staff, social media, website, mail outs, letters sent home with students, meetings with focus groups (e.g. Reopening Schools Task Force), signage and flyers, face-to-face communication with students in the classroom or on Zoom/Google Meet, parent meetings (in person or Zoom/Google Meet), electronic communication with parents and students through the LMS, electronic surveys, emails to faculty and staff, news media, and paid advertising.

The direct text messaging system is used by administrators at the district and building levels. Classroom specific information will be distributed to families using the LMS. Should the district have a positive case for COVID-19, the district's COVID-19 Point of Contact will directly notify families of each student/staff member who has been identified as a Probable Close Contact. The district will follow the guidance outlined by the Arkansas Department of Health.

Communication activities will be monitored and assessed throughout the school year. This will be done through the following methods: (1) tracking the number of text messages successfully transmitted, (2) tracking the number of clicks on links to important electronic communications, (3) analyzing survey results, (4) tracking FAQs, and (5) tracking the number of times teachers (or other district staff) communicate with students who are learning remotely.

The Sheridan School District welcomes questions and feedback from its stakeholders. We strive to provide timely responses to questions sent to us through email, social media, and phone calls. Even throughout the summer months, we ensure phone lines were answered at all campuses. In response to the influx of questions due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Sheridan School District created an [electronic form](#) for families to ask questions and provide feedback pertaining to COVID-19, virtual learning and our Ready for Learning Plan. The form allows us to easily track Frequently Asked Questions. The responses to these Frequently Asked Questions are shared publicly on the Sheridan School District website.

Waivers

ACT 1240 Waivers

Arkansas schools who choose to offer a remote digital program for the 21-22 school year must seek State Board of Education approval. DESE has established a Digital Learning Guide and a streamlined Act 1240 application process specific to digital learning that includes frequently used waivers to implement such a program at a school. These waivers are listed in the table below:

Waivers	Explanation for waivers and how the district waiver will be utilized.
<p>ATTENDANCE Standard of Accreditation: 1-A.5 Arkansas Statutes: 6-18-213(a) (2) DESE Rules Governing Class Size and Teaching Load</p>	<p>A student in a blended or remote environment who is not physically present on campus will be marked present if the student stays engaged in the learning. The district definition of Engagement- A student logs in weekly to the learning platform and submits assignments according to specified due dates. The adjustment may be made to meet an individual student based on their IEP, 504, or LPAC plan. Extenuating circumstances that require longer periods of time to complete assignments will be addressed by the building administrator or lead designee.</p>
<p>CLASS SIZE - NUMBER OF STUDENTS Standard of Accreditation: 1-A.5 Arkansas Statutes: 6-17812(a) (2) DESE Rules Governing Class Size and Teaching Load</p>	<p>Request Waiver Please note that 100% virtual (online) or remote (distance) classes are considered large group instruction courses as per DESE Rules for Distance and Digital Learning and teaching load requirements would not apply as per DESE Rules Governing Class Size and Teaching Load.</p> <p>Teachers who have period(s) dedicated to fully digital learning can have more than the DESE 15 rules governing approved class size. This may occur in cases such as master schedule conflicts.</p> <p>No classes where students meet solely onsite will surpass the class size determined by DESE.</p>
<p>TEACHING LOAD - NUMBER OF STUDENTS Standard of Accreditation: 1-A.5 Arkansas Statutes: 6-17-812 DESE Rules Governing Class Size and Teaching Load</p>	<p>Request Waiver Please note that 100% virtual (online) or remote (distance) classes are considered large group instruction courses as per DESE Rules for Distance and Digital Learning and teaching load requirements</p>

would not apply as per [DESE Rules Governing Class Size and Teaching Load](#).

Teachers who have period(s) dedicated to fully digital learning can have more than the DESE 15 rules governing approved class size. This may occur in cases such as master schedule conflicts.

No classes where students meet solely onsite will surpass the class size determined by DESE.

SIX HOUR INSTRUCTIONAL DAY (Waiver applies to virtual/remote students only.)
Standard of Accreditation: 1-A.4.2
Arkansas Statutes: 6-16-102; 6-16-126

Request Waiver
The District will not be required to provide a school day that averages six (6) hours per day or thirty (30) hours per week for remote learners receiving their instruction primarily through technology-based approaches.

CLOCK HOURS
Standard of Accreditation: 1-A.2

Request Waiver
Students learning remotely through synchronous and/or asynchronous means will learn in their own 16 time, place, and pace. This may mean that the 60 hours of seat time for .5 credit or required clock hours may not be needed to master the course standards.

RECESS (Waiver applies to virtual/remote students only)
Standard of Accreditation: 1-A.4.3
Arkansas Statutes: 6-6-102(a)(5)
DESE
Rules Governing Nutrition and Physical Activity Standards and Body Mass Index, Section 7.11

Request waiver
The district requests waiving the requirement of providing forty (40) minutes of recess for remote learners receiving their instruction primarily through technology-based approaches.

Students will be assigned lessons that support physical activities while learning asynchronously; however, it will not include synchronous supervision.



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