

# ISNA WICA OWAYAWA BACK TO SCHOOL PLAN SY22-23

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.

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#### **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 Second Amended and Restated Educational Institutions Covid-19 Health Order, Ordinance 22-65.

A temperature check machine is available at the main entrance of the building. Students and staff with "normal temperatures" will be allowed to enter the building. 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 six (6) feet between people when possible, and minimum of three (3) feet with proper mask. Hand sanitizer is available throughout the building, as well as a small tube being available upon request.

Isna Wica Owayawa will be utilizing temperature checks to minimize the chances that an asymptomatic 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 contact tracing log to monitor their temperature, any symptoms, and list any contacts of less than 6' and longer than 15 minutes while on campus.
- In order to prevent spread in the classrooms, students will have their temperature checked at home and a screening of any symptoms will be completed.
- Students will have their temperature checked prior to boarding the bus and again prior to entering Isna Wica Owayawa building.

# **Employee Travel**

• Employees are encouraged to practice the recommendations from the CDC when they leave their residences.

## **Employee Symptoms on Campus**

Employees are required to self-screen prior to coming onsite and not to attempt to enter the workplace if any of the following are present;

- Symptoms of COVID-19
- Fever equal to or higher than 100.4
- Are under evaluation for COVID-19 (for example, waiting for the results of a viral test to confirm infection)
- Have been diagnosed with COVID-19 and not yet cleared to discontinue isolation
- Excluding side effects of recent COVID-19 vaccination and/or booster shot

Symptom screening will be focused on "new" or "unexpected" symptoms (e.g. a chronic cough would not be a positive screen).

- Fever or feeling feverish (chills, sweating)
- New cough

- Difficulty breathing
- Sore throat
- Muscle aches or body aches
- Vomiting or diarrhea
- New loss of taste or smell
- Severe headache

An employee who has symptoms during the workday will:

- Notify supervisor.
- Get tested with a COVID-19 screening test in the Testing Room
- Follow the procedures based on the test results.

An employee who has symptoms outside of work will:

- Notify supervisor
- Get tested with a COVID-19 test within 8 hours and notify the supervisor of results.
- If a negative result, will report for their Tour of Duty
- If a positive result, will isolate at home for ten (10) days, or until they are released by their health care provider or contact tracer.

# **Student Symptoms on Campus**

See Flow Chart: What-Do-I-Do-Student-Sick-At-School-Flowchart

• Staff will call the point of contact(s) who will go to the classroom to pick up student(s) affected.

# **Testing for COVID-19**

Our Safety Team will work directly with OST programs, Indian Health Service and other agencies to provide COVID-19 screening testing for our students and staff. We will obtain parent/guardian consent to administer the screening test for our students. This is another preventative effort to protect our students and staff.

## **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 School 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 or contact tracer indicating it is safe for him or her to return to on-campus work.
- 5. Up to Ten (10) days of administrative leave will be given to a staff member who tests positive upon submission of the documentation. Employees who defy the OST Educational Institutions Health 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 School Principal as soon as possible and within twenty-four hours.
- 3. The School 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 or contact tracer 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.

#### **Notification of Positive Case**

For an employee testing positive, the employee will notify their supervisor within 24 hours. The supervisor then reports this information to Human Resources. Supervisor will report the date of test and isolation period dates. Supervisor has contact tracing sheets and notifies the close contacts listed on the sheet for quarantine. Human Resources sends an email to all employees notifying them of a positive case, to the extent allowable by privacy laws and other applicable laws. The Human Resources will send an email to all parents/guardians and post on our social media sites notifying them of a positive case to the extent allowable by privacy laws and other applicable laws, and that all close contacts have been contacted.

For a student testing positive, the parent/guardian will notify the principal within 24 hours. The principal will notify the teacher. The teacher has the contact tracing sheet and notifies the close contacts listed on the sheet for quarantine. The Human Resources will send an email to all parents/guardians and post on our social media sites notifying them of a positive case and that all close contacts have been contacted.

# Mitigation in Schools

Isna Wica Owayawa will follow OST Ordinances and Resolutions regarding mitigating Covid-19. We will also utilize the South Dakota Department of Education's COVID-19 Mitigation in Schools model and follow CDC recommendations. The OST Ordinances shall take precedence over all guidance and laws pertaining to educational institutions.

#### **School Facilities**

In order to prevent and reduce the spread of COVID-19, Isna Wica Owayawa will limit access into the school building. Each classroom and office space is equipped with an air purifier. Our building is equipped with an HVAC system. We have contracted with TemTech for frequent inspections and upkeep of our system. The building is marked for social distancing. The designated entrances to the building have a temperature check machine. The receptionist, or designee when the receptionist is not present, is responsible for ensuring all who enter the building have their temperatures checked and recorded. Busses have a barrier between each seat and Non-CDL vehicles are equipped with barriers to reduce transmission.

#### Plan of Action

1. The Contact Tracing Sheet will be reviewed to determine the level of contamination in the school.

- 2. All contacts listed on the Contact Tracing Sheet will be sent home immediately. They must get tested for COVID19 within 24 hours. They must follow their healthcare provider's recommendations. They may return with a letter from their medical care provider or contact tracer.
- 3. The areas of contamination will be closed until proper cleaning and sanitization can be done thoroughly.
- 4. Personnel who are cleaning and sanitizing the areas of contamination will wear appropriate PPE and have access to the proper cleaning and sanitizing supplies.

#### Communication

Our parents/guardians will be notified of any plans or change of plans through our various communication channels, ie. school website, school Facebook page, school Apptegy program, and outreach by the Advocacy department.

We will report our plans or change of plans to the Oglala Sioux Tribe Education Agency Director through email. The OST TEA Director will distribute our information to all who need it.

### **Contact Tracing in Combination with Isolation and Quarantine**

Schools should continue to collaborate with tribal and state health departments, to the extent allowable by privacy laws and other applicable laws, to confidentially provide information about people diagnosed with or exposed to COVID-19. This allows identifying which students, teachers, and staff with positive COVID-19 test results should isolate, and which close contacts should quarantine.

- Fully vaccinated close contacts should be referred for COVID-19 testing. If asymptomatic, fully vaccinated close contacts do not need to quarantine at home following an exposure (they can continue to attend school in-person and participate in other activities). In addition to correctly wearing masks in school, they should wear a mask in other indoor public settings for 14 days or until they receive a negative test result.
- Close contacts who are not fully vaccinated should be referred for COVID-19 testing. Regardless of test result, they should quarantine at home for 14 days after exposure.

See the added exception in the close contact definition for the exclusion of students in the K-12 indoor classroom who are within 3 to 6 feet of an infected student with masking. See the Department of Education's Protecting Student Privacy FERPA and the Coronavirus Disease 2019 external.icon for more information.

Schools should report, to the extent allowable by applicable privacy laws, new cases of COVID-19 to their tribal and state health department as soon as they are informed. School officials should notify, to the extent allowable by applicable privacy laws, teachers, staff and families of students who were close contacts as soon as possible (within the same day if possible) after they are notified that someone in the school has tested positive.

http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/k-12-guidance.html

Operational Guidance for K-12 Schools and Early Care and Education Programs to Support Safe In-Person Learning | CDC

# **Large School Events**

Any large school events (more than 50 people in attendance) will coincide with the Operational Levels. Large school events will be allowed for vaccinated individuals and individuals with an approved Covid-19 reasonable accommodation exemption. These activities will follow the OST and CDC guidelines of mask-wearing, physical distancing, handwashing, and other new developments. Opportunities may be provided for vaccinated family members to safely participate. Participation will require parent/guardian written consent. When meals are served, families may sit together but shall remain 6 feet from other family groups.

## **Instructional Delivery**

Isna Wica Owayawa will follow the Oglala Sioux Tribe's determination about which Operation Level to operate under. Our School Improvement Team will meet to review data available from the Oglala Sioux Tribe, SD Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control to assess how we are following the safest measures to protect our students, staff and family members. We will communicate informational updates with students, parents, families, and community members. Oglala Sioux Tribe requires that, "all in-school, face-to-face students ages six (6) months and older get vaccinated against COVID-19 and must show proof to the school's administration or it's designee...unless an exemption from this policy has been granted as an accommodation or otherwise."

## **Operational Level: Low**

Delivery of Instruction- is to have full-day sessions for students. Students will be on campus receiving direct explicit instruction from their teacher. Students will be allowed to switch classrooms for the various subjects. This pertains to the Middle School subjects, Physical Education/Health, Lakota Studies, Computers and other support services.

*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 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, a phone call or a drive thru event for unvaccinated parents/guardians. Parents/guardians who are fully vaccinated are allowed to have in-person conferences with their child's teacher.

*Meals*- Students will be eating in the cafeteria, following the procedures established for the cafeteria. Grade pods will be scheduled so there are no more than 50 people in the cafeteria at any given time. The cafeteria will be cleaned and sanitized after each use. Students will sit at least 6 feet apart and may lower masks in order to eat meals.

*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. Barriers are installed in all busses.

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- will be allowed for vaccinated individuals. These activities will follow the OST and CDC guidelines of mask-wearing, physical distancing, handwashing, and other new developments. Opportunities may be provided for vaccinated family members to safely participate. Participation will require parent/guardian written consent.

Advocacy Program (Counseling Services): The services offered through Advocacy foster empowerment and support for the school community. The Student Advocate works closely with the teachers, and will remain active within the classrooms. The Family Advocate is able to assist with linking families with available resources as well as being a liaison for families with the school. The School Counselor offers individual counseling services for any students who would benefit from having additional

support.

*Communication*: We have a variety of methods of communication with our stakeholders. These methods are our Facebook page, our school website, Apptegy, traditional phone calls, home visits and teachers communicating with their parents on a weekly basis.

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.
- Cleaning and sanitization will occur after every group leaves the building and vehicles.
- IEP meetings will be scheduled by the coordinator, with input from the external service providers and will be conducted either thru a Zoom meeting or over the phone, depending on the parents/guardian's choice. Vaccinated parents/guardians will be allowed to attend in-person IEP meetings.

*Kindergarten*: Our students are new to the school environment. The face-to-face interaction these young students need is vital to their growth. The structure a classroom environment presents is also vital to the success of these students. Our Kindergarten students will be transported to the school to receive their instructional services.

*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 School Principal.

## **Operational Level: Medium**

Delivery of Instruction- is to have full-day sessions for students. Students will be on campus receiving direct explicit instruction from their teacher. The students will remain in their assigned classroom and the teachers will move from classroom to present their subject area lessons. This pertains to the Middle School subjects, Physical Education/Health, Lakota Studies, Computers and other support services.

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 3' 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 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, a phone call or a drive thru event for unvaccinated parents/guardians. Parents/guardians who are fully vaccinated are allowed to have in-person conferences with their child's teacher.

*Meals*- Students will be eating in the cafeteria, following the procedures established for the cafeteria. Grade pods will be scheduled so there are no more than 50 people in the cafeteria at any given time. The cafeteria will be cleaned and sanitized after each use. Students will sit at least 6 feet apart and may lower masks in order to eat meals.

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 busses 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- will be allowed for vaccinated individuals. These activities will follow the OST and CDC guidelines of mask-wearing, physical distancing, handwashing, and other new developments. Opportunities may be provided for vaccinated family members to safely participate. Participation will require parent/guardian written consent.

Advocacy Program (Counseling Services): The services offered through Advocacy foster empowerment and support for the school community. The Student Advocate works closely with the teachers, and will remain active within the classrooms. The Family Advocate is able to assist with linking families with available resources as well as being a liaison for families with the school. The School Counselor offers individual counseling services for any students who would benefit from having additional support.

*Communication*: We have a variety of methods of communication with our stakeholders. These methods are our Facebook page, our school website, Apptegy, traditional phone calls, home visits and teachers communicating with their parents on a weekly basis.

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.
- Cleaning and sanitization will occur after every group leaves the building and vehicles.
- IEP meetings will be scheduled by the coordinator, with input from the external service providers and will be conducted either thru a Zoom meeting or over the phone, depending on the parents/guardian's choice. Vaccinated parents/guardians will be allowed to attend in-person IEP meetings.

*Kindergarten*: Our students are new to the school environment. The face-to-face interaction these young students need is vital to their growth. The structure a classroom environment presents is also vital to the success of these students. Our Kindergarten students will be transported to the school to receive their instructional services. All mitigation efforts will be in effect to protect these students and their teachers.

*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 School Principal.

## **Operational Level: High**

Delivery of Instruction- is to have full-day sessions for students. Students will be on campus receiving direct explicit instruction from their teacher. The students will remain in their assigned classroom and the teachers will move from classroom to classroom to present their subject area lessons. This pertains to the Middle School subjects, Physical Education/Health, Lakota Studies, Computers and other support services.

*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 3' 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 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, a phone call or a drive thru event for unvaccinated parents/guardians. Parents/guardians who are fully vaccinated are allowed to have in-person conferences with their child's teacher.

*Meals*: Students will be eating in the cafeteria, following the procedures established for the cafeteria. Grade pods will be scheduled so there are no more than 50 people in the cafeteria at any given time. The cafeteria will be cleaned and sanitized after each use. Students will sit at least 6 feet apart and may lower masks in order to eat meals.

Sports and Extracurricular Activities: will be allowed for vaccinated individuals. These activities will follow the OST and CDC guidelines of mask-wearing, physical distancing, handwashing, and other new developments. Opportunities may be provided for vaccinated family members to safely participate. Participation will require parent/guardian written consent.

*Transportation:* Fully vaccinated students who choose to attend school in-person will be transported. Students who have been granted an exemption may also be transported to attend school in-person.

Advocacy Program (Counseling Services): The services offered through Advocacy foster empowerment and support for the school community. The Student Advocate works closely with the teachers, and will remain active within the classrooms. The Family Advocate is able to assist with linking families with available resources as well as being a liaison for families with the school. The School Counselor offers individual counseling services for any students who would benefit from having additional support.

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.
- Cleaning and sanitization will occur after every group leaves the building and vehicles.
- IEP meetings will be scheduled by the coordinator, with input from the external service providers and will be conducted either through a Zoom meeting or over the phone, depending on the parents/guardian's choice. Fully vaccinated parents/guardians will be allowed to attend the IEP meetings in-person.

*Kindergarten*: Our students are new to the school environment. The face-to-face interaction these young students need is vital to their growth. The structure a classroom environment presents is also vital to the success of these students. Our Kindergarten students will be transported to the school to receive their instructional services. All mitigation efforts will be in effect to protect these students and their teachers.

Parents-They are a vital component of our school. We value the opinion and advice of our parents/guardians.

*Communication*: We have a variety of methods of communication with our stakeholders. These methods are our Facebook page, our school website, Apptegy, phone calls, teachers communicating with their parents on a weekly basis.

## Operational Level: Shelter-In-Place School Closed for Students Hybrid and Distance Learning

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 expect students to log in and be present for instruction during their class times. Parents/Guardians will be responsible for making sure their students are logged in.

*Parent-Teacher Conferences*: Our 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. We will also deliver fresh fruits/vegetables on Tuesdays and Thursdays. This will be contactless delivery to the homes.

Sports and Extracurricular Activities: will be cancelled or rescheduled when allowable to proceed.

Advocacy Program (Counseling Services): The services offered through Advocacy foster empowerment and support for the school community. The Student Advocate works closely with the teachers, and will remain available as needed and permitted. The Family Advocate is able to assist with linking families with available resources as well as being a liaison for families with the school. The School Counselor offers individual counseling services for any students who would benefit from having additional support.

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.
- Cleaning and sanitization will occur after every group leaves the building and vehicles.
- IEP meetings will be scheduled by the coordinator, with input from the external service providers and will be conducted either through a Zoom meeting or over the phone, depending on the parents/guardian's choice. Fully vaccinated parents/guardians will be allowed to attend the IEP meetings in-person.

*Kindergarten*: Our students are new to the school environment. The face-to-face interaction these young students need is vital to their growth. The structure a classroom environment presents is also vital to the success of these students. Our Kindergarten students will abide by the Shelter-In-Place guidelines. Once the Shelter-In-Place has been lifted school will resume as stated for the appropriate level.

Parents-They are a vital component of our school. We value the opinion and advice of our parents/guardians.

*Communication*: We have a variety of methods of communication with our stakeholders. These methods are our Facebook page, our school website, Apptegy, phone calls, teachers communicating with their parents on a weekly basis.

#### **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 Operation Levels, attendance will be taken every day that classes are in session. We will hold our students to the same standards of academic excellence that we always have. We will provide the staff with resources necessary to ensure that all students can succeed within the method or delivery of instruction chosen. We will monitor our students' attendance consistently. We will provide intervention and support for any student who needs it to be successful with their attendance and ultimately, their academics.

*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 1<sup>st</sup> thru 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students will receive a minimum of 810 hours. Our 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> 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. The Advocacy department will make contact with identified students and remain available to all students. We will work with the parents to address any needs/issues they see with their students.

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 online resources. Parents are also required to complete a Technology Survey so we know what is needed in the home. Based on student-need, Isna Wica Owayawa is working to ensure that students have access to their coursework, including through the provision of internet-connected devices, mobile hot-spots, school supplies, or any other relevant student and family needs. Students may share their technology needs with their teacher to receive support. We have hired a Technology Assistant who is available to assist the students and parents with any technology issues. This staff member is available to go to the homes, but will not enter a home. He will provide technology service outside the home, maintaining 6' distance, wearing adequate PPE and using hand sanitizer upon completion of the home visit.

Special Education Services: Our legal and ethical commitment to serving students with individualized education plans (IEPs) continues. Students will receive individual and small-group sessions that support success in general education classes and ensure progress toward student goals and objectives. Because of the unique needs of each student receiving special education services, no single service delivery method can be employed. Parents will be contacted outlining service options and plans designed for their students. IEP meetings will continue being held on schedule via phone calls and Isna Wica Owayawa will remain in compliance with all state and federal regulations concerning special education services for students. Teacher Assistance Team meetings will continue to be held on an as-needed basis. Related services such as Physical Therapy, Speech and Occupational Therapy will continue for the students needing such services.

**Counseling Services:** Individual counseling sessions remain available to all students. We understand that this national health pandemic and its impact on everyday life can be disorienting. Our school's Advocacy staff are available to talk with students and/or parents..

*Safety in Hallways*: Two-way direction in the hallways will be practiced. Three-foot distancing will be taught and enforced while students are in the hallway will be divided by visible yellow signage showing students 3' distancing.

**Recess**: Schedules will be created to allow for students to access recess in a safe manner. Walking, physical activity is recommended for recess. Playground equipment use is not allowed at this time.

**Restrooms**: Schedules will be created for students to access the restrooms in a safe manner. Restrooms will be sanitized after each use.

**Public Accessibility**: Visitors must have a mask on to enter the building. They will remain in the lobby area of the building while on campus. Staff will meet the public in the lobby to assist the public. Fully vaccinated parents/guardians will be allowed to enter the building and have access to teachers, counselors, administrators when necessary.

**Staff Accessibility**: All staff will have access to the building through the various doors for social distancing purposes. There will be staggered start times for each department based on their duties provided to our school. They will exit the building through the door nearest their work space to limit the congestion by the main doors. Each entrance will be equipped with a thermometer and a sign in log.

Sports & Extracurricular Activities: In an effort to provide sports and extracurricular activities for our students, we realize the importance of these events on our students' physical and mental health. While activities are indoors, we will require mask wearing and social distancing. When activities are outdoors, masks are optional as long as social distancing is enforced. The temperature checks upon entering the building will remain in effect for all athletes, coaches and game officials. Spectators must be fully vaccinated and will be limited based on the social distancing guidelines for a particular location. In some instances, there may not be spectators allowed. Athletes and coaches will have their own water bottles for their own use. Sharing of items is not permitted, unless it is the game ball. Practices are closed to the public and equipment is not to be shared in practice. The custodial staff will clean all surfaces frequently throughout the practices and games. Only fully vaccinated athletes will be allowed to

participate in our sports and extracurricular activities. All coaches and sponsors will be fully vaccinated in order to coach/sponsor a team. All game officials must be fully vaccinated to officiate competitions.

**Essential Employee Status:** All employees are essential to maintaining Isna Wica Owayawa's mission and operations. During a Shelter-In-Place designation, Isna Wica Owayawa administration may realign work assignments to manage operations while also preparing proactively and strategically. Essential employees may include staff designated by the leadership of the school, to continue the mission to empower each individual to achieve a passion for education and life-long learning.

**Supplies for the Home**: Our Advocacy program is available to provide hygiene items, hand sanitizer and cleaning supplies for our student's homes, while supplies last. For those families who are in quarantine or isolation, when available, a bin of cleaning supplies, food and traditional medicine will be delivered to their homes if they call to let us know of their quarantine or isolation status. The OST Covid-19 Task Force may also provide these supplies, if we do not have them available.

**Parent Education**: Our Advocacy program will provide the updated information that the CDC provides on their website. They will provide a weekly pamphlet to our families with information that will be helpful during this pandemic. Topics include but are not limited to emotional well-being, physical well-being, CDC updates, healthy foods and study habits/skills. We have purchased a mobile classroom for our parents/guardians to be able to access these educational opportunities in the community. Our school is two miles from the main Oglala area and many do not have transportation to come to the school.

**Requests for Exemptions for Reasonable Accommodations**: The School Principal will be responsible for reviewing and approving or denying requests for waivers of the Covid-19 vaccinations.

*Updates and Changes*: We will rely on the OST TEA Director to provide guidance further guidance and to act as a liaison between our school and the Oglala Sioux Tribal Council and Education Committee.

## **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 support 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.
  - o Has your child had close contact (within 6' for at least 15 minutes) with a confirmed case of COVID-19?
  - Ones your child have a new or worsening cough?
  - O Does your child have a fever of 100.4 or greater?
  - Does your child have chills?
  - o Does your child have diarrhea?
  - o Does your child have unexplained muscle pain?
  - O Does your child have a headache (not related to a known health condition i.e. migraines)?
  - Does your child have a sore throat?

- Ones 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.

We also encourage all our students, parents, and family members to practice health and safety measures that help reduce the spread of COVID-19, including:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water.
- If soap is not available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.
- Routinely clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a mask when around others.
- Use a tissue to cover coughs and sneezes.
- Avoid close contact with people demonstrating flu-like symptoms.
- Refrain from touching your eyes, nose, mouth, and face.
- Wear masks!