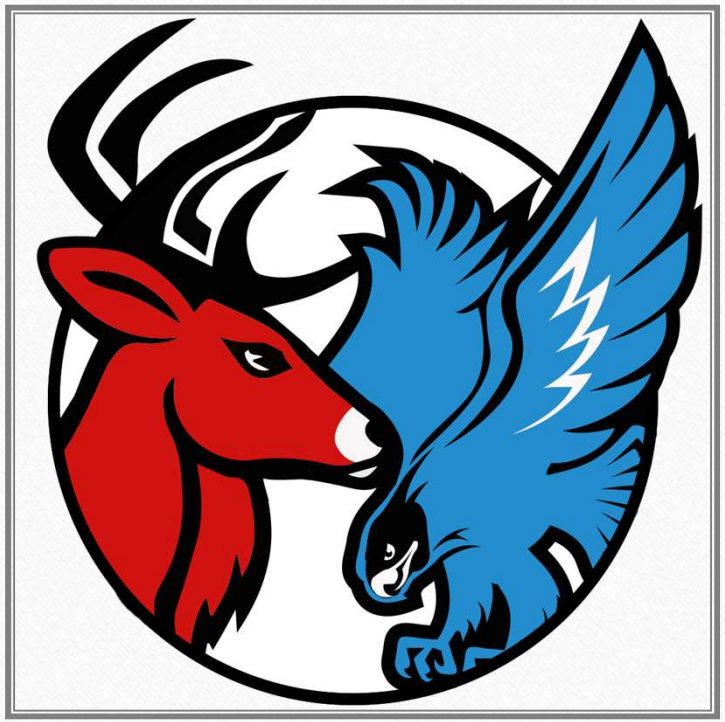
Ready for Learning Plan

Deer/Mt. Judea School District

Updated Plan

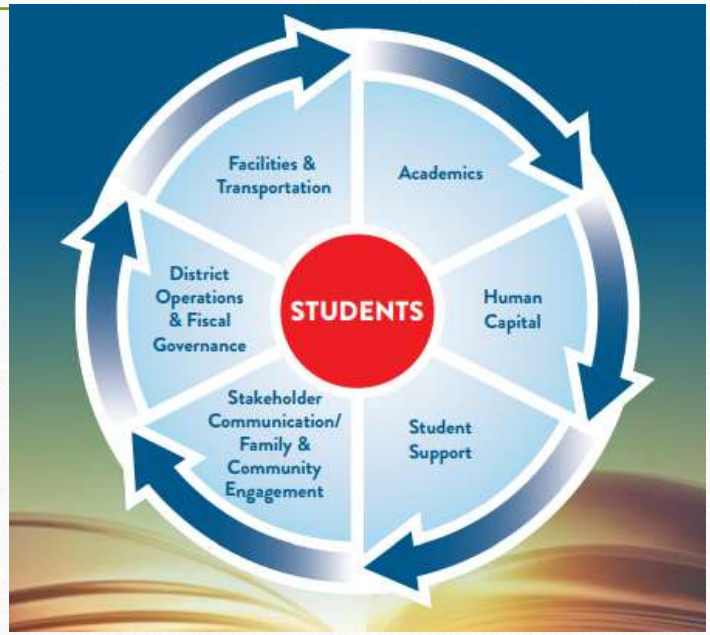
4/8/2022



District Ready for Learning Committee

ARKANSAS
READY FOR LEARNING

The team should include members who have specialized skills to address each of the six systems. Consider teachers, principals, central office staff, partner organizations, IT, student support services, chief academic officer, food service, family/community, medical professionals, higher ed. partners, etc.



District Ready for Learning Committee

- Brenda Napier, Superintendent
- Melissa King, Fed. Programs/Assessment/Curriculum
- Rita Greenhaw, Principal
- Misty Tabor, Principal
- Rainey Yeager, Counselor,Family Engagement
- Lindsey Burdine, Counselor Family Engagement
- Andrew Rocole, Tech Coordinator
- Kristina Adams, Tech Assistant
- Vernie Heydenreich, Transportation
- Jennifer Casey, Food Service Director
- Nina Smith, Cafeteria Manager
- Maintenance/custodians
- Teachers
- School Board Members
- Parents
- Students
- Community

Updates As of April 5, 2022

- The information in this plan is based upon the recommendations and requirements of the Arkansas Department of Health and the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. At this time, the above organizations have limited the required response to mitigate the spread of COVID19. At any time, these requirements can be reinstated by order of the Arkansas Department of Health or Arkansas Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.
- Gaps in learning are being addressed by updating the district curriculum by using ESSER Funds for a new reading curriculum. The district also is providing Credit Recovery opportunities for students in grades 9-12. The district is also providing intervention times during the school day for all students.

Updates continued

- The district has sought input from stakeholders for best steps to support the school. The district will continue to monitor student progress regularly using several types of procedures and data. The district will continue to provide a viable curriculum for onsite and digital learners. The district continues to ensure safety and quality standards in disinfection and sanitation to prevent the spread of COVID19.

DMJ Ready for Learning Plan

Actions & Assurances

1. Ensure the continuity of teaching and learning by providing a guaranteed and viable curriculum that includes digital learning (K-12) and diagnostic assessments (K-8).
2. Address unfinished learning from the prior year by using the Arkansas Playbook: Addressing Unfinished Learning and district developed resources.
3. Utilize a Learning Management System.
4. Schedule teacher training for how to use the LMS.
5. Schedule teacher training for digital learning (delivery of instruction).
6. Provide support for parents and students.
7. Provide a written communication plan for interacting with parents, students, and the community.

Action #1

- Deer/Mt. Judea will ensure the continuity of teaching and learning by providing a guaranteed and viable curriculum that includes digital learning (K-12) and diagnostic assessments (K-8).

Guaranteed and Viable Curriculum

Curriculum

A guaranteed and viable curriculum will be implemented through the DMJ Instructional Model. The Instructional Model will be implemented in the following settings:

- Traditional
- Digital

Diagnostic Assessment

The diagnostic assessment to be used to identify students' strengths/weaknesses and develop individual instructional plans for addressing unfinished learning and shape decisions to be made for new learning will be ACT Aspire in grades 3-10 and Istation in grades K-2.

Additionally, local common formative assessments and reading screeners that align with the Science of Reading will be used to identify areas of need for point-in-time remediation and enrichment needs in all grades and subject areas.

Guaranteed and Viable Curriculum

Teachers began working on curriculum units summer of 2019 and completed them last school year. Spring and summer 2020 the teachers have been creating/writing their digital curriculum that will be used for the 2020-21 school year.

This curriculum will be used for both onsite and traditional learning.

Istation will be administered as early as possible in K-2 in the fall to provide information about where students are academically in these grades.

Common formative assessments and reading screeners will be used to identify gaps and support enrichment and RTI lessons.

Traditional and Digital Learning

DMJ recognizes that learning/teaching will be different from what we once considered "traditional". With these changes in mind, the district will offer families choices for learning this fall.

- Traditional
- Digital

Traditional learning is onsite with teachers, content, and assignments.

Digital learning is off-site learning using digital providers Apex, Virtual Arkansas, North Arkansas College.

Action #2

Deer/Mt. Judea School District will address unfinished learning by using district-developed resources and the Arkansas Playbook: Addressing Unfinished Learning.

Addressing Unfinished Learning

Student Needs for On-Site Instruction

Students have not been in school in a structured classroom environment since March 13. With this in mind, we want to ensure a smooth re-entry into the classroom by creating a supportive and safe culture that eases the transition back to on-site learning.

To provide support for our students, the first few days of school will be used for

- Student procedural review
- Social-emotional support
- New learning processes
- On-site instruction guidelines and expectations
- Technology use and safety
- Plan for pivoting to off-site if needed

Procedural review will be embedding continually in lessons throughout the year to provide continued support to students.

Specific items to be addressed will be different for the different grade levels but will at a minimum include:

1. Building procedures and rules
2. Technology considerations
3. Digital learning
4. PPE etiquette, social distancing, new safety requirements
5. Social-emotional supports

Addressing Unfinished Learning

Unfinished Learning & Learning Deficits

The first few weeks of school will be used for student screening and assessment of the essential standards.

- Units of instruction and resources provided in the DESE Playbook will be used as a guide, and the core units of instruction developed by DMJ will also be used to address essential standards that were not taught or mastered during the closure. The focus is on placement of content throughout the year.
- The DMJ Instructional Model will use the Plan-Do-Check process.

Diagnostic assessment with local CFAs/DFAs & Istation will begin in early September.

Plan-Do-Check: Data will be disaggregated in the PLC process and plans for instruction according to our instructional model will be developed and implemented.

Istation will be administered monthly during the 2020-21 school year.

Data from assessments will be used to determine student learning gaps.

Arkansas Playbook: Addressing Unfinished Learning

The Playbook will be used to address unfinished learning through the following:

1. Unit Plans
2. Social/Emotional strategies and support plans and resources
3. Family and Community Engagement resources
4. Documents to support the Professional Learning Community process
5. Master Schedule examples
6. Support documents and resources for developing common formative assessments

Action #3

Deer/Mt. Judea School District will utilize a Learning Management System (LMS)

Learning Management System

BUZZ

This LMS is compatible with Google Classroom and contains features that ar very similar to Google Classroom so that families with students enrolled in multiple grades/schools in our district should not have difficulty switching between platforms. This platform is more user friendly for small children and provides a digital environment that is more suitable for K-2 learners.

Google Classroom/BUZZ

All classrooms (K-12) will utilize Google Classroom as their LMS.

Canvas/Blackboard

These LMS systems will be used by students in grades 7-12 if participating in courses from Virtual Arkansas or North Arkansas College.

Action #4

Deer/Mt. Judea School District will offer ongoing teacher training for how to use the selected Learning Management Systems.

Learning Management System Training

Planned Training Opportunities

Teachers have been provided training that began in the 2019-2020 school year on using the LMS.

Teachers began having more advanced training in spring 2020 on the LMS and has continued into July 2021.

Ongoing support will be provided as needed and interventions will be provided for new teachers and teachers who need more support.

Action #5

Deer/Mt. Judea School District will schedule teacher training for the delivery of instruction.

Teacher Training on Digital Learning

Planned Training Opportunities

- District teachers K-12 received training on developing digital learning lessons that align with the district curriculum.
- District teachers have been provided days to work on writing and adding their lessons into the LMS.
- District teachers were provided with professional development to ensure consistency across the district.
- District teachers will be ready to pivot to off-site at any point and time in the year if needed.

Action #6

Deer/Mt. Judea School District will provide support for parents and students.

Technology Support for Parents and Students

- Students and families will review and sign the District Acceptable Use Agreement (AUA)
- Each student will be provided with a Chromebook & charger (K-12)
- The tech department will set up a hotline to reach the Technology Department directly for LMS and device help.

Families who do not have adequate internet access to support off-site digital learning during times of closure will have access to the following:

- District wi-fi accessible in any school parking lot.
- Hot Spots

Academic Support for Families and Students

LMS virtual support sessions were held in April 2020 to provide training on Google Classroom, Internet Safety and other online programs for parents of all district parents. The purpose was to demonstrate the use/function of the programs so that parents would be able to assist their children at home and answer any questions that they had about the technology.

Other trainings have been held virtually and on campus for parents/students throughout the school year each year on other topics needed to assist our parents/students.

The district will place on their website a Ready for Learning link. This link will contain all information about what the district is doing to address the needs of students/parents during the pandemic.

Other information will be available at each building.

Academic Support for Families

Teachers will be available to families to provide academic support whether we are on-site or off-site. Families and students will be able to communicate with teachers through the following methods:

1. Email
2. Phone calls
3. Google Meet conferences
4. Google Meet office hours
5. In person conferences by appointment with all health and safety guidelines in place.

Special populations will be continually supported through implementation of their collaboratively developed individual plans. Teachers will be in contact with families to ensure continuity of services.

Events targeting special populations will be held to support families with special needs.

Social Emotional Support for Families

Teachers will receive professional development on Social Emotional Learning. Counselors will facilitate the back-to-school SEL PD.

The Ready For Learning section of the website will also include information and resources for teachers and families about SEL.

The district has purchased SEL software that can be used by on campus and digital students.

Counselors will organize small groups of selected students for meetings to address topics such as working on behavior/effort.

Counselors will hold Google Meets with students who have chosen off-site instruction to address SEL topics.

Counselors will also continue their Google Classroom they created for teachers and families/students.

The district has contracted with a behavior counselor to work with students weekly.

Physical Support for Families/Students in Need

The counselor's offices at each campus in the Deer/Mt. Judea School District are ready to support the needs of students through the implementation of their Comprehensive Support Services Plan.

Action #7

Deer/Mt. Judea will provide a written communication plan for interacting with parents, students, and the community.

Communication Plan

Deer/Mt. Judea School District will communicate with parents, students, and the community regarding day-to-day expectations.

Communication will occur regularly and promptly at the district and building levels. Initial communication regarding the Reading for Learning plan will occur in phases.

The district will attempt to provide a clear explanation and understanding of the plan components and how it affects everyone involved.

Communication Plan

Phase 1 – (Early July 2021) Announce the first day of on-site instruction and provide general information regarding the Ready for Learning Plan.

Phase 2 – (Mid July 2021) Announce the types of learning available to students for the 2020-21 school year and survey the parents on which type they would choose for their child(ren).

Phase 3 – (Late July 2021) Provide information to parents on any updates on attendance, grading, general day to day procedures, scheduling and any other important information from the state level.

Phase 4 – (Early August 2021) Specific information on back to school. Final information on day-to-day procedure changes, breakfast/lunch procedures, technology, athletics, arrival/dismissal, and transitions.

*Parents/families will be updated on any changes that occur during the school year regarding COVID19 pandemic/health department regulations etc.

District Communication Methods

District communication methods include but are not limited to website, social media, videos, texts, phone calls, emails, Google Meets, Google surveys, and face to face communication with guidelines.

Information will be disseminated through the methods above as well as through community options, such as local media, church leaders, etc.

Ongoing Building Communication Methods

Admin to Staff	Admin to Families	Staff to Families	Staff to Students	Admin to Students
• Weekly memo via email. • Participation in weekly team meetings. • Collaboration in the PLC process.	• Bi-weekly updates sent to families by email, social media or local media as appropriate.	• General Communication • Weekly updates posted in Seesaw/Google Classroom.	• Specific teacher feedback on assignments required at least weekly. • During full off-site instruction asynchronous and synchronous instruction will occur. • Messages sent via email, platform, and/or video messaging,	• Students will be provided information on how to communicate with the principal. • Principals will provide information to students as needed.

Ready for Learning Plan Point of Contact

Ready for Learning Plan

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