



South Conway County School District

100 Baramore St.
Morrilton, AR 72110

South Conway County School District Continuity of Services Plan for 2022-2023 Approved 6-13-2022

District Families and Students,

Included in the ***Continuity of Services Plan*** is information on procedures and protocols for buildings and buses that will be implemented by the South Conway County School District (SCCSD) to provide a safe learning environment for our scholars. We have also included information on ways your family can help us to maintain healthy schools; When your student should stay home from school and when it may be safe for them to return; and how schools will handle classroom setup and procedures to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. The District's goal is to ensure that all parents, students, teachers and staff members feel safe and secure.

With direction from the Arkansas Governor's Office, Arkansas Department of Health (ADH) and Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), the District has been and will continue preparing as much as possible to provide safe and meaningful learning opportunities for all scholars. Each campus in the District will be producing its own ***Continuity of Services Plan*** with more specific procedures and protocols to maximize the safety of all students and staff.

The purpose of the District is to Love, Serve, and Care. The mission of the South Conway County School District is to maximize the safety, learning, and achievement of every scholar. The South Conway County School District knows and understands that each family is entrusting the South Conway County School District with your family's most precious gift, your child. Thank you for your belief in the District's ability to care for your child(ren). It is the District's desire for all to know that we will do our best.

Respectfully,

Shawn Halbrook
Superintendent of Schools

The South Conway County School District (SCCSD) will use the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH) guidance and the Arkansas Ready for Learning guidance issued by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) in planning for the 2022-2023 school year.

School districts are advised to continue practicing preventative measures such as physical distancing, screening at home, testing, ventilation, handwashing and respiratory etiquette, staying home when sick and getting tested and isolation if positive, and cleaning and disinfection to the extent practical.

The District's mission is to maximize the safety, learning, and achievement of every scholar. Our goal has always been to provide as safe an environment as possible which includes a rich educational experience, with opportunities for social interaction and extra-curricular activities.

What is the first day for students?

School will begin on August 15, 2022.

Will face coverings be required?

Face coverings will **not** be required at school or on school buses. Face coverings are optional and a personal choice.

What about vaccinations?

Schools are encouraged to help students ages 5 and older, their families, and all school staff with getting vaccinated.

Will bus transportation be provided?

Though school districts are not required to provide transportation to school, the SCCSD will provide bus transportation for all students. The District is not planning changes to bus schedules or bus stops at this time. All busses will be disinfected and sanitized after every use.

To the extent feasible bus drivers will assign seats for all students riding a bus. Family groups will be assigned to sit together. This will allow contact tracers to know what families to contact in the event of a known COVID-19 case. As stated previously, when details from the state level are revised, the District will continue communicating requirements with our learning community.

How normal will the day be for a student?

The District's goal is for your student(s) to have as normal of a day as possible while we also provide as much safety as possible. School leaders will work diligently to create a schedule and transitions to minimize close physical interactions and to maximize physical distancing, while also allowing for normal school activities. More details about daily schedules will be provided in each school's Continuity of Services Plan.

Will students in grades K-6 still have extra classes like PE, art, music, guidance and library?

Yes, students will continue to participate in activity classes, check out library books, and receive guidance and gifted instruction. In some cases, the teacher may present his/her lesson in the student's classroom to reduce the amount of transitions. This will help the District keep the cohorts of students together in K-6 as much as possible. The activity classes will be disinfected as much as possible during the school day to maximize safety.

Will my elementary student have recess?

Yes, elementary students will have outdoor play time when the weather allows for outdoor play time.

Will physical distancing guidelines be observed?

Reorganization of classrooms, cafeterias, and other learning spaces will take place in order to increase space between students. The District will balance this with not limiting students' needs to interact and communicate with their teachers and classmates.

If an individual tests positive for COVID-19, what will happen?

In the event an individual tests positive, we will follow the latest guidance from the ADH and DESE. The District will be in direct contact with ADH.

Will students and adults be screened daily?

No. The District asks parents/guardians to complete this screening in the morning prior to taking the student to school or placing the student on the bus. Individuals should answer the following questions:

- 1.) Have you had a fever of 100.4°F or greater in the last 2 days?
- 2.) Have you had a cough, difficulty breathing, sore throat, or loss of taste or smell?
- 3.) Have you been in contact with a person known to be infected with COVID-19 within the previous 14 days?

What will breakfast/lunch look like for my student(s)?

The District is preparing to adjust lunch schedules and/or use alternative areas if needed. The District will maximize the physical distancing of students in the cafeterias. Other measures will include sanitation and revised meal distribution protocols. All cafeteria staff will be trained in ServSafe, which is intense food safety training. Parents are encouraged to send a water bottle with their students.

There will be no microwaves in the school for students to use. This is to reduce the risk of spreading illness through contact with the same surface.

What special precautions will be implemented in regard to cleaning and sanitizing?

Sanitation and disinfecting have always been a high priority for the District. The District will be emphasizing cleaning high touch surfaces (door knobs, light switches, etc.) and restrooms on a continuous basis throughout the day. The District has also purchased disinfectant sprayers to quickly sanitize all rooms between usage. The District will also provide time for hand washing and hand sanitizing throughout our campuses. Students may be asked to sanitize their hands each time they leave and enter a new space.

If a student comes to school sick, what will happen?

If a student comes to school sick, the school nurse will screen the student and check his/her temperature. If temperature is over the ADH guidance, the student will be isolated and sent home. **The student will need to be fever free for 48 hours without medication before returning to school.** The parent/guardian may be advised to have the student tested for COVID-19. When the child returns to school he/she will check in with the school nurse.

What happens if we have school closure?

If schools must close due to communicable disease, weather or other events, the District will utilize off-site digital learning, we will utilize a “Blended Learning” strategy that allows for students to receive direct instruction (whether in person or through recorded lessons) in combination with digital content and lessons. The District has created a detailed digital learning plan for all students to move from on-site to at-home instruction at any time. Digital and blended learning has become part of our “new normal” on campus as teams work to greatly increase and improve our digital content on Google Classroom Learning Management System (LMS) for grades K-8 and Canvas LMS for grades 9-12, including resources and recordings of lessons.

Our digital learning approach will also allow a student who becomes ill or must be quarantined to continue learning grade level and content standards even when he/she cannot be physically present in the classroom.

Will the District offer full-time virtual classes for students?

The South Conway County School District believes strongly that onsite learning is the most effective mode for students served by the District. The South Conway County School District will **not** offer a full-time off-site virtual learning option for the 2022-2023 school year.

Will there be a Point of Contact at the District?

Ms. Vicki Brannon, RN, will serve as the SCCSD Point of Contact (POC). Ms. Brannon may be contacted by the following methods during school hours:

1. **Office Phone:** 501.354.7608
2. **Email:** sccsdpoc@sccsd.k12.ar.us

How can I mitigate the spread and protect myself from COVID-19?

The South Conway County School District respects families’ choices they believe are best to protect themselves. The following are ways may help mitigate the spread of COVID-19:

1. Vaccinations for persons 5 years of age and older. Please consult a health care professional you trust for guidance.
2. Physical Distancing of more than three (3) ft. between people not in normal family groups.
3. Hand washing and hand sanitizing frequently.
4. Screening for symptoms of COVID-19 at home.
5. Ventilation/Air Circulation: Evidence suggests that improved air circulation is beneficial in reducing the spread of COVID-19. Open windows or otherwise work to improve air flow by allowing outside air to circulate in a building, and thereby lower the concentration of viral particles.