

Last Update: July 26, 2020 12:00 p.m.
(Please check daily for updates)



School Reopening Plan 2020 Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

If you have a question that is not on this list, please email it to comments@ssummit.org We will update this document regularly.

Introduction

South Summit School District is committed to preparing individuals for success and that begins with valuing them by providing a safe and conducive work and learning environment. The recent COVID-19 pandemic has created the necessity for local school districts to create a reopening plan for schools. The following questions and answers will address those commonly asked to help parents, students, and employees make decisions regarding the best solution for their education next year.

Communication and Training

Q: How should parents expect to receive information from the school and district regarding pandemic changes that may alter the school schedule?

A: The district is committed to providing accurate and timely information and will use multiple media sources including email, text message, District's app, newsletters, and webpages. However all essential information will be sent to the parent/guardian email provided during the student registration process. Please keep this email updated with the school and regularly check for messages from the school and district.

Accommodating Individual Circumstance (e.g., High Risk, Personal Decisions)

Last Update: July 26, 2020 12:00 p.m.

(Please check daily for updates)

Q: Who is considered high risk for COVID19?

A: Everyone is at risk for getting COVID-19 if they are exposed to the virus. Some people are more likely than others to become severely ill. We learn more about COVID-19 every day, and as more information becomes available, CDC will continue to update and share information about risk for severe illness. People at increased risk for severe illness are older adults and people with underlying medical conditions.

People of any age with the following conditions are at increased risk of severe illness from COVID-19:

- Cancer
- Chronic kidney disease
- COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease)
- Immunocompromised state (weakened immune system) from solid organ transplant
- Obesity (body mass index [BMI] of 30 or higher)
- Serious heart conditions, such as heart failure, coronary artery disease, or cardiomyopathies
- Sickle cell disease
- Type 2 diabetes mellitus

COVID-19 is a new disease. Currently there are limited data and information about the impact of underlying medical conditions and whether they increase the risk for severe illness from COVID-19. Based on what we know at this time, people with the following conditions might be at an increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19:

- Asthma (moderate-to-severe)
- Cerebrovascular disease (affects blood vessels and blood supply to the brain)
- Cystic fibrosis
- Hypertension or high blood pressure
- Immunocompromised state (weakened immune system) from blood or bone marrow transplant, immune deficiencies, HIV, use of corticosteroids, or use of other immune weakening medicines
- Neurologic conditions, such as dementia
- Liver disease
- Pregnancy
- Pulmonary fibrosis (having damaged or scarred lung tissues)
- Smoking
- Thalassemia (a type of blood disorder)
- Type 1 diabetes mellitus

Q: If I choose online because of high risk health concerns, can I still participate in extracurricular programs.

Last Update: July 26, 2020 12:00 p.m.

(Please check daily for updates)

A: Yes, both the blended learning and online learning programs are viable learning programs provided by the district and qualify the students to participate in extracurricular activities that are not tied to an academic course.

Enhanced Environment Hygiene and Safety

Q: What are the cleaning guidelines to enhance safety?

A: South Summit School District will be adhering to the Cleaning guidelines for community, non-healthcare facilities, including schools (p. 32-35):

(https://coronavirus-download.utah.gov/business/COVID-19_Business_Packet_FIN.pdf)

Q: What if a student or employee attends school and later tests positive for COVID-19?

A: If an individual with COVID-19 attended school within 48 hours of symptoms starting (if symptomatic) or of being tested (if asymptomatic). Summit County Health Department will contact the District to ensure preventative measures are followed or increased, according to the individual school's plan, as outlined in the USBE Handbook

(<https://schools.utah.gov/file/5997f53e-85ca-4186-83fe-932385ea760a>)

Q: How often will schools be sanitized/cleaned?

A: Daily. A more rigorous cleaning and sanitization of high touch surfaces will happen throughout the day.

Q: What is a recommended face covering?

A: Face covering means a cloth mask or similar covering that covers the nose and Mouth. Cloth face coverings are recommended as a simple barrier to help prevent respiratory droplets from traveling into the air and onto other people when the person wearing the cloth face covering coughs, sneezes, talks, or raises their voice. This is called source control. While cloth face coverings are strongly encouraged to reduce the spread of COVID-19, CDC recognizes there are specific instances when wearing a cloth face covering may not be feasible.

Q: Will face shields be permitted (especially for younger students)?

A: It is not known if face shields provide any benefit as source control to protect others from the spray of respiratory particles. CDC does not recommend use of face shields for normal everyday activities or as a substitute for cloth face coverings. Some people may choose to use a face shield when sustained close contact with other people is expected. If face shields are used without a mask, they should wrap around the sides of the wearer's face and extend to below the chin. Disposable face shields should only be worn as recommended. Reusable face shields should be cleaned and disinfected after each use.

Q: What are the approved exceptions for not wearing a mask in a district facility?

A: The Governor's mandatory face covering executive order does not apply to:

Last Update: July 26, 2020 12:00 p.m.

(Please check daily for updates)

- a child who is younger than two years old; or is two years old or older if the parent, guardian, or individual responsible for caring for the child cannot place the face covering safely on the child's face;
- an individual with a medical condition, mental health condition, or disability that prevents wearing a face covering, including an individual with a medical condition for whom wearing a face covering could cause harm or obstruct breathing, or who is unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove a face covering without assistance;
- an individual who is deaf or hard of hearing, or communicating with an individual who is deaf or hard of hearing, where the ability to see the mouth is essential for communication;
- an individual who is obtaining a service involving the nose or face for which temporary removal of the face covering is necessary to perform the service;
- an individual who is outdoors and maintains a physical distance of at least six feet from any other individual who is not from the same household or residence;
- an individual who is using an indoor recreational facility and maintains a physical distance of at least six feet from any other individual;
- an individual who is eating or drinking and maintains a physical distance of at least six feet from any other individual who is not from the same household or residence; or
- a state employee who is not speaking in person with any other individual and who: is the sole occupant of a fully enclosed room or office; is the sole occupant of a partially enclosed room, office, or similar space, including a cubicle, that is enclosed on at least three sides by walls or other physical barriers or dividers of a height that reaches no lower than the top of the employee's head when the employee is seated; or is seated or stationary, and maintains a physical distance of at least six feet from any other individual.

Student exceptions will be managed through an IEP or 504 plan.

Q: How will the schools address students who refuse to wear masks properly or comply with state and/or county executive order or health department guidelines?

A: Because the facemask requirement has been mandated by the Governor for all personnel and students within any school facility, we will be continuously reminding students that they must wear their mask at all times when indoors. We will continue to emphasize that mask-wearing is the most effective means of limiting the spread of coronavirus and that doing so shows caring for friends, teachers, staff, and family. Parents will be contacted for students who are consistently non-compliant with mask-wearing and may be asked to take the student home for the remainder of the school day. Students who are persistently non-compliant may be asked to shift to Online Instruction for the remainder of that quarter for their own protection and for the safety of other students and staff.

Last Update: July 26, 2020 12:00 p.m.

(Please check daily for updates)

School Schedules:

Q: When does school start?

A: Silver Summit schools start August 18, 2020. South Summit schools begin August 20, 2020; however, because that is a remote learning day the schedule and format for that day will be communicated to you from your child's school.

South Summit Elementary: Individual parent/student information conferences will be held on Wednesday, August 19. Parents can sign up using the online scheduler. An alert will be sent in August with detailed information.

Q: Why is a hybrid A/B schedule option not available since it would lessen the amount of people in the building at once reducing the exposure days, while still maintaining the socialization aspect we are all concerned about?

A: The safest option for students and employees from a community health perspective is to do online school. However, when academic achievement, mental health, nutrition for some students, and the need for socialization for healthy development is added to the equation, it is important to have face to face interactions in school. We do not know if the virus will cause schools to decrease enrollment or close again; therefore finding a blended learning balance that would prepare students to go online if necessary and also provide significant upfront time to be in the classroom was the plan chosen for our community.

Q: Why Wednesday and not Friday for the remote learning day?

A: Two reasons. The first is that a midweek day for deeper cleaning and opportunity for disinfecting the building will help reduce the spread of COVID-19, according to community health experts. The second is to allow faculty and students the opportunity to prepare during the first two days of the week to use the programs and devices that will be used during the remote learning day. The last two days of the week can be used to adjust for things that didn't work and address any lost learning. The remote learning day is in preparation for supporting students that may need to self isolate because of being ill or exposure to the virus and also in case of exponential virus spread to prepare students to engage in effective blended learning using technology.

Q: What will the UVU EdNet schedule be?

A: This fall students will be able to attend their UVU EdNet class in three different ways.

1. In Class at the District Office: Students will participate as they have in previous years.
2. At home on a computer: Some students will not feel comfortable attending class in person and, instead, will be viewing the class via WEBEX software, which links into the UEN system. Like Zoom and Teams, WEBEX allows students to participate in discussions and ask questions, but the broadcast remains a closed environment with security for all attending the class. The WEBEX software and link is free for all students.

Last Update: July 26, 2020 12:00 p.m.

(Please check daily for updates)

3. Watching a recording in Canvas: Some students will not be able attend class in person or via WEBEX because of rotating high school schedules. Therefore, the recorded lecture will be uploaded to Canvas and viewable at a time more convenient for the student.

Q: Will Fridays still be early out?

A: South Summit School District faculty will still engage in an active professional learning community (PLC) philosophy, which has been the purpose of the early out day on Fridays. Faculty have used that time to meet with their colleagues to discuss data and best teaching practices to help students better learn. To maximize time with students, PLC meetings will happen on Wednesdays, which will be the early-out day during the adjusted pandemic schedule.

Q: If a student has a mild COVID-19 symptom and doesn't come to school, can they access school online for that day and not be marked absent?

A: Yes. We encourage students and employees to stay home if they are not feeling well and especially if they have one or more COVID-19 symptoms. Classroom teachers know that absenteeism is going to be higher this year and will be prepared to serve those that are doing blended learning, but need to stay home for reasons related to illness. Students quarantined or required to stay home for an extended period will remain in the blended learning program. The teacher will provide them with learning materials to stay current with their class.

Q: When do I need to decide between the blended learning option and the online option?

A: August 3, 2020. A link to the "Fall 2020 Learning Option Selection Form" will be emailed to parents on or before Monday July 27. The superintendent, nurse, and principals will host an information session on Tuesday, July 28, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. The session can be attended in person at the high school auditorium (social distancing and face coverings required) or you can join online meet.google.com/zey-xvza-fta

The panel will share the options in more detail and answer questions to help students and parents choose the best option for them.

Q: What does the online learning program look like?

A: For high-school students attending Online Instruction at South Summit High School, teachers will do their best to 'mirror' their lessons, activities, and assessments so that online-only students receive as near to the same content as their peers in the classroom. Teachers will create online experiences using a combination of virtual software, in-class cameras with multi-view capability, Canvas, and Powerschool. Students who choose the Online Instruction option will be expected to be available online during their regular class time frames whenever possible.

South Summit Elementary:

Last Update: July 26, 2020 12:00 p.m.

(Please check daily for updates)

The online program mirrors that of the learning instruction that is happening in the classroom. A designated online teacher will be teaching those students who have made the choice to have online school. The curriculum will be the same for online and in class instruction.

Q: What is the Silver Summit Academy Secondary schedule?

A: Monday/Wednesday - 6th, 7th, 8th Grades - 8:30am - 2:40pm

Tuesday/Thursday - 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th Grades - 8:00am - 3:15pm

Fridays - Intervention Day

Q: What is the Silver Summit Elementary schedule?

A: Monday - Thursday are blended learning sessions, some students are online and others are in-class. Friday is an intervention day.

Q: How will the District's online school work?

A: The online learning program will be designed to use the same curriculum and learning essentials as in-person learning. South Summit faculty will teach online. Based on the number of students choosing the online option, some teachers may only teach online, while others may teach a combination of both online and in-person. The online program may also include some courses through the statewide online education program.

Q: What is the statewide online education program?

A. To fulfill graduation requirements at their Primary School of Enrollment, the Statewide Online Education Program (Program) allows secondary students to take up to 6.0 credits online per academic year. Online courses offered by a school district or charter school through a locally-created program are not covered by statutes related to this program. Credits taken online through this program replace credits the student would take at their primary school of enrollment. However, credits taken through this program are considered to be enrollment at the primary school of enrollment for funding and all other purposes. d. allowable credits are determined by "full-time enrollment" typical for a school across the whole school year. To register for more courses than what would be considered full-time enrollment (only credit-bearing courses are considered), a student must obtain a plan for early graduation. from their counselor at their primary school of enrollment.

Q: Are all students eligible to participate in the state online education program?

A: 6-12th grade students enrolled in a secondary school (district or charter school) in Utah, including students with disabilities and English language learners, are eligible for enrollment under Program statutes (§53F-4-501(2)); R277-726- 2(4)(a)). b. Students in grades 6-8 enrolled in a secondary environment who are prepared for high-school-level work and have an Early Graduation plan allowing for acceleration of high school graduation may participate. c. §53G-6-406 indicates that high schools are required to accept, for purposes of high school graduation, credit and grades earned from a SOEP provider that is accredited by AdvanceEd for 9-12th grade education, without reference to the grade in which the credit was earned. d. Home-schooled or private school students with a custodial parent resident in the state of Utah

Last Update: July 26, 2020 12:00 p.m.

(Please check daily for updates)

are eligible for program participation. e. Carson Smith Scholarship recipients are eligible for this program. f. Students residing in residential treatment centers may participate in this program if they enroll in the school district where the center is located. g. Foreign exchange students may enroll in this program while enrolled in a Utah Public or Private school.

Dual Enrollment applies only to a situation where a student is enrolled “dually” in a Home School or Private School, for part of the day, and in a Public School for the other part of the day.

b. Split Enrollment is a situation where a student is regularly enrolled at two public schools. The student is eligible for graduation and other services at both schools. c. When the student participates in online courses through the Statewide Online Education Program, the student is a regularly enrolled student only at their Primary School of Enrollment, where they remain eligible for Graduation, Counseling, Sports, Co-curricular Activities Such as band. d. A SOEP student is “in membership” (for funding and other purposes) only at the primary school of enrollment, which state law defines as the school in which the student is enrolled for courses other than online courses offered through the Statewide Online Education Program.

Q: What is home school?

A: Home school means that a student is officially excused from compulsory public school attendance under Section 53G-6-204. Students may be dual enrolled and have some classes through the school and the remaining through a homeschool curriculum. Parent(s)/guardian(s) that choose homeschool acknowledge that they are solely responsible for the education of their student(s) including: the selection of instructional materials (textbooks, digital devices etc.); setting the time, place, and method of instruction; and for the evaluation of the home school instruction. Parent/guardian accepts full responsibility for their student’s education and acknowledge that their child may not qualify for a diploma issued by South Summit School District or any of its schools because of lack of credits.

Q: What do I need to do if I choose to homeschool my student(s)?

A: If you are planning on providing the curriculum for your student(s), then you will need to complete a homeschool affidavit and turn it into the district office. [Click here](#) for the homeschool affidavit.

Q: What do I need to do if I want my student to study online and take some classes through SSSD?

A: If your student will not be doing the blended online option through SSSD you will need to enroll them in SEATS (through the state online education program) and notify the school. [Click here for SEATS](#)

Q: What do I need to do if I choose to enroll my student(s) in the online only option through SSSD?

A: For students at South Summit High School (potentially district wide), parents will choose either **In-Person/Blended Learning** or **Online Instruction** by completing a survey form (due Aug 3rd) and a simple online form as part of their regular school registration process. In order to build and sustain fidelity with these two different modes of instruction and learning, we ask

Last Update: July 26, 2020 12:00 p.m.

(Please check daily for updates)

that families maintain their choice for a minimum of the first quarter. For families choosing Online Instruction, they will select courses/ student schedules as normal (most schedules have already been created in PowerSchool) and curricula will be made available for each course through the teacher appearing on the student's schedule.

School Setting - Classrooms

Q: What daily health monitoring will staff do to help prevent spread?

A: Staff will daily monitor temperature and be able to respond "NO" to the preventative health questions per CDC.

Q: What daily health monitoring will students do to help prevent spread?

A: Parents will daily monitor temperature and be able to respond "NO" to the preventative health questions per CDC before sending their child to school.

Special Education, Related Services (SLP, OT, etc.) or School Counseling/Psychologist

School Setting - Transitions

Q: Will lockers be available for students to store personal belongings?

A: No, lockers will not be available. Students are encouraged to obtain a backpack that is safe to carry electronic devices and their other school supplies. will not be using lockers? Backpacks need to be able to hang on a chair...no roller backpacks.

School Setting - Entry/Exit Points

Q: How will students know what door to enter and exit the school?

A: Students will be notified on the first day of school or before which door they have been assigned to enter and exit school.

School Setting - Transportation

Q: Will the district still be providing transportation to Woodland Estates?

A: The bus stop for Woodland Estates will not change, it is on 1000 E Lower River Road.

School Setting - Restrooms

Q: Can students take "mask breaks" where they can go somewhere for 5 minutes and take their mask off?

Last Update: July 26, 2020 12:00 p.m.

(Please check daily for updates)

A: Outside and maintaining a distance of six feet or more from another student is the best. Weather permitting teachers will build these opportunities into the school schedule. Principals and teachers will also be determining appropriate places within the school and classrooms.

School Setting - Cafeterias

Large Group Gatherings (e.g., assemblies, recitals, dances)

Q: How are schools going to maintain a safe environment during events with large gatherings? Will there be assemblies, extracurricular activities like dances, and attendance at sporting events?

A: For the first quarter of the school year, in-school events like assemblies, multi-class presentations, etc. will not occur as we monitor the efficacy of our core plan against the spread of COVID-19 in our schools.

Extracurricular activities that are not sanctioned by the Utah High School Activities Association (UHSAA) including dances, performances, recitals, etc. will not be scheduled as 'in-person' events for the first quarter. Whenever possible, these events will occur virtually online. We will review these restrictions quarterly with the goal of having full, in-person participation in events as soon as we can insure the safety and wellness of our students and community.

For sporting events sanctioned by the UHSAA, we ask limited fan participation to family members only for the first quarter. Mask wearing will be strongly encouraged for indoor events and we ask that family groups maintain social distancing in the stands and surrounding areas. We will review these restrictions quarterly with the goal of having full, in-person participation in events as soon as we can insure the safety and wellness of our students and community.

Recess and Playgrounds

Q: Do students have to wear masks at recess?

A: Face coverings will not be required for recess that will be outside and with students maintaining a distance of six feet or more from another student.