

August 3, 2020

The Shelby-Rising City Board of Education approved the Return to School Plan that will govern the opening of the 2020-21 school year, slated to begin on August 17. This plan was created by a committee of Shelby-Rising City staff members in cooperation with Four Corners Health Department, ESU 7, the Nebraska Department of Education and the Crossroads Conference.

Please understand that this plan does not articulate all of the individual classroom protocols that will be used. Many will be developed prior to the first day of school. It is our hope that following this plan will keep our students and staff safe and minimize the possibility of the need to be quarantined for 10-14 days.

The Plan is based upon the Covid Risk Dial. The Dial ranges in color from Green (Best) to Red (Worst). Each Friday, school officials will be in contact with Four Corners to receive the most up-to-date information for the area. Any change in the school protocols will take effect on the following Monday.

The school's plan is based upon the three factors identified by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as well as all Nebraska Health Districts.

- Using Masks
- Social Distancing
- Proper Hygiene

The S-RC plan becomes more restrictive as the Risk Dial increases. While in the Green and Yellow categories, parents will be "Strongly Encouraged" to have their students wear masks while in school. Masks will be required for all staff members and students if the Risk Dial moves to the Orange category. Any student who uses district-provided transportation will be required to wear a mask. This includes any athletic/activity travel.

The plan also practices social distancing. Your child's classroom will probably look different than it has in prior years. We will also be using different arrangements when students are eating.

We will also be promoting proper hygiene more. Many of the hygiene protocols will remain after this crisis passes. **It is critical that parents screen their child before sending them to school in the morning! This includes some basic questions about how they are feeling, as well as a check of their temperature.**

We also understand that some of our students might have a vulnerable health condition. If this is the case, please feel free to reach out to the administration. We will be happy to work through this with you and your child.

Our plan is posted on the district website. We encourage parents to read this plan over and discuss it with their children. We have been assured that the more students and staff that follow these protocols, the less likely the need for large-scale quarantines when we have a student test positive.

We have tried to make this plan with the safety of our students in mind as well as trying to create the least disruptions for parents. It is going to take a lot of cooperation and the desire to do things that are not the “normal” way.

Sincerely,  
Douglas Kluth, Superintendent  
Shelby-Rising City Public Schools