



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)

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 is 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.

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: 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 if my child becomes sick at school?

A: Please tell your child that they should ask to visit the school nurse anytime they are feeling sick at school. Students will be immediately assessed by the nursing staff and a determination will be made about sending the student home. If it is determined by the nursing staff that it is in the child's best interest to go home a parent will be contacted and asked to pick their student up as soon as possible. It is imperative that the parent or a designated guardian pick up the student as quickly as possible. ***All parents are asked to have a plan in place to quickly pick up their student in order to help us protect all students and staff.***

Q: What will happen if a student, teacher, or employee tests positive for COVID-19?

A: If a student, teacher, or employee tests positive for COVID-19, he or she should isolate right away. This means the person needs to stay at home and away from other people as much as possible. The student, teacher, or employee should NOT go to school or work. People who have been in close contact with someone who tests positive for COVID-19 are at an increased risk of getting infected and infecting others. Close contact means someone was closer than 6 feet or 2 meters (about 2 arm lengths) to a person who has COVID-19 for 15 minutes or longer. Contact tracing is how public health workers find the close contacts of someone who has COVID-19.

1. The health department will notify the Point of Contact (POC) at the school if a student, teacher, or employee who works in the school or with students tests positive for COVID-19.
2. The health department gives the name of the person who tested positive and the date of last exposure to the POC.

3. The POC collects and provides a list to the health department of students, teachers, or employees who are at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19 known to have come into close contact with the person who tested positive. **The Summit County health department** will notify the parents of students, teachers, or employees who are at higher risk and provide guidance on how long they should quarantine, how to check for symptoms, and when to consider testing.
4. The POC will notify any other eligible students or students' parents, teachers, or employees who may have been exposed to the person who tested positive. The POC will provide guidance on how long they should quarantine, how to check for symptoms, and when to consider testing. In most cases, the school may only notify the parents of an eligible student (a student who is 18 years old or a student of any age who has taken postsecondary courses) if the eligible student has signed a written consent. There are some situations where parents of eligible students will be notified without a written consent.
5. *Only students, teachers, or employees who came into close contact with the person who tested positive will be notified of a possible exposure.*

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: If a student, teacher, or employee tests positive for COVID-19, does the school need to close?

A: No. In most cases, schools do not need to close for in-person learning. Schools may consider hybrid or remote learning options to protect students, teachers, and employees. Administrators work closely with the local elected school board and the health department before making the decision to temporarily transition to hybrid or remote learning options. Only when the school can't provide a safe learning environment will the school need to consider temporary remote learning or closure. This might happen if there is an outbreak in a classroom or at the school and too many students, teachers, or employees are sick to provide the necessary services to keep the school open.

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:

- 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, Student Health, or 504 plan.**

Last Update: August 7, 2020 5:00 p.m.
(Please check daily for updates)

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.

Q: How long should I anticipate my student(s) will be wearing a mask during the day?

A: Varies based on class activities, including location, social distancing, and exposure. Teachers are aware students will need masks breaks and will give them when it is appropriate. Much of the day could be spent wearing a mask.

Q: Will you be taking temperatures before students can enter the school?

A: Research indicates that these temperature checks for children are very inaccurate and provide very little useful information as most children entering the building may be transitioning from a variety of uncontrolled temperature environments which can impact the reading. We ask that all parents closely monitor the health of their students, including temperature checking them at home before they leave for school. ***Please do not send your student to school if you have reason to suspect they may be ill.*** The safety of our community is dependent on parents as the first line of defense.

School Schedules:

Q: When does school start?

A: Silver Summit schools start August 18, 2020. South Summit schools begin August 19, 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.

South Summit Middle School: Parent/student orientation will be held on Wednesday, August 19. More information will be forthcoming.

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.

Silver Summit Elementary has a modified A/B option, a completely online option, and a 100% in school option. The families at Silver Summit Elementary may choose any combination of school attendance and online learning that works for them. These options are available because all class learning for language arts, math and science are uploaded each week. Silver Summit Elementary has mapped our curriculum so everything is taught in a 4 day per week schedule. Any learning that was not completed M-Th should be completed on Friday. Students working from home will be supported by Silver Summit staff M-Th.

Q: If at any time the altered schedule seems too much for our students, can we pull them until restrictions are lifted?

A: The selection you choose is for the first term. Exceptions will be considered for extenuating circumstances. Please select the learning option that you believe is the best fit for your child and plan to be committed to that plan for the first term.

Q: Will elective classes (such as band, coding, yoga, drill team or orchestra) still be available for students who are doing school online?

A: Some elective courses will be available to online students and others are just not conducive to an online experience. Please check with your school counselor to know which elective courses will be available online.

Q: Will there be Band/Choir/Orchestra in person this year?

A: Yes, but it will be different for "online-only" than for "in-person":

- In Person: We will take all prudent measures to reduce risk, including wearing masks whenever possible, assigning seats, spacing seating, sanitizing surfaces, assuring proper ventilation, etc. These groups will still prepare and perform, although concerts may be spaced out, limited seating, and/or streamed to an audience at home. Final plans are still being formed.
- Online-Only: Due to the nature of ensemble learning and performing, it is impractical to have online-only students be members of performing ensembles. However, we wish for them to have a meaningful musical experience. Therefore, students wishing

to register for these performing groups (e.g. Band, Choir, Orchestra) may register instead for an "online non-ensemble performing music" class, co-taught by Mr. Omer, Mr. Davis and Mr. Rohwer. All "online only" Choir, Orchestra and Band students would be in this class. They will receive primarily a general-music-centric module to work on for the week, with us teachers rotating the assignment of who will make that module. Additionally, they would receive a smaller assignment from just their instrument-specific teacher that's focused on continued individual development of playing their instrument, focused on producing an individual virtual performance. The focus will be on continued growth as a musician with an eye towards rejoining the ensemble when they return to normal in-person instruction.

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

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.

Silver Summit Elementary and Silver Summit Academy have traditionally had Friday as the remote learning day. We will continue that tradition this year because it better serves our family and student population. In the past there has been an option for students to attend Friday for enrichment and intervention. Silver Summit Elementary will not have this option for the 2020-21 school year. Friday will be our deep cleaning day and will be the day teachers will spend engaged in remote learning preparation and support.

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.
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: No, it will be on Wednesday. South Summit School District faculty will continue engaging in an active professional learning community (PLC), which has been the purpose of the early out day on Fridays. Faculty use this time to meet with their colleagues to discuss data and best teaching practices to help students better learn. To maximize time with students during the adjusted pandemic schedule, PLC meetings will happen on the remote learning day.

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" has been emailed to parents. The superintendent, nurse, and principals hosted an information session on Tuesday, July 28, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. The session can be viewed online at <https://www.facebook.com/southsummitschooldistrict/videos/626722851283861/>.

The panel shared the options in more detail and answered questions to help students and parents choose the best option for them.

Q: Can I change my mind if I've already submitted the Selection Form?

A: You have until August 3, 2020 to submit another form with new selections. After that you'll be committed to that learning selection through the end of the first quarter. At the end of the first quarter you can move to a different learning selection if you choose.

Q: What does a typical day look like for an online schedule?

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.

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 Middle School: The online program will mirror in-person instruction. Teachers will create online experiences through Canvas modules that combine recorded, in-class instruction; virtual software; and assignments; activities; and assessments. Students who choose this option will be held accountable for daily participation in their courses and adherence to timelines. Teachers will be available during conferencing hours on Wednesdays to answer questions students may have.

South Summit Elementary: 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.

Silver Summit Elementary: Our online learning program mirrors what is being taught at school. We upload lesson plans, learning videos created by the classroom teacher and our curriculum providers, activities and resources created by our teachers and curriculum providers, and curriculum resources provided by our state approved curriculum companies. These learning experiences are uploaded for each language arts and math learning group, as well as each grade level science group, and specialist experience which includes P.E. art, coding, and citizenship and leadership. Students learning online will be supported by the classroom teacher and para at scheduled times throughout the day.

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. 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. homeschooled or private school students with a custodial parent resident in the state of Utah 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 homeschool 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 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 from 8:30 -3:00 for students choosing the in class learning experience. Language arts and math will be taught in the morning from 8:30-12:15. Students that have chosen any combination of blended or completely online will receive support at scheduled times M-Th.

Q: When will we know if there are enough people to do the Silver Summit Kamas campus?

A: Choice forms need to be submitted by August 3, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. Administrators will immediately begin to analyze the data and determine the requests and notify parents by August 11, 2020 if a Kamas Silver Summit campus will be available.

Q: What is homeschool?

A: Homeschool 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 homeschool instruction. Parent/guardian accepts full responsibility for their student’s education and

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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 August 3, 2020) 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 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.

Q: Will students be given a district-issued electronic device to take home?

A: Learning devices (computers, iPads, etc.) will be distributed to students to use during the year. One device for every student. Parents will sign a form assuming liability for damages prior to their student being issued a device. Teachers will decide whether the device needs to be taken home at the elementary level. Computer labs will rarely be used, and if they are used, proper sanitization methods will be used before and after use.

Q: How will preschool be structured next year?

A: The class composition will be based on the number of students and age. Pre-school parents will receive communication from Principal Flinders.

Q: Will the required credits to graduate with a SSSD Diploma be modified?

A: Due to the academic challenges that many are facing with the coronavirus pandemic, we will be discussing adjusting credits required to achieve a high-school diploma from South Summit School District.

Q: Are seniors still required to take 4 classes to be able to walk and play sports even if they only need a couple of classes to graduate?

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(Please check daily for updates)

A: Seniors seeking an exception to the four class requirement need to petition through their school counselor. Exceptions will be granted this year, if the request is supported by their parent/guardian and will in no way impact high school graduation requirements or UHSAA eligibility.

Q: Is there back to school orientation for Freshman and/or 5th graders?

A: The administration is still deciding. Most likely they will be virtual and happen on the first day of school.

South Summit Middle School: We will be having a recorded meeting, hosted by the administration, available to watch on Wednesday, August 19th for our fifth grade and new students. More details will be provided.

School Setting - Classrooms

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

A: District employees 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. Staff will be trained in procedures to support students when they are exhibiting any "sick" symptoms. Health professionals and staff will teach lessons that help students identify for themselves when they feel well or when they are feeling ill. School procedures have been developed for students to follow when they are not feeling well.

Q: If we choose blended learning, would teachers/students have regular access to google classroom and Canvas?

A: Yes

Q: Will the teachers all be using the same platform for assignments to be submitted? Such as - canvas? Last year it seemed it varied by teacher - email, google docs, and canvas.

A: South Summit Elementary will be using Google Class. All other schools in the district will be using Canvas as the main platform. Teachers may choose to use other online applications for instructional support and learning variety to improve student engagement, but the primary platform is where parents and students will find all essential information.

Q: How will attendance be taken on Wednesdays?

A: Students who do not engage in Wednesday online content for any course in their schedule will be marked absent by the respective teacher of that course.

Q: How will attendance be taken for the online only students?

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A: Each teacher is expected to monitor their online students' daily access and engagement in learning. A student who doesn't engage with the lesson on a particular day may be marked 'absent'.

Q: Will there be a modified grading system similar to the spring?

A: Teachers are encouraged to use their normal grading percentages for the 20-21 school year for both In-Person/Blended Learning and Online Instruction.

Q: Will social distancing happen in the classroom?

A: Educators will maximize space between seating and desks, striving for six feet of distance when possible. Teachers will move nonessential furniture and equipment out of classrooms to increase distancing footprints and reduce potential surfaces that could be contaminated.

Silver Summit Academy will actively practice social distancing in all classrooms. Class sizes will be held to a hard limit of 10 students who will be spaced 6 feet apart. Due to the enclosed environment required by our modern HVAC system we will be asking our students to wear masks in classrooms regardless in addition to distancing from other students and the teacher. When possible, teachers will be encouraged to use one of several outdoor spaces we will have available to conduct class.

At South Summit High School, teachers will arrange desks and tables using all available space in the classroom to maximize space between students to the extent practicable. Whenever possible, students will be seated facing the teacher to minimize potential face-to-face transfer.

At South Summit Middle School, we will strive to distribute students so that the minimum number will be assigned in a particular classroom. When necessary, desk shields will be provided to separate students who may be sitting at the same table.

Q: Will students who travel during the school year be required to quarantine?

A: The district will adhere to the travel recommendations from the Summit County Health Department

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

Q: Will counseling services still be available for my student?

A: Counselors will be available to support mental health and academic planning for all students regardless of the learning plan they choose. Counseling sessions can be done via technology and/or in person.

Q: Will friendship groups still be available?

A: Pending

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. Backpacks need to be able to hang on a chair...no roller backpacks. Please clean backpacks daily.

Silver Summit Elementary students will each be given a cubby and an external coat hanger. Extra cubbies have been built so that social distancing and space between cubbies will be available. Students will be asked to bring only necessary items to school in their backpacks, and backpacks will be taken home each evening and students will be taught how to wipe out their own cubbies.

Q: How will the schools handle transitions between classes?

A: Principals/Directors will identify high traffic areas and collaborate with custodians to apply floor markings or signage to direct traffic. Principals will stagger or limit transitions to support contact tracing and minimize interactions with multiple groups.

Silver Summit Academy Students will be released from classes on a staggered schedule to limit foot traffic in the building. All students will be asked to follow a specific path as they move from class to class which will be clearly marked on the floor and walls. Unfortunately we will be asking students to refrain from congregating socially at passing time and asking them to proceed directly to their next class.

At South Summit High School, nearly every classroom has an exterior entrance. We will be utilizing outside entrances as much as possible to minimize traffic in the hallways.

At South Summit Middle School, our lunchtime transitions will be staggered, and our class changes for 7th and 8th grade will also mitigate large numbers of students in the hallways.

School Setting - Entry/Exit Points

Q: Will my student's dismissal time be different?

A: Students will be notified on the first day of school if their dismissal time will change. However, it will be within ten minutes of their current time.

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

Last Update: August 7, 2020 5:00 p.m.
(Please check daily for updates)

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

South Summit Middle School: A map of the entry and exit points, as well as drop-off instructions, will be emailed to parents and guardians on Monday, August 10.

Q: How early can my student arrive at school?

A: Ten minutes before the bell rings. Students eating breakfast will go directly to the cafeteria to enter the school.

Silver Summit: Parents are asked to drop off their students no earlier than 10 minutes before the start of the school day. Upon entering the building all students will be required to proceed directly to their first class of the day. Students who arrive early will be asked to wait in a designated area. At the end of the day all schools will be dismissed from the building, or in the event of inclement weather, held in their last classroom until their designated pick-up arrives. We ask all parents to facilitate this process by picking up their student no less than 10 minutes after the end of the school day.

South Summit Middle School: Our ultimate goal is to maintain social distancing wherever possible; consequently, we will not be opening our entrance doors to the school until buses begin dropping students off. We anticipate that this will be around 7:25-7:30 a.m.--at which time, students will go directly to their first hour classrooms.

Q: Are there concerns with security in regards to those coming into the building through all of the doors?

A: To minimize congestion at the beginning of school, principals will assign specific doors for students to enter as they arrive at school. These entrance points will be appropriately staffed to ensure that students are the only ones entering the building. Students will use assigned exit doors for recess, end-of-day school transitions, and fire drills to minimize congestion. Exit assignments will be at the discretion of the principal and staffed during student transitions.

Because some playground and draining work are still being completed at the Academy, Silver Summit Elementary will work with Silver Summit Secondary to develop an entry/exit plan that follows suggested health guidelines, and meets the needs of students and families. Parents will be notified of the complete plan before school begins.

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” in the restroom or go somewhere for 5 minutes and take their mask off?

A: Masks will be required in all restrooms at all times and no more than two students will be allowed to enter at any time. Outside and maintaining a distance of six feet or more from another student is the best place for a mask break. Weather permitting teachers will build these opportunities into the school schedule. Principals and teachers will also designate appropriate places and times within the school and classrooms.

School Setting - Cafeterias

Q: Is breakfast and lunch still available?

A: Yes. The District's food and nutrition services director will coordinate with the school's principal and custodial staff to mark spaced lines and designate serving line flow paths to accommodate social distancing when serving food. Seating will be assigned in the cafeteria to facilitate tracing requirements. Students may be encouraged to eat outside, weather permitting.

Silver Summit Elementary parents may choose to either send a lunch to school with their child or take advantage of the lunches prepared by the South Summit School District Staff. Each grade level combination, K-1, 2-3, 4-5 grade will eat lunch in either their classroom, and or the multipurpose room and as often as possible outside in the picnic area. Students will be assigned a designated lunch spot. Students will be taught the importance of, and how to clean up and sanitize their lunch area before leaving for recess.

Silver Summit Academy has created a comfortable, shaded, outdoor lunch area where appropriate social distancing can be practiced while our students are eating. Upper school students will continue to have an open campus and will have access to an outdoor location for eating as well. We will revert to indoor eating spaces as the weather dictates.

South Summit High School will also continue to have an open campus for lunchtime. We will be marking lunch lines in six-foot increments and reminding students to maintain appropriate social distance. In the cafeteria area, social distance markings along with adults monitoring lunch time will be a continual reminder for students' safety. During fair weather days, students will be encouraged to eat outside. In accordance with the Governor's mask mandate, students are not required to wear a mask while eating.

South Summit Middle School will, in addition to the answer above, stagger lunch times so as to minimize the number of students in the cafeteria at any given time. Where weather permits, we will also utilize our outdoor tables.

Q: Can my child still bring a home lunch?

A: Yes. Teachers will organize a system so that other students do not come in contact with one another's lunch boxes. There will be no refrigeration for food brought from home.

Q: Will students be allowed to take their mask off when eating lunch?

A: Once sitting in their assigned cafeteria seats, masks can be removed to eat.

Q: Will my child have an assigned seat at lunch?

A: Social distancing and time are primary considerations for making seating assignments

Q: Will my student still have a lunch recess?

A: Yes

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, book fairs etc. will not occur at any school 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 Utah High School Activities Association (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.

Silver Summit Academy Student Government, National Honor Society, Junior National Honor Society, and all student clubs will continue to function. All meetings will be held virtually. There will be no in person meetings during the first quarter.

Recess and Playgrounds

Q: Will there be recess?

A: Yes. Principals will alternate schedules for recess, playground time, and use of outdoor spaces to avoid large groups of congregating students who are not part of the same cohort/class. Teachers will allow time for handwashing/sanitization before and after recess. Silver Summit Academy middle school students will have the opportunity to enjoy free time outside during the lunch period. Students will be expected to practice good Covid hygiene, masks or social distancing, during this time. Students who demonstrate an unwillingness to follow these guidelines will use the time as an independent study period.

Q: Do students have to wear masks at recess?

A: Students will be encouraged to wear face coverings if they are not going to maintain safe social distancing during outside recess and free time.

Monitoring for Incidences

Q: Will there be full time nurses at every school?

A: The District has funded the equivalent of three full-time employees to serve the five schools. A Full-time nurse will be at every school one or more days every week. Staff are trained to assist students with minor medical needs if a nurse is not available. Nurses are available to staff via technology.

Q: Will we be hiring more nurses to help?

A: Assignments for some nurses may be changed to provide additional nursing support to the general student population if necessary during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Containing Potential Outbreaks

Q: If a student becomes sick with Covid-19 will parents of students in the class be notified?

A: The district has identified a Point of Contact (POC) who will be working directly with the health department when a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19. If an individual tests positive for COVID-19 the local health department will contact the individual and conduct a disease investigation. This begins the contact tracing process to identify others who may have been exposed to COVID-19.

The individual testing positive will be instructed to isolate and be issued an isolation notice, and cannot return to school until meeting the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) criteria to be released.

Other members in the same household who had close contact with the individual (being within 6 feet for 15 minutes or more) will be issued quarantine notices and should quarantine for 14 days from their last exposure to the individual who tested positive. Quarantined individuals that are students, staff members, or volunteers should not return to school until they have completed their full quarantine period, even if receiving a negative test result during their quarantine period.

If an individual with COVID-19 attended school within 48 hours of symptoms starting (if symptomatic) or of being tested (if asymptomatic), the health department will contact the POC to make them aware.

The POC works with the school administration to ensure preventative measures are followed or increased, according to the individual school's plan, as outlined in the USBOE Handbook. The health department will provide any additional recommendations to the POC to reduce the spread of COVID-19 in the school, if needed.

The health department will ask the POC to compile a list of high-risk individuals who may have been around the person who tested positive for COVID-19 during a specific time period. This list could include students, staff members, and volunteers in the same classes as the individual, those involved in the same sports teams, clubs, extracurricular activities, etc. The health department will contact all high-risk individuals to provide further guidance and instruction. High-risk individuals include anyone with certain underlying medical conditions, children who are medically complex or older adults.

The health department will contact all high-risk individuals potentially exposed, using the list provided by the POC. High-risk individuals will be provided with education and instructions on ways to take extra precautions, including to quarantine if needed.

High-Risk individuals should self-monitor for symptoms of COVID-19 and get tested if they are or become symptomatic. They may need accommodations for learning to ensure health and safety is maintained. The health department will continue to work with high-risk individuals if they later test positive.

The health department will ask the POC to compile a list of others who were not identified as high-risk, but may have been exposed at the school, this could include all students in a classroom.

After identifying others who were potentially exposed to COVID-19, but were not high-risk, the POC should fill out and send the template letter and education packet, provided from the health department. All individuals receiving the letter and educational packet should self-monitor, or pay attention to how they are feeling, and are recommended to get tested for COVID-19 if they start to develop any symptoms.

Individuals Not Considered to be High-Risk should self-monitor for symptoms of COVID-19 and get tested if they become symptomatic. The health department will conduct additional investigations with anyone else who later tests positive for COVID-19 and repeat the same processes.

Temporarily Reclosure (If Necessary)

The Board of Education, Superintendent's Office, and the Summit County Health Department, will collaboratively decide to reclose schools if necessary based on confirmed cases and public health safety. The plan development will include insight from internal and external stakeholders. Public Relations will develop a communication procedure for students and faculty in the case there is a temporary reclosure.

