**Ryan Public School “Return to Learn Plan”**

Ryan Public School will use this plan as a guide for reopening our school. We have two main points to focus on. First and formost is the safety of our students, faculty, and staff. This school year we will have extra saftey/health measures in place that are designed to keep everyone in the building safe. Please understand that this plan will be reviewed often to make sure we are using best practices to achieve our goal of safety. Our second point will be to provide the high quality education that we have always strived to provide.

**Communication with Parents and Community**

All communication with parents and the community will be delivered using our school website, school app, and our official school facebook page. Direct communication with site principals and teachers through text and email will be used on a regular basis. Ryan Public School is committed to strong communication and responsive action. If you need assistance and cannot reach your site, you may reach out to Marcus Chapman, Superintendent, at mchapman@ryan.k12.ok.us.

**Calendar**

Ryan Public School will adhere to the regularly adopted school calendar with students reporting on August 13. Our school calendar can be accessed using this link, <https://core-docs.s3.amazonaws.com/documents/asset/uploaded_file/592852/2020-2021_Ryan_School_Calendar.pdf>. While we feel the best education would be the traditional face-to-face instruction, we realize that this may not be the best for each family. To accommodate all students RPS will offer different learning options:

1. Traditional classroom instuction (Distance learning days may be included in this calendar based on local conditions.).
2. Full-time virual learning at home.
	1. Students receiving this instructional option will be required to attend school (1) hour a day to participate in extra-curricular activites. Special services, child nutrition, and other supplies will still be available to distance learners.
	2. Students that choose distance learning may return to the traditional classroom. However, after a student returns to the traditional setting they will not be allowed back in distance learning without approval from the Principal.

**School Cancellation or declaration of Virual Day**

As with prvious years, Ryan Public School will monitor absence rates on a daily basis starting on August 13. School may be moved to a virtual day in the event of a sudden spike in absences. In this event, we will use this time to disinfect the building before we resume classes.

**Academics and Distance Learning**

1. Building on the experiences of distance learning during the school closure last spring, Ryan Public School is ready to deliver instructions to students traditionally or in a blended/virtual manner. We know disruption during a public health crisis like COVID-19 is very likely. Although we can expect disruption during the school year, consistent lesson delivery from teacher to student will remain strong either through our traditional method or through virtual/distance learning at home.
2. To receive credit and attendance for the courses for this school year, students are expected to participate in class activities and complete the assignments.
3. If the school has to be closed due to an outbreak of sickness and declared a virtual day, students will be given assignments through virtual/distance learning packets or Web-based education platforms such as Google Classroom or Edgenuity. Each method will be determined by what grade the student is in.
4. Packet distribution will be based on the number of days that school may be declared as Distance Days. Teachers will contact parents accordingly.
5. All methods of instruction will align with Oklahoma Adademic Standards.
6. Distance methods will follow the scope of the traditional classroom.
7. Credits will be awarded upon satifactory completion of each class.
8. Students must earn a minimum of 3 credits per semester. Those who do not earn 3 credits may be removed from distance learning.

**Electronic Devices**

1. Students who choose virtual learning at home may check out a school device if needed. This device is to be used for educational purposes only.
2. No deposit is required; however, damage of the device will be charged the same as a textbook that is checked out and damaged.
3. Devices will be checked out at the beginning of enrollment if you choose distance learning and your grade requires a device. RPS will have a parent contract for any devices checked out.
4. On virtual learning days, it is up to each individual to provid connectivity. There will also be free wifi available in the high school parking lot.

**Attendance Policies**

1. Attendance policies have been updated to account for possible extended absenses or enrollment into distance learning due to COVID-19.
2. Committees will be in place to consider exceptions for medical absences related to COVID-19.
3. All students will take cumulative semester finals.

**Screening Protocols**

Temperature Screening

1. While many options for screening were considered, RPS has chosen to rely on parents to do temperature checks on students prior to arriving at school. We will do temperature checks on all visitors and students as needed throughout the day.
2. Students will be encouraged to wear a mask when riding a school bus where social distancing is impossible. Students on bus routes will have assigned seats with family members to provide as much protection as possible. Parents are encouraged to bring their children, if possible.
3. Do not send students to school sick or with a temperature of **100.4° or more.**
4. If a student is sent home with a temperature, parents should not send the student back until fever free for 24 hours, per the recommendation of the State Health Department (The student must be fever free without Tylenol, Motrin, or other medication).
5. Employees of RPS will be required to perform a self-screening each day prior coming to school.

**At-School Procedures for those with 100.4° or higher temperature**

Any student or staff member who exhibits a fever of 100.4° will be immediately sent home. After being sent home, the student or staff member cannot return to school until one of the following criteria is met.

1. WITHOUT COVID-19 TESTING – the student or staff member must not be present at school for 10 days or provides the school with a doctor’s note releasing them to come back to school.
2. AFTER TESTING NEGATIVE – the student or staff member can return to physical school 24 hours of being fever free with no fever reducing medication or a doctor’s note releasing them back to school.
3. AFTER TESTING POSITIVE – the student or staff member may return when all 3 criteria are met.
	1. At least 24 hours fever free without fever reducing medications
	2. You have improved in respiratory symptoms
	3. At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first occurred
4. Students or staff who have been sent home and are utilizing distance learning are not allowed to participate in or attend school activities.
5. The student will become a distance learner at home until he/she can return to school.
6. The student will be counted as present because distance learning will be provided.

*A positive diagnosis does not necessarily mean shutting down the entire school. Working with health officials will mean completing contact tracing and possibly suggesting students be tested for the virus. Because of changing and uncertain conditions, students, parents, and staff should be prepared for transition to distance learning at any time.*

**Social Distancing**

1. Masks are strongly encouraged, but not required to be worn by students or staff. **This is subject to change.**
2. Students will be limited to three (3) people maximum in a restroom at a time.
3. Extended breaks in order to allow students to properly wash hands.
4. Additional hand sanitizing stations will be available throughout the school.
5. Building traffic will be reduced to help minimize outside exposure such as parents eating lunch with their child, birthday events, attending assemblies, guest speakers, etc.
6. When possible, classroom desks will be spaced apart, and students will not be placed in groups.
7. School assemblies, pep-rallies, etc. will be minimized.

**Hygiene Practices**

1. Masks are encouraged, but not required to be worn by students or staff at this time. **This is subject to change**.
2. RPS will be adding and extending our cleaning detail of each facility. In order to keep our students as safe as possible all areas must be heavily disinfected on a routine schedule.
3. Extra hand sanitizer and other sanitizing materials will be readily available. Frequent handwashing is requested of all school personnel and students.
4. Hygiene lessons will be added to daily curriculum (in the classroom, in building announcements, etc.).
5. Students will not share supplies in the classroom.
6. There will be a 72-hour quarantine period for items being returned that cannot be sanitized, such as library books.

**School Meals**

1. Students will have meals prepared daily.
	1. Scheduling and seating will be adjusted based on grade level.
2. Cafeteria staff will serve everyone from the serving line.
3. Condiments will be provided in packets instead of common-use areas.
4. In the event a virtual day is declared, meals will be served as a Grab-n-Go.

**Transportation**

1. Parents are encouraged to bring their child(ren) to school.
2. We encourage parents to check their child’s temperature prior to boarding the bus.
3. Masks are encouraged for bus riders.
4. Buses will be sanitized daily.
5. Bus route cancelation is a possiblity as we monitor the current situation.

**Extra-Curricular Activities / Gatherings / Field Trips**

1. Extra sanitizing of facilities will occur. We have new sanitizing protocols for all facilities that are more in depth and frequent.
2. Please understand cancellations and rescheduling of events are highly probable.
3. Field trips will be limited, but still considered on a case-by-case basis in smaller groups.

Please understand that this plan will change throughout this school year. We will keep our parents and community informed as events arise, and we want to ensure that they are aware of any health concerns that may surface. Thank you for your understanding and support during this new and unchartered time in education.

Respectfully,

Marcus Chapman

Superintendent

Ryan Public Schools