

USD 113 Return-to-School Plan

Guidelines for USD 113 Schools

USD 113, in consultation with local health officials, has developed this plan to support school buildings and the community during the reopening process. USD 113's Return-to-School Plan provides a tiered approach with clear, actionable steps that are advisable before students and employees return-to-school buildings.

This approach is built upon guidance and recommendations of local and state health officials; is aligned to the reopening guidelines that have been provided by our state and federal leaders; and it is designed to prioritize the health and safety of students and staff as we open school buildings and deliver instruction for the 2020-2021 school year.

USD 113's Return-to-School Plan focuses heavily on the health and physical requirements necessary for reopening school buildings. USD 113 will continue to provide support to school buildings on navigating the academic, social, and emotional effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on students and employees.

• Parent Choice to Start the School Year: The Prairie Hills School district is offering a choice to parents that are not comfortable sending their student to school for in-person learning this fall. Parents may choose a remote learning option for their student to begin the school year. Parents who choose the remote learning option will have additional requirements for logging instructional time, submitting assignments, and ensuring student engagement. (See Parent Choice Learning Environment pg. 4)

USD 113's Return-to-School Plan provides the expectations and best practices to ensure a safe and successful 2020-2021 school year. USD 113 school buildings will follow these expectations. Individual school buildings have the authority and flexibility to meet their individual needs and be responsive to their stakeholders only with approval of the USD 113 district administration. Reopening details not found in the USD 113 Return-to-School plan may be located in the <u>KSDE Navigating Change Operations Guidelines</u>.

Guidance from the CDC and Local Health Officials change as circumstances change. This document has been developed using current circumstances and guidelines with the intent to minimize the spread of COVID-19 through our county and individual schools. Should the circumstances change, this document and its guidelines are open to change to adapt to the most current recommendations.

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USD 113 Return-to-School Plan – Instructional Delivery Options

As long as we are allowed by our local health department and the state of Kansas we will provide on-site learning. Throughout the year, there could be multiple learning environments based on the current phase the county is in, or the local needs of our students, buildings, and district. The district or building's learning environment status will be determined by the USD 113 Board of Education, administration, and/or local health officials.

Through it all, our task is to find a solution for the question: How do we ensure each student is learning and being supported regardless of the learning environment?

Level of Community Spread (as determined by state and local health officials)	Low Community Transmission	Moderate Commur	nity Transmission	High Community Transmission	All Levels of Community Transmission
Learning Environments (as determined by USD 113 administration)	On-Site Learning Environment	On-Site Learning Environment	Hybrid Learning Environment (see pg. 3)	Remote Learning Environment	Parent Choice Remote Learning Environment (see page 4)
Response (as determined by USD 113 in partnership with local departments of public health and community stakeholders)	School Buildings Open Preventative practices and additional proactive processes/protocols will be implemented. Protocols will be in place to minimize the risk of transmission of the virus.	School Buildings Open Implement more intensive mitigation strategies; encourage/ enhance physical distancing. Possible Targeted Closure If positive cases are found in specific classrooms, grade levels or buildings.	Limited/ Staggered Use of School Buildings Students could be spending part of their time in the classroom & part of their time in remote learning from home. Possible Targeted Closure If positive cases are found in specific classrooms, grade levels or buildings.	Short-term Remote Learning Close building(s) to students and patrons for wide-deep cleaning minimum of 2-5 days. OR Extended Remote Learning – Close building(s) to students and patrons for wide deep cleaning (at least 10-14 days)	See following table for details and requirements for Parent Choice Remote Learning



	2020-21 Learning Environments							
Low /Moderate Community Transmission On-Site Learning Environment	 On-site Learning Environment Students will attend in-person classes with health and safety guidelines In place to help minimize the transmission of the COVID-19 virus. Administration will determine the preventative practices and additional proactive processes/protocols that will be put in place based on recommendations from KSDE and local health guidelines. Classrooms will be set up in a blended format to support potential building closure and extended student absences. Students should remain with the same cohort group as much as possible depending on the grade level. We recognize that a student may be an on-site student; however, he or she may need to be gone for a short or long-term period (2-14 days) due to sickness and/or quarantine. Please note the following regarding these absences: A student will be counted as an excused absence as long as the necessary documentation is provided to the school. The class assignments/materials/lectures/instructional videos will be accessible through Seesaw (PK-3), Google Classroom (4-12). If a grade level or hard copies. In order for the student to maintain learning during this period, assigned work through the absence should be completed at home to the extent possible. Students required to miss school because of possible exposure but well enough to work on school work from home should plan to do so. These students may have the opportunity to join the on-site classroom through Zoom or another tool to engage in the lesson with their peers and their teacher at the designated times during the school-day. Absent students and parents will not be required to complete the sign-off document as required for parent-choice remote learners unless a pattern of extended excuses emerge. 							
Moderate Community Transmission On-Site Environment Or Hybrid Environment	 Hybrid Learning Environment If there becomes a need to reduce the number of students physically attending school at the same time, the district may implement a hybrid learning model. A hybrid model will only be implemented if determined necessary and after reviewing logistical concerns. This would be done in consultation with the county health department and guidance from KDHE. In this instance, students will still be educated in the school building, but the amount of time in the school will be reduced and elements of remote learning will be implemented along with on-site learning. Some possible examples of hybrid learning include: Alternating Days: students would be divided into 2 groups. Groups would alternate face-to-face and virtual instruction during the week. One example: Group A would attend Monday and Tuesday and work remotely the remainder of the week. Group B would attend Thursday and Friday and work remotely the other days of the week. Wednesday would be a remote day for most employees so buildings could be cleaned during the week between groups. Alternating Weeks: Group A Students – Week 1 and Group B Students Week 2; using certification flexibility to relocate teachers as needed and allowable Specific Group Remote Learning Elementary face-to-face with secondary remote learning: Prioritize 6-12 or 9-12 for remote learning while other students have access to face-to-face instruction spread out across unused schools and classrooms; using certification flexibility to relocate teachers as needed and allowable (Please note: No final decision has been made regarding the specific format of the hybrid model. Each building will be working on potential 							
	(Please note: No final decision has been made regarding the specific format of the hybrid model. Each building will be working on potential hybrid scenarios to meet the unique needs of their building and community.)							



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	Remote Learning Environment								
High Community	If schools should be closed by state or local officials due to COVID-19 we will transition to a remote learning environment. In this environment students would be completing learning activities from home.								
	 If this model is utilized students will be engaged in school during regular school hours and follow a standard school schedule as much as possible. 								
Transmission	Online and packet learning may be available for students depending on grade level.								
Remote	 Both synchronous (real time) and asynchronous (independent videos, etc.) learning will occur. 								
Learning Environment	 Remote learners will be required to participate in the state required number of hours per day, log the activities, and complete the assigned work. Parent/Guardians must sign-off on logged activities to confirm accuracy daily. Students will submit the daily log via an electronic platform. (Appendix A - Sample Daily Log) 								
	 Daily contact with teachers via Zoom or phone conversations will be required. 								
	• Individual or small group instruction may occur on campus or remotely as appropriate and allowable during the remote learning model.								
Parent Choice Remote Learning Environment	 Parent Choice Remote Learning Environment USD 113 is offering a choice to parents that are not comfortable sending their student to school for on-site learning because of health and safety concerns. Parents who choose the remote learning option will need to adhere to the following: Remote learners may sometimes be required to join the on-site classroom through Zoom or another tool to engage in the lesson with their peers and their teacher at the designated times during the school-day. Failure of the student to participate in these designated sessions during the school day may result in the student being deemed as truant. Remote learners will be assessed on the same standards and competencies as the on-site students. Remote learners will be required to participate in the state required number of hours per day, log the activities, and complete the assigned work. Parent/Guardians must sign-off on logged activities to confirm accuracy daily. Students will submit the daily log via an electronic platform. (Appendix A - Sample Daily Log) Failure to complete the required hours and submit documentation will result in a compulsory attendance violation and could lead to a truancy referral. A student may transition to the on-site or hybrid models (dependent upon what level the district is currently experiencing) by notifying the building administrator. Students choosing to utilize the remote learning parent choice option are not eligible to participate in any extracurricular activities. 								

Learning Environment Expectations:

Specific guidelines and expectations for parents, students and staff regarding each learning environment can be found on this document.



BEST PRACTICES FOR SAFETY & LEARNING

USD 113 schools are an essential part of each community and have a significant impact on the health and wellbeing not only of the students, but also school staff members, parents, and the broader community. Our commitment throughout this pandemic is to optimize education, promote health and safety and mitigate risk for everyone who is part of the school community. As new information regarding COVID-19 evolves, recommendations from national, state, and local agencies will inform our practices. Based on current recommendations these are the guidelines that USD 113 will follow as we start the school year. At all times, we seek to answer the following question: How do we keep students, educators, and community members as safe as possible?

Health Considerations

Screening for Symptoms:

Adults entering the building will be screened upon entry. Including temperature checks. A person exhibiting a temperature of 100.4 or above or experiencing any two of the following symptoms are required to leave immediately.

- Fever (According to the American Academy of Pediatrics, a fever is 100.4 F or greater.)
- Chills
- Rigors
- Muscles or body aches
- Fatigue
- Headache
- Sore throat
- Lower respiratory illness (cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing)
- New loss of taste or smell
- Diarrhea
 - (See USD 113 Exposure Guidelines for more information in Appendix D)

<u>Masks:</u>

USD 113 adopted the Practical Mask Plan at the August 17th Special Board of Education meeting. This plan is outlined on the next page.

USD 113 Practical Mask Plan

This recommendation is based on being in low transmission. A move to moderate or high transmision will result in reevaluation with medical professional input.										
PS & K Students	Grades 1-5 Students	Grades 6-12 Students	Staff							
With the exception of transportation, masks are optional. They are strongly recommended for common areas and other places where mixed ages of students are together.	 Masks are strongly recommended, but are required in the following situations: Buses Common areas of the school (hallways, library, etc.) Small group instruction Group work activities Music (unless held outside or 6 ft social distancing can occur) As requested by the responsible adult. 	Masks are required unless 6 ft of social distancing can occur or outside. Masks will be worn as requested by the responsible adult. Due to classroom numbers/size, most classrooms will not allow for this; therefore, mask breaks must be provided. Masks do not need to be worn during the following: Eating/drinking Physical activity that elevates heart rate and/or breathing	Masks are required unless 6 ft of social distancing can occur or outside. Teachers may do whole class instruction without a mask as long as he/she can maintain a 6 ft distance from students.							
The benefits of wearing the masks may be mitigated by the ages of the students due to increased touching of the face.	These students have relatively stable grade level cohort groups and interact with less students from other grade levels and less staff.	These students have less stable cohorts and interact with more students and staff throughout the day.								

Recommendation: All 1st-12th grade students and all adults are required to have a mask as there will be designated times throughout the day that the students and staff will be required to wear the mask. Additionally, there are designated times that a mask will not be required for students and adults to wear, but is OPTIONAL. Of course, there are times when medical or health reasons will exempt a person from being able to wear a mask. No student shall be prohibited from wearing a mask if they choose to wear one or their parent requests that they wear one. We are striving to maintain stable cohorts to reduce the possibility of exposure to the virus and for contact tracing purposes. Some students may be part of multiple stable cohorts. The guidelines for wearing masks within a stable cohort will depend on the ability to social distance and the type of activity in which the students and teacher are involved. Areas in which cohorts cross or mix will be considered areas that masks will be required. While this list is not exhaustive and will continue to be developed/ modified as circumstances come up or are changed, it will serve as a starting point for USD 113's guidelines for masks.



- Frequently touched spaces (playground equipment, door handles, sinks, hand railings, etc.) will be cleaned and disinfected at least daily or as much as possible between use.
- Disinfectant and related supplies will be available to all employees close to their work area.
- Everyone has a vested interest in keeping school facilities clean. Students, in conjunction with teachers and staff, will be expected to help clean and wipe down high traffic areas. The specific student expectations will consider age and individual abilities. Appropriate training will occur for students to help with cleaning.

Water:

We are asking students and staff members to please come to school and work with a water bottle, if possible. Students and staff members can fill from one of our water fill stations instead of using the water fountain.

Classrooms

Physical Distancing:

We will take steps to promote physical distancing. This could look different at each school, due to enrollment and space limitations.

- Staggering the use of common spaces, including the cafeteria, playground and other areas.
- Rearranging/removing unnecessary furniture and equipment to allow students to move farther apart.
- · Adjusting recess and lunch schedules to allow for more cleaning/disinfection and physical distancing.
- Modifying passing periods and allowing students to carry backpacks to eliminate the need to return to lockers.
- · Changing arrival and dismissal procedures.
- · During times of moderate community transmission staff travel should be limited or staggered between buildings if possible.





Sharing Supplies:

We will reduce sharing of school supplies, and we will sanitize the supplies we must share. Each student should have their own school supplies for their own personal use.

Birthday Treats/Snack Sharing:

Only prepackaged snacks may be brought to share among students for birthdays, or other special occasions.



Group Stability:

- Establish stable groups when possible and reduce transitions as much as possible. (Middle/high school may be part of multiple stable groups.)
- Limit mixing of groups.
- When possible students should stay in their locations and staff can rotate in and out of classes.

Transportation



Transportation:

We will not be able to provide physical distancing on the buses, but we will take as many precautions as possible including the following measures:

- Masks are highly recommend for bus drivers and they are required for students.
- Drivers will be pre-screened for COVID-19 symptoms prior to each route.
- Hand sanitizer will be provided to students prior to boarding the bus.
- High- touch areas including the door entrance railings, seats, etc. will be cleaned at a minimum between bus routes.
- Assigned seats will be utilized with students from the same family and/or cohort groups sitting together when possible.
- Preference will be given to fill the bus from back to front and unload from front to back to avoid students walking past each other.
- Students will be spaced out if possible when the bus is not full.
- When possible windows will be open to improve circulation and buses will be aired out when not in use.
- We will limit additional bus riders to only regular riders on routes and only participants for activities.
- Bus drivers will take attendance to provide information for possible contact tracing.

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Food Service

Food Service:

The Nutrition Services staff is keeping up with the latest federal, state and local guidelines for preparing and serving meals. They will serve students instead of having self-serve options. The only things students will serve themselves are packaged foods.

- Students will be required to use hand sanitizer and/or wash their hands before prior to entering the cafeteria
- Students will be encouraged to maintain six foot physical distancing when possible.
- Sneeze guards will be installed at serving areas.
- Single serve condiments will be utilized
- Lunch times may be extended to allow for smaller groups of students in the cafeteria areas or some students may eat in classrooms.
- Tables will be sanitized between each serving group.

Facilities

Facilities:

As a safety precaution, we are not yet opening our indoor facilities for use by outside groups. We will reevaluate this decision as public health guidelines evolve.

- Students travel between school locations will be limited.
- Locker room usage will be limited.

Visitors:

VISITOR .

During this time, we are limiting visitors in the building to only people who are there to work, like substitute teachers, repair workers, and adult volunteers.

- Parents are not to enter the building to drop-off or pick up students.
- If you need to bring something to the school, an area will be designated for drop. Contact the office to learn about their protocol.
- We will also work with families when we need to have meetings for students' individual education programs (IEPs), 504 plans and individual health plans. If you need to drop off medication, please make an appointment with the nurse/office before coming to the school.

Signage:

Signage will be posted in classrooms, bathrooms, hallways, and entrances to communicate how to stop the spread, COVID-19 symptoms, preventative measures (including staying home when sick), good hygiene, and school/district specific protocols.

Physical distancing markers will be utilized to remind students and staff of proper physical distancing.



Extra-Curricular Activities, Athletics and Clubs



Extra-Curricular Activities, Athletics and Clubs:

We will continue offering extra-curricular activities, including athletics and clubs, taking as many safety precautions as possible. We will follow guidelines from KSHSAA regarding safety considerations such as PPE, physical distancing, etc.

- Students will wash hands and/or use hand sanitizer upon arrival and frequently during play /practice, and after activities.
- Students and coaches will wear face masks, coverings and/or face shields when appropriate.
- Alternatives to high fives and celebrations that increase contact will be encouraged.
- Highly touched surfaces will be cleaned/disinfected regularly.
- Students and coaches will be provided with hand sanitizer, tissues, gloves, face coverings, etc. as appropriate. •
- Established protocols for the school day should be followed a much as possible during extracurricular activities including physical distancing. .

Performing Arts/Band:

- Students will be assigned seats
- Six foot or more physical distancing will be encouraged
- Face masks are encouraged when possible

Other



Student Training:

We will help students understand how school will look different during this pandemic, teaching them about health and safety. This will include information from public health officials about handwashing, physical distancing, covering coughs, staying home, wearing face masks and avoiding face-touching.



Attendance:

If you select Remote Learning for your child, this will not count as an absence as long as the appropriate documentation is completed (See Appendix A). If you select the in-person option but your child must guarantine for 10-14 days, these will be excused absences. If you have any questions about attendance, please contact your child's school so we can work with you.

NAVIGATING CHANGE: KANSAS' GUIDE TO LEARNING AND SCHOOL SAFETY OPERATIONS

Appendix



COVID-19

CORONAVIRUS vs. COLD vs. FLU vs. ALLERGIES

RNING AN	ID SCHOOL	SAFETY OP	ERATIONS									Α	PPEND	IX
ALLERGIES	No	Sometimes	No	Sometimes	No	Common	Common	No	Sometimes	Common	Common	No		APPENDIX A
FLU	High (100-102 F), can last 3-4 days	Intense	Common, often severe	Common, often severe	Common (starts early)	Sometimes	Sometimes	Common	Common, can become severe	Rare	Sometimes	Sometimes**	coronavirus	AgA
COLD	Rare	Rare	Slight	Slight	Never	Common	Common	Common	Mild to moderate	Rare	Common	No	www.kdheks.gov/	
COVID-19*	Common (measured at 100 F or higher)	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes (progresses slowly)	Rare	Rare	Rare	Common	In more serious infections	Rare	Sometimes	For more information: www.kdheks.gov/coronavirus	
SYMPTOMS	Fever	Headache	General aches, pains	Fatigue, weakness	Extreme exhaustion	Stuffy nose	Sneezing	Sore throat	Cough	Shortness of breath	Runny nose	Diarrhea	For n *2.80 Sometimes for children.	
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RELEASING CASES AND CONTACTS FROM ISOLATION AND QUARANTINE

CASES

Must be isolated for a minimum of 10 days after onset and can be released after afebrile and feeling well (without fever-reducing medication) for at least 72 hours, whichever is longer.

Minimum 10 days **Onset date** + Afebrile and feeling (or specimen collection date if onset unclear or well for at least 72 asymptomatic) hours

Case released from isolation

Note: Lingering cough should not prevent a case from being released from isolation.

Examples:

- A case that is well on day 2, and afebrile and feeling well for 72 hours, can be released from isolation on day 10.
- A case that is well on day 6, and afebrile and feeling well for 72 hours, can be released from isolation on day 10.
- A case that is well on day 14, and afebrile and feeling well for 72 hours, can be released from isolation on day 17.

HOUSEHOLD CONTACTS

Must be guarantined for 14 days after the case has been afebrile and feeling well (because exposure is considered ongoing within the house).

If a household contact develops symptoms, they should be tested.



This means that household contacts may need to remain at home longer than the initial case. **Examples:**

- A case is well 3 days after onset, case released from isolation on day 10, household contact must remain guarantined until day 24.
- A case is well 7 days after onset, case released from isolation on day 10, household contact must remain guarantined until day 24.
- A case is well 14 days after onset, case released from isolation on day 17, household contact must be guarantined until day 31.

NON-HOUSEHOLD CONTACTS

Must be guarantined for 14 days from the date of last contact with the case.



APPENDIX

Appendix C

NAVIGATING CHANGE: KANSAS GUIDE TO LEARNING AND SCHOOL SAFETY OPERATIONS

FUNDING **REMOTE**

LEARNING

Remote Learning Daily Log

Date:		USD:
Student name:		Student ID:
Student grade:	School:	

Name of teacher(s) who made contact today:

CLASS	ACTIVITY	ASSIGNMENT	S COMPLETED	TEST 1	TOTAL	
		Y	N	Y	N	MINUTES

I certify that I am enrolled and participating in courses offered through the USD listed above.

Student signature:

Date:

I certify that my child is enrolled and participating in courses offered through the USD listed above.

Parent, guardian or responsible adult's signature:

Appendix D

Prairie Hills

COVID-19 Exposure Guidelines

COVID-19 Symptoms

- Fever of 100.4 (F) or higher
- Chills
- Rigors
- Muscle pain or aches
- Fatigue
- Headache
- Sore throat
- Cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Loss of taste or smell
- Diarrhea

14 Day Home Quarantine Guidelines

- Do not leave your home unless to satisfy critical needs.
- Do not attend any settings where you are unable to maintain a 6-foot distance from other people.
- You may not have visitors at your home unless authorized by the health department.

What is close contact?

Close contacts are people who have been within 6 feet of you for a period of 10 minutes or more.

I am having COVID-19 symptoms

Parents/Students should contact the school nurse, or administrator. Staff contact their supervisor.

Also contact the County Health Department Nemaha - 785-284-2152 Marshall – 785-562-3485

If directed by county health take a COVID-19 test. Follow the instructions below while awaiting results.

- Self-Isolate to your home.
- If you live with others, selfisolate in a private room and use a private bathroom if possible.
- Make a list of close contacts you have had from two days before you became sick until you isolated.
- Wear a mask when you enter general living areas. Interact with others as little as possible.
- If you develop additional symptoms or if your symptoms get worse, notify your healthcare provider for instructions.

I have received a positive COVID-19 test

2

Parents/Students should contact their school nurse, employees should contact their supervisor.

School personnel will notify close contacts at school.

Notify your close contacts and let them know they should quarantine at home for 14 days. This includes your family.

Self-isolate in your home until the following conditions are met: a.) 10 days from the beginning of symptoms or 72 hours after fever is gone without the use of fever reducing medicine and other symptoms have significantly improved WHICHEVER IS LONGER. b.) If your symptoms get worse or if you require hospitalization, notify your healthcare provider immediately and follow instructions about wearing a mask when you arrive at the facility. c.) If you do not need hospitalization, continue to selfisolate at home.

3 I have been in close contact with a confirmed COVID-19 patient

Parents/Students should contact the school nurse, or administrator. Staff contact their supervisor.

Quarantine for 14 days and monitor your health.

I have been exposed to a person with COVID-19 symptoms

If you have no symptoms, no additional actionis required. Continue to monitor your health.

5 I have been exposed to a person who was exposed to a confirmed COVID-19 patient

If you have no symptoms, no additional action is required. Continue to monitor your health.

6 I have traveled to an area with high COVID-19 cases

Parents/Students should contact the school nurse, or administrator. Staff contact their supervisor.

Quarantine for 14 days and monitor your health.

I have been exposed to a person who traveled to an area with high COVID-19 cases

If you have no symptoms, no additional actionis required. Continue to monitor your health.

USD 113 will work with our local health department if we have a confirmation that a person infected with COVID-19 was in a school building. The school and/or areas in the school may be closed for a period of time. In the event of a school building closure all school activities will be cancelled or rescheduled even if they were to be held off-site.