



# USD 481 RURAL VISTA SCHOOLS

Home of the Heat

## REOPENING HOPE SCHOOLS 2020

*Important Dates to Remember*

DATE	EVENT	TIME
Aug 4-5	In person Enrollment (4th Butler rep for college)	8am-6pm
August 17-25 August 17	Teacher Professional Development Days Start of KSHSAA activities (football, VB)	
<b>August 26</b>	<b>FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL (ALL GRADES)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No STUDENTS before 7:45am on campus</li><li>• Preschool begins at 12:00-3:10</li></ul>	

### THINGS WE ARE STILL DECIDING

- **Parent-teacher Conferences:** we are considering scheduling conferences with teachers and parents to meet throughout the school year either face-to-face or via Zoom.
- **Assembly/Program/Field Trips:** to be determined closer to the date and in consideration of current guidelines. (Homecoming?) (Sports fans? Live streaming? Podcast announcing?)
- **Fall Extracurricular Dates:** could be changed or deleted depending on current Covid-19 cases and Health Department regulations.
- **HS Power Hour Lunch Procedures:** Where do kids go after lunch, how will PowerHour look/change?
  - Maybe keeping kids with their mentor after lunch (Each mentor has 7 students).
    - Kids can still work on assignments, take tests, focus on mental health components/harbor time, etc.
- **Library:** How will we control library books for all different grade levels? Maybe have books brought to classrooms?



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*The purpose of this plan is to outline the steps that every staff member and student should take to reduce the risk of exposure to COVID-19. The plan describes how to prevent student and staff exposure to coronavirus, protective measures to be taken in the classroom, personal protective equipment and work practice controls to be used, cleaning and disinfecting procedures, and what to do if a staff member or student becomes si*

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**USD 481 Rural Vista Schools** take the health and safety of our employees very seriously. With the spread of the coronavirus or “COVID-19,” a respiratory disease caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus, we all must remain vigilant in mitigating the outbreak. This is particularly true for the education setting, which is crucial in reopening and keeping schools open during this Declared National Emergency. (*COVID-19 Planning Considerations*, n.d.) In order to be safe and maintain operations, we have developed this COVID-19 Exposure Prevention, Preparedness, and Response Plan to be implemented throughout the School District and all of our classrooms. We have also identified a team of employees to monitor the U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”), Kansas Department of Education (KSDE) and our County Health Department for additional information.

This plan is based on currently available information from the CDC, KDHE and KSDE, and is subject to change based on further information provided by the CDC, KDHE, KSDE, and other public officials. The District may also amend this plan based on operational needs.

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This plan will help parents, staff, and students better understand the policy/procedures to help maintain a safe and secure environment for learning at USD 481 Rural Vista Schools. They are broken down into several areas for better understanding.

### HEALTH FOR ALL STAKEHOLDERS

Protecting the health of the students, school staff members and anyone in the community who interacts with the school is not just the responsibility of the school administrator or school nurse--it is everyone’s responsibility, including the students.

#### ***Wearing of Cloth Face Coverings/Masks:***

- All staff and students in grades PK-12 will be required to wear a facemask.
  - Students are required to wear a mask while on the school bus or any other school transportation (practice, games, trips, etc.)
    - School masks must abide by the school dress code in regards to language, images, political messages, etc. Students who are found in violation of the dress code, will be provided a medical mask from the school’s supplies.
    - Please make sure masks are labeled with your student’s name.
    - Student masks should be **WASHED** daily.
    - It is recommended that students have an extra mask available.
  - The school will have disposable masks students may use at no cost to the students. These will be at the temperature check locations:
    - Students who ride the bus will be entering through the main gymnasium doors.
    - ONLY HS students who drive will be entering through the South gymnasium doors -- younger siblings will be required to enter through the main door.



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- Students who walk or are dropped off by a parent, will be entering through the front main door.
- All students will be required to wear a mask while moving in common areas: hallways, bathrooms, entrances. In the classroom, masks are required to be worn at all times.
- All students outside that can maintain the 6 feet rule, may be allowed to be mask/covering free.

## Hygiene Measures:

We ask that all students wash/sanitize their hands at the beginning of the school day and every hour. We will provide sanitizing stations in or just outside of every classroom. Signs will be posted around the facility to educate and remind students of the importance of personal hygiene. Upon entering the facility all students, staff, and visitors will be screened for Covid-19 as well as a temperature check being administered.

If staff, parents, and students have one of these symptoms, they will be assessed by the school nurse or administration, and may be sent home:

- coughing
- fever (100.4 or above)
- shortness of breath
- difficulty breathing
- chills
- body aches
- sore throat
- headache
- diarrhea
- nausea/vomiting
- runny nose
- Loss of taste or smell

**This will STRICTLY be enforced.** Please do NOT send your child to school if they have these symptoms. This is to protect themselves and others.

## ***General Safety Policies and Rules***

- All people entering the building will be required to have their temperature taken. Faculty will have their temperatures taken at the main entrance of the building.
- Employees must avoid physical contact with others as much as possible. Increasing personal space to at least six (6) feet, where possible.
- Students will have restricted access to the main office -- they are highly encouraged to use the sliding window.
- To the extent possible, meetings will be conducted by Zoom or Google meet.
- Employees and students should limit the use of shared supplies, devices and equipment. To the extent equipment must be shared, the District will provide alcohol-based wipes to clean equipment before and after use.
- Students at the middle and high school level will grab a wipe upon entering the classroom and disinfect the area of learning. Elementary students will wipe down their personal surfaces before lunch and before leaving the classroom at the end of the day.
- The District may divide students/staff into groups where possible so that teaching can continue effectively in the event that one of the divided teams is required to quarantine.
- In lieu of using a common source of drinking water, the district will be providing water bottles to every PK-12 student; however, students should bring a water bottle until these arrive. The touchless water-filler will be on, but the water fountains will be covered and not able to be used.



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## ***Attendance Center Exposure Situations***

### **Employee or Student Exhibiting COVID-19 Symptoms**

If an employee or student exhibits COVID-19 symptoms, the employee/student must remain at home until he or she is symptom free for 72 hours per CDC/KDHE/DKHD without the use of fever-reducing or other symptom-altering medicines (e.g., cough suppressants). To the extent practical, employees are required to obtain a doctor's note clearing them to return to work.

### **Employee or Student Tests Positive for COVID-19**

An employee or student that tests positive for COVID-19 will be directed to self-quarantine away from school. Employees or students that test positive and are symptom free may return to school when at least ten (10) days have passed since the date of his or her first positive test, and have not had a subsequent illness. Employees or students exhibiting symptoms that test positive and are directed to care for themselves at home and may return to school when:

- (1) at least 24 hours have passed with no medications reducing symptoms and
- (2) 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared.
- (3) staff/student may return on the 11th day if the previous two are true.

Employees or students that test positive and have been hospitalized may return to school when directed to do so by their medical care provider. The District will require an employee to provide documentation clearing their return to work.

### **Employee or Student Tests Negative for COVID-19 or Travel to a "Covid Hot Spot"**

Any person known to be exposed to a COVID-19 case or travel from a location on the KDHE Travel-related Quarantine List, and/or people who are identified as close contacts of a COVID-19 case must be quarantined for 14 days. A negative test result within the 14-day quarantine period does not affect the quarantine period and the person must finish their 14-day quarantine.

### **Employee or Student Has Close Contact with a Tested Positive COVID-19 Individual**

#### **Schools ARE considered "Critical Infrastructure" or "Essential"**

To ensure continuity of operations of essential functions, CDC advises that critical infrastructure workers may be permitted to continue work following potential exposure to COVID-19, provided they remain asymptomatic and additional precautions are implemented to protect them and the community.

A potential exposure means being a household contact or having close contact within 6 feet of an individual with confirmed or suspected COVID-19. The timeframe for having contact with an individual includes the period of time of 48 hours before the individual became symptomatic.

Employees or students that have come into close contact with a confirmed-positive COVID-19 individual (co-worker or otherwise), will be directed to self-quarantine for 14 days from the last date of close contact with the carrier. Close contact is defined as six (6) feet for a prolonged period of time.



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If the District learns that an employee or student has tested positive, the District will investigate co-workers or students that may have had close contact with the confirmed-positive employee or student in the prior 14 days and direct those individuals that have had close contact with the confirmed-positive case to self-quarantine for 14 days from the last date of close contact with the carrier. If an employee or student learns that he or she has come into close contact with a confirmed-positive individual outside of the workplace, he/she must alert a principal or supervisor of the close contact and also self-quarantine for 14 days from the last date of close contact with the carrier.

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[1] Recovery is defined as: (1) resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications; and (2) improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath).



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## CLASSROOM GUIDELINES/PROCEDURES:

Having students safe and protected in the classroom is the responsibility of staff and students. The following guidance will help USD 481 maintain a safe environment for all stakeholders.

- Signs will be posted in common areas with guidelines for safety and protocols.
- Assigned seating with all students facing in one direction.
- High school and middle school will wipe down their desk as they enter the room.
- Elementary school will wipe down their areas at the end of the day.
- Six foot social distancing when possible.
- Custodians will be cleaning and sanitizing classrooms and common areas throughout the day.

USD 481 will provide static groups as much as possible throughout the student's day. Providing the same common students in each class will minimize the exposure while on campus. Assigned seating and varied class ending times will create less crossover exposure.

Rural Vista Schools has developed two plans to ensure instruction throughout the school year. Implementation of a plan will be determined by recommendations from the Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE), school leadership, and the Dickinson County Health Official and Department. Both plans were handcrafted by a select group of educators and administrators. Plans were based on suggestions and recommendations from KSDE, CDC, and Kansas COVID Workgroup for Kids (KCWK).

Members also planned and provided classroom and building guidance for both learning environments at USD 481. They are:

- **On-site Learning Environment:** students and teachers will be in school with social distancing practices put into place.
- **Remote Learning Environment:** students would be doing all of their learning from home and not entering the school building at all. (This is an option for all students)



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\* Families have the freedom to keep their child(ren) home to continue remote learning. Remote learners will be held to the same expectations as the other students.

## **ON-SITE LEARNING: regular 5 days of school**

- Families have until **August 21** to make a decision of remote learning or on-site learning.
- During **Onsite Learning**, school doors will open at 7:45 for students.
  - All students will report to their first hour teacher upon arrival. Students will enter the building through designated doors.
  - Every person will wear masks upon entry of the building.
  - Upon entry, students will be asked to either wash their hands or use a hand sanitizer.
  - Students who have a locker will drop off their book bags and hats/coats/gloves.
    - Exception for Kdg who will bring a towel for nap time. Those will be laundered at school.
  - Students are **not** allowed to bring personal items such as blankets, hats, pillows, etc. to the classroom.
  - Water fountains will only be used to refill reusable water bottles.
  - General school supplies should not be shared.
  - Students will have their temperatures taken prior to entering the facility. NO admittance before 7:45 am and NO students will be allowed on the grounds until 7:45 am either.
    - Temperatures of 100.4 degrees or greater will not be allowed in the classroom, if this occurs during the day they will be sent home.
    - If a student's temperature is 100.4 or higher, he/she will be taken to an assigned location and tested again after five minutes have passed.
    - Temperatures will be taken again after lunch.
    - If your child(ren)'s temperature is 100.4 degrees or above and they exhibit two or more of the symptoms, **do not** send your student(s) to school. CALL your Primary Care Physician.
    - If you do not have a PCP call the Dickinson County Health Department at 785-263-4179.
  - Restroom breaks should be restricted to class time, not passing periods.
    - Students will only use the restroom designated to their current classroom.
      - Preschool: preschool facility
      - Kindergarten: Kindergarten classroom
      - 1-7: Bathrooms located in the main hallway
      - 8-12: Bathrooms located across from the old gym or science building
      - Art bathroom will be used at teacher's discretion.
  - Social distancing will be practiced as much as possible.



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## Onsite Learning Instruction:

With **Onsite Learning** classes will occur on a daily basis. Social distancing will be utilized as much as possible. This is why masks are so critical.

- **Recess:** - “Enforcing physical distancing in an outside playground is difficult and may not be the most effective method of risk mitigation. Emphasis should be placed on cohorting students and limiting the size of groups participating in playground time. Outdoor transmission of virus is known to be much lower than indoor transmission” (American Academy of Pediatrics).
- **Meals:**
  - Breakfast will be served after 7:45 am and after a passed temperature check.
  - Fees will still be based upon the result of your free/reduced lunch application.
  - Lunch will be available with assigned seating to minimize exposure to each building in their common area.
    - K-12 will eat in the cafeteria, facing one direction. Appropriate distance will be marked on the tables. They will NOT eat all at one time and will be served at various times to reduce exposure as well.
    - Seniors in good standing are still allowed to have an open lunch, but will be required to come through the front doors for a temperature check.
    - Tables will be sanitized between each lunch group.
    - Unfortunately, NO parents/outsider visitors will be allowed to eat with their students.
  - **ALL STUDENTS, WILL EAT IN DESIGNATED AREAS, NO EXCEPTIONS.**
  - Upon completion of lunch students will return with a mask on to their classrooms. Before returning all students will wash/sanitize hands.
- **Attendance/Absences:** In order for a student to be excused for an absence, a parent/guardian must contact the school. If the school doesn't receive a call, the student will be marked as an unexcused absence. Truancy laws will still apply as it has in previous years.
- **Bus Transportation:**
  - Bus drivers will have temperature checks before starting the route.
  - All bus riders and the bus driver will wear a mask.
  - Busses will be loaded from the back of the bus forward, with assigned seating for monitoring purposes and contact tracing in the event we would need to notify exposure.
  - Household members will be seated next to each other, everyone else will be distanced as much as possible.
  - Busses will be cleaned after each route by bus drivers.
  - Currently, there are no capacity restrictions concerning COVID-19.
  - Bus riders will enter through the main gym doors where temperatures will be taken.



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## **REMOTE LEARNING INSTRUCTION:**

Students/parents who select to receive remote learning, will be required to meet with Mr. Teeter first upon enrollment. The meeting will provide all parties with policies, detailed expectations, requirements, and responsibilities of all participants. The discussion will also include the difference between the expectations as set forth in the spring and the expectations of a full semester of online learning. The full semester will be more rigorous, assessed, and formally graded than it was in the spring.

A more in-depth plan of study will then be developed by the grade appropriate teacher(s). Families who elect to enter into remote learning, will NOT be able to switch from remote learning to classroom learning within a semester, and the same restriction applies to traditional learning as well. Families who select in person learning, would not be allowed to change until the end of the semester.

**Remote Learning-** During this time all instructional delivery and learning activities will take place remotely and online.

- In remote learning, students will be expected to adhere to/be introduced to all curriculum standards, state graduation requirements.
- **Students are expected to fulfill 1116 hours of instructional time within the school year.**
  - Parents will be expected to record and submit tracking logs providing proof of these hours.
    - The hours DO NOT need to be all electronic and may include time spent on teacher-assigned activities such as art projects, outdoor exercise, crafts, reading time, worksheets, etc.
- Students may be asked to Zoom with their teacher during class time.
- All school policies would also be followed while attending online: attendance, dress code, behavior, engagement, eligibility, etc.
- Students will receive assignments and grades as if they were in the building. In order to participate in extracurricular activities, students will be required to maintain passing grades.
- We will provide a day(s) where students in the remote learning environment can have access to a secured location to meet directly with a teacher for 1:1 to help answer questions they may have.
- We will provide a day(s) where students in the remote learning environment can have access to a secured location to participate in appropriate school testing: MAPS, State Assessments, etc..

### **Attendance/Absences:**

In order for a student to be excused for an absence, a parent/guardian must contact the school. If the school doesn't receive a call, the student will be marked as an unexcused absence. Truancy laws will apply to both of the learning models.

- Students are expected to sign into their designated platform prior to the start of a class period. Attendance may be different for each grade level, or classroom.
- Cameras must be turned on during zoom meetings, in order to be counted for attendance.
- Students are expected to remain on the screen for the entire duration of the class if the class is receiving direct instruction, group discussion, or activity.
  - Should a student need to "leave" the meeting to "go to the bathroom, answer the door, let the dog in, etc.", they will be expected to inform the teacher first.