

Syracuse-Dunbar-Avoca Public Schools

Plan for the Start of the 2021-2022 School Year

It is our intention to begin the 2021-2022 school year with students and staff back in our buildings for in-person instruction. In order to make this happen and provide the safest environment for all of our students and staff, several modifications will need to be made. The plan below outlines these modifications with as much detail as we are able to provide at this time. Since the circumstances and guidance surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic is ever changing, we ask for continued patience and understanding from all of our school family as we work through each new challenge that is presented and this plan will change accordingly.

Maintaining Health & Safety

Universal and Correct Wearing of Masks

- The wearing of masks for students and staff will be optional, unless the individual is currently required to “self-monitor” due to recent exposure.
- For instructions on how to correctly wear a mask, please visit www.sedhd.org/covid/

Modifying Facilities to Allow for Physical Distancing

Breakfast/Lunches

Plastic dividers will be made available for students to use who are self-monitoring or for any student requesting to use one.

Handwashing and Respiratory Etiquette

Handwashing

- Hand sanitizer will also be made available to students and staff in each classroom and lunchroom.

Respiratory Etiquette

- Students and staff will be encouraged to cover their mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing.
 - Hand washing/sanitizing will be encouraged after coughing and/or sneezing.

Cleaning and Maintaining Healthy Facilities, Including Improving Ventilation Facilities

- Facilities, including student desks and tables will be disinfected daily.
- Classroom doors will be left open whenever possible

Contact Tracing in Combination with Isolation and Quarantine, in Collaboration with the State, Local, Territorial or Tribal Health Departments

The district will follow the Southeast District Health Department guidance as indicated by the following link.

- <https://www.sedhd.org/covid/contact-tracing.html>

People with these symptoms may have COVID-19. SDA highly encourages parents to keep their child home if they are displaying COVID symptoms. If a child is displaying a **fever or chills, shortness of breath, or loss of taste/smell**, we ask parents keep their child home.

- **Fever or chills**
 - Cough
 - **Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing**
 - Fatigue
 - Muscle or body aches
 - Headache
 - **New loss of taste or smell**
 - Sore throat
 - Congestion or runny nose
 - Nausea or vomiting
 - Diarrhea
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- If a student has close contact exposure outside of school, parents should contact and inform the school and be asked to wear a mask for 14 days and self-monitor.
 - If an individual tests positive for COVID, students will quarantine at home a minimum of 10 days from when symptoms began, or if asymptomatic, 10 days from positive test date. Additionally, the individual must be fever free for 24 hours prior to returning
 - SDA Schools will work with our local public health department on a case by case basis to determine if these time frames may be altered.
 - After a close contact to somebody who tests positive for COVID-19, a student needs to wear a mask and self-monitor for symptoms for 14 days. If the student develops any symptoms of COVID during the 14 days they should isolate at home and can return to school with a negative test or after 10 days from when symptoms began.

Diagnostic and Screening Testing

- Self-monitoring guidelines are included on the following link, [Symptoms of COVID-19](#)
- *Additional information regarding diagnostic and screening testing information will be coming soon from the SEDHD.*

Efforts to Provide Vaccinations to School Communities

Families and staff will be referred to <https://vaccinate.ne.gov/en-US/> to find more information about getting vaccinated for COVID-19.

Appropriate Accommodations for Children with Disabilities with Respect to the Health and Safety Policies

Individual learning plans will be developed with appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to the health and safety policies as necessary.

Coordination with State and Local Health Officials

Guidance for schooling decisions is being provided by the following:

State Directed Health Measures

- Nebraska Governor
Pete Ricketts
www.governor.nebraska.gov

Local Directed Health Measures

- Southeast District Health Department
Grant Brueggemann, Health Director
2511 Schneider Avenue Auburn, NE 68305-3054
Phone: (402) 274-3993; Toll Free: (877) 777-0424 Fax: (402) 274-3967
Email: grant@sedhd.org Web site: www.sedhd.org
(Johnson County/Tecumseh, Nemaha County/Auburn, Otoe County/Nebraska City, Pawnee County/Pawnee City, Richardson County/Falls City)

Nebraska Department of Education

- Dr. Matthew Blomstedt, Commissioner of Education
www.education.ne.gov

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

- [Operational Strategy for K-12 Schools through Phased Prevention](#)

Ensuring Continuity of Services

In the event of a temporary school closure, the district will make efforts to provide continuity of instruction and services through remote learning or at home activities.

Public Comment Requirements

The school district provides opportunities for public comment at monthly school board meetings. These comments were taken into consideration when developing the Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services.

The draft of this plan was shared on July 13, 2021 with S-D-A stakeholders for review and feedback to be provided to the district prior to school board approval of the plan. The board approved plan will be made available to the community via the school district website, www.sdarockets.org. Parents may request this plan in an alternate format by contacting the Superintendent's office at 402-269-2383, emailing Mr. David Kraus at dkraus@sdarockets.org or in person at 550 7th Street, Syracuse, NE.