

Clark School District, SD

K-12 “Return-to-School” Plan

2020-2021 School Year



Mission Statement:

*To engage & educate each student academically & socially in order that he or she may reach **THEIR** potential as a productive member of society.*

Greetings Clark School District Families,

We realize, now more than ever, the importance of effective communication between the school district and our stakeholders. Our Administrative team, along with help from our district COVID-19 Taskforce have prepared a “Return-to-School” (RTS) plan. The RTS plan established guidelines and procedures that district personnel and students will follow to help mitigate risk to the COVID-19 virus. Our district’s COVID-19 Taskforce is made up of Clark School District school board members, administrators, counselor, grade level teachers, and local health care professionals.

We know that we all love our schools and that our children in the district need a quality education that we will work diligently to provide. We feel that a safe, structured, and nurturing environment is crucial for students to succeed socially and academically. The CDC and American Pediatrics Association have both come out with recent reports on their recommendations for schools to work towards opening for in-person instruction. Our district is committed to providing a quality education service that protects students and staff from the spread of COVID-19.

Our RTS plan is based on guidelines provided by the South Dakota Department of Education, South Dakota Department of Health, CDC, SDHSAA, and our district’s COVID-19 Taskforce. We will continue to monitor local conditions at the community, district, county, and state level. Working with the state DOH and local health care professionals we will use their professional input to make decisions for our district affecting the operational status, educational delivery, instructional methods, health protocols, social mitigation strategies, cleaning protocols, food service, building access, district transportation services, facility use, and activities of the Clark School District.

Summary of Action Steps that will guide district personnel:

1. Mitigate risk/spread by encouraging physical distancing, proper hand hygiene, sanitization, wearing masks, staggering class start and release times, hallway flow adjustments, adjusting lunch times and seating, recess modifications and spacing of students in common areas.
2. Be aware of illness/symptoms in the student body and contact a student’s family immediately if a student exhibits symptoms.
3. Monitor positive COVID-19 cases and its spread in the Clark School District and follow the recommendation of SD DOH and local healthcare professionals regarding school closures, modified school schedules or in-school adjustments.
4. Continual refinement of our digital curriculum delivery and development to meet the needs of any potential distance learning needs.
5. Modify our school procedures, content delivery, and instructional strategies, however necessary, to help ensure the health and well-being of students and staff.

What district stakeholders and parents/guardians can do to help:

1. Understand that these guidelines are determined by health, educational and civic professionals commissioned to care for your child, considering the physical environment, time spent in school, and the potential risk to the health of our students, staff and families.
2. Keep your child home if they have the following symptoms or close contact/potential exposure:
 - a. Symptoms:
 - i. Temperature of 100.4 or greater
 - ii. Sore throat

- iii. New uncontrolled cough that causes difficulty breathing (for students with chronic allergic/asthmatic cough, a change in their cough from baseline)
 - iv. Diarrhea, vomiting, or abdominal pain
 - v. New onset of severe headache, especially with a fever.
 - b. Close Contact/Potential Exposure
 - i. Had close contact (within 6-feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes) with a person with confirmed COVID-19
 - ii. Had close contact with person under quarantine for possible exposure to SARS-CoV-2
 - iii. Traveled to or lived in an area where the local, Tribal, territorial, or state health department is reporting large numbers of COVID-19 cases as describe in the CDC’s Community Mitigation Framework.
 - iv. Live in areas of high community transmission (as described by the CDC’s Community Mitigation Framework) while the school remains open.
- 3. Create a family plan in case your child is sent home from school/bus due to high temperature or is required to be quarantined or isolated.
- 4. Create a family plan in the event schools close for the length of the closure or Phase 3 implementation due to a case(s) within the MS/HS building, Elementary building, or both.
- 5. Talk to your child about changes that they may notice at school, reinforcing that these measures are in place to preserve their health, and the health of those around them.
- 6. Each of the town schools, have an isolation room available to students who become ill or show symptoms characteristic of COVID. Students will safely be in this area until family is notified for student pick up.
- 7. Send your child to school with a mask and encourage them to wear it, if and when, necessary based on social distancing situations and your family’s beliefs.
- 8. Please continue to reinforce the importance of respecting the authority of teachers and staff to help maintain order in the classroom, building hallways, and other campus areas as many new school procedures and expectations are being implemented to help keep people safe.
- 9. **Prepare as much as possible to adapt to change. School operation status can and may change suddenly. Schedule modifications and school closures should be prepared for an may be unavoidable.**
- 10. Recognize that you can choose traditional in-person learning at school or alternative online options. As always, we are happy to assist you with your child’s educational needs.
- 11. Know that you as a guardian and/or parent have the right to keep your child home at any time as you assess risk as it relates to your family.
- 12. Parent/Guardians have the following options for educating their children in the Clark School District.
 - a. Option A:
 - i. Traditional in-person instruction (subject to change depending on recommendations to move to different phases)
 - b. Option B:
 - i. Clark School District Virtual Options:
 - 1. Online learning platform or in-house (district) services (tentative)
 - 2. 6-12 Edgenuity (tentative)

- ii. Curriculum is provided based on SD DOE standards.
 - iii. Option provided by Semester or School year only.
- c. Option C:
 - i. Homeschool

Please keep in mind that circumstances will likely vary from school to school and among the different programs or activities of the school district, with each having unique challenges and circumstances. Specific school details will be communicated to you directly by the administration of the school your child attends or the coach/instructor of the activity your child participates in.

Please read through the Clark School District's Return-to-School (RTS) Plan carefully and thoroughly. Once again, please understand that we are making every effort to provide the best and safest educational experience possible for every one of our students. We will need your continued support through the entirety of this process.

Thank you,

Clark School District Board of Education
Clark School District Administration
Clark School District COVID-19 Taskforce

SCHOOL BASED OPERATION STATUS

Phase 1 (Plan A) TRADITIONAL	Phase 2 (Plan B) HYBRID	Phase 3 (Plan C) DISTANCE LEARNING
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SCHOOL OPEN: Based on COVID-19 numbers in Clark County and guidance from the Department of Health and local medical. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SCHOOL OPEN –HYBRID MODEL: ½ school population has 2 days of in person instruction while others receive remote learning followed by change the next two days. Some departments and activities may be closed during this time. • Depending on location of cases, certain district schools may or may not be affected. • Notification from DOH and local medical personnel that COVID cases are on the rise in county. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SCHOOL CLOSED: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ ALL schools in the district are closed. ○ All classes cancelled in buildings ○ All activities cancelled ○ Field House closed. • Notification from DOH and local medical personnel that significant number COVID cases are in county. • 14 day quarantine—after 14 day quarantine, conditions assessed and may return back to Plan B

EDUCATIONAL DELIVERY

PHASE 1 SCHOOL OPEN	PHASE 2 SCHOOL OPEN –HYBRID MODEL	PHASE 3 SCHOOL CLOSED
<p>Option 1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traditional face-to-face Instruction <p>Option 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Virtual options: HS: All classes must meet state accreditations in order to fulfill district graduation requirements. Elem/MS: virtual program or follow classroom curriculum are options to be considered on a case by case bases. <p>Option 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homeschool: 	<p>Option 1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traditional face-to-face Instruction <p>Option 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Virtual options: HS: All classes must meet state accreditations in order to fulfill district graduation requirements. Elem/MS: virtual program or follow classroom curriculum are options to be considered on a case by case bases. <p>Option 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homeschool: 	<p>Option 1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students and teachers move to distance learning • Building by building decisions <p>Option 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students will stay enrolled in virtual school

INSTRUCTIONAL INFORMATION

PHASE 1 SCHOOL OPEN	PHASE 2 SCHOOL OPEN –HYBRID MODEL	PHASE 3 SCHOOL CLOSED
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students/classes using Google Classroom • Grades 5-12 1:1 technology ^5-8 iPad ^9-12 laptops • Train students on schedules/ responsibilities etc. should move to Plan B or C • Initiate routine procedures with staff and students. • Initiate routine classroom cleaning procedures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inform parents/families of minimized contact measures in building • Prep students on hybrid learning models • Alternate/reduce amount of assignment/classroom expectations • Grades 5-12: 1:1 Technology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inform parents/families of move to closure. • Initiate distance learning using Google Classroom, Zoom, paper/pencil materials • Grades 5-12: 1:1 Technology

HEALTH PROTOCOLS

Phase 1 SCHOOL OPEN	Phase 2 SCHOOL OPEN –HYBRID MODEL	PHASE 3 SCHOOL CLOSED
<p>Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Face covers (Mask or shield) are highly recommended ● Classroom arrangements giving as much distance as possible between desks ● Avoid close proximity no longer than 15 minutes ● Health screenings and temp checks daily completed at home. ● Communicate with administration of any health conditions that may impact teaching abilities. <p>Students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Face coverings are recommended; however, not required. ● Maintain 6-foot distancing as much as possible ● Avoid close proximity no longer than 15 minutes ● Notify office if not feeling well. ● Health screening completed at home ● Temperature checks 2 times daily if over 100.4, students will be send home. 	<p>Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Face covers (Mask or shield) are highly recommended. Liability waiver is required on any staff that refuses either face coverings ● Classroom arrangements giving as much distance as possible between desks ● Avoid close proximity no longer than 15 minutes ● Health screenings and temp checks daily completed at home. ● Communicate with administration of any health conditions that may impact teaching abilities. <p>Students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Face coverings are recommended; however, not required. ● Maintain 6-foot distancing as much as possible ● Avoid close proximity no longer than 15 minutes ● Notify office if not feeling well. ● Health screening completed at home ● Temperature checks 2 times daily if over 100.4, students will be send home. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All students at home receiving distance learning.

Physical Distancing/Group Size

PHASE 1 SCHOOL OPEN	PHASE 2 SCHOOL OPEN –HYBRID MODEL	PHASE 3 SCHOOL CLOSED
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classrooms reconfigured to optimize spacing with all extra furniture removed. • All desks face one way to limit exposure • Desks will be separate from each other • Tables will have barriers for protection • Social distance where possible • Controlled movement where possible • Limited field trips, assemblies • COVID education for staff and students • Staggered recess, bathroom breaks, lunches • Special Education services will continue pull out services • Keep 6 feet distance as much as possible • Close contact activities, such as labs, masks are required • Emergency situations may require use of mask of anyone involved 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classrooms reconfigured to optimize spacing with all extra furniture removed. • All desks face one way to limit exposure • Desks will be separate from each other • Tables will have barriers for protection • Social distance where possible • Controlled movement where possible • Limited field trips, assemblies • COVID education for staff and students • Staggered recess, bathroom breaks, lunches • Special Education services will continue pull out services • Keep 6 feet distance as much as possible • Close contact activities, such as labs, masks are required • Emergency situations may require use of mask of anyone involved 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School is closed

Cleaning Protocols

PHASE 1 SCHOOL OPEN	PHASE 2 SCHOOL OPEN –HYBRID MODEL	PHASE 3 SCHOOL CLOSED
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased frequency in cleaning surfaces • Rooms with be sprayed with disinfectant over lunchtime when students are absent. • Deep cleaning of all classrooms and commons. • Hand sanitizing stations in the entrance of every classroom and school entrance areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased frequency in cleaning surfaces • Rooms with be sprayed with disinfectant over lunchtime when students are absent. • Deep cleaning of all classrooms and commons. • Hand sanitizing stations in the entrance of every classroom and school entrance areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools completely shut down for all staff and students while deep cleaning and disinfecting have happened. • No one except janitors, office personnel, administration, are allowed in the building. • All deliveries will sit in the school entrances for a period of 24 hours before delivered to appropriate areas or people.

Food Service

PHASE 1 SCHOOL OPEN	PHASE 2 SCHOOL OPEN –HYBRID MODEL	PHASE 3 SCHOOL CLOSED
<p>Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Face masks or shields are highly recommended • Breakfast/lunch served with social distancing on lunch tables • No self-service salad bars. Utensils, mild, condiments served behind counter • Authorized personnel behind plexi-glass shield—taking lunch counts • Colony: follow directives from colony 	<p>Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Face masks or shields are highly recommended • Breakfast/lunch served with social distancing on lunch tables • No self-service salad bars. Utensils, mild, condiments served behind counter • Authorized personnel behind plexi-glass shield—taking lunch counts • Possible Individual Pre-packaged/Sack Lunch option for students • Colony: Follow directives from colony 	<p>None applicable</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery of free lunches if approved by federal or state funding

Access to Buildings

PHASE 1 SCHOOL OPEN	PHASE 2 SCHOOL OPEN –HYBRID MODEL	PHASE 3 SCHOOL CLOSED
<p>No Visitors past entry points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All visitors required to wear face covering • Limit visitor access (Appointment only; official school business) • Early pickups/late arrivals—meet in entrance only • Students entrance at designated entrances only • Facility Use Agreements followed until case(s) has been detected in the county 	<p>No Visitors past entry points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All visitors required to wear face covering • Limit visitor access (Appointment only; official school business) • Early pickups/late arrivals—meet in entrance only • Students entrance at designated entrances only • Facility Use Agreements: suspended until further notice 	<p>Not applicable</p>

Transportation

PHASE 1 SCHOOL OPEN	PHASE 2 SCHOOL OPEN –HYBRID MODEL	PHASE 3 SCHOOL CLOSED
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Normal Bus Routes following Duenwald Transportation guidelines • Temperature checks should be done at home before boarding buses • All district vehicles sanitized after each use. • All school bus routes, activity buses and/or vehicles will have documented assigned seating to assist with contact tracing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Normal Bus Routes following Duenwald Transportation guidelines • Temperature checks should be done at home before boarding buses • All district vehicles sanitized after each use. • All school bus routes, activity buses and/or vehicles will have documented assigned seating to assist with contact tracing. 	<p>Not applicable: no student transportation</p> <p>*Delivery of lunches if approved by federal or state funding</p>

Activities/Facility Use

PHASE 1 SCHOOL OPEN	PHASE 2 SCHOOL OPEN –HYBRID MODEL	PHASE 3 SCHOOL CLOSED
<p>Activities in full session:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular spectator attendance • Follow tiered guidelines from SDHSAA • Events Live-streamed • Those that are high-risk or experiencing symptoms are encouraged to stay home and view live-streams. <p>Mitigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-participation waiver signed by student and guardian • Pre-participation screening before practices/events and hand sanitizing by all participants during each water break • Equipment/surfaces/room sanitizes after each practice or event • Locker rooms MUST be cleaned up by players prior to leaving games/practices under coaches' supervision • Face coverings encouraged for all coaches and managers • Face coverings highly encouraged for all transportation to games and practices. 	<p>Modified participation using CDC/SDHSAA/ local guidelines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possible limitations for spectators or parents only in attendance • All events live-streamed • Follow tiered guidelines from SDHSAA <p>Mitigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-participation waiver signed by student and guardian • Pre-participation screening before practices/events and hand sanitizing by all participants during each water break • Equipment/surfaces/room sanitizes after each practice or event • Locker rooms MUST be cleaned up by players prior to leaving games/practices under coaches' supervision • Face coverings encouraged for all coaches and managers • Face coverings highly encouraged for all transportation to games and practices. 	<p>All activities suspended until further notice.</p>

Stakeholders: If you have any questions or concerns regarding any classroom protocols or issues, please first visit with classroom teachers, followed by building administrator. Thank you! Let's have a very productive year.