



KEARNEYTM
SCHOOL DISTRICT

Pursuing Excellence Today for Tomorrow

2021-2022 RETURN TO SCHOOL PLAN

#BETTERTOGETHER



150 W. State Route 92

Kearney, MO

(816) 628-4116

communications@ksdr1.net

www.ksdr1.net

Updated: **Aug. 20, 2021**

Please **teach best practices** at home. KSD will reinforce at school.



Masks Required



Proper Handwashing



Cover Cough/Sneeze



Physical Distancing



Self Check for Symptoms

Transportation



- Masks will be required on the bus per federal order
- Contact Durham School Services to confirm your student's bus stop (816-628-9003)

Classroom Environment

- Full-time, full-capacity, in-person teaching and learning
- Universal facemasks required while indoors
- 3-feet of distancing for students as much as possible



Meal Services



- Breakfast and Lunch will be served free of charge
- Students may opt to bring their own lunch
- Eat in cafeteria

Academics

- Focus on Missouri Learning Standards
- Social-Emotional support
- Electives, specials, recess & activities will return to normal



Cleaning and Sanitization



- Daily sanitization of classrooms and desks
- Water bottle fill stations available
- Sanitizer/cleanser, hand soap, and tissues will be available throughout all buildings

Mitigation

In the event of confirmed exposure or outbreak:

- KSD will follow guidance from Clay County Public Health Center, DESE/DHSS & CDC
- Quarantines as mandated



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THE PURPOSE OF KEARNEY SCHOOL DISTRICT IS THE PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE, WHICH WILL ENABLE EACH STUDENT TO BECOME A PRODUCTIVE, CONTRIBUTING MEMBER OF A DIVERSE SOCIETY.

- KSD is **committed** to providing students and staff with a safe and healthy learning environment.
- KSD staff is **prepared** to provide engaging learning experiences to ensure student success.
- KSD's plan will remain **flexible** to adhere to the continuously changing situation and the needs of families.

Letter from the Board President

Greetings, Bulldog Students, Families and Staff!

The new school year starts on Tuesday, Aug. 24, 2021. We are eager to welcome everyone back to class. Our district and building leaders and support staff are busy preparing for that day, making sure that everything is in place for teaching and learning. Repairs and improvements are being made in every school. Our teachers are devoting many hours learning innovative techniques, developing engaging lesson plans and preparing their classrooms.

We do this work because we are fully committed to ensuring that our schools are simply the best. This is what it means to be part of Team Bulldogs. Our children deserve nothing less.

I am proud of the way our community worked together last school year to overcome the challenges presented by the COVID-19 global pandemic. We survived and thrived. The situation has improved dramatically in the last few months, but the coronavirus remains a threat. That means that we must remain vigilant and have mitigation steps in place. It is critical that we protect the health and safety of every individual in our schools.

This Return to School Plan was developed around one main priority: in-person, full capacity teaching and learning in our schools. The good news is that we've learned a lot about how to keep our people safe since the start of this crisis. We have the right policies and procedures in place, and we have the right people in the right positions to do this work effectively and efficiently. More than anything else, I appreciate our students, staff, families and partners for their commitment, preparation and flexibility. This is going to be a great year to be a Bulldog!

Yours in education,

Mark Kelly

Board of Education President

Policy EBB: COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

The Kearney R-I School District School Board recognizes its responsibility to protect the health of students and employees from the risks posed by communicable diseases. The Board also has a responsibility to protect individual privacy, educate all students regardless of medical condition and treat students and employees in a nondiscriminatory manner. ([READ POLICY](#))

Policy EBB: Reporting and Disease Outbreak Control

Reporting and disease outbreak control measures will be implemented in accordance with state and local law, DHSS rules governing the control of communicable diseases and other diseases dangerous to public health, and any applicable rules distributed by the appropriate county or city health department.

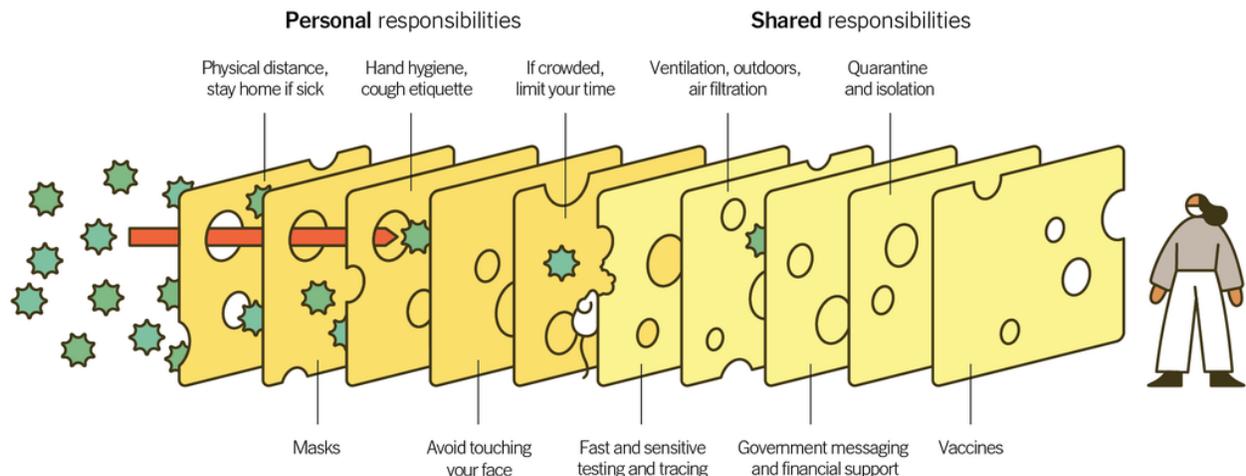
UNIVERSAL PRECAUTIONS

Recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control & American Academy of Pediatrics

As we prepare to welcome students back, it is important to understand how COVID-19 is spread in order for everyone to help do their part to minimize exposure to the virus. COVID-19 is mostly spread by respiratory droplets released when people talk, cough, or sneeze. Personal prevention practices (such as [handwashing](#), [staying home when sick](#), physical distancing, and face coverings) and [cleaning and disinfection](#) are important principles to ensure that teaching and learning can continue uninterrupted.

Multiple Layers Improve Success

The Swiss Cheese Respiratory Pandemic Defense recognizes that no single intervention is perfect at preventing the spread of the coronavirus. Each intervention (layer) has holes.



Source: Adapted from Ian M. Mackay (virologydownunder.com) and James T. Reason. Illustration by Rose Wong

Image source: *The New York Times*

Personal Protection

- **Universal, indoor masking is required** for all students in grades K-12, KSD staff members and visitors regardless of vaccination status.
- Masking is highly recommended for pre-K children enrolled in KSD’s early education program.
- Students in grades K-12 and adults are required to wear masks while in our school buses.
- Students in grades K-12, staff and visitors will be expected to provide their own masks.
- Sanitizer/cleanser, hand soap, and tissues will be available throughout all buildings.

Handwashing

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- Use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.

Coughs and Sneezes

- Remember to always cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze.
- Throw used tissues in the trash.
- Immediately wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- If soap and water are not readily available, use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.

Physical Distancing

- Schools will attempt to physically distance students at least 3 feet apart. However, physical distancing should NOT be a barrier to bringing students back into the classroom.
- In cases where 3 feet of physical distance cannot be maintained, other mitigation strategies (e.g., masking, screening testing, increased ventilation) provide increased layers of protection and will be implemented.

TRANSPORTATION

Students and adults will be required to wear masks on school buses, in accordance with CDC directives. Exceptions to the mask requirement will only be made for students based on his or her disability. Additional appropriate safety precautions will be taken for those who require accommodations, such as additional physical distancing. Students will have an assigned seat.

HEALTH & SAFETY

Procedures for COVID-19 Related Symptoms

Before the start of each day, it is recommended that students and staff complete a self-screening. Please see the “Daily Symptom Checklist” on page 8 of this plan.

Symptomatic & Positive Cases

Students and staff showing symptoms associated with COVID-19 will be sent home and guided to contact their personal health care provider.

Close Contact Defined

For teachers, staff, and other adults in the indoor classroom setting, a close contact is someone who was within 6 feet for ≥ 15 minutes within the 48 hours prior to the onset of symptoms in a person with diagnosed COVID-19 or a clinically compatible illness until the discontinuation of home isolation OR a positive COVID-19 test in an asymptomatic person. The ≥ 15 -minute duration is a cumulative total over a 24 hour period.

An exception has been made for students in the indoor classroom setting. If both individuals were consistently and correctly using well-fitting face masks, were physically distanced ≥ 3 feet, and other prevention strategies were in place, they

are not considered a close contact. This exception does not apply to staff and other adult visitors.

Quarantine & Isolation

If students and staff are identified as a close contact, they will not need to quarantine if they are without symptoms *and* are fully vaccinated or have had COVID-19 within the past 3 months.

KSD provides two options for quarantine:

1. The quarantine can end after Day 10 without testing if no symptoms are reported during daily monitoring.
or
2. The quarantine can end after Day 7 after receiving a negative PCR test result (test must occur on day 5 or later).

Any student or staff member in close contact with someone with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 should not go to school or attend or participate in any school events or activities.

Isolation separates people who are infected with the virus away from people who are not infected.

Students showing symptoms associated with COVID-19 while at school will be separated in an isolated area and cared for by a staff member. The student should be picked up within 30 minutes of the parent being contacted. Staff members showing symptoms will be sent home immediately.

Exposure & Communication

The CCPHC will contact KSD for any case of school exposure. School exposure, as defined by CCPHC, takes place when a person positive for COVID-19 has been in the school setting two days prior to the onset of symptoms. KSD will follow the direction of CCPHC which may include the following:

- Dismissal of any staff and students in close contact with the individual diagnosed with COVID-19, pending CCPHC guidance
- Initiation of cleaning and sanitizing protocols as guided by CCPHC
- Communication and guidance will be sent to all individuals who were close contacts or tested positive

WHEN TO SEEK EMERGENCY MEDICAL ATTENTION

Look for emergency warning signs* for COVID-19. If someone is showing any of these signs, seek emergency medical care immediately:

- Trouble breathing
- Persistent pain or pressure in the chest
- New confusion
- Inability to wake or stay awake
- Pale, gray, or blue-colored skin, lips, or nail beds, depending on skin tone

*This list is not all possible symptoms. Please call your medical provider for any other symptoms that are severe or concerning to you.

Call 911 or call ahead to your local emergency facility: Notify the operator that you are seeking care for someone who has or may have COVID-19.

KSD will operate at full capacity and with in-person teaching and learning. Field trips will be allowed, as will singing, playing instruments and other performance activities.

Universal, indoor masking is required for all students in grades K-12 and adults in our district buildings, regardless of vaccination status. Masking is highly recommended for pre-K children enrolled in KSD's early education program.

This instruction model may change depending on directives from DESE and/or the CCPHC.

CHILD NUTRITION SERVICES

KSD and SFE (Southwest Food Excellence) are committed to providing quality meals for breakfast and lunch during the 2021-2022 school year. KSD will continue to provide school breakfasts and lunches free of charge for all students in accordance with waivers issued by the USDA.

All families should still complete the Free and Reduced-Price Lunch Application. This will ensure that KSD has the resources to provide support services for every child. Please visit bit.ly/ksd-frl to complete the application as soon as possible.

Email burkemperk@ksdr1.net or call (816) 628-4116 if you have questions about the Free and Reduced-Price Lunch Application process.

CLEANING AND SANITIZATION

Facilities, including high-touch surfaces, will be thoroughly cleaned and sanitized at least once a day. Approved cleaning materials will be available for every classroom.

VISITORS, VOLUNTEERS AND ACTIVITIES

Until further notice, all visitors to Kearney School District facilities are required to wear face masks while indoors.

Officially sanctioned KSD and school events and activities will be allowed at full capacity and with all of the mitigation steps outlined above. This will include extracurricular activities such as theater and athletic events. All students in grades K-12 and adults will be **required to wear masks** while attending indoor events, activities, performances, competitions, etc., on KSD property. Students should refrain from these activities when they have symptoms consistent with COVID-19 and should be tested. Students who are not fully vaccinated and participate in indoor sports and other higher-risk activities should continue to wear masks and keep physical distance as much as possible.

Nonessential visitors, volunteers and activities involving external groups or organizations will not be allowed in KSD properties. An exception will be made for KSD-sanctioned academic, artistic and athletic competitions and performances. While KSD values parent/guardian engagement, nonessential visits, such as eating lunch with your child at school, will not be allowed at this time.

Essential reasons to visit a school include but are not limited to:

- Parent-teacher conferences
- IEP meetings

- Drop-offs and pick-ups
- A+ mentors
- Student internships

Masks are required for all visitors who are in a KSD building for any reason.

Parents/guardians should contact their school for questions. KSD will reevaluate this practice as the situation changes.

VACCINATION INFORMATION

According to Missouri’s [Department of Health and Senior Services](#), “You, your family and your community will be safer with each individual that chooses vaccination. Vaccinations have been proven to prevent severe illness and death caused by COVID-19.” Visit the Clay County Public Health Center at www.clayhealth.com/301/COVID-19-Vaccine for more information about vaccinations and where they are available.

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS

Reasonable masking accommodations will be made for individuals with a disability that prevents them from wearing a face mask or wearing a face mask safely.

COVID-19 LIABILITY LIMITATION

WARNING - Under Missouri law, any individual entering any Kearney School District premises or engaging the services of the business waives all civil liability against the individual or entity for any damages based on inherent risks associated with an exposure or potential exposure of COVID-19, except for recklessness or willful misconduct.

PLAN SUBJECT TO CHANGE

This plan is subject to change based on guidance from DESE, CCPHC and Missouri’s Department of Health and Senior Services. We will continue to collaborate with our local health departments and monitor data, particularly at individual school sites. If data demonstrates a spike in particular classrooms, grade levels or schools, additional safety measures will be put into place. This plan will be reviewed and, if necessary, revised no less than every six months in consultation with KSD stakeholders.

VERSIÓN EN ESPAÑOL

Envíe un correo electrónico a berryc@ksdr1.net o llame al 816-628-3187 si desea una versión de este plan en español.

COVID-19 DASHBOARD & CONTACT INFORMATION

Visit bit.ly/ksd-covid-dashboard to see our COVID-19 dashboard. Email communications@ksdr1.net or call (816) 628-4116 for questions, assistance or concerns regarding this plan.

- [KSD COVID Data](#)
- [Clay County COVID Data](#)
- [CDC Guidance for Schools](#)
- [Board Policy EBB - Communicable Diseases](#)

DAILY SYMPTOMS CHECKLIST

- Have you been diagnosed with COVID-19 since you were last at school?
- Have you had any of the following symptoms since you were last at school?
 - Fever
 - Chills
 - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - New cough
 - New loss of taste or smell
 - Congestion/runny nose
 - Nausea/vomiting/diarrhea
 - Sore throat
 - Headache
 - Muscle or body aches
 - Fatigue
- Have you had close contact (been within 6 feet of someone diagnosed with COVID-19 for a cumulative total of 15 minutes over a 24-hour period) in the last 14 days?
- Has any health department staff or a health care provider been in contact with you and advised you to quarantine?

⇒ **If NO to ALL questions**, you may report to school.

⇒ **If YES to ANY of the questions**, please contact the school nurse or the designated point person for additional follow-up and do not report to school.

PREVENTING QUARANTINES, TOGETHER

Help us protect in-person learning for students!

These scenarios are for close contact with a COVID-19 positive individual who does not have respiratory symptoms at school, maintains 3-feet of distance for students and 6-feet for adults, and:

COVID-19 positive individual IS properly wearing a face covering:

COVID-19 positive individual IS NOT properly wearing a face covering:

CLOSE CONTACT			 Fully Vaccinated Properly Wearing Face Covering	 No Quarantine	 No Quarantine
CLOSE CONTACT			 Fully Vaccinated Not Wearing Face Covering	 No Quarantine	 No Quarantine
CLOSE CONTACT			 Not Fully Vaccinated Properly Wearing Face Covering	 No Quarantine	 QUARANTINE
CLOSE CONTACT			 Not Fully Vaccinated Not Wearing Face Covering	 QUARANTINE	 QUARANTINE

NOTE: Quarantine will be required if secondary cases occur.

