

**NEW BLOOMFIELD R-III SCHOOLS
307 REDWOOD DRIVE
NEW BLOOMFIELD, MO 65063**

Superintendent of Schools
Sarah Wisdom, Superintendent

Central Office
Phone: 573/491-3700
Fax: 573/491-3772

Board President
Mrs. Terri Sweeten

7-20-20

Dear Wildcat Family,

Welcome to the 20/21 school year! The past few months have been filled with tough times for everyone. This current pandemic has been trying for all of us, and has sent our community down a path that most of us had never traveled. Even though this is new for all of us, the district will continue to work through these difficult times for the health and well-being of our students and staff.

I am hoping that everyone is excited about the upcoming 2020-21 school year. I, as well as our staff, are ready to see students in all of our buildings. Per our board approved school calendar, the first day of school will be August 24, 2020. The district has stayed in constant contact with the Callaway County Health Department since last spring. A Task Force that included staff, parents, community members, health care workers, health department and administration have reviewed countless pages of recommendations and put together a COVID plan for reentry. Our approach to this plan is based upon different principles that have not changed throughout this Covid-19 pandemic. This plan will be a fluid document that will be adapted and changed as we enter into the school year. We will continue to rely on the health department during re-entry to help guide us in making safe decisions for all those involved.

At this time, our planning will focus on providing layers of protection. This will include increased hand washing, adding more water bottle filling stations, increased cleaning of high touch areas throughout the day, and increased sanitizing procedures. One of our toughest areas to control will be busing. We are going to ask that if parents can bring your child to school, please do so. The district will pick up students like normal, but anything we can do to limit the number of riders will be beneficial to all.

This plan is also developed on trying to conduct school as normal as possible but limiting the risks. One of the tactics of combating this virus is the ability to contact trace individuals and box in the virus to prevent further spread. When students arrive each day, they will go directly to their classrooms to prevent large group gatherings and promote social distancing when feasible. This practice will help the health department in giving us guidance if we have a positive case. This plan also limits the entrance of individuals that are only essential personnel. We ask that parents during these times remain at the office when coming to school during regular business hours to conduct any business.

By returning to school, we cannot guarantee COVID-19 will not be present. However, by providing additional layers of protection in our buildings, we can only hope to decrease the chances of spreading the virus.

Sincerely,



Sarah Wisdom
Superintendent
New Bloomfield R-III Schools

EXTERNAL COVID-19 PLAN & FAQ's



New Bloomfield Elementary and High School

Purpose of this plan: The purpose of this plan is to continue educating our students through the COVID-19 Pandemic. NB will closely follow all state and local health officials suggestions and guidelines.

Procedures outlined within this document are based on recommendations from federal and state resources, collaborative partners and institutional best practices and are not, unless otherwise indicated, required by statute or regulation.

Instruction Fall 2020

Our plan is to have in-person classes in the fall of 2020, however, three phases have been put into place to be used as needed. We encourage each family to plan ahead for all of these phases. It is our goal to be Green all year, however we want everyone to be prepared for these other options.

PHASE GREEN:

- All students in school 100% with procedures in place.
- Class can be held outside when possible.

PHASE YELLOW:

- Elementary students on campus, using both buildings for instruction to add social distancing opportunities.
- MS/HS student's learning virtually from home.

PHASE RED:

- All students learning virtually from home

Frequently Asked Questions for Parents

1. What safety protocols will be in place during the school day?

We have been busy planning for a safe educational environment with the use of an increased cleaning schedule during the day and evening shifts, regular handwashing times, hand sanitizer stations in each classroom and common area, as well as increased cleaning supplies and material to allow us to effectively disinfect any area. Social distancing will also be used with students remaining in classrooms when possible and limiting large group interactions.

2. What will be the procedures for lunch?

The district will need extra precautions in place to start the year. For this reason, students will eat breakfast in their classroom. School personnel will deliver meals to student classrooms. Lunch will be staggered in the cafeteria. Food allergies

will be taken into account as needed. Cleaning procedures will be put in place. We hope we can loosen these guidelines as the year progresses. We will monitor this and make changes as we can.

3. What will be the procedures for recess?

We understand how important recess time is for all children. There will still be many opportunities to be outside with peers. Classrooms will visit the playground on a schedule that limits interaction between different classrooms. Consequently, recess times will be spread out throughout the school day. There will be protocols put in place during outside time. These protocols will include cleaning processes and expectations.

4. Will kids move to different rooms for PE, Art, Music, and Media?

We will begin the year by keeping elementary students in their homeroom classes for specials classes. In this model, teachers will visit classrooms to deliver instruction. This will allow us to maintain stable grouping in a room and it will allow us to easily track who comes into contact with each classroom. PE can be outside when possible.

5. What will school counseling services look like?

School counselors will visit classrooms to deliver social, emotional, career and academic lessons. We will continue to provide individual counseling for issues impacting the school environment, as well as crisis counseling, consultation and referral. We will wait until August to make a decision about whether we will be able to offer group counseling services.

6. Will my child be stuck in the classroom all day?

This is not our intent. It is our intent to keep them in a stable group as much as possible while at school. There will be a plan for bathrooms, hallways, etc.

7. Will parents and visitors be allowed in the building?

At the beginning of the year, we will not allow parents and visitors into the building. We want to be very proactive in ensuring a tight system of tracing as we re-open. We will continue to monitor and should the environment and/or recommendations from our health partners change, we will loosen restrictions. We prefer to start with tight guidelines and slowly loosen as it becomes safe to do so.

8. Will special education students, EL students, Title students, and others be pulled out of the room for minutes?

At this time, we plan to either pull kids out for instruction, or teachers will join classrooms to ensure students receive appropriate services.

9. Will social distancing happen in all settings?

We will do our best to maintain social distancing when students are not within their stable groups (i.e. walking in hallways, sitting in lines, etc). Inside classrooms, we know it will be difficult to keep children 6 feet away from one another, just as it will be difficult for teachers to support students from 6 feet away. We will do our very best to maintain as much distance as is possible in the building.

10. How will my student's IEP services be delivered?

Given current health department guidelines for August, we plan to implement each in-person student's IEP as written, i.e., if the student's services were written for the special education environment, they will receive services in that setting. If services are written for the regular education environment, we will provide services in the student's regular education classroom. If the student is in a district classroom and is to join his/her regular education peers for a specific subject, the student may attend. Safety precautions will be taken between groups of students coming in and out of the special education setting. Should health department guidelines change, we may need to adjust these practices; however, all potential changes will be discussed with the parent/guardian.

11. If NB has to close my student's building or the entire district because of health concerns, will my student continue to receive special education services?

Yes, while the amount and location of services may need to adjust based on the need for remote instruction, your student will continue to receive all services identified in their IEP. New learning will occur even in the virtual learning environment. Additionally, your student will continue to receive appropriate accommodations relevant to his/her virtual learning environment.

12. Can I still refer my child for special education testing?

Yes. No changes are being made to the evaluation process. If formal assessment is needed, the student will be pulled to a testing environment. Safety precautions

will be taken to ensure a sanitized environment before and after the testing session.

13. Will students be required to wear a mask?

At this time, students will not be mandated to wear masks. If you prefer your child to wear a mask, we will do our best to honor and uphold this request.

14. Will teachers and staff be required to wear a mask?

At this time, staff will not be mandated to wear masks, but may prefer to wear one.

15. If students are in a phase that will require virtual learning will the work they are completing count for a grade?

Yes, all work will count for grades.

16. Will temperature checks be given to students?

At this time, students and staff will be scanned by a thermal camera before entrance into the building. This will log temperatures and email nursing staff if someone is over the 100.4 limit. If a child visits the nurse, temperature will be checked as needed. The nursing department will have infra-red thermometers to use. If more school-wide temperature checks become necessary, we will inform parents as soon as possible.

17. What will be the protocol for a sick student?

We will follow our normal guidelines of fever free and contacting parents when students are absent or become ill at school. Students with COVID symptoms will be immediately isolated with the nurse until parents arrive. We are working closely with the health department to review these procedures. We will update this as needed.

18. If the building is closed for cleaning, will students have a virtual day of learning?

Yes. If school needs to close due to a confirmed case for cleaning purposes, learning will continue. In this case, students will move to the online platform with their classroom teacher and coursework will continue seamlessly. In some cases with our youngest learners, work may be sent home, depending on when this closure occurs.

19. Will there be increased opportunities for handwashing and hand sanitizing?

Staff is currently in the process of installing additional hand sanitizing stations in each classroom and in common areas.

20. How will preschool families be notified if their child is required to go home?

It is important for parents to fill out registration paperwork with multiple emergency contact numbers for this school year. It will be imperative that families pick up students immediately who are not feeling well. We will need multiple WORKING numbers that will be used as emergency contacts. Please make sure you update your child's teacher and the building office when there is a change in either your contact or emergency contact numbers.

21. Will buses run as normal?

We will continue to transport students whose families are unable to provide transportation. Protocols are in place to ensure a safe environment while on the bus that include; loading the bus from back to front, hand sanitizer available as well as assigned seats.

22. What should I do if I feel my child's prior health conditions make it impossible for them to return to school?

We understand that some immune compromised students may not be able to attend in person classes. Please contact Mrs. Parker at aparker@nb.k12.mo.us or extension 206, if you feel that your child falls into this category. We will come up with an educational plan that fits your child.

Conclusion:

Unprecedented times but NBS staff will continue striving to meet the needs of all students.

Reviewing, practicing, and updating this plan on a regular basis is essential to ensuring the highest level of success in responding to COVID-19. NB will revise and update this document as needed with guidance from our local health officials.