

District Announcements

Guidelines for 2020-21 School Year

Fatima COVID Outline

Attendance

- While attendance is an important part of the educational process Perfect Attendance incentives will not be used for this school year. It is important to help control the spread of COVID-19 to remain home if feeling ill.

Instruction

- Classes will begin on August 17th for Fatima students. Those students attending Nichols, those classes will begin August 24th.
- At current time, we will follow a normal class schedule for 8 class periods, five days a week.
- “Special Classes” (Music, Media/Library, Art, and PE/Health) will begin at this time.
- Students will be spread out as much as possible to maintain social distancing.
- K-12 PE will utilize outdoor space as much as possible.
- Locker room space may be modified to maintain social distancing.
- Should school have to be shut down due to a widespread outbreak, distance learning will take effect. Further guidance on this is also listed on our website.
- Normal grading practices will take place including if we have to institute distance learning.

Transportation

- Students are encouraged to drive, walk, or get dropped off when arriving and leaving school.
- Social distancing on the bus will be implemented to the extent possible, (understand this will be Very Difficult!)
- Drivers will assign seats for all students, with families grouped together.
- Students will be allowed to ride one bus only.
- Students will use Hand Sanitizer when loading the bus.

- Buses will be Sanitized after each route.
- Drivers will self-check their own temperature before each route.
- Students are encouraged to wear masks on the bus but this will not be required immediately due to the outside temperatures still being hot when school starts.

Food Service

- Breakfast will be served daily and students will be asked to leave the cafeteria as soon as they are done eating and go directly to their first hour class.
- Morning Assembly for Elementary will not take place this year. Students will go directly to their homeroom when arriving or after eating breakfast.
- Elementary lunch shifts will not look much different other than spreading out for social distancing.
- Jr. High/High School shifts will remain at the same times, however students will be spread out every other seat and approx. 50 students from each shift will get their trays and eat in classrooms. We will attempt to rotate these groups, however, this is still in the planning stages and we may find it better to keep the same groups as those eating in the classrooms. Seating charts will be instituted.
- All proper guidelines will continue to be followed by food service workers.

Recess/Physical Activity

- Recess will be incorporated. There will be a rotation for playground equipment to limit which class is using particular items.
- Playground equipment will be routinely cleaned.
- Each class will have their own balls etc. for use.

Classrooms

- Desks/Chairs will be spaced 6 ft. apart or as close to 6 ft. apart as possible.
- Teachers will wear masks when monitoring hallways, and working closely with students. When over 6 ft. away (front of class lecturing), teacher may remove mask.
- Students will not share supplies. Computers will be wiped down at the end of each class period.
- Frequent handwashing and sanitizing will be incorporated.
- JH/HS Students will wear masks when transitioning classes in hallways, lockers etc. Once in classrooms students may remove masks. Students that feel more comfortable, may leave masks on if they choose.

Restrooms

- Restroom breaks will be a class at a time in Elementary.
- Social Distancing and wearing masks will be instituted for JH/HS Students.
- Proper handwashing for all grades will be emphasized.

Visitors/Parents

- A log of all visitors will be kept who enter the building.
- Visitors to be the building will be limited and only allowed in if absolutely necessary. Visitors will be asked to wear a mask. Prior arrangement with the Building Principal is recommended.
- Parents/Guardians will be provided a sign off sheet stating they have read all information detailing how we will operate this school year. We also ask they instruct their school aged children on these procedures to help everyone navigate this school year.
- Parents will have the primary responsibility of assuring their child(ren) do not have signs/symptoms of COVID-19 OR any other illness including new-onset fever, cough or diarrhea before child(ren) leave for school or school sponsored events.

Students and Staff Health

- Masks will be worn by students and staff in the hallways and in areas where social distancing is not possible grades 7-12. Grades K-6 may elect to wear them if they as well. However, grades K-6 do not congregate in hallways in the same manner as the older students have to, to get to lockers and passing each other to change classrooms each period. Again, any student that feels more comfortable wearing a mask may do so.
- Further guidance on health is located at the health link on our website.

Athletics

- Temperatures will be checked daily before each practice before any athlete is allowed to practice with his/her team.
- Athletes will wear masks on buses being transported to competition.
- Close communication with competing school will take place to ensure the safety of our student/athletes. PLEASE KEEP IN MIND: this can change very suddenly, a school could contact us as we are getting ready to leave for a contest that they have a positive case and the contest will be cancelled or postponed.
- We will strongly encourage at this time that our fans sit on one side of the ballpark/gym and not socialize with opposing team.

- Masks will be strongly encouraged in and around the concession stand areas.

General Information

- Refillable water bottles will be the only way to access water. The District is in the process of securing CARES ACT money to replace all older non bottle fill stations with new bottle fill stations. Understand this will be a process to, 1. Secure the funds, 2. Obtain the devices as they could be on back order, and 3. It will take some time to install 20 new water stations throughout the entire building. While we do have a few bottle fill stations now, it is recommended to send water with your student each day.
- Custodial services will sanitize throughout the day, as well as their general cleaning each evening to help stop the spread of COVID-19 to the best of our ability.
- In the event there is a positive case, The Osage County Health Department will assume control of that situation. They will be in charge of contacting those people that need to be contacted. THIS WILL NOT COME FROM THE SCHOOL DISTRICT. Depending on the situation, school may only close for a day for further cleaning. Should a widespread outbreak occur, Distance Learning could take effect.

The District may add further information to this document throughout the year. We will try to send notification of changes through social media to the best of our ability. Please understand that dealing with COVID-19 is a very fluid situation and changes almost daily. The safety of our students and staff is our #1 priority. While wearing a mask may not be the most pleasant thing for all, we are doing this as a precaution for all involved. Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact your Building Principal or District Administration and we will do our very best to answer your question.

Courage2Report

The below video was created to bring awareness to your middle and high school students on the use of Courage2Report for school safety concerns.

This video is the culmination of conversations with tip reporting experts with input from students. Courage2Report staff created and narrated the presentation and the production team from Missouri School Boards' Association put the final touches on the video. Later this year, we will provide you a shorter/refresher video for mid-year viewing.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WbktVyxPzQ8>

Back to School Drive-Thru Immunization Clinics

The Osage County Health Department will be providing back to school immunizations via drive-thru clinics on July 27-31. [Click here](#) for more details!.

JH/HS Supply List

[Click here](#) to open.

Pandemic Electronic Benefits Transfer

Under the Families First Coronavirus Response Act of 2020, families that qualify for free or reduced price meals at school may be eligible for a new one-time Pandemic Electronic Benefits Transfer (P-EBT) of up to

\$302 per child (Pre-Kindergarten – Grade 12) to help cover the cost of meals students have eaten at home on days that schools have been closed. Students can receive P-EBT benefits even if they have been or continue to receive meals provided by the school district during the school closure. If your child was not previously eligible for free or reduced price meals, but you have now lost income, you may be eligible to receive P-EBT benefits (review the P-EBT Eligibility Criteria document below).

The benefit is placed on an Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) card families use to buy food. If you received Food Stamp (SNAP) benefits in March, do not apply for these new/additional benefits. The full \$302 will automatically be loaded to your existing EBT card. If you did not receive Food Stamp (SNAP) benefits in March, you must apply for this benefit by June 30, 2020 (see below).

The most efficient way to apply is to submit your application online at EmergencyMealSurvey.com/MO. You will also likely experience a faster approval process. If you're not able to apply online, you can follow the link below to the paper application. The fillable PDF document can then be emailed or mailed to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). You will find complete instructions and additional details in the letter to families below.

Please review these important documents carefully:

- [P-EBT Letter to Families](#)
- [P-EBT Eligibility Criteria](#)
- [P-EBT Online Application](#)
- [P-EBT Paper Application](#) (hard copy to fill out and email or mail to DESE if you're not able to submit the application online)
- [P-EBT Paper Application in Spanish](#)
- [P-EBT Frequently Asked Questions](#)

To request a paper application be mailed to you, please contact our Food and Nutrition Services office at (573) 455-2375. Please do not send completed applications to your school; see the letter to families above for application submission information.

The Department of Social Services (DSS) will send families a letter indicating they are approved or denied. If you have questions on how to apply for the P-EBT benefit, contact DSS through the online chat feature at mydss.mo.gov or call 855-373-4636. For more information on the EBT card, visit: mydss.mo.gov/food-assistance/ebt.

If you have additional questions, families may contact FSD.MOPEBT@dss.mo.gov