

Golden Plains Reopening Plan for 2021-2022

USD 316 will reopen the 2021-2022 School Year with few restrictions. School will **reopen with full in-person learning**. House Bill 2134 New Section 6 limits remote learning (a) Commencing in the 2021-2022 school year, except as otherwise provided. in this section, no school district shall provide or offer to any student enrolled in the district more than a total of 40 school term hours of remote learning, There will be exceptions as provided in the bill. But as a general rule, USD 316 will not be offering remote learning. **At the beginning of the year, there will be no requirement for wearing masks, but children, teachers, and visitors to the building may wear a mask if they want to do so. Social distancing, handwashing and use of hand sanitizer will be encouraged.** The exception to mask wearing will be the August 5, 2021 federal order to wear masks when more than two people are in a district mode of transportation.

Passengers and drivers must wear a mask on school buses, including on buses operated by public and private school systems, subject to the exclusions and exemptions in CDC's Order. This includes any school vehicle, buses, vans, cars and suburbans. It is required to wear a mask if there is more than one person in a vehicle. All adults are required to wear masks while driving or riding in school vehicles when students or others are in the vehicle.

This order superseded both state and local policies and procedures. It is understood that you may or may not agree with this order, but unfortunately, failure to enforce this order may result in loss of federal school funding.

The requirements to wear a mask does not apply under the following circumstances:

- **When necessary to temporarily remove a mask for identity verification purposes during Transportation Security Administration screen or when asked to do so by ticket or gate agent or any law enforcement official.**
- **While eating, drinking or taking oral medications for brief periods. Prolonged periods of mask removal are not permitted for eating or drinking; the mask must be worn between bites and sips.**
- **While communicating with a person who is deaf or hard of hearing, when the ability to see the mouth is essential for communication.**
- **If unconscious (for reasons other than sleeping), incapacitated, unable to be awakened, or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance.**

THOSE EXEMP FROM WEARING A MASK:

- **A child under the age of 2 years.**
- **A person with a disability who cannot wear a mask, because of disability as defined by the American with Disabilities Act.**
- **A person for who wearing a mask would create a risk to workplace health, safety, or job duty as determined by relevant workplace safety guidelines or federal regulations.**

USD 316 Golden Plains will be following this federal order until it is no longer enforced

If there is a surge in COVID-19 cases, the plan will be revisited and stricter restrictions will be put into place. Our plan to keep students safe in a more restrictive environment is listed below. Other restrictions may be added on an at-need basis.

PART I.

Describe how the district will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff and the extent to which it has adopted policies, and a description of any such policies, on each of the following safety recommendations established by the CDC:

(A) Universal and correct wearing of masks.

- All staff and students will be instructed in wearing masks. They will be shown the proper way to wear a mask to insure it covers their mouth and nose and is secure under their chin and fits snugly against the sides of their face.

How to Properly Wear a Face Mask

- Wash hands before and after touching the mask.
- Touch only the bands or ties when putting on and taking off mask.
- Make sure the mask fits to cover nose, mouth and chin. ...
- Make sure one can breathe and talk comfortably through your mask. Touch only the bands or ties when putting on and taking off your mask.
- Wash reusable masks after each use.

(B) Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding).

- Social distancing by 3 feet within the classrooms and all environments as much as possible.
- Additional lunch periods to allow for social distancing, silverware wrapped, milk carton served individually to each student, dividers in the lunchrooms. (All of these items will be used if USD 316 becomes more restrictive.)
- Extra furniture removed from the classroom to increase space to provide better social distancing.
- Wash your hands before and after touching the mask.
- Furnishing with fabric or other hard to clean coverings will be removed from the classrooms.

- Assign students seats, have them face in one direction, and remain seated in the classroom as much as possible.

(C) Handwashing and respiratory etiquette.

- Teach and encourage hand washing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and increase monitoring to ensure handwashing is taking place.
- If soap and water is not available, make sure hand sanitizer that has at least 60% alcohol is used for staff and older children who can use it safely.
- Place hygiene stations at the entrances of buildings.
- Encourage staff and students to cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue. Used tissues should be placed in the trash and hands washed immediately with soap and water.
- Have student and staff create own hand signals to replace shaking hands, hugging, or giving high-fives.
- Post signs in highly visible locations that promote everyday protective measures and describe how to stop the spread of germs—properly wear masks, properly washing hands .
- Post signs on proper hand washing

(D) Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation.

- Cleaning products containing soap or detergent will be used.
- The Facilities will be cleaned and disinfected thoroughly at least once a day and in our case where there are low vaccination rates in the communities, mask wearing not required and the facilities are occupied by students and staff at increased risk for Covid-19. The facilities will be continually cleaned and disinfected as needed.
- All hard surfaces will be cleaned daily.
- Staff will be provided with proper training on how to use cleaning and disinfecting agents. . They will be provided with proper PPE equipment.
- Disinfectant product from the EPA List N that is effective against covid will be used.
- Soft surfaces such as carpet, rugs and drapes will be cleaned with products containing soap , detergent, or other type of cleaner appropriate for use on these surfaces.
- Laundry such as clothing, towels or other linens will be washed in the warmest water appropriate and dried completely. Anyone handling dirty laundry should wear gloves and a mask. Wash hands after handling laundry.
- Electronics such as tablets, touch screens, keyboards, remote controls, etc. will have wipeable covers
- If someone is sick and tested positive for Covid-19, the area will be closed off to all. **The area should be left alone for several hours before cleaning. Open doors and windows and use fans to increase air circulation in the area. Wear a mask when cleaning and using disinfectant. Focus on immediate areas occupied by the person who is sick or diagnosed with Covid-19. Vacuum the space if needed using a vacuum**
Equipped with high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filter and bags, if available. When vacuuming turn off the in-room, window-mounted or on-wall recirculation heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems to avoid contamination of HVAC systems.

- Do Not deactivate central HVAC systems. These systems provide better filtration capabilities and introduce outdoor air into the areas they serve.
- If less than 24 hours has passed since the person who is sick or diagnosed with Covid-19 has been in the space, clean and disinfect the space.
- If more than 24 hours has passed since the person who is sick or diagnosed with Covid-19 has been in the space, cleaning is enough.
- All students will have their own water bottles that they can fill at the water filling stations in each building.
- If there is a surge in Covid-19, Visitors to all building will require you to wait outside the building and call the appropriate office. Someone will bring you student out to you. If you do enter the building, please use all caution as we are trying to establish a safe and stable environment for all staff and students. Please wait in the hallway outside the offices and if you are not feeling well, please do not enter the building. Thank you for keeping our students safe.
- Field Trips will be approved on an individual basis.
- Hallways will be one-way.

(E) Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments.

USD 316 will be in collaboration with the Sheridan County Health Complex Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) Hoxie and Selden Clinics, Sheridan County Health Department, Thomas County Health Department, Decatur County Health Department, Rawlins County Health Department, and Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), Local Emergency Mangers of Sheridan, Thomas, Decatur, and Rawlins County, and following Kansas and CDC Guidelines. We will be in collaboration with all agencies and the contact tracing will be completed by the health departments and KDHE.

Diagnostic and screening testing.

Diagnostic and screening testing will be completed by the Thomas County Health Department, Sheridan County Health Department, Decatur County Health Department, and Rawlins County Health Department. If a child comes to school ill or with symptoms of Covid-19, their temperature will be taken, and parents called if there is a need. The School nurse will be responsible for doing the initial screening at both the Selden and Rexford Campuses. All precautions will be taken to ensure the safety of students and employees of USD 316. **No child will be tested without parent permission and notification.**

(F) Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities.

Vaccinations will be encouraged for all who can safely receive one. Vaccinations are available through the Thomas County Public Health, the Sheridan County Health Complex FQHC, Sheridan Public Health, Decatur County Public Health and Rawlins County Health Department. They will make them available to us when needed.

(G) Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies.

USD 316 will follow all the students IEPs and make sure they are kept safe. The same paraeducator will be assigned to the same students. If the student is in an inclusive environment, the same paraeducator will be assigned to that room to limit contact with others. The student will eat lunch with their class unless it would be better for them to be in a more restrictive area. All precautions will be used to keep the students safe. If a special education student has remote learning written into their IEP, they will be provided with remote learning.

(H) Coordination with State and local health officials.

USD 316 is currently working with KDHE to put into place more extensive precautions. USD is working with local health officials in Thomas, Sheridan, Decatur and Rawlins County to provide the best service and use precautions to keep students and staff in a safe environment.

Part II.

Describe how the district will ensure continuity of services, including but not limited to:

(A) services to address students' academic needs

USD 316 staff is currently working with the Kansas State Department of Education to improve their ability to improve instruction to students and meet each child's needs. The Multi-tiered System of Support (MTTS) is the model that has been chosen. Through this process children will receive interventions and strategies to improve their academic needs. Also, the At-Risk program and services have been enhanced. Parents are involved in helping plan their child's plan.

(B) students' and staff social, emotional, mental health

We are working with Sheridan County Health Complex to provide children with counseling services and have two full time counselors and one part-time counselor available to help students. Currently USD 316 is using Second Step Curriculum grades k-5. The plan is implement a social-emotional curriculum for grades 6-12.

(C) other needs, which may include student health and food services.

Each child in the USD 316 receives breakfast and lunch at school. If needed, they are given snacks during the day. If there is a need for food to be provided for students and families in their household, The food banks in Sheridan and Thomas County are very willing to provide food for them. Student health is being addressed by the USD 316 Nurse. USD 316 recently lost their school nurse but is in the process of hiring one. Many times students are in need of clothing, shoes, or hygiene products. USD 316 has the ability to provide the students with these items. Without these basic needs being met, it is more difficult for students to learn.