



# Waiver Application Packet

As a result of COVID-19 and the closing of school buildings, school districts must submit an application to waive 2019-2020 attendance requirements in order to receive exemption from KSA 72-3115. (1,116 attendance hours for all students and 1,086 attendance hours for high school seniors)

To apply for the waiver, you must complete and submit by April 8th the following items contained within this document:

1. Waiver Application
2. Assurances Document
3. Continuous Learning Plan Application

All required documents must be emailed as a single package to [CLPlan@ksde.org](mailto:CLPlan@ksde.org) by Wednesday, April 8, 2020.

Please direct questions to the following:

- Waiver Application: [ddennis@ksde.org](mailto:ddennis@ksde.org)
- Plan for Continuous Learning: [mmiller@ksde.org](mailto:mmiller@ksde.org)

To access Continuous Learning guidance documents and resources, visit:  
<https://sites.google.com/ksde.org/kansascontinuouslearning2020/home>

**Note**

A continuous learning plan must be submitted as part of this waiver request in order to receive approval.

*Monique Hart*

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President, Board of Education

*Craig Marshall*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Superintendent of Schools

***Please print this document and sign.***

**If so, is tech support available for families and teachers?**

We provided families with an email address to send all technology questions and also established office hours where staff could be reached by phone, including some during the evening. We also created a FAQ page devoted specifically to technology questions, including helpful tips and links to how-to videos. For those families without adequate access, we have provided experiences for students that do not require any technology and created a communication system for teachers and students to communicate and share completed work.

**If so, how will you ensure that all students have adequate access to devices and internet?**

We surveyed families regarding access to devices and the Internet with an online survey. For those who did not respond, we had staff call each family and record their responses. Our survey found 15% of students/families did not have access. We then worked with local service providers, extended our WiFi capabilities to our parking lots, and provided home-based wireless access points as needed to provide additional access.

**Please describe additional measures you will take to support students with disabilities, and students served under Title Programs (ELL, Migrant, etc.).**

We believe communication with our families of students with disabilities and Title Programs is critical, so we created a communication plan including documentation to be sure we make continual and consistent contact with these students and families. Our Title Teachers are sending home paper packets and books for serving their student. In addition, we created office hours for our special education and title staff for families for direct communication. Our special educator and Title teachers also collaborate with our general education teachers to ensure the needs of ALL our students are being met by having access to the materials and make accommodations and providing support. Our district has a small ELL population, all in the Elementary School. The dedicated ELL teacher is collaborating with regular education teachers to insure learning activities focus on language development. In the event, teachers see a need for specific support sessions for these students, these services will be scheduled and provided.

**How will teachers check-in with students?**

Teachers established regular office hours, have weekly electronic mail contact between teachers, students and parents. We are using the Remind app grades 5 to 12 to

Our counselors and social workers led communication efforts with our staff and families regarding resources available in our community and through the school, providing direct communication for those families most in need. They will be available to school staff and families per request to assist with current stressors that arise. For general education students, Counselors/Social Workers will determine which students are in need of virtual social work services and will provide those services following current HIPPA/FERPA guidelines. Special Education Social Workers will be part of the IEP team that will develop the Individualized Continuous Learning Plan to determine if/how Related Services will be provided. Coaches and sponsors are communicating with their teams/athletes and student activities.

**How will you support students' social-emotional needs?**

Our staff will engage students in developmentally appropriate conversations and lessons to discuss the news around COVID-19. Staff will also provide consistency in daily school routines and continue SEL and community-building practices, which help maintain a sense of emotional safety and support. School Social Workers are making weekly contact with students they work with. All staff are focused on Relationships FIRST and student learning second as we learn to be resilient during these uncertain times.

**How will you engage families and caregivers in supporting the social-emotional needs of their children?**

Our staff will provide families with consistent communication, as well as guidance and support in talking with their children about coronavirus. Our staff will consider the different needs of students and families when making response plans and connect them to the necessary resources. This includes ensuring that response plans will fully meet the needs of students and families who are homeless or in transitional living situations, may not have easy access to internet, receive free or reduced-price meals through school, or rely on support services at their schools.

## Family Community Communication

**How will you keep families informed?**

The District Leadership Team is continually discussing, collaborating and sharing ideas as a result of our professional reflections. We will evaluate survey data from both formal and informal data-gathering processes.

**Please describe the measures you will take in collaboration with your local county health department to protect the health and safety of students, staff and families.**

We are in regular communication with our county health officials and will make decisions based on their recommendations. Additionally, official communication we send out will be in coordination with county and state officials.

<u>Craig Marshall</u>	<u>4-3-2020</u>
Superintendent Signature	Date
<u>Marguerite Hart</u>	<u>4-3-2020</u>
Board of Education President Signature	Date

***Please print this document and sign.***

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Plan for Continuous Learning: [mmiller@ksde.org](mailto:mmiller@ksde.org)