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To: Parents and Guardians
Date: 8/13/2020
Re: School is Starting!

As CCSD#1 prepares to welcome your children back to school on August 19th, I would like to share the expectations and requirements the schools must meet in order to keep all children safe. CCSD#1 will do everything necessary to protect students and staff, to provide a quality education, and to keep its doors open. This will require a partnership between schools and homes to meet the three points listed. Communities that consistently engage in safe practices are more likely to support and maintain safe schools. Below are key points addressing how school will look this fall.

CCSD#1 is requiring parents to screen their child(ren) prior to sending them to school. We want to prevent sick students and staff from coming to school. Pediatric experts from the Children’s Hospital in Colorado have grouped known symptoms into two categories. Symptoms in the “high-risk” category indicate a higher likelihood of COVID-19. Symptoms in the “low-risk” category are still indicative of possible illness and should be assessed; however, their presence alone may be less likely to be caused by COVID-19.

High-risk	Fever, chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, or loss of taste or smell.
Low-risk	Sore throat (pharyngitis), runny nose (rhinorrhea), muscle aches (myalgias), headache, fatigue, abdominal pain, vomiting, or diarrhea.

CCSD#1 has posted a sheet on its district website and Facebook page for procedures that will be followed in the event of a COVID-19 case or exposure. Much of the protocol comes from Public Health.

CCSD#1 is attempting to be as practical as possible while keeping everyone safe. Requirements for students to wear masks will be kept to a minimum. However, if you would like your child(ren) to wear a mask throughout the school day, they certainly may. CCSD#1 has ordered 500 desk sneeze guards and additional partitions to reduce the need for masks. These items are expected to arrive sometime in September.



The State of Wyoming provides Hathaway Merit & Need Scholarships to Wyoming students attending the University of Wyoming and Wyoming community colleges. Every Wyoming student who meets the merit requirements can earn a Hathaway Merit Scholarship. Contact your school counselor for more information.

The following practices will be in effect district-wide. If social distancing is not practical, students will be required to wear masks while riding on school buses. Students in classrooms facing the same direction will not need to wear a mask. If students are working on projects or facing a teacher across a table or desk setting, a mask will be required.

If they are moving in the same direction, elementary students will not need to wear masks in the hallways; for example, while they are changing classes. Upper grade levels that follow a rotating schedule will need to wear masks between classes.

Students will be able to utilize the playground equipment. They will be discouraged from congregating and/or forming lines where they will be in close proximity to others while waiting for playground equipment. State public health orders have relaxed the 250-person cap for outdoor gatherings, but it remains in place for indoor sports. All spectators will be required to wear a face covering to attend indoor sports. Parents of students classified as high-risk have two options; they can ask their physician to sign a waiver and provide it to the school nurse for their child to attend classes or opt for a homebound learning platform in which CCSD#1 will provide a virtual learning platform.

We know we have catch-up work to do since closing school in March. CCSD#1 will be using Purple Fridays and after-school time to do academic work to help students get caught up and learning at grade level. Assessments will be conducted early in the year. This will help teachers determine where students are in their learning so they can work on specific areas.

CCSD#1's first two days of teacher in-service will be dedicated to getting staff comfortable with Google Classroom; all teachers will use it. This platform was chosen by parents in the surveys completed in June. Communication at the secondary level will be by district email; elementary schools will use Class Dojo. Once school begins, teachers will work with students to get them acclimated to these platforms. We feel this will allow for a seamless transition, should a student or teacher need to be quarantined, so students can continue their education during that time.

The CCSD#1 Smart Start Plan is located on the district website with a more thorough explanation of how we are proceeding. Please understand that guidelines can change. CCSD#1 will do its best to inform parents of major changes and highlight them in the Smart Start Plan on the district website.

CCSD#1 is willing to do what is needed to make this work and provide a positive and safe environment for your child(ren). If you have any questions, please contact your building principal.

Sincerely,

Mark R. Broderson

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Superintendent

Crook County School District #1



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