

Douglass USD 396

District Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services

PART I.

The Douglass School District takes the health and safety of its students and staff seriously and throughout the COVID pandemic we focused on common sense protocols to keep our stakeholders safe. We based our decisions on guidance from the Kansas State Department of Education, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Butler County Health Department and the CDC. Our local decisions have been approved by the Douglass Board of Education. Local COVID data is collected and adjustments are made as needed. As we safely reopen in the fall for in-person instruction the following is a summary of our Continuity of services.

The Douglass School District will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff by addressing the following protocols. These protocols will be reviewed and updated by the Douglass Board of Education as needed.

(A) Universal and correct wearing of masks.

As of Monday, August 2, 2021 the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KSDE), Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the Governor have recommended masks to be worn in school regardless of vaccination status. At this time the Douglass Board of Education has made the decision to make the wearing of masks optional. Masks are available and signs are posted throughout the buildings in all district facilities. By federal order masks are required to be worn on all school buses and vehicles. Bus Drivers will have masks available as kids get on the buses.

(B) Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing.

The Douglass School District will make accommodations for physical distancing in classrooms, gathering areas and sporting events when appropriate. The district facilities are configured in a manner to allow for safe spacing if needed. The district will strive to maintain three foot spacing in all classroom spaces.

(C) Handwashing and respiratory etiquette.

The Douglass School District has posted signs to remind stakeholders of the proper Handwashing and respiratory etiquette. The district health nurse will conduct periodic handwashing lessons in district classrooms throughout the school year.

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

The Douglass School District has trained our custodial and food service staff on the proper techniques for cleaning district facilities. Fogging machines are utilized and HVAC filters are cleaned and replaced frequently. Outdoor air is transferred as possible through our HVAC systems.

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

The Douglass School District will communicate close contact guidance with parents and parents will be encouraged to establish communication with the county health department to receive guidance on current contact requirements. By state statute 65-122 USD 396 must follow the Butler County Health Department recommendations including the requirement to assist with contract tracing, to ensure the safety of all students, staff and families. To be clear close contact and quarantine requirements are determined by the Butler County Health Department. Upon notification from the Butler County Health Department of a student being required to quarantine. The student will not be allowed to attend school until the quarantine time is over.

Individuals will not be required to be quarantine if:

1. They are fully vaccinated. (Fully vaccinated is achieved two weeks after final dose.) Immunization will need to be verified by the School Nurse.
2. They had COVID in the last 6 months
3. Have a test daily for 10 days after exposure.

(F) Diagnostic and screening testing.

Diagnostic testing is available in multiple locations in the community, county and region. Information will be provided upon request.

(G) Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities.

The Douglass School District has conducted three community vaccination clinics and will continue future clinics as necessary. The school district will continue to work with the Butler County Health Department and other area health providers to provide locations for vaccine clinics for staff and students.

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

The Douglass School District always makes appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities in coordination with all applicable laws and regulations in regards to health and safety of all students.

(I) Coordination with State and local health officials.

The Douglass School District continues to coordinate its COVID Pandemic response and protocols with state and local health officials. Our local board of education also considers our local data and bases our plans and protocols on a balanced approach to maintain the health and safety of our stakeholders.

Part II.

The Douglass School District will continue to provide continuity of services and focus on in person learning at all levels.

(A) Services to address students' academic needs

The Douglass School District is committed to provide instruction to meet the needs of all learners and provide resources to overcome any learning loss due to the challenges associated with this pandemic. Summer extended learning and extra personnel will be added at all levels beginning in August of 2021. These learning supports will continue through the 2024 school year. ESSER funds are allocated to help support students' academic needs.

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

The Douglass School District is committed to continue supporting student and staff with their social emotional needs. Counselors and the district Social Worker are committed to providing support to staff and students through the coordination of services with local mental health professionals by utilizing existing partnerships.

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

The Douglass School District will continue to operate the Seamless Summer Option through the Child Nutrition Services Programs with the Kansas State Department of Education to offer free meals including Lunch and Breakfast for the 2021-2022 school year.

Updates to this plan may be made periodically as local data changes and directives from federal, state and local county government changes. All changes are approved by the Douglass Board of Education.