

Reopening of Golden Plains USD 316 Schools, August 2020

In order to reopen school safely and taking all the aspects of doing so in a safe and efficient manner the following proposal is being made to accommodate all staff and students.

We are proposing a three-tiered approach. Each level will be dependent on the situation as it presents itself in conjunction with both state and county guidance for the health and well being of everyone involved.

1. Full reopening of school in person instruction:

This is the most desired mode of reopening school in the fall of 2020. There will be several requirements asked of staff, students and parents in order to start and maintain this level of school.

2. Blended reopening of school with in person and online instruction:

The blended model will take into account the majority of students in the buildings, with certain students/staff that are unable to be face to face working in a modified online environment.

3. Full online instruction with no students in the buildings:

If we go back to full online like we did last spring we will follow a very similar program with the understanding that grace and leniency with grades being reduced will not apply and full accountability to complete assignments expected.

Details for option 1:

Elementary level: Each student will have their own water bottle that can be refilled at our filling station in the main hallway. Music and PE classes will not be combined in an effort to keep the numbers of students in one place to a minimum. Para educators will stay with the same students/class as much as possible to limit crossover contact with larger numbers of students. Three different lunch sessions will take place to keep the number of students in the cafeteria down as much as possible. Students will need to spread out during both lunch and breakfast. Breakfast will shift to a grab and go situation where the students can take their breakfast and distance in their classroom to eat. Social distancing is encouraged throughout the day. We will split the 3-year-old preschool program into a morning and afternoon sessions that will allow for class size reductions to encourage social distancing. Students will not be grouped in their classes where they will be facing each other. All rooms will be set up for maximum distancing and all students will face the same direction. No use of the lockers in the hallways will be permitted. We will separate by class their PE shoes to be stored by class in the gym.

Middle School: Every student will have their own reusable water bottle that can be refilled at one of the many filling stations in the hallways. Transition between classes will be staggered so not everyone is in the hallway at the same time. There will be no use of lockers in the hallways at all. Books assigned to the students will be minimized to avoid the need for a locker and allow the students to minimize

contact. If a classroom set of books can be utilized then the need for students to carry books will be reduced. The policy of letting middle school students take their chrome books home will be extended like we did in the spring. Group work may have to shift to an online environment when possible even if it is done in the classroom. Hallways will become one-way and limited to the number of students in the hall at one time. Social distancing will be enforced during lunch and any other group event. Band and Vocal will shift to larger locations up to and including outside situations.

High School: Every student will have their own reusable water bottle that can be refilled at one of the many filling stations in the hallways. Transition between classes will be staggered so not everyone is in the hallway at the same time. Hallways will also be considered one way to limit contact. There will be no use of hallway lockers. Classes will utilize classroom sets of books when possible and any work that can be shifted to Google Classroom will be encouraged. Social distancing during lunch will be enforced. With the larger numbers of students in the high school half of the students will take their lunch to the small gym to avoid overcrowding of the lunchroom.

Transportation: (buses): This is relevant to all grade levels and both buildings. Our buses tend to be fairly crowded and in order to provide transportation to all the students that need it we will require that during the bus ride all students on the bus will be required to wear a facemask and spread out as much as possible. Seats will be assigned and family units will be taken into consideration to be in the closest contact. Temperatures will be checked before the student gets on the bus and if elevated (100.4 or higher) the student will not be allowed to ride the bus or attend school. Parents must stay until the bus accepts their student, no exceptions. If it is possible for you to drop your student at their appropriate school location instead of riding the bus that would be your choice and it would help to reduce the volume of students on the bus. Failure to keep and wear a mask will be cause for removal from the privilege of riding the bus.

Sports (Middle/High School): Each sport participant will be required to follow the same guidelines as the academic portion of school. Social distancing is strongly encouraged and everyone must have his or her own water bottle. Any PE or sports bags brought at the beginning of the day will be placed in the commons area of the gym at the beginning of the day to avoid the crowding not having a locker will present. Articles of equipment and or clothing will not be allowed overnight in the locker rooms. The use of lockers during practice and or PE will be acceptable as long as every effort is made to social distance.

Recess (Elementary School): Numbers of students at recess will be limited as to allow social distancing. Students may be assigned to stay in sections of the playground to avoid crowding.

Visitors to School (All buildings): While we do not want to discourage your involvement with your student and their education we would request that we keep our buildings as stable in the number of people as possible throughout the day. All during the day pick-ups and drop-offs will require you to wait outside the building and call into the appropriate office. Someone will bring your student out to you no matter what the situation. If you have to come into the school for any reason we would like to ask that you wear a mask to avoid any possible situation where you could become an outside influence in the stable environment we are trying to maintain.

Drop off and pick up before and after school will remain the same. The students will need to come out to you for all grade levels. We will need to restrict parents coming into the building to wait for students. As students arrive in the morning they will need to have their temperatures checked before attending school. The same situation exists as with riding the bus. Parents please stay until it is clear that your student will be allowed to attend for the day based on temperatures. We have purchased new contactless thermometers for use on all buses and buildings.

If a student becomes ill during the day they must be picked up immediately and if they exhibit symptoms of COVID-19 they will need to be checked by their doctor and or the county health department. We will isolate the student in separate rooms in each building until they are picked up. It will be up to the county health department if they deem necessary any contact tracing or contact verification procedures.

If a staff member presents during the day with any symptoms they will be asked to remove themselves from school and follow procedures necessary by contacting their doctor and or the county health department.

All hard surfaces will be cleaned daily and non touch hand sanitizer stations will be located in key areas around campus. We will continue to emphasize good hygiene and social distancing as much as possible.

No field trips will be planned for the fall semester, and we will reevaluate any spring field trips as well. Any internship will be placed on hold or replaced with virtual experiences as much as possible.

We would like to open school as much as possible and as normal as possible. If a parent wishes to have their student back in the classroom, but wearing a mask then we will be more than willing to accept that accommodation. However we will not provide masks to students and we will not modify school rules to make wearing a mask in the classroom a disciplinary action. It will be up to the individual student to wear the mask when necessary. We believe that we can socially distance the vast majority of the time while the students are in the buildings. Therefore the only time we will be requiring masks will be while they are riding on the buses before and after school. This is the one situation where we cannot actively socially distance and

the time on the bus will be short enough that the mask accommodation should be sufficient.

Details for option 2:

All of the same rules and procedures from option 1 will still apply. If you choose to have your student exercise option 2 with the blended opening then we will accommodate as best as possible those students that do not want to come to the building. We will ask that if you choose this option to keep your student home and have work provided that you commit to a full semester at a time. In other words if you want to start the year with this option then you will have to keep the student out of the buildings through the end of December. All work will be provided either electronically or physically and will be on a strict schedule to be picked up and returned. Failure to complete work assigned, and or stick to an agreed schedule may constitute truancy. Under state law if we provide services as an enrolled student in our district we are accountable for ensuring the student is in attendance even under the modified school operation plan.

Details for option 3:

In the event that school buildings are required to be closed for any amount of time during the school year we will shift instruction back to a very similar format that we worked under to finish out the spring of 2020. Please keep in mind that we will do our best to make the transition to online if it becomes necessary by order of the county or state health department, or directed by the Governor. The Governor cannot close schools in the same fashion as she did last spring without the approval of the state school board. This may cause the decision to have a short delay. If that is the case we will have a couple of days to shift education to an online environment.