Back to School Plans for 2020-2021 Quick Overview

The Safety of Students and Staff are our Highest Priority

Please keep in mind, below is just the outline and this is a very fluid situation and plans may change depending on health and safety concerns and orders from the health department and state. Our first priority is the safety of students and staff.

Plan A
Return to school August 19th with safety precautions such as social distancing, increased disinfecting routines, cohorting students, staggering interactions (passing periods, recess, lunches), temperature checks for all individuals and masks for adults and secondary students. An online option will be available with a mandatory orientation (contact the school for details).

Staff and students who are high-risk, we are working to provide a safe environment for them.*

Plan B
Elementary in school, Secondary *online.

Plan C
Hybrid 50/50 - half the students, half the time in person with half *online.

Plan D
Full *online with streaming of lessons, etc. No learning packets.

*CCS is working on a plan to provide internet to those students who do not have access.
Custer County School District
Plan to Return to In-Person Instruction for August 19, 2020

Most Recent Update July 21, 2020

Custer County School District is committed to ensuring the success, learning, safety, and security of all students. As we work to return to traditional in-person instruction, we will be continuing to make adjustments as necessary. We are taking additional precautions, but nothing can completely prevent COVID-19, as with other risk factors for other illnesses or injuries (flu, strep, injury, etc.). We ask for your cooperation through this transitional period and any changes and/or disruptions that might occur over time. EVERYTHING is subject to change!

Our return to in-person instruction and as ‘normal’ of a school experience as possible depends on EVERYONE doing their part to follow current guidelines and practices – parents, students, staff, and community – to the best of their abilities every day!

This plan contains information that applies to EVERYONE! Please read this document first

Main Points

Back to school on August 19.
Keep sick students home.
Screening and temperature check on buses and entry points.
Face coverings required for staff, secondary students, recommended for elementary.
Parents and guests will not be allowed on campus except for scheduled meetings.
Students will be kept in cohorts as much as possible.
Staggered start and change of classes.
School nurse will be able to conduct Covid tests and have access to a doctor through a Tele-a-doc terminal.
If a person tests positive, they will be required to quarantine as well as their cohort and fellow bus riders.

Public Health Info – Custer County School District, in communication with Custer County Health Department (CCHD), prepared the following Plan for Returning to In-Person Instruction for the 2020-21 school year. The contents were developed in an effort to provide explanations and guidance. As health orders change, the procedures may also change.

- Masks/Face coverings – Required for staff and secondary students/ highly encouraged for elementary students, as per current health orders.
  - DISTRICT STAFF are considered ‘essential’ and are REQUIRED to wear face coverings.
    - Health-related reasons exceptions to the requirement may exist, with a doctor’s approval.
      - Physiological, not ideological, reasons.
    - Face shields could substitute for masks, with approval of specs, etc.
  - SECONDARY STUDENTS are REQUIRED to wear face coverings (masks, gaiters, etc.).
    - Health-related reasons exceptions to the requirement may exist, with doctors written approval.
ELEMENTARY STUDENTS are ‘HIGHLY ENCOURAGED’ to wear face coverings (masks, gaiters, etc.).

Any student desiring to wear a face covering shall be allowed to.

- Masks should be brought from home.
  - This ensures proper fit, material, etc.
    - Cloth or other washable material is preferred!
  - Masks must meet School Dress Codes. (No references to drugs, alcohol, etc.)
  - District-provided masks will be available on a very limited basis.
- All masks should fit & be worn properly, washed/replaced often, etc.
- Disruptions caused by misuse will be dealt with by teachers &/or administration.

“Mask-shaming” will not be tolerated!

- This applies to all individuals – staff, students, parents, etc.
- This applies to all possible ways – in person, social media, spreading rumors, etc.

Social Distancing and Movement – Room capacities, social distancing, student movement before/during/after school, etc. will follow current guidelines.

- Classrooms and desks will be set up to maximize allowable social distancing.
- Student gathering areas before school, to & from recess, to lunch, etc. will be adjusted.
  - Specific procedures will be available in the building procedures pages.
  - Students will be informed at school of up-to-date procedures.

Health Screenings – WE NEED YOUR BEST EFFORTS & ATTENTION TO THIS PART!!!!

- PARENTS MUST PROVIDE PRIMARY SCREENING ON A DAILY BASIS
  - BEFORE sending your student(s) to school, please ensure ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:
    - NO FEVER (100+) without medication for at least 24 hours.
    - NO OTHER SYMPTOMS exist – shortness of breath, persistent cough, etc.
    - No recent, non-reported COVID-19 diagnosis.
    - No recent contact with anyone diagnosed with COVID-19.
    - No recent individual or family member traveled to a “hot spot”.

- Students who do not meet EVERY CRITERIA above, should not attend school
  - Parents MUST contact the office and provide as much info as possible.
  - Students who do meet every criteria above may attend school as usual.

Staff and bus drivers will conduct SECONDARY SCREENING when students board the bus and/or arrive at school.

- UPON ARRIVAL at school or on the bus, staff will perform cursory examination.
  - If a student appears to be ill, displays other symptoms, or is suspected of having a fever.
    - Student will be isolated and symptom checked by staff member(s).
      - Students will be asked to verify primary screening criteria.
      - Students with fever or other symptoms will be isolated and sent home.
        - Parents will be contacted and student will remain isolated until picked up/released.
        - Students without fever or other illness/symptoms will remain at school.
  - ANY STAFF MEMBER may refer student(s) who appear ill for additional screening.
May also refuse admittance onto a bus or into a building!

Current Plan to Return to School

- Traditional In-Person Instruction – **PREFERRED & PLANNED FORMAT FOR AUGUST 19, 2020**
  - Student attends classes as scheduled on a daily basis.
  - Extra-curricular participation as appropriate, dictated by CHSAA.
  - Health, hygiene, social distancing, etc.
    - Frequent hand washing, cough etiquette, cleanliness, etc., will be ENCOURAGED/EXPECTED.
    - Social distancing & student movement will follow current guidelines.
    - Other protocols will follow current state and CCHD guidelines.
  - Students who are medically considered HIGH RISK with a doctor’s note- parents much contact the principal for special arrangements.
  - An online option will be made available. Parents must contact the school to make arrangements. Student will need to attend a mandatory orientation to receive their device for online learning, instructions on how to use, and expectations on course work and attendance.
    - *If you plan to send your student(s) to school, No parent/family action necessary – just send them!*

Alternative Instructional Scenarios Should School be Required to Close

- Elementary in School, Secondary online
  - ELEMENTARY STUDENTS WOULD ATTEND NORMALLY OR WITH MODIFICATIONS.
  - SECONDARY STUDENTS WOULD BE ONLINE. (See below)
- 50/50 – Students would attend half time during the instructional week and be online for the remainder.
  - BUS TRANSPORTATION WOULD BE PROVIDED.
  - STUDENTS would be REQUIRED to:
    - ATTEND IN-PERSON ON SCHEDULED DAYS.
    - VIRTUALLY ATTEND EACH CLASS/PERIOD DURING ITS SCHEDULED TIME.
    - COMPLETE ALL WORK & MEET ALL DUE DATES as assigned by teacher(s).
      - Grades would be determined in the same manner as traditional instruction.
    - COMMUNICATE via email with teacher(s) - email, Google Classroom, etc.
    - Extra-curricular participation/attendance could be restricted/prohibited.
- Full online – no students or staff in district buildings, everyone at-home and online. No packets.
  - This would ONLY occur IF State/Health Department orders disallow any in-person instruction.
  - Teachers would provide instruction.
    - Will include online platforms (Google Classroom, etc), school email, shared video (Google Meets, etc), and/or written work.
Students would be expected to remotely attend each class/period daily during scheduled times.
Arrangements for families with no internet access will be provided.
Students would be responsible for ALL ASSIGNED WORK, ALL DUE DATES, ETC.
Additional details would be released as the situation warranted.
Extra-curricular participation/attendance could be restricted/prohibited.
Food service would still be provided.

Attendance Categories – during Traditional In-Person Instruction

* Present – Physically attending school and class on campus.
  o EXTRA CURRICULAR participation permitted as appropriate.
  o Student will be considered PRESENT for attendance purposes.

* Absent from School, Engaging in School Work
  o PARENT/GUARDIAN must CALL THE OFFICE by 8:30am
    • Reported student will not be physically present at school will be working/attending remotely
  o STUDENT must do all of the following:
    • EMAIL their principal by 8:30am.
    • ATTEND class during the appropriate time of day/class period.
      • Teacher(s) will coordinate procedures with students.
    • COMPLETE and SUBMIT ANY & ALL ASSIGNMENTS ON TIME.
      • Student is responsible for work arrangements with teacher.
  o EXTRA-CURRICULAR practice/game participation.
    • Pre-arranged and process completed appropriately to participate.
    • Determined by the principal.
  o If all criteria is met, student will be considered PRESENT for attendance purposes.
  o Student may NOT participate in any EXTRA CURRICULAR activity.

* Absent from School, NOT Engaging in School Work
  o PARENT/GUARDIAN must CALL THE OFFICE by 8:30am.
    • Reported student will be absent and will NOT be working remotely.
  o STUDENT should Check Google Classroom, etc. for makeup work.
    • MAKEUP WORK SHEETS WILL NOT BE PROVIDED.
    • ALL MAKEUP WORK WILL BE POSTED IN THE CLASS ONLINE PLATFORM.
    • Students will be expected to communicate with teacher(s) – email, etc.
  o EXTRA CURRICULAR participation.
    • Pre-arranged & process completed appropriately to participate.
    • Determined by the principal.
  o Student will be considered EXCUSED ABSENT for attendance purposes.
  o Student may NOT participate in any EXTRA CURRICULAR activity.

* Absent from School, NOT Engaging in School Work, NO PARENT CONTACT.
  o Student will be considered UNEXCUSED/TRUANT.
    • Will be handled as per Attendance Policy.
  o Student may NOT participate in any EXTRA CURRICULAR activity.
Transportation

- Home screen your child before proceeding to the bus stop.
- Schedules/routes subject to revisions to follow current CCHD guidelines.
- Students will be temperature checked before boarding the bus.
- Any student with an unacceptable temperature will not be allowed to board.
- Parents will need to have arrangements made for their child if they are not allowed to board.
- Appropriate sanitation, occupancy, and social distancing will follow current CCHD guidelines.
  - All seating will be assigned as per current regulations.
    - Students living in the same household will share seats.
    - Other procedures as appropriate based on current CCHD guidelines.

Food Service

- As close to ‘normal’ menu and procedures as possible based on current CCHD guidelines.
- Appropriate sanitation and social distancing will follow current CCHD guidelines.
  - Seating arrangements will be designated.
  - Staggered mealtimes and locations.
  - Changes in foot-traffic patterns.
  - Self-serve options will be reduced/eliminated.
  - Other procedures as appropriate based on current CCHD guidelines.

COVID-19 Cases / School Closure / Transition to Remote Learning

**Known Case** – Student or staff. (reported by staff, parent, or CCHD)
  - These are potential guidelines only, we will follow Health Department guidelines.
    - 1 case- Schools close for 3-5 days for cleaning; classes occur remotely.
    - 2 cases- Schools close for 10 days; classes occur remotely.
    - 3 or more- Go to fully remote option
  - Direct Contact: Cohort and/or bus quarantined.
  - Possible building closure and transition to remote learning.
    - District will coordinate with CCHD to determine processes based on current guidelines.
      - Could include closure of buildings, additional cleaning, etc.
  - Specific guidance will be provided by CCHD as the need arises on a case by case basis.

**Suspected Case** – Student or staff. (at school, due to symptoms and/or questioning)
  - The individual will be isolated until arrangements to go home can be made.
    - Student – Parent/Guardian will be notified.
      - Symptom data gathered and shared with parent/family.
  - Direct Contact: Cohort and/or bus quarantined until testing confirms negative or positive.
  - If documentation indicates a known case, protocols above will be followed.
  - If documentation does not indicate COVID-19, student(s) may return as their current health allows.

- In the event of exposure in household or hot-spot.
  - Individual(s) may be isolated from school until diagnosis/exposure is confirmed.

**Any documented cases** COULD require the dismissal of students and staff.
  - The district will coordinate with CCHD to determine exact timelines and protocols on a case by case basis.
• All protocols and requirements – closures, cleaning, return, etc. – would be coordinated with CCHD and communicated as appropriate.
  o Any attendance changes or transitions to remote learning will be communicated as appropriate.

Communications
• The district will continue to utilize its normal methods of communication, including, but not limited to:
  o Infinite Campus – including Text, Voice, Email, and App.
  o You can receive instructions to set up an Infinite Campus account by contacting counselor Troy Bomgardner at troy.bomgardner@ccbobcats.net
  o Facebook – https://www.facebook.com/Custer-County-Schools-1638243969739173/
  o Website - https://www.custercountyschools.org/

• IT IS VITAL THAT ALL HOUSEHOLD CONTACT INFORMATION IS UP TO DATE!
  o To update address, phone numbers, email address, etc.
    • Contact the school’s office: (719) 783-2291.

Extra-Curricular Activities
• Athletics – HS
  o CHSAA sanctioned athletics (HS & JH) will align with current Local and CHSAA regulations.
  o Competitions & events.
    ■ Student participation will align with current local and CHSAA regulations.
    ■ Spectators attendance will align with current local and CHSAA regulations.
• Athletics – MS
  o Will align with state and county guidelines
• Activities – HS, MS & Elementary
  o Activities will align with in-person instruction.
  o Music events will align with current local and CHSAA regulations.
• Back to School Night, Concerts, Class Parties, etc.
  o Will be scheduled as permitted by local Health Department guidance.
    ■ Activities in classrooms, etc. will not be permitted initially.
      • Back to School Night, Classroom Parties, etc.
    ■ Activities in East Gym or West Gym may be permitted.
      • Band concerts, etc.
    ■ Please watch the Activity Calendars on the website for specific approved activities.
      https://www.custercountyschools.org/calendar

Custer County School District’s Return to School plans will be updated as State and/or Local Health guidelines are modified.

The plan was constructed using information and guidance from all of the following: Colorado Department of Education, Center for Disease Controls, Colorado Public Health Department, The American Association of Pediatrics, Children’s Hospital Colorado, & Custer County Health Department.

Please contact Mike McFalls, Superintendent, with questions – 719-783-4951 or Michael.mcfalls@ccbobcats.net