

Eustis-Farnam Public School

Return to School Plan

(Originally posted July 28, 2020)

(Update - July 13, 2021...pursuant to requirements of the American Rescue Plan (ARP), this document is being re-posted as Safe Return Plans)

(Updates - July 29, 2022...pursuant to requirements of the American Rescue Plan (ARP), this document is being re-posted as Safe Return Plans)

The purpose of this document is to provide a framework for how the Eustis-Farnam Public School will respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on the educational program at Eustis-Farnam during the 2020-2021 school year. The framework of this document is structured using the Nebraska Rural Community Schools Association (NRCSA) document developed by rural school superintendents and the risk dial from Southwest Nebraska Public Health Department in order to allow the district to be responsive to changing public health circumstances.

As a parent, you have to make the best decision for your child under the ever changing circumstances. Eustis-Farnam firmly believes that face to face education is the best for all our students and we will strive to keep that format for as long as possible, hopefully the entire school year. If your student shows symptoms of illness is not in school, please respect the health of others and remain at home until healthy or a doctor's note can be obtained. It is imperative that we all communicate with each other and change our mindset in regards to not feeling well and being in attendance at school. We understand that some parents may feel comfortable sending their child at some COVID risk levels and not at other levels. As a school we will work with every child to help them succeed whether they are here or not. With all illnesses, we ask that you do your part to communicate with the school and support the educational process in this very difficult time.

Working in conjunction with Southwest Nebraska Public Health, a weekly level of risk will be accessed and communicated that will affect how the school conducts operations. The school will at a minimum continue to operate at a higher level of risk in regard to cleaning and sanitizing the building. Likewise, the school district may choose to modify, change, or alter plans that are not fulfilling the intent of the safeguards that they were created to convey. The intent behind the leveled model above is to proactively outline the actions that district may take as circumstances change throughout the pandemic. Some classrooms or grades may have heightened restrictions placed on them depending upon conditions in those grades or classes. We will do our best to communicate conditions within our ability and follow all

HIPPA laws.

COVID RED: Severe COVID-19 PANDEMIC OUTBREAK

Widespread community or regional transmission of COVID

There is a significant increase in COVID positive cases or percent positive cases which may potentially overwhelm the local healthcare system

There is a significant increase in Flu-Like Symptoms and COVID-like syndromic cases which may potentially overwhelm the local healthcare system

Hospitals are utilizing Surge Capacity

There is inadequate testing capacity for critical workers

COVID ORANGE: Elevated COVID-19 Spread Risk

- There are increasing or high stable numbers of COVID positive cases OR percent positive cases due to community or regional spread
- There is an increase in Flu-Like Symptoms OR COVID like syndromic cases in Two Rivers Health Region. Be informed of positive cases in Axtell School District or by county.
- Clusters or outbreaks exist that are still likely in their early stages
- There is only enough testing available for symptomatic people
- Two Rivers Health Department must rely on assistance to conduct investigation for new cases and associated and contact tracing –or- Two River Health Department must assist adjacent jurisdictions to conduct investigation and contact tracing
- PPE supplies are only adequate for critical workers
- Critical medical equipment is in limited supply

COVID Yellow: Moderate Risk of COVID-19 Spread

- There is a downward trajectory in numbers of COVID positive cases –or- percent positive cases due to community or regional spread
- There is a downward trajectory in levels of Flu-Like Symptoms –or- COVID like syndromic cases in Two Rivers Health Region
- There is limited community spread within the Two Rivers Health Region
- COVID has a small impact on the local healthcare system capacity
- PPE supplies are adequate for critical workers and community needs
- Rapid COVID testing is available for all suspected cases and focused asymptomatic surveillance.
- Two Rivers Health Department is able to conduct investigation and contact tracing for new cases and associated contacts without assistance
- Critical medical equipment is readily available

COVID Green: Low Risk of COVID-19 Spread

- Minimal cases of COVID-19 within the greater community.
- COVID-19 has minimal impact on local healthcare system
- Viral and antibody testing is readily available
- There are effective treatment modalities for COVID-19 and an effective vaccine is widely available
- PPE is easily obtainable through standard supply chains

School Calendar and Modes of Operation

| Plan | Description | Rationale |
|------|--|---|
| A | School is in Regular Session on campus for all students and staff beginning on August 20 th as originally scheduled. | Community health conditions warrant a return to school on campus with appropriate safety precautions based on a COVID Risk level of Green , Yellow and Orange |
| B | Alternate School Calendar | Community health conditions warrant a delayed start, early dismissal or extended closures to the school year. In this scenario, the beginning/ending of school and/or vacation and/or makeup days could be altered to meet instructional requirements as indicated by Rule 10. |
| C | Hybrid Model | <p>Community health conditions warrant social distancing practices that can only be obtained with smaller class sizes by having fewer students on-site and spreading students throughout the entire campus. This model maybe be used at Orange and Red</p> <p><i>All Students: students will be on site half time and online half time? Social distancing will be followed. Half days?? Various choices here. Decisions need to be made.</i></p> |
| D | Remote Learning by all students PK-12 through online learning –or- remote learning. | Due to a staff or student’s COVID status, a short-term (2-5 day) closure is warranted, in order to clear, disinfect and contact-trace potential COVID exposures. Or if community health conditions warrant an extended closure of school. (More than a week). All student learning will occur remotely through online learning. This model will be used with a Red level of Risk for all students -or- any level where individual students need to be quarantined. |

Detailed Operational Plans at the District level include:

Governance: includes the core structure that will guide district decision making and the response to the public health crisis including but not limited to board policy, administrative regulations or memorandums, and the framework that will guide the application of the district vision and mission during the pandemic.

Health Services/Screening: includes the delivery of services by school health personnel on campus during the pandemic including but not limited to how to handle symptomatic students, and monitoring of on campus illness and absentee rates. Steps will be taken to assess students and staff for COVID-19 symptoms prior to engaging in the school environment.

School Operations: includes operational aspects of how schools run such as passing periods, visitor access, student movement throughout the school, staff meetings, recess, student attendance policies.

Food Service: includes school meal services such as breakfast, lunch, and grab and go when school is operating on campus and during extended school closure. Take home meals for off-campus.

Cleaning/Facility Modifications: includes guidelines for custodians and staff for how to proactively avoid the spread of germs and illness, how to respond when someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 has been on campus, and any safety related facility modifications made.

Extracurricular Activities/External Facility Use: includes sports, activities, field trips, and co-curricular functions beyond core, within school day, instruction as well as access to school athletic facilities by external groups.

Technology Services: includes promotion and support for the use of instructional technology for in-person and remote learning as well as logistics related to the distribution of devices and technology support (device repair, internet access strategies, etc.) in the event of an extended school closure.

Transportation: includes plans to keep students safe and healthy on school buses within guidelines provided by public health experts.

Crisis Team: includes delivery modification plans related to providing crisis support for students, staff, and the Axtell School community in the event of a tragic incident or death.

Governance

Attendance: Any student or staff who has a confirmed diagnosis of COVID or who is asked to self-quarantine will not count against their attendance at school. A doctor's note will be required. The administration will work with all students or staff to make up work missed, some or all of material could be altered-or-waived and this will be handled on an individual basis depending upon the severity of the situation. Students not in attendance without a doctors' notes will be counted absent.

Active Case: When a positive COVID-19 case is confirmed in our school, that individual will be excluded and allowed to return based upon current guidance from CDC at the time. Two Rivers will work with schools to consider the following questions when determining how that case will impact others in their classroom and/or school building.

What is the level of community spread outside the school building?

Was the individual with COVID-19 wearing a mask most of the time?

Were other students and staff who were within 6 feet of the individual with COVID-19 for more than 15 minutes masked?

Was the individual with COVID-19 part of a cohort within the building or did they interact with a large number of students and staff throughout their day?

To what extent is the school community implementing other non-pharmaceutical interventions (hand washing, hand sanitizers, etc.)

The answers to these questions will determine 1) the number of close contacts, 2) if the close contacts who are not symptomatic may stay in the classroom, and 3) the number of other students and staff who will need to be quarantined.

Screening: Students will be temperature checked and double checked if needed daily, if a student has a temperature of 100.4 or higher, they will be sent home and may not return to school until an entire day has passed and they are symptom free. For example; if a student goes home on Monday, the earliest they may return is Wednesday. If a student or staff has a temperature of 100.4 for three consecutive days, that student or staff cannot return to school until they have had been tested for the Coronavirus. Axtell Community School encourages all students and staff to receive a flu vaccination when they become available in our area.

Remote Learning: If the school is required to go to remote learning, students and staff are expected to continue education with all grades and assignments due as if they were in school. Food Services will continue for those that request. Technology services will be available for those that need support. Ancillary personnel may be asked to perform duties other than their job description.

Face Coverings: At the **RED** COVID risk level, and if it becomes a requirement for students and staff to wear a mask. The school will provide 5 cloth face masks per child and staff throughout the year. After that disposable paper masks will be used. The family is responsible for cleaning and sanitizing the cloth face masks. If there are ADA circumstances that a student or staff member cannot wear a face mask a face shield can be provided. If accommodations are not feasible, alternative placement that will allow a student or staff to continue to be educated or do their job may be achieved. School board decision.

Building Access/Visitors: At COVID risk level **green**, **yellow**, and **orange** with prior approval only pre-approved visitors will be allowed to enter the building during school hours. They will be required to follow all rules associated with level green, yellow and orange levels. At COVID risk level red, no outside visitors will be allowed to enter the building during school hours.

Health Services/Screening

Temperature Checks: Staff and students will monitor and record individual temperatures daily upon

arrival. Social Distancing will be adhered to when possible. Adults entering the building when students and staff are present will also have their temperature taken in the office.

At- Risk or Vulnerable Populations: Every student and staff member has a different level of risk. Although the school will operate under the guidance of the COVID risk dial and administration daily assessment, for those populations that have elevated risk, the school may make additional accommodations and operate at a higher risk level when dealing with this population. Communicate with administration.

Hygiene: Students and staff will be asked to ask wash their hands on a regular basis determined by COVID risk level. The higher the risk level, the more hygiene will be promoted.

Daily School Operations

| | Green | Yellow | Orange | Red |
|---|--|--|---|--|
| School Academic Plan | A normal school day will proceed with social distancing recommended when possible. | A normal school day will proceed with attention to social distancing, frequent hand washing, frequent disinfecting high traffic areas. | A normal school day will proceed with increased social distancing, frequent disinfect of classroom tables and limited student contact. A Hybrid model may be implemented (altered school days) once decided on | PK-5 Remote Academic Plan 6-12 Remote Academic Plan |
| Temperature Checks * We ask that parents screen their child each day for temps, flu like symptoms including fever, cough and shortness of breath. Please do NOT send your child to school if they are feeling ill. *If a student or staff member has a temperature of 100.4 for 3 consecutive days a COVID test must be administered and doctors note must be obtained before returning. | Temperature checks will be conducted daily upon arrival in the morning. Students with a temperature of 100.4 degrees or more will be given a mask and isolated, rechecked, and parents will be called to take home if necessary. Students must be fever free w/o medication for a full day (24 hours) to return. For example; if a student/staff goes home on Monday earliest return is Wednesday Two Step Process: Temperature taken at the front door, must be verified in the office before being sent home. | Temperature checks will be conducted daily upon arrival in the morning. Students with a temperature of 100.4 degrees or more will be given a mask and isolated, rechecked, and parents will be called to take home if necessary. Students must be fever free w/o medication for a full day (24 hours) to return. For example; if a student/staff goes home on Monday earliest return is Wednesday Two Step Process: Temperature taken at the front door, must be verified in the office before being sent home. | Temperature checks will be conducted daily upon on arrival in the morning. Students with a temperature of 100.4 degrees or more will be given a mask and isolated, and parents will be called to take home. Students must be fever free w/o medication for a full day (24 hours) to return. For example; if a student/staff goes home on Monday earliest return is Wednesday Two Step Process: Temperature taken at the front door, must be verified in the office before being sent home. | PK-5 Remote Academic Plan 6-12 Remote Academic Plan School will transition into remote learning which may consist of the hybrid model or full remote learning. In hybrid model, students on campus will follow Orange model and social distancing |
| Masks/Face Coverings Optional | Optional Masks are encouraged but not required. | Optional Masks are encouraged but not required. Masks may be required in certain high traffic areas. | Masks will be worn during high traffic times such as hall, crowded classroom where social distancing cannot be achieved. Administration may implement masks at all times if needed. Optional when outside or where mask may not be possible. (Face shields can be offered as an alternative) – We understand that some younger children may have difficulty keeping a mask on and more breaks maybe given when necessary. | |

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| Recess | Recess times as normal with social distancing and scheduled. Equipment disinfected daily. | A rotation for recess to limit the number of students on the playground and play equipment maybe implemented. Equipment disinfected daily | There will be a rotation for recess to limit the number of students on the playground. The playground equipment will be closed. |
| Hallways | Normal passing periods and movement by students. | All students will walk on the side of their locker in the hallway to help with social distancing. Respect personal space. Elementary right side towards center of school. Left side towards outside of school. | All students will walk on the side of their locker in the hallway to help with social distancing. Respect personal space. Elementary right side towards center of school. Left side towards outside of school. |
| Field Trips | Regular field trip opportunities | No Field trips scheduled | No Field trips scheduled |
| Specials | Students/ staff transition to specials | Students/ staff transition to specials | Student/staff transition to specials |
| Handwashing | PK-5 scheduled 3 times per day 6-12 th Announcements supporting handwashing. Handwashing prior to lunch. | PK-5 scheduled 3 times per day 6-12 th Announcements supporting handwashing. Handwashing prior to lunch. | PK-5 scheduled 3 times per day 6-12 th Announcements supporting handwashing. Handwashing prior to lunch. |
| Lockers | Normal locker use. Clorox wipe daily. | Normal locker use. Clorox wipe daily. Possible limited/backpacks implemented. | Lockers will only be used first thing upon arrival and at the end of the day. Backpacks will be in use. |
| Drinking Fountains Parents will send re-usable bottles with students. | Drinking fountains will be shut off and students will use their water bottle and re-fill at the filler stations. | Drinking fountains will be shut off and students will use their water bottle and re-fill at the filler stations. | Drinking fountains will be shut off and students will use their water bottle and re-fill at the filler stations. |
| Restrooms | Normal use of restrooms | Staggered use of restrooms | Staggered and scheduled use of restrooms. (exceptions can be made) |
| Beginning of the Day All teachers are on-duty at 7:45AM each day. | K-12 students must enter main front door. Pre K thru their entrance. Temp checks. K-4 th grade students will be seated by class in the main gym practicing social distancing under supervision from staff. MS and HS students will be seated by class in the practice gym under supervision. Breakfast will be served grab and | K-12 students must enter main front door. Pre K thru their entrance. Temp checks. K-4 th grade students will be seated by class in the main gym practicing social distancing under supervision from staff. MS and HS students will be seated by class in the practice gym under supervision. Breakfast will be served grab and | K-12 students must enter main front door. Pre K thru their entrance. Temp checks. K-4 th grade students will be seated by class in the main gym practicing social distancing under supervision from staff. MS and HS students will be seated by class in the practice gym under supervision. Breakfast will be served grab and go |

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| | <p>go style. Students arriving after 8am must report immediately to the building office for temperature check.</p> <p>Parents may enter the building with their students if they need to meet with school personnel upon approval from administration.</p> <p>We recommend that parents release their children outside. Students will then come in to the gym.</p> | <p>go style. Students arriving after 8am must report immediately to the building office for temperature check.</p> <p>Parents may enter the building with their students if they need to meet with school personnel upon approval from administration.</p> <p>We recommend that parents release their children outside. Students will then come into the gym.</p> | <p>style. Students arriving after 8am must report immediately to the building office for temperature check.</p> <p>Parents may enter the building with their students if they need to meet with school personnel upon approval from administration.</p> <p>We recommend that parents release their children outside. Students will then come into the gym.</p> | |
| End of Day | Regular dismissal. All students are asked to leave the building at the end of the day unless they are in the afterschool program, school activity or working with a teacher. Meet parents outside in pre-arranged parking area. | Regular dismissal. All students are asked to leave the building at the end of the day unless they are in the afterschool program, school activity or working with a teacher. Meet parents outside in pre-arranged parking area. | Dismissal may be staggered. Once dismissed all students are asked to leave the building at the end of the day unless they are in the afterschool program, school activity or working with a teacher. Meet parents outside in pre-arranged parking area. | |
| After School Program All after school programs staff will have temperature taken prior to work. Example include; dance, 9 th hour, club meetings, etc. Handwashing and sanitizing of all materials daily. | Regular after school program will continue with social distancing practiced. All Green rules apply. | Regular after school program will continue with social distancing practiced. All Yellow rules apply. | Regular after school program will continue with social distancing practiced. All Orange rules apply. No Afterschool program if we have transitioned into a Hybrid model or Remote learning. | |

Food Service

| Green | Yellow | Orange | Red |
|---|---|---|---|
| <p>Cafeteria staff will check temperatures daily and wear required PPE equipment.</p> <p>No Salad Bar</p> <p>PK-5 students may use cafeteria to eat breakfast and lunch with social distancing.</p> <p>6-12 students will have grab and go breakfast and eat lunch in the cafeteria with social distancing.</p> | <p>Cafeteria staff will check temperatures daily and wear required PPE equipment.</p> <p>No Salad Bar</p> <p>Most PK-5 students will eat in the cafeteria but for social distancing some students may be asked to eat in the classroom.</p> <p>6-12 students will have grab and go breakfast and eat lunch in the cafeteria with social distancing.</p> | <p>Cafeteria staff will check temperatures daily and wear required PPE equipment.</p> <p>No Salad Bar</p> <p>All PK-5 students will be asked to eat breakfast and lunch in the cafeteria. 6-12 students will have grab and go breakfast and eat lunch in the cafeteria with social distancing.</p> <p>No microwaves available for student use</p> | <p>School will transition into remote learning which may consist of the hybrid model or full remote learning.</p> <p>Under the hybrid model all students will have breakfast and lunch available to them from school to be picked up. Similar to the summer lunch program.</p> <p>Under a full remote learning, meals will be provided for pick up similar to the summer program.</p> |

Cleaning of Facilities

| Green | Yellow | Orange | Red |
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| <p>Cleaning at Level Yellow</p> <p>Normal cleaning procedures including using disinfect wipes, disinfect fogger and sprayer, and other cleaning product will be used.</p> <p>Classrooms will be cleaned during the teachers planning period or each night. Including wiping down door knobs, desks, chairs and common equipment.</p> <p>Lunchroom will be cleaned after breakfast and lunch each day.</p> <p>Cleaning procedures include light switches, doors knobs, hallways, restrooms,</p> <p>Gloves and PPE equipment may be used</p> | <p>Cleaning at Level Orange</p> <p>Normal cleaning procedures including using disinfect wipes, disinfect fogger and sprayer, and other cleaning products will be used.</p> <p>Classrooms will be cleaned during the teachers planning period or each night. Including wiping down door knobs, desks, chairs and common equipment.</p> <p>Lunchroom will be cleaned after breakfast and lunch each day, and wiped down between groups.</p> <p>Hallways, light switches, entry doors will be cleaned daily.</p> <p>Electrostatic disinfectant sprayers will used throughout campus.</p> | <p>Cleaning at Level Red</p> <p>Normal cleaning procedures including using disinfect wipes, disinfect fogger and sprayer, and other cleaning products will be used.</p> <p>Classrooms will be cleaned during the teachers planning period or each night. Including wiping down door knobs, desks, chairs and common equipment.</p> <p>Lunchroom will be cleaned between groups and after breakfast each day, and wiped down between groups.</p> <p>Hallways, light switches, entry doors will be cleaned daily.</p> <p>Electrostatic disinfectant sprayers will used throughout campus.</p> | <p>School is Remote: Deep cleaning of building. Building will be closed.</p> |

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| <p>by custodian staff.</p> <p>All students will wipe down their own desk and chair, and lockers daily.</p> | <p>Gloves and PPE equipment by cleaning crew are required.</p> <p>All students will wipe down their desk area, chairs, and lockers daily.</p> <p>Specials teachers will clean common areas and shared equipment between each class.</p> | <p>Gloves and PPE equipment by cleaning crew are required.</p> <p>All students will wipe down their desk area, chairs, and lockers daily.</p> <p>Specials teachers will clean common areas and shared equipment between each class.</p> <p>HVAC units will be sanitized daily.</p> | |
| <p>* Facilities will always be cleaned at a higher level of the risk dial so we can ensure that we are staying ahead of the pandemic. If needed we will hire additional staff and purchased additional cleaning agents with specialized tools to disinfect daily.</p> | | | |

Extra-Curricular and After School Program

| Green | Yellow | Orange | Red |
|---|---|--|---|
| <p>Sports and Activities will proceed with social distancing recommended when possible.</p> | <p>Temperatures of every coach and participate will be taken daily.</p> <p>Students will be issued a water bottle.</p> <p>Coaches will sanitize and wipe down equipment between groups.</p> | <p>Temperatures of every coach and participate will be taken daily.</p> <p>Students will be issued a water bottle.</p> <p>Coaches will sanitize and wipe down equipment between groups and as often as necessary.</p> <p>Balls or equipment will not be shared if directed by NSAA.</p> <p>Individual drills will be emphasized rather than full team contact.</p> | <p>School will transition into remote learning. Guidance for competition will come from NSAA. Practices and after school programs are suspended until further notice.</p> |

*Where social distancing cannot be accomplished coaches and sponsors will wear a mask where they can.
 *Appendix C is the NSAA guidelines that all Schools in the State of Nebraska will adhere to.

Technology Services

| Green | Yellow | Orange | Red |
|--|--|--|---|
| <p>Normal use of Chromebooks. Students maintain hygiene of device. Tech coordinator available.</p> | <p>Normal use of Chromebooks. Students maintain hygiene of device. Tech coordinator available.</p> | <p>Normal use of Chromebooks. Students maintain hygiene of device. Tech coordinator available on campus or via email off campus.</p> | <p>Remote Learning. Teach coordinator available via email off campus.</p> |

Transportation

| Green | Yellow | Orange | Red |
|---|--|--|---|
| <p>Drivers will take their own temperature daily</p> <p>Mask Optional. Sanitizer available.</p> <p>One to a seat – zig/zag. May sit with immediate family member only.</p> <p>Students will load back to front and unload front to back</p> <p>Driver will sanitize bus daily.</p> <p>Students will have temperature check and screening prior to boarding the bus. Screening in this case is asking about symptoms and if anyone says they don't feel well then further screening could occur.</p> | <p>Drivers will take their own temperature daily</p> <p>Masks encouraged. Sanitizer available.</p> <p>One to a seat – zig/zag. May sit with immediate family member only.</p> <p>Students will load back to front and unload front to back</p> <p>Driver will sanitize bus daily.</p> <p>Students will have temperature check and screening prior to boarding the bus. Screening- same as green.</p> | <p>Drivers will take their own temperature daily</p> <p>All students will use hand sanitizer as they enter the bus</p> <p>Masks Required</p> <p>One to a seat – zig/zag. May sit with immediate family member only.</p> <p>Students will load back to front and unload front to back</p> <p>Driver will sanitize bus daily.</p> <p>Students will have temperature check and screening.</p> | <p>School will transition into Hybrid model or remote learning.</p> <p>Hybrid model- drivers will take their own temperature daily.</p> <p>All students will use hand sanitizer.</p> <p>One to a seat – zig/zag.</p> <p>Load back to front.</p> <p>Full remote learning-No transportation provided.</p> |

*Mini-bus and vans will seat students by capacity of vehicle not by seat number.

*Parents are encouraged to bring their child to school if they can to assist with social distancing on busses.