

July 29, 2020



Good afternoon families,

Last week we shared with you our plans to start the 2020-21 school year. Our goal continues to be to open school in person, five days a week with a full distance learning option for families that need or want it.

Below are some important planning updates related to that goal:

Family Commitment Survey

After reviewing all of the information below - including instructional model details and safety precautions and protocols - families are required to make their choice between full in-person instruction or full distance learning. You will receive separate emails for each of your children registered to attend SDNB schools in the fall. All guardians listed in Infinite Campus will receive the survey link(s). Please fill out the survey only once for each child. The survey is open now through 5 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 5.

Instructional Plans / Details

We continue to work diligently on plans for both a full in-person model and a full distanced-learning model and will be fine-tuning details right up until the start of the school year. The Pandemic Response Team, and its subcommittees focused on Teaching & Learning, has adopted draft instructional plans for both models and we are eager to share them with families as they determine which is best for their child(ren).

You can view the elementary plans [HERE](#). You can view the secondary, in-person plans [HERE](#), and the secondary full-distance learning plans [HERE](#).

Additionally, families of special education students - regardless of which educational model they choose - can find more information, expectations and details about the 2020-21 school year [HERE](#).

Safety and Health Protocols

Last week, we shared high-level safety and health protocols with the School Board and the community. Today, we are sharing with you [more detailed safety and health recommendations](#), approved by the district's Pandemic Response Team, that are meant to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. It is important to note that we will continue to evaluate and monitor our safety plans between now and the start of the school year - and beyond - and that they may be modified as necessary.

Masks / face coverings

The Pandemic Response Team and administration are requiring all students in grades 4-12 to wear cloth masks or facial coverings while in our buildings, and strongly encouraging all students in grades K-3 and the Early Learning Program to do so, as well. Exceptions may be



made on a case-by-case basis, and the district may modify its student mask / facial covering requirement between now and the start of the school year. The requirement is in line with Waukesha County's "[Stay Safe to Stay Open](#)" recommendations related to face coverings. You can read more about the "Stay Safe to Stay Open" [partnership here](#).

All staff, guests and essential visitors will be required to wear masks within our buildings, as well, until further notice.

School Calendar

To allow for more professional development related to distance learning and to ease into this unique school year, **the revised first day of school will be Tuesday, Sept. 8**, instead of the original scheduled start date of Tuesday, Sept. 1. Staff will use Sept. 1-4 as additional professional learning days to prepare to provide instruction both in-person and virtually.

We are also making the following changes to the start of the school calendar:

- **Sept. 8-11 - the first week of school:** For those choosing the in-person instructional model, Sept. 8-11 will be a phased hybrid model of both in-person learning and distance learning. (Those choosing the full distance learning will not experience a change to their schedule).
 - Sept. 8-9 - Students with last names beginning in A-Lam will be in school; students with last names beginning in Lan-Z will participate in distance learning.
 - Sept. 10-11 - Students with last names beginning in A-Lam will participate in distance learning; students with last names beginning in Lan-Z will be in school.
- **Sept. 14-18 - the second week of school:** For those choosing the in-person instructional model, Sept. 14-18 will be a phased hybrid model of both in-person learning and distance learning. (Those choosing the full distance learning will not experience a change to their schedule).
 - Sept. 14 - ALL students will be learning from home and staff will be onsite to review processes and practices and plan for future learning.
 - Sept. 15-16 - Students with last names beginning in A-Lam will be in school; students with last names beginning in Lan-Z will participate in distance learning.
 - Sept. 17-18 - Students with last names beginning in A-Lam will participate in distance learning; students with last names beginning in Lan-Z will be in school.
- **Sept. 21** - pending further information or updates, the hybrid phase will end and all students who choose the in-person instructional model will be in school in-person as originally planned.

Changing the first two weeks of school to a phased hybrid model will allow students, families and staff time to practice, implement and learn new safety and health protocols and become more familiar with multiple modes of instruction.

Communication / Website

We will continue to provide updates to families via email and through our [district website](#). All of the information above has been added to our website, and more information will be added in the days and weeks to come.



We know this is a lot to digest, but it is important information and we wanted to share it with you as soon as we were able. Please let your school principal know if you have any questions or concerns, and thank you once again for your support as we navigate through this unprecedented summer.

Sincerely,

Joe Garza, Superintendent