

Kingsley-Pierson CSD Return to Learn Plan (Updated 1/10/2022)

The Kingsley-Pierson Community School District developed a Return-to-Learn Plan for the 2021-22 school year as directed by the Iowa Department of Education. Within the District' plan, three different learning situations are included. The three different situations are highlighted with the understanding that this is a fluid document that may change upon additional guidance or direction from the Iowa Department of Public Health, the Iowa Department of Education or the Governor of the State of Iowa. Everyone involved should prepare for all three types of learning. We truly believe On-Site learning is the best type of learning environment for students, not only educationally, but social-emotionally, as well. This may look different than what we are used to or the normal educational environment, but the students will be back to required learning.

School Year/School Day:

In preparation of the upcoming school year, the District must follow Iowa law and cannot start school until the 23rd of August. Because this is a Monday, school will officially begin on August 24th. There will still be a staggered start time for the respective grade levels. K-4 and 5-8 will still start school at 8:30 am and end the day at 3:30 pm. The high school will start classes at 8:15 am and end the day at 3:15 pm. This will not only allow for separation from other grade levels, but will also help with traffic in the parking lot.

On-Site Learning:

Learning of this type, as discussed earlier, is optimal for the educational experience. The District is a 1:1 school and students will have access to either chromebooks or ipads.

Professional development for teachers and training of students is a priority when we begin school in the fall. The first few days of school will be used to train students on the use of this technology.

Safety measures will be in place and will change as conditions require. Students are **encouraged** to wear masks when they can not social distance. However, this is only a recommendation and masks **will remain a personal choice**. Students are encouraged to bring their own mask or shield to school. They are also encouraged to bring a second mask should theirs become soiled and a paper bag to store their mask in when it is not in use. Students and staff will clean their desks and classrooms after use. Hand sanitizer will be available in each classroom and office. We will monitor CDC guidance and make adjustments to procedures when needed. Students will be asked to bring a water bottle to school and use the bottle filling stations, instead of using the traditional drinking fountains. Please label water bottles with your student's name.

~~If a child were to test positive for Covid-19, they should quarantine at home for at least 10 days from when symptoms begin or if asymptomatic, from the date of the positive test and follow the guidance of the county health department. If a child has any close contact with an individual~~

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~~who tests positive, due to state recommendations, they will not need to quarantine, but monitor for symptoms.~~

People who have COVID-19 and have or had symptoms should isolate for at least 5 days. To calculate the 5 day isolation period, day 0 is the first day of symptoms. Day 1 is the first full day after their symptoms developed.

They can end isolation after 5 full days if they are fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication and other symptoms have improved. It is recommended, but not required, to continue to wear a well-fitting mask around others at home and in public for 5 additional days after the end of their 5 day isolation period.

Students that are exposed to COVID should be excluded **only** if they are having symptoms or test positive themselves. If they become symptomatic, they should be home and consider getting tested

A priority to the Kingsley-Pierson CSD is the health and safety of the students and staff. High-touch areas in the building, other than the cleaning already done in the classrooms, will be cleaned regularly.

Hybrid Learning:

Hybrid learning occurs when a decision is made by the Governor or the local school board, in conjunction with the District Health Department, that buildings can operate but with a limited capacity, due to a Covid-19 concern.

There are several options of hybrid learning the district may implement, depending on the scenario of recommended limitations.

Option 1:

A particular building has a high rate of exposure and is recommended to close. (Pierson building or Kingsley building) In this scenario, a particular building will participate in virtual learning, along with any family members of those students in that particular building. The other community building would remain open.

Option 2:

A particular classroom "Pod" has been identified as having a high rate of exposure and is recommended to self quarantine, along with family members of those in that classroom. (A 3rd grade classroom) That particular class will participate in virtual learning activities while the rest of the school has been recommended to continue, as is.

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Option 3:

The school must shift to an alternate schedule to allow for more social distancing during the school day. This option would include those students whose last name begins with A-M and any family members would attend 2 days a week while the families with last names that begin with N-Z would attend 2 other days a week. For example: The first group may attend on a Monday and Thursday while the other group would be attending on Tuesday and Friday. While a particular group is not involved with “in-person” learning, they would still be required to attend virtually for those days away from the classroom. This may be by watching a recording of the lesson or by being involved live electronically.

Option 4:

The high school may meet on Monday and Thursdays, in person, and electronically the remaining 3 days. The Elementary may meet on Tuesday and Fridays, in person, and electronically the remaining 3 days. The Middle school could use either of the above days separated by several out of school days.

Our purpose for the hybrid model is to provide the best possible educational experience under the limitations we have been given. Students are still required to do the work and participate in the educational practice. Attendance will be taken. Tests will be given and grades taken. If one of these models is adopted, please stress to your child(ren) the importance of this educational framework.

Virtual Learning:

Virtual learning will take place when a decision is made for an emergency closure of a building and/or buildings. If a single building closes due to a Covid-19 outbreak and there is a need for sanitization, the students and staff in that building will immediately transfer to virtual learning. If there is a need to close both buildings, students and staff of the district will immediately transition to virtual classrooms. Attendance will be taken, grades will be earned and credit awarded. Virtual learning will also be an option for parents when the District is authorized to provide hybrid Learning or On-Site Learning due to a health concern with the child or an immediate family member. A note from a health care provider, explaining the rationale for the requested virtual learning, will be required.

Covid-19:

Covid-19 information and recommendations are constantly changing. Kingsley-Pierson CSD will follow recommendations set forth by the CDC, IDPH, Department of Education, and our local health departments in both Plymouth and Woodbury Counties. Please note that the following are district guidelines we have discussed and are being put forth to keep your child(ren), our staff, and our community as safe as possible. Since Covid-19 safety recommendations change frequently we will notify students and parents of any changes via JMC messenger. However, the following guidelines are recommended for ALL transmissible illnesses. Please take time to talk to your students about these practical ways to stay healthy before they return to school.

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- Cover your cough or sneeze using the crook of your elbow if possible. If a tissue or your hands are used, wash them immediately after.
- Wash hands before and after handling food and eating, after using the restroom, after blowing your nose, coughing or sneezing into your hands or a tissue. Wash your hands whenever they are visibly dirty.
- Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds using warm water and soap. After drying your hands with a paper towel, use a clean paper towel to turn off the faucet and open any door to exit the restroom.
- Soap and water are the BEST way to make sure your hands are clean. If soap and water are not available use hand sanitizer. Making sure that hands stay wet for at least 20 seconds. Talk to your children about the hazards of ingesting hand sanitizer.
- Social distancing of 3 feet is encouraged as much as possible.
- Social distancing is recommended, whenever possible. Due to Iowa law, masks are not mandated. We **encourage** the use of masks in the school setting, when social distancing can not take place but **masks will remain a personal choice.**
- **Vaccination will also be a personal choice and students or staff will not be asked if they have been vaccinated.**
- If you are sick, STAY HOME.
- Children with fevers of 100.4, vomiting, or diarrhea will need to stay home for 24 hours after the fever, vomiting, or diarrhea have stopped. If using a medication such as acetaminophen to lower a fever this will not count towards the 24 hours fever free.
- Children and staff who have symptoms and think they may have Covid-19 should quarantine until 24 hours without a fever has passed.
- ~~Children and staff who test positive for Covid-19 shall quarantine for 10 days since symptoms first appeared or if asymptomatic, since the positive test.~~
- Children who have been exposed to an individual who tested positive for Covid-19 will not be required to quarantine.
- **People who have COVID-19 and have or had symptoms should isolate for at least 5 days. To calculate the 5 day isolation period, day 0 is the first day of symptoms. Day 1 is the first full day after their symptoms developed.**
- **They can end isolation after 5 full days if they are fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication and other symptoms have improved. It is recommended, but not required, to continue to wear a well-fitting mask around others at home and in public for 5 additional days after the end of their 5 day isolation period.**
- **Students that are exposed to COVID should be excluded **only** if they are having symptoms or test positive themselves. If they become symptomatic, they should be home and consider getting tested.**
- If your child is showing signs of illness you or an emergency contact will be asked to pick them up from school as quickly as possible. During the time they wait to be picked up, a mask may be placed on your child if they are around others and/or as they walk to the office to go home.