
Education Forward: School District of Black River Falls



2020-2021

Last updated August 5,
2020 by Dr. Severson

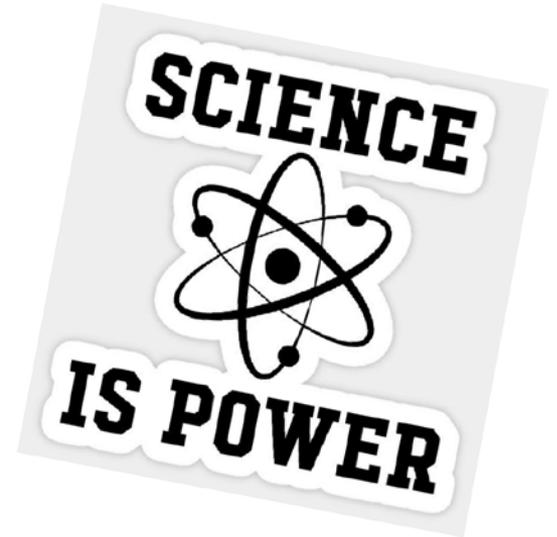
To provide high
quality instruction
and increase
student
empowerment
throughout our
system.



Reopening our School Buildings

The SDBRF has every intent to bring all students back for in person instruction following our approved school calendar. However, at this time information regarding COVID-19 and disease control continues to evolve as the science does.

This document contains our current plans so that we can get a commitment from families. This plan, of course, is always subject to changes due to the evolving situation.



A

Schools open for all students with no social distancing or contact limiting.

B

Schools open for all students with social distancing and safety precautions in place.

C

Schools open for some students with social distancing and safety precautions in place.

D

Instruction continues through distancing learning for all students.

The instructional model may be fluid throughout the year based on current local data and recommendations.

PLAN B



As of July 8, 2020, we are recommending we begin school under PLAN B on September 1st. The following is an articulation regarding what PLAN B looks like. We will continue to provide updates as information becomes available, information changes, or our local metrics dictate that we must consider PLAN C.

- **Safety** Clearly a top priority! Our plans to mitigate as much risk as possible reflect guidance from the Center for Disease Control (CDC), Jackson County Health Department, and the Department of Public Instruction (DPI).
- **Social Emotional Wellbeing** Planning for and caring for the social-emotional and mental health needs of students and staff.
- **Instruction** Face to Face (F2F) Instruction is held for all students K-12 five days a week, with the school day ending one hour early each day. Additionally, we will offer a PK-12 virtual learning model in the event that families are not comfortable returning to school or school buildings can not remain open. This plan is subject to change as guidelines are adjusted.
- **Patience and Understanding** We appreciate your patience and understanding as we continue to work through the information as it becomes available and work to make plans. We also know that our plans are fluid and will continue to evolve based on our local metrics.

— Family Input

We have shared our plans to re-open our buildings and what measures we are taking to mitigate risk to all families. Families are now empowered to make their own decisions regarding their academic plans for the fall.

We need families to know ahead of time that if you are sending your child(ren) to school, you will be expected to comply with the expectations set forth. If you choose to not send your child(ren), they can participate in a completely virtual/ at-home school experience for the 2020-2021 school year; facilitated by SDBRF staff members.

*This completely virtual option exists because some DPI requirements were relaxed due to COVID-19



87%

Of our families that responded to our spring survey strongly agreed/agreed that the staff was responsive in supporting their child's learning during the closure of our school buildings!

Plan B - Operations - Physical Spaces

Guidelines based on CDC and Jackson County Health Department Guidance

Physical Barriers: Plexiglass barriers will be installed at customer service points.

Floor Adhesives : 6' separation and directional arrow stickers in high traffic areas will be visible.

Safety Signage - Hand Hygiene, Social Distancing, Symptoms identification.

Sanitation Stations - Increased placement and scheduled usage, common spaces cleaned between classes and cohorts of students.

Drinking Water - Bottle filling stations will be available. Fountains will be turned off. (Student brings own bottle).

Creating Space for Distancing - Removal of some furniture, reconfiguring small group work spaces and teacher spaces will be necessary to create more open space.

Cubbies/Locker Usage - Scheduled time with cohorts, HS students should use backpack to carry belongings.

Isolation Room - Identified in each building along with appropriate PPE for potential exposure.

Plan B - Operations - Healthy Environment

Guidelines based on CDC and Jackson County Health Department Guidance

Cleaning and Disinfecting - Increased daily and weekly protocols.

Shared Objects - Individual supplies instead of “joint” supply bins in classrooms and additional sanitization protocols

Common Spaces - Increased cleaning protocols, staggered use, and social distancing will be used.

Symptom Screening - A checklist of screening symptoms will be shared with all families and training provided for staff members. Families must NOT send ill students to school.

Isolation: Timely removal of students and staff who are displaying symptoms.

Hand Hygiene - Teach and reinforce appropriate techniques. Strategic signage placement and scheduled usage.

Modified Building Layouts - Make adjustments to the entry and dismissal patterns to minimize the collection of students outside or in one area. Students will report to their homeroom/advisor.

Plan B - Operations - Day to Day

Guidelines based on CDC and Jackson County Health Department Guidance

Visitors -No non-essential visitors. Parents will drop any forgotten materials in a bin in the vestibule.

Cohorts- Static groups limit interactions outside of classrooms.

Arrival & Dismissal procedures will be adjusted.

Staffing - Additional Maintenance Staff to assist in sanitization; Reassign staff as needed to cover daily operational needs prioritizing student learning and safety.

Face Coverings - Students and staff will be required to wear face coverings while on the bus and any time they are in the building.

Safety Procedures: Drills will continue based on CDC, DPI, and Jackson County Health Dept.

High Risk Staff & Students - Limit exposure and provide alternatives where possible.

Field Trips & Gatherings - Limit and monitor conditions before approval of any large school events. Non essential field trips will not be allowed.

Substitutes: We will still need substitute teachers! (Please consider subbing!) We will use additional protocols to mitigate risk.

Plan B - Operations - Staff PPE Expectations

Guidelines based on CDC and Jackson County Health Department Guidance

Face Coverings

- Staff will be required to wear face coverings at all times when they are inside the building. Staff will be provided with a face mask and a shield by the District. The shield is optional for their use.

Offices - Plexiglass barriers installed on all main office desks for secretaries as well as in the LMC.

Health Rooms - Masks and Shields worn by staff.

Personal Cares - Staff tending to personal care such as diapering, feeding, etc will have Masks, Shields and Gowns during these activities

Staff Screening - Staff will have a daily checklist of symptoms that they will self screen prior to attending work..

Plan B - Operations - Transportation

Guidelines based on CDC and Jackson County Health Department Guidance

Student Capacity:

- Students from same household will be required to sit together.
- Social Distance when possible.
- Assigned seats will be given.

Driver Capacity:

- Continued driver shortage - NEED substitutes

Face Coverings:

- As students get on and off the bus the driver will wear a face covering
- Students will be required to wear face coverings.

Health and Safety:

- Buses will be disinfected following each route
- Aides may be assigned to assist with assigned seating and monitoring face coverings

Students with Special Needs:

- Some students with specially designed transportation may move to van pick up to not lengthen other routes

SelfTransport:

- We would GREATLY appreciate more families willingness to transport their child(ren). The SDBRF is geographically too large to run two separate routes to ensure a lower number of students on each route.



PLAN B



INSTRUCTIONAL MODEL In-Person Classroom Learning

- **Return to the classroom:** Students and staff practice operational safety procedures to reduce the spread of COVID-19
- **Staffing:** Teacher assignments may change depending on the enrollment commitments by families.
- **Schedules:** Daily schedule modification (ex. Lunch, recess) as necessary with a one hour early dismissal (Fridays will no longer be different than the rest of the week - all 5 days will be a one hour early dismissal.)
- **Social Emotional Learning (SEL):** SEL foundation for addressing transition after significant time away from school setting
- **Alternatives:** Families who are not comfortable will be provided a virtual/at home option
- **Communication:** Ongoing and systemic communication to staff and families
- **Moving Between Models:** This is fluid based off the current metrics in our region. If our metrics change, we may need to make adjustments to another of the described plans.

Plan B - Instructional Model: In Person Learning PK-5

Guidelines based on CDC and Jackson County Health Department Guidance

Schedules - In person classes following the school calendar - 7:55 am to 2:01 pm (One hour early release.)

4K - students attend two full days each week as opposed to half days four days a week.

Cohort Isolation- Students within an individual homeroom will be exposed to all individuals assigned to that homeroom, however, they will not be exposed to students from other homerooms, even those within the same grade level. Cohort Isolation is not individual social distancing.

Devices and Access - All students will be assigned a District device and will receive instruction on usage to prepare for a potential building closure.

Meals: Breakfast provided in classrooms, lunch in cafeteria with cohorts distanced from other cohorts.

Recess - Cohorts of students will rotate areas of the playground on a daily basis. Recess time is reduced due to the shortened school day.

Art and Music -Will likely be provided in the classroom.

Physical Education - Use outdoor spaces when possible, follow CDC guidelines for safety.

Grading - Standards Based (1-4)

Face Coverings: All students will be required to wear face coverings any time they are on the bus or inside the building.

Plan B - Instructional Model: In Person Learning 6-8

Guidelines based on CDC and Jackson County Health Department Guidance

Schedules - In person classes following the school calendar - 7:52 am to 2:15 pm (One hour early release.)

Cohort Isolation- Students will be assigned to a homeroom cohort of students that will move throughout their scheduled day together as a group. Cohort Isolation is not individual social distancing, however, this cohort will not interact with other cohorts of students during the day.

Devices and Access - All students will be assigned a District device and will receive instruction on usage to prepare for a potential building closure.

Recess - Cohorts of students will rotate areas of the playground on a daily basis. Recess time is reduced due to the shortened schoolday.

Meals: Breakfast provided in classrooms, lunch in cafeteria with cohorts distanced from other cohorts

Encore -(Tech. Ed. Family & Consumer Ed., Art., PE., etc.) Students will have only one Encore block at a time and will take that class each day for six weeks before rotating to their next class. They will travel with their Cohort Isolation group.

Physical Education - Use outdoor spaces when possible, follow CDC guidelines for safety

Grading - Traditional grading scale - GPA will be calculated

Face Coverings:

All students will be required to wear face coverings while on the bus and anytime they are inside the building.

Plan B - Instructional Model: In Person Learning 9-12

Guidelines based on CDC and Jackson County Health Department Guidance

Schedules - In person classes following the school calendar - 7:50 am to 2:15 pm (One hour early release.)

Instruction - Schedule shifts from A/B schedule to students attending the same five class periods per day, each day, for a trimester. At the end of that trimester students will be assigned to the next set of five courses. IF we need to close the buildings again, this would provide for more focus for students in managing 5 courses instead of 8. Students will have the ability to take 15 courses per year as opposed to the previous 16.

Devices and Access - All students will be assigned a District device as usual, we will begin the school year with additional training on using CANVAS for academic content and providing feedback.

Meals: Breakfast provided in classrooms, lunch served in cafeteria with additional spaces identified to eat provided to be able to socially distance.

Grading - Traditional grades - GPA will be calculated

Face Coverings: All students will be required to wear face coverings any time they are riding the bus as well as any time they are inside the building.

Social Distancing: Class sizes will be reduced to be able to provide appropriate distancing during the lessons, face coverings would be worn when social distancing is not possible.

Plan B - Instructional Model: Special Education

Guidelines based on CDC and Jackson County Health Department Guidance

Environments- Access to education will be reconfigured to meet either the social distancing guidance or the cohort isolation model, while meeting the needs of individual students. The IEP will determine the most appropriate placement.

Case Loads - Staff or schedules may be redesigned to provide access to individualized learning to meet IEP and 504 plans.

Travel - Teacher and Aide schedules may be revised to limit travel within the building as much as possible while providing services to students.

Individual Schedules/Plans: Individual plans will vary based on the IEP of the student.

Face Coverings: All students will be required to wear face coverings any time they are riding the bus as well as any time they are inside the building.

Moving Between Models: If we need to move between instructional models, accommodations will be made to mitigate risks in the delivery of services utilizing the student IEP and 504 teams.



PLAN B

INSTRUCTIONAL MODEL Parental Choice - Virtual/At Home

- **Return to the classroom:** Students would not physically attend in a school building.
- **Staffing:** Each student would have a SDBRF staff member as their liaison and primary instructor/advisor.
- **Schedules:** Based on feedback, there will be more synchronous learning; this means a daily schedule with expectations of times that students will log on to interact with the teacher.
- **Social Emotional Learning (SEL):** Programming will include an SEL component in addition to the academic instruction.
- **Communication:** Ongoing and systemic communication to staff and families
- **Moving Between Models:** Families will be asked to commit to the online format for six weeks in grades Pk - 8, and a trimester (12 weeks) for the high school. Moving between models between grading periods will be extremely challenging and content would be missed.

PLAN B



INSTRUCTIONAL MODEL Parental Choice - Virtual/At Home

→ Content:

- ◆ **PK through 5:** Content will be delivered using Google Classrooms. The instruction will be a combination of recorded lessons, some “live” check ins with staff, opportunities to interact with other students attending virtually, and some lessons organized for at home facilitation.
- ◆ **6-8:** Students will be expected to follow a similar schedule to the students attending the building physically. CANVAS will be used as the delivery system for the curriculum in addition to using “Google Meets” to electronically attend some of the classes. There will be a combination of recorded lessons as well as “live” times throughout the school day where they are expected to attend.
- ◆ **9-12:** Students will be expected to follow a similar schedule to the students attending the building physically. Content will be delivered through CANVAS and all virtual students will “attend” the required courses for each grade level as a group. There will be a combination of recorded lessons as well as “live” times throughout the school day where they are expected to attend.



PLAN B

INSTRUCTIONAL MODEL Parental Choice - Virtual/At Home

- **Staffing:** Each student would have a SDBRF staff member as their liaison and primary instructor/advisor. Depending on the number of families that choose this level, we may purchase courses from a third party vendor. If that happens, the course content may be delivered through this third party source, however, the student would still be connected to a SDBRF staff member.
 - ◆ SDBRF staff member will also facilitate some social emotional learning opportunities into the schedule with all students that are enrolled in this option.
- **Schedules:** Based on feedback, there will be more synchronous learning; this means a daily schedule with expectations of times that students will log on to interact with the teacher. Daily learning expectations will be in the following ranges:
 - ◆ **PK through 5:** 100 - 180 instructional minutes per day
 - ◆ **6-8:** 180 - 240 instructional minutes per day
 - ◆ **9-12:** 200 - 300 instructional minutes per day

— PLAN B

INSTRUCTIONAL MODEL Parental Choice - Virtual/At Home

If you are choosing the Virtual/At Home option you will have to agree to the following guidelines:

1. I am committed to At-Home learning for 6 weeks in grades PK - 8 and the 12 week trimester at the HS.
 2. I have access to reliable WiFi and/or the means to provide consistent access to the internet.
 3. I will ensure my student completes the expected work on a daily basis as well as log on for live lessons when required.
 4. I will be held accountable for student attendance daily.
 5. I understand that the school will issue me a device for this work that will be returned in full working order.
 6. I understand that the expectations for classwork and grading will follow the same district policy as on-campus instruction. Courses taken by students participating in at-home learning will be included in calculating GPA and Cum Laude points where applicable.
 7. I understand that some elective courses may have coursework that can only be reasonably completed in person. Thus, some elective courses are not available for at-home learning.
 8. I understand that it is my responsibility to maintain communication with my child's teacher by Google Classroom and/or CANVAS to create a learning partnership.
 9. I understand that conditions surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic are continually evolving and the SDBRF at-home learning plan is subject to change based on federal, state and local guidelines.
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Social & Emotional Health

Focus on social and emotional health during the first week back for students and staff focusing on inclusion and anxiety reduction.

Climate Culture: Work to introduce a new look of school and classrooms before school starts. Emphasis on welcoming learning environments.

Universal Instruction: Utilize SEL curriculum at each level with emphasis on building student empowerment and self regulation.

Training for Staff, Students, and Families:

The following trainings will be provided to staff throughout the summer and into the school year. Students and families will also be provided with training on these topics.

- Health Protocols and training
- Building Logistics and protocols
- Support for Virtual/At-Home Options
 - Effective pedagogy in online teaching and learning
 - Google Classroom for Elementary/CANVAS for Middle/High School
 - Technology tools for blended learning

*Utilizing some professional development time and ongoing training opportunities during 1 hour early release times



Athletics & Extra Curricular Activities

As of July 22nd, no decision has been made.

WIAA Guidance:

Refer to guidance from WIAA and the Jackson County Health Department to safely hold athletic practices, competitions, and events.

Clubs and Activities:

To be determined based on safety and social distancing practices being followed



— We are working directly with **the Jackson County Health Department** to build a decision tree around when, and who, will need to quarantine as we reopen and potentially have positive cases. Additionally, we will collaborate as to when we need to shift instructional models.



At this time we are moving forward with PLAN B, which is described within this document. If our local metrics change, we will articulate to you what PLAN C will look like and families will again be empowered to select the pathway that best meets your needs.

To provide high
quality instruction
and increase
student
empowerment
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system.



– Family Input

Now that you have seen what PLAN B looks like and what protocols will be in place, it is time for you to make a commitment to begin the school year. Please click the link below and share your intentions regarding each of your students.

[School Commitment Survey Link](#)

Beginning Monday, August 3, the schools will take this information and begin re-working class lists to ensure that classes are somewhat balanced, we'll begin re-assigning staff (if necessary) to be able to accommodate those that are choosing virtual/at-home learning.

Additional follow up information will be requested from virtual/at-home families as we move forward. We promise to continue our communication and continue to collaborate with our local Health Department!



Please complete the
enclosed survey by
Friday, July 31st!

We need this input
from you in order for
us to continue our
planning!