

Mission:

USD 353 believes all students deserve the opportunity to succeed through progressive and high-quality instruction. Our mission is to provide educational opportunities for USD 353 students while following local health guidelines to promote the safety and well being of our students, staff and community.

KSDE Guidelines:

KSDE released guidance on reopening schools for the 20-21 school year. There are three primary learning environment options for schools to consider: in-person, hybrid and remote. Based on recommendations from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), general guidelines for districts to consider when determining which environment should be implemented include:

Low restrictions: Utilize on-site learning when disease spread, as represented by the daily case rate of new cases by onset date is low or on a steady decline.

Moderate restrictions: Utilize hybrid learning when disease spread, as represented by the daily case rate of new cases by onset date, is flat.

High restrictions: Utilize remote learning when disease spread, as represented by the daily case rate of new cases by onset date, has been increasing over four to six weeks or less as determined by the health department.

Recommended Learning Environments:

On-site Learning Environment: Students and teachers will be in school with or without social distancing practices put into place. When the health department releases the restriction that students must be 6 feet apart in a public space, we should be able to conduct school as usual.

Hybrid Learning Environment: Students would be spending part of their time in the classroom and part of their time virtually from home. This would allow for social distancing of students at school by lowering the number of students in the buildings.

Remote Learning Environment: Students would be doing all of their learning from home and not entering the school building at all. At any time that the health department requires staff and students not to gather in public spaces, the district will be forced to work in an online environment.

Our Plan:

When school reopens, USD 353 will work with the Sumner County Health Department to determine if restrictions are considered low, moderate or high.

Under low restrictions, USD 353 would plan to hold on-site learning as usual. We will work with local health officials to determine if and what safety precautions we need to implement.

Under moderate restrictions, USD 353 would plan to split classes in half and implement a hybrid environment. We will work with local health officials to determine if and what safety precautions we need to implement.

Under high restrictions, all of USD 353 would go remote.

Parents/Guardians will be able to choose one of two options for their students:

1.) On-site Learning- If parents/guardians choose to send their students for on-site learning there will be two options depending on local health guidelines. This may include regular face to face learning or hybrid model.

- Regular Face to Face Environment: Students and teachers will be in school with or without social distancing practices put into place. When the health department releases the restriction that students must be 6 feet apart in a public space, we should be able to conduct school as usual.
- Hybrid Learning Environment: Students would be spending part of their time in the classroom and part of their time virtually from home. This would allow for social distancing of students at school by lowering the number of students in the buildings. The district will attempt to make sure families are on the same schedule.

2.) Remote Learning- If parents/guardians do not feel comfortable sending students to school for on-site learning there will be an option for remote learning. Remote learning will not look the same as it did the last 9 weeks. Families will need to carefully consider how they will support their child(ren) through the home environment. These considerations will include how to set clear routines/structures, and how to monitor the learning of each child. Expectations of remote learning include:

- Enrollment and Attendance- Student is regularly enrolled in the school district he or she would have normally attended on-site. The student is not enrolled in a virtual school full time.

- Daily Log- Student must maintain a daily log of activities signed by the student and a parent, guardian or responsible adult and the daily log must be submitted to the district
- Daily Connection with Local Teacher- Students must have at least one meaningful daily connection with a local teacher that is employed by the district
- Curriculum and Instruction-Remote learning is prepared, provided and/or supervised by local teachers and staff from the student's home district

Click [here](#) for more details on the KSDE requirements for remote learning.

****The remote learning option is a 9 week commitment**

****If you choose remote learning through USD 353 students WILL still be able to participate in athletics and activities**

Remote learning will also be available if:

- a student has been quarantined because of possible contact with COVID-19
- a student is ill with COVID-19

Additional Info and Considerations:

ATTENDANCE: We will be mandatory in all models (on-site, hybrid, remote).

GRADING: We will be grading as usual for all learning environments. The student curriculum will focus on competencies that were developed by KSDE. These competencies are aligned to state standards and were developed to assist during the COVID-19 pandemic.

TESTING/MTSS: We will continue to assess and work with students at their level during MTSS to build skills in reading and math. (Decisions on State Assessments have not been determined at this time).

TECHNOLOGY: Teachers and students must be prepared for both learning environments, each student will be provided with a chromebook, chromebook case, and access to all curriculum on Google Classroom.