Knob Noster R-VIII School District



COVID-19 Return to School & Response Plan Fall 2020

Introduction	3
SNAPSHOT PREVIEW	4
In-Person Education**	5
Online Virtual Education	5
MOCAP	5
Homeschool Education	5
REQUIRED RESPONSE FROM PARENTS	6
GENERAL PROTOCOLS	6
Covid-19 Paradigm Protocol	6
(Bottom Line Up Front Protocol for Success or Failure)	6
Commitment to Mutual Respect and Public Health	6
Communications Protocols	7
PAIR Framework	8
Public Health Orders - Authority Directives	8
According to the Centers for Disease Control	8
Definitions	8
Symptoms of COVID-19	10
Universal Precautions	10
Screening Protocols	11
Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Protocols	12
Visitor Protocols During the School Day 7:00-4:00 p.m.	13
Arrival and Dismissal Protocols	13
EDUCATIONAL PROTOCOLS	14
Social, Emotional and Health Safety Protocols	14
Attendance and Grading Protocols	14

Academic Experience Protocols	15
Specialty Classes Protocols	16
Recess Protocols	16
Early Childhood Program Preschool / Pre-K	17
Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE)	19
Elementary: Kindergarten - Fifth Grade	20
Elementary: Kindergarten - Fifth Grade	22
Secondary: Middle School and High School	23
Secondary: Middle School and High School	25
Athletics and Activities Protocols Student Protocols Faculty and Staff Protocols Spectator Protocols	26 27 27 28
OPERATIONS PROTOCOLS	28
Food Services Protocols	28
Authority to Shutdown Confirmed Positive Protocols Close Contact Tracing Protocols Partial, Intermittent, Full Shutdown Partial Shutdown Intermittent Shutdown Full Shutdown Alternative Schedule	31 31 33 33 34 34 34 34
Dynamic Environment Protocols	35

Introduction

Knob Noster Public Schools places safety as a top priority. As we continue to embrace the Covid-19 pandemic, the district is working to provide an environment that is as safe as possible for our students, teachers, and community.

As Knob Noster Public Schools transitions into the 2020-2021 school year, there are many unknowns in the educational world. However, in the midst of uncertainty, the district knows that families and communities need schools to be ready to reopen as soon as possible with guidance from local, state and national agencies. This is a moment when all of us—educators, families, and communities—must unite to ensure that children reenter schools with safety as a top priority so that learning can continue and students can develop the academic, social and emotional experiences necessary for their growth. These past several months have served as a great reminder of the role that public schools play in ensuring equitable education and support services for all students.

Reopening schools in a manner that is responsive to the needs of students, families and communities will involve novel challenges with many undetermined factors. However, by working together, exercising cooperation and understanding, and demonstrating mutual respect, we know we will emerge on the other side of this temporary challenge stronger and more united. This is a great challenge and opportunity for our school district and community to model perseverance for our students, and we look forward to this teachable moment.

As the world around us changes and evolves, it is imperative for the school district to learn and grow, preparing students to be successful and resilient regardless of the opportunities and challenges that lie before them. As we prepare for the new school year, a task force created and reviewed this plan for reopening. We have examined most aspects of the organization and created this guide to organize a set of directions and protocols aligned to guidance from multiple agencies to lead us as we strive to best serve our students.

A unified community effort is critically important as our work continues in the coming months. The collective commitment toward providing for the health and well-being of students is of utmost importance. The district is wholly committed to living our mission in preparation for the fall of 2020 – no matter the circumstances put before us. KNPS looks forward to working in partnership with families and community as school begins for the 2020-21 academic year!

Knob Noster Public Schools is committed to ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE for every student, every day. In our classrooms and on our courts, fields, and stages we promote quality character, citizenship, and patriotism as we prepare our students for a future of positive impact in the United States of America and beyond. Knob Noster Public Schools - Our mission is student success!

SNAPSHOT PREVIEW

In an effort to respond to the full scope of considerations of the Covid-19 pandemic, including student education and service concerns, parental employment concerns, economic recovery concerns, political concerns, national security concerns, and a variety of other considerations, the following options will be provided this year as components of our return to school plan. In attempt to meet the various preferences and situations of our students, families and community, parents will be able to choose their educational format from one of the options below:

In-Person Education**

KNPS will offer a traditional format where students will come to school and learn in a face to face environment with their teacher and peers with a schedule that closely aligns to a routine school year. Additional safeguards which will be provided to minimize risk are described later in this document. Students choosing this option would switch to remote learning if/when a quarantine or shutdown occurs as described later in this document.

Online Virtual Education

KNPS will offer a 100% virtual learning option for students. For grades 6-12, this will be provided through the Knob Noster Virtual Academy Powered by Edmentum's Ed Options Academy. For grades K-5, the district may also use the Knob Noster Virtual Academy OR may place the student in a cohort group (single or multiple grade level) with instruction provided by a Knob Noster teacher. The district's delivery method will depend on the number of students choosing this option. A student choosing this option will be required to remain with this option for the entire semester. For an overview, please visit https://www.edoptionsacademy.com/

MOCAP

KNPS will offer 100% virtual learning options through the Missouri Course Access and Virtual School Program (MOCAP). A student choosing this option will be required to remain with this option for the entire semester. For an overview, please visit https://mocap.mo.gov/

Homeschool Education

Parents reserve the right to homeschool students. Once a student is registered for homeschooling a letter with the intent to homeschool and the drop date for the student must be submitted to the child's school office.

**Knob Noster Public Schools may exercise a partial, intermittent, or full closure due to the health status of our school, community, or region. In this instance, the district will immediately shift to virtual learning options though our Alternative Methods of Instruction Extended (AMIX) Plan.

REQUIRED RESPONSE FROM PARENTS

After reviewing the attached Covid-19 Return to School and Response document, we are requesting that one parent from each household respond to the survey found at this link. This survey will provide valuable feedback to the district so that we may plan appropriately for transportation, in-person instruction, virtual instruction, and other items. Failure to respond to this survey may result in delays in your child's return to school and/or transportation needs. Thank you in advance for your time to complete this important survey. Please register by July 31, 2020.

CLICK HERE TO COMPLETE THE REQUIRED PARENT SURVEY

REQUIRED RESPONSE FOR ACTIVITIES AND ATHLETICS

For students planning to participate in a school sanctioned extracurricular activity, the following form must be completed. Students currently participating in sports have already completed this form.

CLICK HERE TO COMPLETE THE REQUIRED PARENT SURVEY

GENERAL PROTOCOLS

Covid-19 Paradigm Protocol (Bottom Line Up Front Protocol for Success or Failure)

Commitment to Mutual Respect and Public Health

The Covid-19 Pandemic is a challenge unlike any of us have ever faced. It can be dangerous, deadly, politicized, elusive, emotional, unpredictable, sensationalized and/or it can be a host of other things. It can also be none of the above. One significant consideration the district is working very carefully to embrace is that Covid-19 can be a

variety of things based on both science/data AND based on individual viewpoints, opinions, or experiences.

As we move forward, we know that our success or failure rests upon the extent to which all members of the Knob Noster Public Schools community commit to working together with the following in mind:

- 1. Respectful behavior for self and others
- 2. Commitment to the common health for self and others
- 3. Empathy for the situation rather than emotion
- 4. Open, honest and respectful two-way communication
- 5. That which is in the best educational and health interest of our students

Looking ahead, we do not know and we can not control what the future will bring. However, we do know that we have both the ability and the choice to determine how we will embrace this situation and how we will treat one another. The Knob Noster Public Schools Community has come together, worked together, and demonstrated respect together as we embraced this situation. Our team is committed to continuing to operate with ongoing commitment to the items lists above. Working together, we can get through this situation in stride, with additional supports for those who need it most.

Communications Protocols

From the onset of the Covid-19 situation, the district has utilized a variety of methods to communicate with staff, students, parents, and stakeholders. The district has shifted its approach in a couple areas, but generally will use the same successful communication strategies that have been used over the last 6 months.

- 1. The district will communicate all significant communications through our parent notification system. This may include emails, texts, or phone calls depending on the urgency of the message.
- 2. The district will archive all significant communications on the district website under the Covid-19 webpage. These messages will remain available for references for all stakeholders.
- 3. The district may choose to utilize social media outlets to further distribute significant communications depending on the nature of the message. The district encourages individuals to direct follow up questions to the most appropriate person. Examples... A question abouts a sport should be sent directly to the coach. A classroom question should be sent directly to the teacher. A building level question should be sent to the principal. A district question should be sent to the Superintendent. The district will work very hard to keep all parties informed with the most up-to-date information. The district may not respond to all questions posted on social media.

Updates will be provided in the following outlets:

http://www.knobnoster.k12.mo.us/ https://www.facebook.com/KnobNosterSchools/ https://twitter.com/KnobSchools

PAIR Framework

Outside of orders from appropriate agencies or authorities, KNPS is committed to taking safety actions which are Practical, Attainable, Impactful, and Reasonable in scope (**PAIR**). The district will make every attempt to review the full breadth of recommendations provided, however, not all recommendations will be implemented if they do not meet the **PAIR** framework.

Public Health Orders - Authority Directives

As a public entity, KNPS will follow all current Public Health Orders and other required directives as provided to the district by local, state, or national agencies of authority. Students, staff, and visitors will be expected to do the same.

According to the Centers for Disease Control

COVID-19 is mostly spread by respiratory droplets released when people talk, cough, or sneeze. It is thought that the virus may spread to hands from a contaminated surface and then to the nose or mouth, causing infection. Therefore, personal prevention practices (such as handwashing, staying home when sick) and environmental cleaning and disinfection are important principles that are covered in this document. Fortunately, there are a number of actions school staff can take to help lower the risk of exposure to and spread of COVID-19 during school sessions and activities (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC], 2020).

One of the actions that can be taken to help lower the risk of exposure is the use of face coverings. Face coverings may be challenging for students (especially younger students) to wear in all-day settings such as school. Face coverings should be worn by staff and students (particularly older students) as feasible, and are most essential in times when physical distancing is difficult. Individuals should be repeatedly reminded not to touch the face covering and to wash their hands frequently. (CDC, 2020).

Talking to Children About COVID-19 (coronavirus): A Parent Resource Hand Washing and Hand Sanitizer Use

Definitions

Face covering:

A covering over the mouth and nose. This includes:

A sewn mask secured with ties or straps around the head or behind the ears.

Multiple layers of fabric tied around the head

Fleece, cotton, linen, etc. materials can be used

Factory-made or homemade

Surgical masks

Face shields

Testing:

PCR – Nasal swab test to determine if an individual has an infection with the virus that causes COVID-19.

Serology/antibody test – This is a blood test that looks for signs of a previous COVID-19 infection. It detects antibodies, which are proteins in the blood that fight-off infections. It does not mean an individual has an active infection of COVID-19.

Social distancing: A minimum of 6-feet from another individual.

Close contact: For COVID-19, a close contact is defined as anyone who was within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes starting from 48 hours before the person began feeling sick until the time the patient was isolated.

Guidelines: These are recommendations for preventing the spread of COVID-19. These are not requirements but some guidance on how to provide a safer environment.

High Risk: A high risk individual is someone who is considered more susceptible to contracting and becoming extremely ill from COVID-19. This includes:

Individuals 65 and older

People of any age with certain underlying medical conditions are at increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19. These include but not limited to:

Chronic kidney disease

COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease)

Immunocompromised state (weakened immune system) from solid organ transplant

Obesity (body mass index [BMI] of 30 or higher)

Serious heart conditions, such as heart failure, coronary artery disease, or cardiomyopathies

Sickle cell disease

Type 2 diabetes mellitus

Quarantine: Any individual who is considered a close contact is asked to stay home for a period of 14 days.

Isolation: Any person who has tested positive for COVID-19 should not leave their place of residence for a period of at least 10 days, followed by 3 days fever free without the use of fever reducing medication.

Cohorts: In the school setting, we will define this as each grade level class in the elementary grades PreK-5.

Symptoms of COVID-19

People with COVID-19 have reported having a wide range of symptoms – from mild symptoms to severe illness. Children have similar symptoms to adults and generally have mild illness. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. People with these symptoms may have COVID-19:

- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fever
- Chills
- Muscle pain
- Sore throat
- New loss of taste or smell

This list is not all inclusive. Other less common symptoms have been reported, including gastrointestinal symptoms like nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea (CDC, 2020).

KNPS will broadly encourage and reinforce the following safety practices throughout all district activities to the extent possible.

Universal Precautions

The following protocols will be broadly encouraged and reinforced by the district to the fullest extent practical.

Hand Washing

Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing. If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry. Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.

Physical Distancing

Avoid close contact by putting an appropriate distance between yourself and others. Remember that some people without symptoms may be able to spread the virus. Keeping an appropriate distance from others is especially important for people who are at higher risk of getting very sick.

Masks

Cover your mouth and nose with a cloth face cover when around others. You could spread COVID-19 to others even if you do not feel sick. Everyone should wear a cloth face cover when they have to go out in public, for example to the grocery store or to pick up other necessities. Cloth face coverings should not be placed on young children under age 2, anyone who has trouble breathing, or is unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance. The cloth face cover is meant to protect other people in case you are infected. Do NOT use a facemask meant for a healthcare worker.

Cover Coughs and Sneezes

If you are in a private setting and do not have your cloth face covering, remember to always cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or use the inside of your elbow. Throw used tissues in the trash. Immediately wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not readily available, clean your hands with hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.

Clean and Disinfect

Clean AND disinfect frequently touched surfaces throughout the day. This includes tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets and sinks. If surfaces are dirty, clean them. Use detergent or soap and water prior to disinfection. Then, use a household disinfectant. Most common EPA-registered household disinfectants work well.

Screening Protocols

Screening will be used in an effort to reduce exposure and potential spread of Covid-19. **We want to keep the circle small!** The fewer people that one person interacts within a single day or over multiple days can help minimize the risks of spreading COVID. Furthermore, it makes contact tracing more manageable, and fewer students and adults could be exposed. This is a key goal in our planning.

Parents/guardians will serve as the first line of defense each day. Families should monitor for symptoms at home and should NOT send students to school or any school sanctioned activity if they show any of the symptoms listed above. Parents should screen their children and keep them home if, in the past 14 days, a child has experienced:

A fever (100 degrees or higher) or a sense of having a fever;

Chills, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, headache;

New loss of smell or taste, new muscle aches;

Or if your student or close contact has been diagnosed or presumptively diagnosed with COVID-19.

Students and staff who have a fever (100 degrees or higher without fever-reducing medication and/or cough) will be asked to stay home and report the absence to the school attendance office or supervisor.

Students and staff who have been traveling must complete a daily self-check. This self-check outlines that you should not enter a building if, in the past 14 days, you have experienced:

A fever (100 degrees or higher) or a sense of having a fever (you don't feel well); Chills, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, headache;

New loss of smell or taste, new muscle aches:

Or if you or a close contact has been diagnosed or presumptively diagnosed with COVID-19.

Likewise, faculty and staff will serve as the first line of defense for themselves and their households. They should not report to work or send their children to school if signs or symptoms exist.

The district transportation team will serve as the second line of defense. Staff members in this team will visually inspect for signs or symptoms of illness as students enter school buses and will immediately report any concerns.

Once arrived at school, all students and staff will be visually screened upon entering and throughout the day for any signs or symptoms. Temperature screening may occur with touchless devices as appropriate.

Students are also encouraged to report any individual showing signs or symptoms.

Each school will prepare holding spaces to isolate sick students or employees until they can leave the school property.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Protocols

Staff and students will be encouraged to wear a cloth mask during most of the school day, especially when physical distancing is difficult. Purchase, utilization, and cleaning of personal masks will remain the responsibility of each individual student and employee. If a hardship exists, the district will provide a mask as needed. However, cleaning and care of the Face Coverings will remain the responsibility of the individual.

Face Coverings will be required/not required in alignment with any current Public Health Order at the time. Masks will not be required for rigorous exercise activities or other exceptions provided in any Public Health Order.

PPE (gloves, masks, gowns) will be provided for health room staff and employees who work in very close proximity to students to the extent practical.

Face shields will be provided to nurses for use when conducting procedures on students.

Touch-free thermometers are available for school use at each building.

Sanitizers/cleanser, hand soap, and tissues are provided throughout all buildings. Surgical grade masks are available for:

- Health room staff
- Any employee working with a medically fragile child
- Any person exhibiting symptoms (This will be further addressed for flu season)

Visitor Protocols During the School Day 7:00-4:00 p.m.

The following protocols will be used regarding visitors to school properties/facilities.

All visitors will be screened upon arrival and throughout their duration in our facilities. The district reserves the right to restrict access to any visitor displaying signs or symptoms and will immediately ask any such individual to leave school property.

Visitors must state their purpose for visiting and will restrict movement in the building to that specific purpose. Records will be maintained on all visitors.

Orange: Schools are open to visitors. Any applicable Public Health Order shall be followed at all times. Social distancing and the use of face coverings are encouraged.

Grey: Schools are open for restricted visitors. Pre-approval from the school administrator or designee is required to enter the building. Face coverings and social distancing is required.

Black: Schools are not open for visitors except for specific purposes, including IEP meetings, emergency issues, other issues approved by the superintendent. When possible, virtual options should be used to meet these needs.

Arrival and Dismissal Protocols

Arrival and dismissal can provide a challenge with large numbers of students congregating, making it difficult to physically distance. Therefore, schools will communicate a plan that allows for multiple entrances for students to use during arrival and dismissal. The use of multiple entrances will only apply to certain buildings where this option is feasible and safe. Students will be asked to walk directly to their homeroom or first hour class to discourage congregating in the hallways. Additional considerations for families include:

Drop students off as close to the school start time as possible and not too early as to avoid the gathering of students before doors open.

If possible, drive your child to and from school each day to reduce the number of students riding the bus.

Upon dropping your child off, please remind them that their first responsibility as they enter the building is to either wash their hands or use the hand sanitizer located in the entrance of buildings or in their classroom. Students will be expected to wash their hands frequently throughout the day.

Please be patient with district employees as they work to implement new protocols. Arrival and dismissal procedures at the first of the year are always challenging, and may initially take even more time this year than in previous years.

EDUCATIONAL PROTOCOLS

Social, Emotional and Health Safety Protocols

Faculty and support staff (Counselors and School Community Resource Specialists) will work to do the following:

Create professional development for building staff regarding typical childhood reactions to stress and trauma.

Collaborate with teachers on classroom activities to address student mental health upon return to school.

Collaborate with community agencies on best practices.

Provide classroom lessons on school expectations and structure around health safety and physical distancing practices to help students re-adjust to a full school schedule.

Attendance and Grading Protocols

Normally, KNPS offers a variety of attendance incentives for students in an effort to encourage and award regular and punctual attendance. However, all attendance incentives will be suspended during the duration of this plan in an effort to NOT encourage students to come to school when they should stay home. If at any time students are showing signs or symptoms of illness, they should stay home. The district is prepared to deliver education virtually while students are absent.

Students who become ill from Covid-19 will not be required to complete their work during the illness. Any missed work will be allowed to be made up following recovery.

Students in quarantine will be expected to complete all work, unless they experience illness, at which time they will be excused from work and that work may be made up at a later date.

Outside of any illness, students should attend school and complete all assignments irregardless of which education option they choose (in-person or virtual). In all education delivery methods, attendance will be recorded.

For the 2020-2021 school year, students will be expected to complete all assignments as they would during a normal school year. KNPS faculty will work with students to provide supports as needed to ensure success. Parents and students are encouraged to immediately reach out for support at the earliest time in which any difficulty is experienced.

Academic Experience Protocols

Based on guidance from the Centers for Disease Control, Johnson County Public Health Agency, Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, the district has developed a proactive plan that places student and employee safety at the forefront of returning to school. Classroom teachers and support staff will play an increasingly important role in the health and wellness of students. The following safeguards will be implemented:

PreK and Self-Contained, K-5, 6-8, 9-12, and additional classroom guidelines will be followed as shared later in this document.

To the extent possible, students will be spaced throughout the classroom to promote physical distancing.

We will limit the use of community supplies (pencils, calculators, lab equipment, machinery, P.E. equipment, etc.) that are difficult to disinfect in the classroom or at recess to the extent possible.

To the extent possible, schedules will be staggered to minimize large gatherings in all areas.

For additional protocols for Fine Arts, FACS, P.E. and combined classrooms, please review the Encore section.

On the first day of school and throughout the first week, these new safety procedures will be taught and practiced in all of our classrooms. Parental support and reinforcement of these new measures will be critical in providing the safest possible environment for students.

Specialty Classes Protocols

KNPS is committed to providing all curricular opportunities possible while adhering to the recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Johnson County Public Health Center. Pending further guidance from state and local health officials, to the extent possible, KNPS will adhere to the most current recommendations concerning physical distancing, gathering size and personal protective equipment (PPE) for students and staff at the time of the curricular opportunity.

Social distancing will be reinforced to the fullest extent possible.

Weather permitting, students may go outside for all physical education and/or chorale classroom activities.

A larger space will be considered to accommodate for physical distancing if designated classrooms are too small to allow for appropriate student numbers and/or spacing.

Commonly touched surfaces and equipment will be avoided when possible. Those surfaces and/or objects will be disinfected before and after use when avoidance is not possible. To see more detailed information about our daily classroom sanitization procedures and new classroom rules, please click the following link for additional classroom guidelines.

Upon the return of library books, each book will be disinfected prior to recirculation.

Clear guidelines will be established for students to follow when entering and exiting all classrooms.

Recess Protocols

Schools will develop recess schedules that limit the number of students on the playground or within a specific area of the playground. This may look differently at each school due to the amount of playground space at each site. Students will be encouraged not to exchange any items at recess, including balls or other items. Equipment will be included in regular sterilization routines.

Early Childhood Program Preschool / Pre-K In-Person Classes

- Parents must register their student using the survey provided to enroll in-person and for their student's transportation needs.
- In-person classes may be planned to immediately respond to any school closure to ensure continuity of learning and remain in place until reopening.
- Students will be assigned to an AM or PM session
 - Class sizes will be no more than 16 students in our Little Wingman classrooms.
 - Class sizes will be no more than 10 students in our Title I Preschool classrooms.
 - A waiting list will be maintained and adjustments made to class sizes based on health department guidelines and recommendations.
 - Student attendance will be closely monitored.
- In Pre-K classrooms, every best effort will be made to maintain stable groups (children will remain with their class for learning).
 - Recess may be on the blacktop or structured for certain classes to be in certain areas (this would rotate on a daily basis). Equipment will be cleaned after use.
 - Students participating in any Activity must complete the waiver provided.
- Large gatherings (such as all-school assemblies and school-wide celebrations) will not occur.
- Classroom protocols will include assigned seating and other measures to minimize contact.
 - Staff will clean frequently-touched surfaces and objects with district-supplied cleaning and disinfectant products.
 - Students will have frequent opportunities to wash their hands.
- Schools will make reasonable best efforts to minimize risk; however, attending our schools in-person will introduce a greater risk of exposure.
- The closing of the district will be included in the protocol when individuals have positive tests for COVID-19.
- Special Education services will be provided as outlined in the IEP or Section 504 plans created by the team members.
 - Should the district close, students with IEPs or Section 504 plans will continue to receive services.
- Water fountain visits will be replaced by bottle filler stations (where needed).
 However, the mouthpiece will be shut off to prevent the spread of COVID-19. The
 student will be responsible to provide their own water bottle. Students will fill their
 water bottles at these stations. Water bottles will be kept with the student or in a
 safe place in the classroom depending on the age group.

Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) In-Person Classes

- Parents must register their student using the survey provided to enroll in-person and for their student's transportation needs.
- In-person classes will be planned to immediately respond to any school closure to ensure continuity of learning and remain in place until reopening.
- Students will be assigned to an AM or PM session
 - Class sessions will have no more than 10 students per session.
 - Teacher and supplemental staff ratios will remain similar to previous years.
- In ECSE classrooms, every best effort will be made to maintain stable groups (children will remain with their class for learning).
- Large gatherings (such as all-school assemblies and school-wide celebrations) will not occur.
- Classroom protocols will include assigned seating and other measures to minimize contact.
 - Staff will clean frequently-touched surfaces and objects with district-supplied cleaning and disinfectant products.
 - Students will have frequent opportunities to wash their hands.
- Schools will make reasonable best efforts to minimize risk; however, attending our schools in-person will introduce a greater risk of exposure.
 - o Students participating in any Activity must complete the waiver provided.
- The closing of the district will be included in the protocol when individuals have positive tests for COVID-19. See pages 18-22.
- Special Education services will be provided as outlined in the IEP or Section 504 plans created by the team members.
 - Should the district close, students with IEPs or Section 504 plans will continue to receive services.
- Students who ride the bus will abide by any Health Department Guidelines concerning PPEs (as appropriate).
- Bus drivers will abide by any Health Department Guidelines concerning PPEs and sanitize the entry handlebar regularly.
- Water fountain visits will be replaced by bottle filler stations (where needed).
 However, the mouthpiece will be shut off to prevent the spread of COVID-19. The
 student will be responsible to provide their own water bottle. Students will fill their
 water bottles at these stations. Water bottles will be kept with the student or in a
 safe place in the classroom depending on the age group.

Elementary: Kindergarten - Fifth Grade In-Person

- Parents must register their student using the survey provided to enroll in-person and for their student's transportation needs.
- In-person classes will be planned to immediately respond to any school closure to ensure continuity of learning and remain in place until reopening.
 - Students who begin in-person classes will be transferred to remote learning through their classroom teacher using a similar platform as our 4th quarter of 2019-2020 in the event of a district closure. Grading and the introduction of new content will occur during all shutdowns. Students will remain accountable for the completion of all assignments.
 - Students who select in-person learning will be returned to the same course schedule in the school building at the end of a school closure.
- Every best effort will be made to maintain stable groups. Children may remain in one classroom for learning except for Physical Education. Class may occur outside at times.
 - Staff will clean frequently-touched surfaces and objects with district-supplied cleaning and disinfectant products.
 - Students will have frequent opportunities to wash their hands.
- Students will eat breakfast in their classrooms. Lunches will be eaten by class in the cafeteria with a staggered start and social distancing between classes. All food will be served by food service personnel (no student self-serve).
- Large gatherings (such as all-school assemblies and school-wide celebrations) will not occur.
- Classroom protocols will include assigned seating and other measures to minimize contact.
- Schools will make reasonable best efforts to minimize risk; however, attending our schools in-person will introduce a greater risk of exposure.
- The closing of the district will be included in the protocol when individuals have positive tests for COVID-19. See pages 18-22.
- Bus transportation is available to families, but please note the following:
 - Due to COVID-19 social distancing recommendations we highly recommend students provide their own transportation
 - Parents/Guardians should not drop students off prior to 7:30 am when doors will open.
 - New this year: Families need to sign up to ride the bus this year so we can plan accurately for the number of students on each bus and schedule appropriately. Please register on the Form for Transportation and your learning option provided earlier in the document.
 - Students who ride the bus will abide by any Health Department Guidelines concerning PPEs.
 - Bus drivers will abide by any Health Department Guidelines concerning PPEs and sanitize the entry handlebar regularly.

- Recess may be on the blacktop or structured for certain classes to be in certain areas (this would rotate on a daily basis). Equipment will be cleaned after use.
- Elementary students will have access to PE, Art, Music, Media, Special Education, Title, and intervention.
 - Elementary PE courses will be modified for social distancing activities.
 - Elementary Art and Music activities will be presented by the teachers as usual with face-to-face classes and the teacher going to the classroom as much as possible.
 - Students will have access to the media center in a limited capacity.
 - Students participating in any Activity must complete the waiver provided.
- Special Education services will be provided as outlined in the IEP or Section 504 plans created by the team members.
 - Should the district close, students with IEPs or Section 504 plans will continue to receive services.
- Water fountain visits will be replaced by bottle filler stations (where needed).
 However, the mouthpiece will be shut off to prevent the spread of COVID-19. The
 student will be responsible to provide their own water bottle. Students will fill their
 water bottles at these stations. Water bottles will be kept with the student or in a
 safe place in the classroom depending on the age group.

Elementary: Kindergarten - Fifth Grade Virtual Learning Option

- Elementary students will have the option to enroll in online courses through Knob Noster Virtual Academy, powered by Edmentum.
 - o Materials for learning will be available online.
- Parents must register their student using the survey provided to enroll in virtual learning and for their student's transportation needs. Once a student is registered for online learning this must continue for the entire fall semester. The desire for virtual learning can be re-examined for the spring semester in early December.
- Online learning will follow the grading, engagement, and expectations of the regular classroom.
- Students who register for virtual learning continue to have the same privileges as all other students attending school face-to-face
 - Schools will make reasonable best efforts to minimize risk; however, attending our schools in-person will introduce a greater risk of exposure.
 - Students participating in any Activity must complete the waiver provided.
- Students will have access to the media center in a limited capacity. Those doing virtual learning may check out books but may consider coordinating with the librarian in advance on interests and availability of books.
- Parents and students must be committed to the time and effort required for virtual learning to happen. Parents will need to provide extensive support for their child for learning to happen.
- Knob Noster and Edmentum teachers will be available at certain times that are
 prearranged to interact with parents and students. This schedule will vary
 depending on the age and course for the student.
- Students who have an IEP or Section 504 Plan will continue to receive services.
 - Special Education and Section 504 plans may be modified for virtual learning and implemented to accommodate the needs of each student based on the findings of the IEP team.

Secondary: Middle School and High School In-Person

- Parents must register their student using the survey provided to enroll in-person and for their student's transportation needs.
- In-person classes will be planned to immediately respond to any school closure to ensure continuity of learning and remain in place until reopening.
 - Students who begin in-person classes will be transferred to remote learning through their classroom teacher using a similar platform as our 4th quarter of 2019-2020 in the event of a district closure. Grading and the introduction of new content will occur during all shutdowns. Students will remain accountable for the completion of all assignments.
 - Students who select in-person learning will be returned to the same course schedule in the school building at the end of a school closure.
- Students will eat breakfast in their 1st Hour Classroom and Homerooms.
 Lunches will be eaten in the cafeteria with a staggered start and social distancing between tables. All food will be served by food service personnel (student self-serve will be limited).
- Classroom protocols will include assigned seating and other measures to minimize contact.
- Schools will make reasonable best efforts to minimize risk; however, attending our schools in-person will introduce a greater risk of exposure.
- Students in grades 6-12 will retain a "normal" schedule, but interactions outside the classroom will be limited in order to reduce the expansion of the established groups. Students will be encouraged to sit near the same peers whenever possible in classrooms or other places.
 - Staff will clean frequently-touched surfaces and objects with district-supplied cleaning and disinfectant products.
 - Students will have frequent opportunities to wash their hands.
- Large gatherings will be limited. This may result in:
 - Students reporting to a classroom upon arrival
 - Altered cafeteria procedures
 - Limited attendance and/or guidelines at events (if they may occur)
 - Concerts and performances in small groups
 - Modified bus loading and unloading procedures
 - Cancellation or modification of school dances or parties
- The closing of the district will be included in the protocol when individuals have positive tests for COVID-19. See pages 18-22.
- Bus transportation is available to families, but please note the following:
 - Due to COVID-19 social distancing recommendations we highly recommend students provide their own transportation
 - Students who drive cannot arrive at school prior to 7:30 am when doors will open. Parents/Guardians should not drop students off prior to 7:30 am when doors will open.

- New this year: Families need to sign up to ride the bus this year so we can plan accurately for the number of students on each bus and schedule appropriately. Please register on the Form for Transportation and your learning option provided earlier in the document.
- Students who ride the bus will abide by any Health Department Guidelines concerning PPEs.
- Bus drivers will abide by any Health Department Guidelines concerning PPEs and sanitize the entry handlebar regularly.
- Secondary students will have access to PE, Art, Music, Media, Special Education, and intervention, regardless of in-person or online.
 - Middle School and High School PE courses will be modified for social distancing or at-home activities.
 - Middle School and High School Art and Music activities will be presented by the teachers as usual with face-to-face classes.
 - Choir / Vocal Music classes may require students to wear masks and greater social distancing based on current public health orders.
 - Students will have access to the media center in a limited capacity regardless of attending in-person or through virtual learning. Those doing virtual learning may check out books but may consider coordinating with the librarian in advance on interests and availability of books.
 - Students participating in any Activity must complete the waiver provided.
- Students enrolled at Warrensburg Career Center will attend courses as planned
 - Students who ride the bus will abide by any Health Department Guidelines concerning PPEs.
 - Bus drivers will abide by any Health Department Guidelines concerning PPEs and sanitize the entry handlebar regularly.
- Special Education services will be provided as outlined in the IEP or Section 504 plans created by the team members.
 - Should the district close, students with IEPs or Section 504 plans will continue to receive services.
- Water fountain visits will be replaced by bottle filler stations (where needed).
 However, the mouthpiece will be shut off to prevent the spread of COVID-19. The
 student will be responsible to provide their own water bottle. Students will fill their
 water bottles at these stations. Water bottles will be kept with the student or in a
 safe place in the classroom depending on the age group.

Secondary: Middle School and High School Virtual Learning Option

- Middle School and High School students will have the option to enroll in online courses through Knob Noster Virtual Academy, Powered by Edmentum.
 - Materials for learning will be available online.
- Parents must register their student using the survey provided to enroll in virtual learning and for their student's transportation needs. Once a student is registered for online learning this must continue for the entire fall semester. The desire for virtual learning can be re-examined for the spring semester in early December.
- It is the responsibility of the student and the student's parents or guardians to ensure internet connectivity is regularly available for the student via home or publicly available internet.
- The Knob Noster School District will provide a Laptop for all students grades 9-12 for online learning.
- Online learning will follow the same grading, engagement, and expectations of the regular classroom.
 - Students must complete the virtual learning courses to advance grade levels or move onto the next course.
 - Failure to complete courses could result in loss of future virtual learning opportunities.
- Students who register for virtual learning continue to have the same privileges as all other students attending school face-to-face. They are Knob Noster students and have the same opportunities for participating in athletics, clubs, robotics, JROTC, activities, dances, access to the counselor and college/career planning, etc.
 - Schools will make reasonable best efforts to minimize risk; however, attending our schools in-person will introduce a greater risk of exposure.
 - Students must fill out a voluntary activity waiver for each athletics, clubs, robotics, JROTC, activities, dances, access to the counselor and college/career planning, etc. they plan to participate in.
 - Students participating in any Activity must complete the waiver provided.
- Students participating in Virtual Learning are still eligible for MSHSAA Sports and Activities if they meet the enrollment and credit requirements (<u>MSHSAA By-Law</u> 2.3.4.b).
- Students will have access to the media center in a limited capacity. Those doing virtual learning may check out books but may consider coordinating with the librarian in advance on interests and availability of books.
- Parents and students must be committed to the time and effort required for virtual learning to happen. Parents will need to provide extensive support for their child for learning to happen.
- Edmentum teachers will be available at certain times that are prearranged to interact with parents and students. This schedule will vary depending on the age and course for the student.

- Students who have an IEP or Section 504 Plan will continue to receive services.
 - Special Education and Section 504 plans may be modified for virtual learning and implemented to accommodate the needs of each student based on the findings of the IEP team.
- For course availability please contact your building principal or counselor for more information.

Athletics and Activities Protocols

KNPS currently plans to provide students the opportunity to participate in extracurricular activities. Participation in athletics and all non-curricular activities is a choice and does not fall under the district's obligation to provide a Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE). Accordingly, the decision to allow a child to participate in these activities is 100% parent discretion. Accordingly, the district requires all participants to sign a waiver acknowledging the additional risk inherent in participation in these activities.

The Missouri State High School Activities Association (MSHSAA) may further outline guidelines as to how athletics and activities will be offered at district high schools and middle schools. As a district, we understand the importance of offering these opportunities to our students and will continue to make every effort to do so. However, we know there may be decisions made by local, state, or national organizations that may prohibit some, if not all, extracurricular activities from taking place. To the extent possible, we expect all athletics and activities to align to any guidance from agencies of authority, while also exercising universal precautions and safeguards to the fullest extent possible.

Students will complete a short health questionnaire prior to daily participation in all afterschool activities. Staff will communicate with students when necessary to determine whether the student should be participating.

Pending further guidance from state and local health officials, to the extent possible, KNPS will adhere to the most current recommendations concerning physical distancing, gathering size and personal protective equipment (PPE) for students and staff at the time of the extracurricular opportunity.

Commonly touched surfaces will be avoided when possible. Those surfaces and/or objects will be disinfected before and after use when avoidance is not possible.

Locker rooms will be disinfected, and commonly touched surfaces in locker rooms will be cleaned throughout the day.

Local and state organizations may provide further guidance to schools on how to provide these opportunities while prioritizing student and staff safety. School officials will communicate that information upon availability.

Student Protocols

If you are sick or do not feel well, stay home.

Be aware and disclose any potential contact with individuals who tested positive for COVID-19.

Wash and sanitize hands often.

Refrain from touching your face, eyes and mouth as much as possible.

Practice physical distancing regularly and whenever possible.

Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or elbow when coughing or sneezing.

Wash or sanitize any gear or apparel used in activity that day.

Maintain a list of people you've been in contact with daily.

Comply with any and all federal, state and local guidelines.

Faculty and Staff Protocols

Take attendance at each day's activities, including the coaches.

Complete Health Screening prior to each day's activities, including the coaches.

Disinfect the venue and all equipment (weights, balls, jump ropes, etc.—anything that can be touched) prior to activity each day.

Verify that coaches and participants are symptom-free before activity each day.

Take attendance at each day's activities, including the coaches.

Prepare and schedule frequent hand washing/sanitation opportunities during activities.

Require participants to bring their own water bottles and avoid use of water fountains.

Modify drills and activities to limit or reduce potential violations of physical distancing guidelines including high fives, huddles, team meetings, etc.

Regularly sanitize items that are most often touched during activities.

Avoid using whistles when possible to reduce droplet spread.

At the end of activities that day, sanitize and disinfect the venue and all equipment used.

Spectator Protocols

KNPS will review recommendations from national, state and local health organizations while prioritizing the safety of students, staff and families. Spectators will be expected to abide by all current Public Health Orders in place at the TIME AND LOCATION in which the event occurs.

The host school will be responsible for determining whether or not spectators will be allowed for the competition.

Additional requirements may be in place during competitions or performances.

Essential personnel only will be allowed near students during games and competitions. Those individuals will maintain social distance when possible.

Players on the sidelines may be required to physically distance when not in the game.

Live-streaming services for events will be offered when possible.

OPERATIONS PROTOCOLS

Food Services Protocols

Food services will be handled in a variety of ways as shared below. In general, students will remain in their cohort (classroom/homeroom) groups when possible. Cafeteria capacity during lunch/breakfast will be reduced to allow for physical distancing to the extent possible. The district may require some students to eat in their classrooms or additional identified spaces. Student self-serve foods will be eliminated in the elementary buildings and reduced in secondary buildings. Food service employees will continue to be intentional with their selection of food and communication with teachers to ensure students with food allergies are not exposed to foods to which they are allergic. If you prefer to send lunch with your child, please ensure that you are following any quidelines set forth by the classroom teacher as they relate to student allergies.

All Food and Nutrition staff are thoroughly trained in food safety. Additionally, all Food and Nutrition managers hold Serve Safe Manager's cards. The health department routinely audits school kitchens and awards district buildings with top ratings for

cleanliness. Using the public health guidelines, KNPS will phase in meal service operations at this time.

Based on guidance from the CDC and Missouri School Boards' Association (MSBA), most students will eat breakfast in their classroom. This allows the district to limit large gatherings in situations in which physical distancing, wearing a mask, or remaining in a student cohort group is difficult. Additional safety measures include:

Desks/Tables will be disinfected between student usage.

Students will wash or sanitize their hands before and after eating.

Self- service is not allowed during this time.

Lunch options may be reduced as necessary during this time.

Meal substitutions and seating accommodations will be made for students with food allergies/intolerances, based on medical forms on file.

Meals may be sent from home. However, some ingredients may be restricted to minimize the risk for students with severe food allergies. Your student's teacher will notify you if this is the case.

In addition to normal sanitizing procedures, the kitchen will be disinfected at the beginning and end of all food preparation shifts.

Students will be charged for their meal based on their free, reduced, or full pay status, utilizing the same process as in previous school years. A new free or reduced price meals application must be filled out each year after July 1 and shared with your school office. If your income has gone down or the number of people living in your household has gone up, please consider applying.

Meals must be paid for ahead of time. This can be done online or by sending cash or check with your student to either turn in to their teacher or cafeteria cashier.

Nursing Protocols

Knob Noster Health Service Staff keep regular logs of health room visits. The name and other information will be recorded of any student or staff who visit the nurse's office. Due to student privacy, these records are not public; however, information may be shared with the Johnson and Pettis County Health Departments as appropriate.

The Johnson and Pettis County Health Departments will provide guidance on students and staff who have had contact with people who are suspected COVID-19 positive.

Custodial Protocols

Knob Noster Public Schools has purchased a variety of mass-area sanitation equipment which will allow the Custodial Department to regularly and routinely disinfect all areas in alignment to the guidance provided by the manufacturer(s). Cleaning will occur ubiquitously throughout all areas to the full extent possible. In the instance of a confirmed positive Covid-19 case, additional cleaning protocols will occur in known areas of potential contamination.

Knob Noster Public Schools will maintain adequate supplies of personal protective equipment for custodial staff, soap, paper towels, hand sanitizer, and tissues throughout each school. The Custodial Department will ensure items are in stock and available for use.

The KNPS custodial staff will clean frequently-touched surfaces and objects with district-supplied cleaning and disinfectant products. This may include sprayers, fogging machines, etc. Computer safe disinfectant methods will be used for computers and keyboards.

In the event of a positive COVID person in the building, the district may choose to close as necessary to ensure proper sanitation occurs. The area will be extensively cleaned to meet standards before reopening.

Transportation Protocols

Knob Noster Public Schools recognizes school transportation as an elevated opportunity for exposure, due to the close proximity of students and the inability to socially distance based on the PAIR Framework. In an effort to mitigate this risk, the following protocols are in place.

All parents are encouraged to provide transportation for their children to the fullest extent possible. Please indicate your ability to do so in the required parent survey.

Students will be assigned seats on all buses, with household sibling sharing seats when applicable. These seats will remain constant throughout the duration of this plan.

Busses will be sanitized after each use by our transportation team using a variety of methods.

Face shields or masks will be REQUIRED for all students and drivers while on district buses in alignment with any current Public Health Order.

To the extent possible, buses will be loaded in ways that minimize students passing in isles during loading and unloading.

Windows on buses will remain down at all times (weather permitting) to allow for maximum air flow.

RESPONSE / SHUTDOWN PROTOCOLS

The district is preparing for a variety of shutdown/startup scenarios in an effort to prepare responses that best-align to a variety of situations. Unlike the initial, full shutdown that occurred at the inception of the Covid-19 crisis, the district is not moving forward with a full shutdown as the singular, best, or most appropriate response for all potential situations. While the district may ultimately exercise a full shutdown again, that option will be reserved as one of our last resorts. Along with that option, the district will respond in the following ways to issues which may arise.

Authority to Shutdown

The Board of Education has approved the Superintendent to close and/or open school due to outbreaks of COVID-19 in the school building, the district, the community, or upon the recommendations of local or state health authorities. The district may also be closed due to excessive absenteeism of faculty/staff or students due to health conditions. The district must have enough students and staff to function effectively and for learning to effectively occur.

When closed, the building may or may not be off-limits to students or staff and students. If the district is closed only to students, employees will be required to continue to perform their regular duties and regular responsibilities except as directed by the Superintendent.

The Superintendent may cancel activities on district property by outside groups, even if the district remains open. When the district is closed, activities scheduled at the district and other locations involving students and/or staff would also be canceled.

Any cancellations will be sent to parents/guardians and staff via email, text message, the Knob Noster School mobile app, voice messaging, and on district social media (Facebook and Twitter).

Confirmed Positive Protocols

It goes without saying that this is the point in the plan where the rubber meets the road as we move from scenario to reality. As such, this is the point in the plan where the commitments to mutual respect and public health will become most critical for success. The district has planned and also fully expects that we will see confirmed positive cases in our schools. Specifically, we expect fall and winter will present some challenges as COVID-19 symptoms may be similar to other cold and flu symptoms. The district will rely on our employees to exercise vigilance in identifying signs and symptoms. Any concerns will be referred to the school nurse to determine if symptoms meet the criteria for a concern of COVID-19.

The student or staff will be separated from other students. Employees will be immediately released from work and must be tested before returning. For students, parent(s) will be contacted immediately to pick the student up from school with directives to have the student tested before returning to school. Information about testing locations will be provided to the family.

Spouses, siblings or others living in the same household as that child or staff member and attending KNPS must also be screened before returning to school. These individuals should not return to school until the Covid-19 test results of the individual in question are presented to the school.

In the instance of a confirmed negative case, the student or employee will be clear to return to school. (documentation required)

In the instance of a confirmed positive COVID-19 case or cases the district will take the following steps:

- 1. Contact the Johnson County Health Department to report and request guidance.
- 2. Send official communication to the Board of Education, administrators, and impacted families informing them of the positive case.
- 3. Identify, notify and impose quarantine for Close Contacts as described below.
- 4. Complete intensive sanitation and cleaning in known impacted areas as described later in this document.
- 5. Implement additional PPE or protocols based on Health Department guidance.
- 6. Determine if any level of school closure is required.
- 7. Provide initial, interim, and summary communications with stakeholders.

In the instance of a confirmed positive case for a student, KNPS will communicate with the individuals or parent/guardian and ask them not to return to any school property or school sanctioned event until 72 hours have passed without fever and 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared or until cleared by a doctor. Staff members will communicate with families to ensure adherence to this expectation. (documentation required) Students participating in MSHAA Sanctioned Activities who test positive for COVID-19 will be required to complete the Return to Play Form available from their head coach.

Employees who test positive for COVID-19 will be asked to not return until 72 hours have passed without fever and 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared or until cleared by a doctor. (documentation required)

In the instance of a positive test for a student or employee, spouses, siblings, or others living in the home are subject to the Close Contact guidelines listed below.

Close Contact Tracing Protocols

As shared prior in the definitions section of this document, Johnson County Health Department defines **close contact** as: Any person who may have been directly exposed to COVID-19 for 15 minutes or longer without the ability to maintain social distance (maintain 6 feet or more of separation).

To the extent possible, KNPS will utilize cohort grouping and other safeguard routines (like assigned seating on buses and in some cafeteria spaces) to minimize the opportunity for close contact to occur.

All known staff and students who meet the threshold for **close contact** with an individual who tests positive for Covid will be identified and notified privately. Due to HIPPA Privacy Rules, the district will not disclose or provide comment regarding the identity of any individual testing positive for Covid-19. The district will identify the facts surrounding the case to sufficiently notify those who meet the close contact threshold. Individuals who are notified as close contacts will also remain confidential due to HIPPA Privacy Rules. The decision for students or parents to comment publicly is out of the control of KNPS. The district encourages all parties to carefully consider their choices on how they communicate on these sensitive issues. Any public comments which identify individuals will NOT originate from the district.

Close contacts will be asked to quarantine for 14 days and not return to school or any school activity during that time. If at that point the individual(s) have not shown any signs or symptoms of COVID-19, they may return to campus.

The district will not treat all potential contacts as close contacts. Only known close contacts will be identified and contacted for response.

Virtual learning will immediately begin through the district AMIX Plan for all students during quarantine. Testing for quarantined students will remain the discretion of the parent.

Partial, Intermittent, Full Shutdown

Our hope is that we will begin the year with all students in attendance. However, as mentioned prior, the district is moving forward with the expectation that positive Covid-19 cases will likely be present within our school district. Accordingly, we are planning for a variety of responses that may be appropriately used to respond to different scenarios. In this instance, the district will work in unison with the Johnson County Health Department to determine which option best responds to the scenario. In this instance, the district will use the AMIX plan to deliver instruction virtually to the students impacted. The following general guidelines are currently planned to respond to a confirmed positive Covid-19 case.

In all shutdown scenarios,, the district has prepared to immediately shift to virtual learning options without any loss of instructional time through the use of our Alternative Methods of Instruction Extended (AMIX) Plan.

Partial Shutdown

If a confirmed positive Covid-19 case occurs in an individual classroom, the district will respond to that case and all known close contacts as described above. The district MAY choose to exercise a partial shutdown of that classroom and other known spaces to allow for proper intensive cleaning and sanitization.

A partial shutdown could include an individual classroom, a full grade level, an entire building, or multiple buildings based on the scope and breadth of the situation.

Intermittent Shutdown

In the instance of a significant internal or local outbreak of Covid-19 or in the instance of a directive from an authoritative agency, the district may exercise an intermittent shutdown. An intermittent shutdown would be temporary in nature with the intent to reopen schools as soon as possible.

Full Shutdown

In the instance of a severe internal or local outbreak of Covid-19 or in the instance of a directive from an authoritative agency, the district may exercise a full shutdown. This would be similar to what occurred in the Fourth Quarter of the 2019-2020 school year, (Spring 2020). This option will be used only as a last resort.

In contrast to shutdown options, the district may choose to exercise partial or intermittent return to school options based on the facts of the situation.

Alternative Schedule

In the event the health department, other agency, or health situation requires a school or the district to reduce capacity, an alternative schedule will be implemented. The district has submitted an Alternative Methods of Instruction Extended (AMIX) Plan to the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education which will allow the district to respond to any need to reduce building capacity, contact intermittent shut down, or full shutdown. In these instances, the district will utilize virtual capabilities to continue delivering educational programming.

If possible, additional considerations will be given to provide more face-to-face instruction with our PK-2 students, students with disabilities, and English language learners. Friday would be a day for students to catch up on work and for staff to develop plans for both in-person instruction and virtual learning.

These options are subject to change as new information or direction is received by the district.

Dynamic Environment Protocols

Over the last five months, the district has been inundated with guidance, recommendations, facts, and opinions, all of which have been provided to influence decisions on how to operate our schools. This has significantly increased in the last month and we expect it will continue to increase in the future.

As mentioned at the onset of the memo, the district has adopted the PAIR Framework to guide our decisions within the following four pillars: Practical, Attainable, Impactful, and Reasonable in Scope. The district will make every attempt to respond appropriately to a variety of situations, while also considering the extent to which the solution creates a situation worse than the initial problem.

As new information is received and as our plan evolves to respond to the dynamic nature of the Covid-19 crisis, we will communicate through a variety of methods to keep our employees, students, parents, and community informed.

As always, we send a sincere thank you to our parents and community for your ongoing partnership and support. Knob Noster emerged as a model district during the initial Covid-19 shutdown last spring, and by our continued work together, we can remain a

model of respect, collaboration, and communication as we put our very best efforts forward to appropriately serve our students, families, and community.

In Knob Noster Public Schools, Our Mission Is Student Success!