

USD 316 Golden Plains Schools

Reopening Plan for 2023-2024

USD 316 will reopen the 2023-2024 school year with no restrictions. School will continue to operate with full in-person learning. House Bill 2134 Section 6 limits remote learning (a) Commencing in the 2021-2022 school year, except as otherwise provided. In this section, no school district shall provide or offer to any student enrolled in the district more than a total of 40 school term hours of remote learning. There will be exceptions as provided in the bill. But as a general rule, USD 316 will not be offering remote learning. At the beginning of the year, there will be no requirement for wearing masks, but children, teachers, and visitors to the building may wear a mask if they wish to do so. Social distancing, handwashing and use of hand sanitizer will be encouraged.

If there is a surge in COVID-19 cases, the plan will be revisited and stricter restrictions will be put into place. Our plan to keep students safe in a more restrictive environment is listed below. Other restrictions may be added on an at-need basis.

PART I.

Describe how the district will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff and the extent to which it has adopted policies, and a description of any such policies, on each of the following safety recommendations established by the CDC:

(A) Universal and correct wearing of masks.

- All staff and students will be instructed in wearing masks. They will be shown the proper way to wear a mask to ensure it covers their mouth and nose and is secure under their chin and fits snugly against the sides of their face.

How to Properly Wear a Face Mask

- Wash hands before and after touching the mask.
- Touch only the bands or ties when putting on and taking off the mask.
- Make sure the mask fits to cover your nose, mouth and chin. ...
- Make sure one can breathe and talk comfortably through your mask.
- Wash reusable masks after each use.

(B) Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding).

- Social distancing by 3 feet within the classrooms and all environments as much as possible.

- Additional lunch periods to allow for social distancing, silverware wrapped, milk cartons served individually to each student, dividers in the lunchrooms. (All of these items will be used if USD 316 becomes more restrictive.)
- Extra furniture removed from the classroom to increase space to provide better social distancing.
- Furnishings with fabric or other hard to clean coverings will be removed from the classrooms.
- Assign students seats, have them face in one direction, and remain seated in the classroom as much as possible.

(C) Handwashing and respiratory etiquette.

- Teach and encourage hand washing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and increase monitoring to ensure handwashing is taking place.
- If soap and water is not available, make sure hand sanitizer that has at least 60% alcohol is used for staff and older children who can use it safely.
- Place hygiene stations at the entrances of buildings.
- Encourage staff and students to cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue. Used tissues should be placed in the trash and hands washed immediately with soap and water.
- Post signs in highly visible locations that promote everyday protective measures and describe how to stop the spread of germs—properly wearing masks, properly washing hands .
- Post signs on proper hand washing

(D) Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation.

- Cleaning products containing soap or detergent will be used.
- The facilities will be cleaned and disinfected thoroughly at least once a day. The facilities will be continually cleaned and disinfected as needed.
- All hard surfaces will be cleaned daily.
- Staff will be provided with proper training on how to use cleaning and disinfecting agents.
- Staff will be provided with proper PPE equipment.
- Disinfectant products from the EPA List N that are effective against covid will be used.
- Soft surfaces such as carpet, rugs and drapes will be cleaned with products containing soap, detergent, or other type of cleaner appropriate for use on these surfaces.
- Laundry such as clothing, towels or other linens will be washed in the warmest water appropriate and dried completely. Anyone handling dirty laundry should wear gloves and a mask. Wash hands after handling laundry.
- Electronics such as tablets, touch screens, keyboards, remote controls, etc. will have wipeable covers

- If someone is sick and tested positive for Covid-19, the area will be closed off to all.
- All students will have their own water bottles that they can fill at the water filling stations in each building.
- If there is a surge in Covid-19, visitors to all buildings will be required to wait outside the building and call the appropriate office. Someone will bring your student out to you. If you do enter the building, please use caution as we are trying to establish a safe and stable environment for all staff and students. Please wait in the hallway outside the office. If you are not feeling well, please do not enter the building. Thank you for keeping our students safe.
- Field Trips will be approved on an individual basis.
- Hallways will be one-way.

(E) Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments.

USD 316 will be in collaboration with the Sheridan County Health Complex Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) Hoxie and Selden Clinics, Sheridan County Health Department, Thomas County Health Department, Decatur County Health Department, Rawlins County Health Department, and the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), Local Emergency Managers of Sheridan, Thomas, Decatur, and Rawlins Counties, as well as follow Kansas and CDC Guidelines. We will be in collaboration with all agencies and the contact tracing will be completed by the health departments and KDHE.

(F) Diagnostic and screening testing.

Diagnostic and screening testing will be completed by the Thomas County Health Department, Sheridan County Health Department, Decatur County Health Department, and Rawlins County Health Department. If a child comes to school ill or with symptoms of Covid-19, their temperature will be taken, and parents called if there is a need. The school nurse will be responsible for doing the initial screening at both the Selden and Rexford campuses. All precautions will be taken to ensure the safety of students and employees of USD 316. **No child will be tested without parent permission and notification.**

(G) Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities.

Vaccinations will be encouraged for all who can safely receive one. Vaccinations are available through the Thomas County Health Department, the Sheridan County Health Complex FQHC, Sheridan County Health, Decatur County Health Department, and Rawlins County Health Department.

(H) Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies.

USD 316 will continue to follow current IDEA recommendations and individual education plans developed for each student.

(I) Coordination with State and local health officials.

The local health authorities follow state health authority guidance. The USD 316 nurse and administration work closely with local health authorities to implement health orders.

Part II.

Describe how the district will ensure continuity of services, including but not limited to:

(A) services to address students' academic needs

USD 316 staff is currently working with the Kansas State Department of Education to improve instruction for students and meet each child's needs. The Multi-tiered System of Support (MTSS) is the model that has been chosen. Through the MTSS process children will receive interventions and strategies to improve their academic skills. USD 316 continues to enhance the At-Risk program and services provided for our students.

(B) students' and staff social, emotional, mental health

USD 316 works with the Sheridan County Health Complex as well as High Plains Mental Health to provide children with counseling services. The district has one full-time counselor, one full-time social worker, and one part-time counselor available to assist students. Currently USD 316 is using Second Step Curriculum in grades k-5 and School Connect in grades 6-12.

(C) other needs, which may include student health and food services.

The district nurse, administration, and staff work closely with students and families to assist in meeting the health needs of students. Food services will continue through the Federal School Lunch Program. The National Honor Society Food Pantry provides assistance to families of USD 316. Many times students are in need of clothing, shoes, or hygiene products. USD 316 works to make these items available to students.