

Wibaux Public School

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COVID-19 Plan of Action **Returning to school - 2020-21**

The global pandemic caused by COVID-19 has led to many changes in the normal operations of our families, our communities, and our schools. Through public input, state guidance, and the work of many of our teachers and staff, the District has developed the following plan for the on-time, on-site reopening of our school. This plan is designed to be a dynamic and elastic document. The public health climate in Montana, in Wibaux County, and in Wibaux can change rapidly. The District will amend this plan as necessary based upon guidance and the status of public health.

The Wibaux School District is committed to remaining “Kid-Centered.” You will notice this plan creates an environment that is considerably more restrictive than the past few years. We apologize for this necessity and remain committed to returning our school climate back to “normal” as quickly as prudent.

Our Goals:

- Provide for the physical and emotional safety of our students.
- Provide the best possible educational opportunities to meet the specific needs of our students.

The District will offer two educational choices during the first semester of the 2020-21 school year:

1. On-site education with physical distancing regulations.
2. Real-time off-site instruction based on a written recommendation from a MD, PA, County Health Nurse, or other medical official.

GENERAL INFORMATION

PHYSICAL DISTANCING

The Wibaux School District will adhere to State and Local guidance regarding the physical distancing requirements for reopening schools. The district will develop and implement policies and procedures intended to maximize safety in response to communicable diseases. It is expected that students, families, and community members adhere to the recommendations of the district.

OFF-SITE INSTRUCTION

Families qualifying for off-site instruction will need to file an application with the district. (1908 - F) Direct instruction may be broadcast in real-time, recorded instruction, or telephone conversations to

students requesting off-site instruction. Students choosing off-site instruction have the option to log-into a video conference. The teacher will take attendance for all students both online and on-site if applicable. Homework, assignments, projects, and assessments are to be completed and returned to the teacher in accordance with the teacher's directives.

The off-site instruction option is intended for a minimum duration of two weeks. Students with an underlying health issue or safety concern that does not permit them to participate in regular instruction must apply for off-site instruction in increments of school quarters. Qualifying for offsite instruction requires documentation from a MD, PA, County Health Nurse, or other medical official. There is no established expiration of this option during the 2020-21 school year.

Hard copy packets are not part of the off-site instruction platform this school year unless granted by technology limitations or administrator discretion.

Students must attend school onsite in order to participate in extracurricular activities.

FACE-COVERINGS

The Wibaux School District will follow State and County directives concerning the mandate of the use of masks/face-coverings in the school building. Until the use of face-coverings is mandated by State or County directive, the District will allow students and adults the option to wear masks or face coverings. The district will encourage all individuals in our building to wear a mask or face covering. Certain classrooms and spaces may require a face covering when social distancing requirements cannot be met.

The district will have a limited amount of face coverings available for a student or employee who requests one. The district is encouraging students and staff to bring their own face coverings. These face coverings should be non-political and not have inappropriate language or images.

TAKE-HOME WORK / HOMEWORK:

- Should be an extension of learning occurring in the classroom.
- Should be aligned to guided practice assigned during the class period.
- Will be returned to the student with feedback.

GRADING

- Same as years prior.
- Student grades will be updated in Infinite Campus weekly.

ATTENDANCE:

Attendance will be taken for both on-site and off-site students. All attendance policies and requirements remain as published in board policy and the student-handbook.

LEARNING PLATFORMS

Elementary will use the learning platforms:

- Google Classroom
- Google Meet
- IXL
- Lexia
- ABC Mouse

Middle School/High School will use the learning platforms:

- Google Classroom
- Google Meet
- Montana Ed Ready
- No Red Ink
- IXL
- APEX
- All auxiliary instructional technologies will be integrated into Google Classroom.
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Teachers will ensure that students know how to log in and use instructional technologies.

DRINKING FOUNTAINS

All drinking fountains in the district will be unavailable during the school day. Water bottle fill stations will be available for use. We encourage all students to bring a container for re-use during the school day.

BUSSING

- Students will have assigned seats on the school bus.
- Seats will be assigned by family units and distancing protocols.
- Face-coverings MAY be required on the school bus.
- Students expressing a fever before school should not be sent to school on the school bus.
- Bus drivers will be responsible for sanitizing their bus following each route/trip.
- To ensure safety at bus stops, the district is encouraging parents and/or students to take and log students temperature each morning before boarding the school bus.

ATHLETICS / ACTIVITIES

The Wibaux School District will follow the directives from MHSAA, the State of Montana, and the Wibaux County Health Department regarding interscholastic competition/activities.

Should interscholastic competition be ruled unsafe, the district will continue intrasquad activities unless directed to discontinue all activities.

The final determination of the level of competition and activity outside of the school district will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

OUT OF DISTRICT TRAVEL

Out of District Travel will occur within the guidance of MHSAA, the State of Montana, or the Wibaux County Health Department.

Passengers traveling out of the district will be required to wear a face covering when physical distancing is not practical or possible.

All out of district travel for school business will require prior approval from the superintendent. All district travelers need to be aware of face-covering directives in the destination county.

CLASSROOM ARRANGEMENT

In an effort to increase physical distancing, each teacher will use the most area of each classroom as possible for student seating.

Desks/tables will be facing all in the same direction with no groupings or pods created where students face one another.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

We discourage the sharing of school supplies. Families are expected to provide all published school supplies. Classroom equipment that must be shared will be cleaned and sanitized between each use.

TRANSITION TO OFF-SITE INSTRUCTION

All school employees, students, and families should be prepared to return to full off-site instruction should the State of Montana, Wibaux County Health Department, or the Wibaux School District Board of Trustees provide such a directive.

Students may make arrangements to borrow a Chromebook or laptop from the District should the need for full-time off-site instruction arise.

BEFORE SCHOOL

BEFORE SCHOOL PROCEDURE:

The building will open for student entry no sooner than 7:45 am unless previously arranged by the building administrator. All students will be expected to enter the school building through the front door. All individuals should apply hand sanitizer upon entering the building.

Upon arrival, students may visit their locker, use the restroom, and will report to their classroom or first-period class. Students and families should plan their arrival accordingly.

Temperature checks - At this time, the district will require temperature checks of students entering the building. Faculty/Staff will take and record their temperature upon arrival to the building each morning.

STUDENT DROP OFF

- Families dropping off students before school should park in front of the school or use the student drop-off zone at the front of the high school building or the south side of the elementary building.
- We ask parents/guardians to refrain from entering the building unless necessary.

BREAKFAST

Elementary breakfast will be served before the class day begins. Grade 7-12 breakfast will be available by 9:30 am to students.

DURING THE SCHOOL DAY

DEVICES

All students in grades 7-12 will be assigned a Chromebook or laptop at the beginning of the year. Each student will be responsible for their assigned device.

Device care and student/family liability are outlined in the student handbook, district policy, and acceptable use agreement.

Cleaning: Teachers will direct students to clean all district-owned devices on a weekly basis. Students are encouraged to do so as often as practical. Students should refrain from sharing Devices with other students.

RECESS

Morning and afternoon recess will be built into the academic day for each grade K-6. Dismissal and return times will be staggered by grade level.

PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT

If deemed necessary, all playground equipment will be sanitized after morning recess and again in the afternoon.

Families using the playground equipment outside of school hours are encouraged to sanitize equipment before and after use.

LUNCH

All grade levels will be dismissed at the published, staggered times. Appropriately, spaced seating will be designated in the lunchroom. Students will enter the lunchroom and proceed through the serving line. Students will be expected to remain seated for the duration of the lunch period. Students will dispose of their waste when they are dismissed from the lunchroom.

Students will be fed a balanced meal with appropriate portions and charged the established rate for the school lunch program. Students will have access to the staff served salad bar. Additionally, students should not share or trade food with other students. Students who choose to bring lunch from home are permitted to.

Students going home for lunch will follow the established procedures. Students returning to school after going home for lunch will be directed to sit in the entry until the transition time for their next class.

TRANSITIONS MS/HS - LOCKERS

- The use of a face-covering is highly recommended during passing times.
- Students should remain conscious of the physical distancing requirements as they move through the halls.
- Students are encouraged to carry most of their school materials in a backpack as they transition from class to class.

TRANSITIONS - ELEMENTARY

Elementary classroom teachers/paraeducators should plan to walk with their students to and from each special.

SPECIALS – ELEMENTARY

Technology/Keyboarding will occur in the Keyboarding classroom.

Library class will occur in the grade-level classroom or library.

Music/Band K-6 will be in the Art room/Lounge.

PE will occur in the high school gymnasium or outside weather permitting.

K-6 Art will occur in the art classroom.

WHAT TO DO IF A STUDENT DOES NOT FEEL WELL

If a student is presenting symptoms other than a fever (runny nose, coughing, sneezing, etc), the student will be required to wear a mask.

If a student runs a fever in school (temperature above 100.4 degrees)

1. Isolate the student.
2. Call the parent right away.
3. Parent/Guardian will contact a Health Care provider
4. Wibaux School District will contact the County Health Department

In the event that one student is sent home with a fever, family members will also be asked to go home.

When is a student safe to return to school if they had a fever.

1. The student needs to have a note from a provider or county health nurse saying that the student has been tested.
2. The student has to be fever-free for at least 24 hrs without medication.

POSITIVE CASES:

If a student test positive:

1. The classmates are quarantined and students have to work from home as required by the CDC.
2. The student will follow the guidelines of the CDC and the Health Department.

AFTER SCHOOL

BUS LOADING PROCEDURE

Students riding the bus home will be dismissed three minutes early.

Students riding the bus will depart the building through the West doors at the elementary and the East doors at the high school and board the appropriate bus.

STUDENT AFTER SCHOOL PICK-UP PROCEDURE

Parents should use the designated area to pick up their students after school.

Students will be supervised exiting the building.

ATHLETIC PRACTICE

Athletic practice will occur unless the state returns to Phase 1 OR Wibaux County Public Health determines practices should not occur.

Athletic Practice should be managed within the parameters published by MHSA.

CLEANING AFTER THE SCHOOL DAY

In addition to the regular cleaning and disinfecting regime, the custodial staff will use an electrostatic fog machine or a fogger/mister machine to apply a disinfecting solution to every classroom, locker room, restroom, and public area in the building.

Due to the cleaning regime created by the custodial staff of the building, Student access will be limited to the gymnasium after 3:45 pm.