



COVID-19
Frequently Asked Questions
-PHS-

Updated August 4th

This is a live document. As updates become available they will be added to the bottom of this document.

1- What precautionary measures is the district taking to create a safe environment?

The following is a brief summary of the precautionary measures we will have in place:

- **Thermal Cameras-** Each building's main entrances will have thermal cameras installed. These cameras will quickly and accurately measure the body temperature of each individual that enters our building without slowing the normal flow of entering the building. We will be requiring all students and staff to pass through these doors.
- **Hand Sanitizer-** Each classroom will have hand sanitizer available at all times. Students and staff will be required to use hand sanitizer or wash their hands on an hourly basis.
- **Social Distancing Measures-** As a district we will be encouraging teachers to spread student desks around their classrooms as much as possible. This may mean some teachers will need to remove some personal items. The district is willing to store these items if needed.
- **Creative Classroom Learning Environments-** The administration and staff will work to create additional classroom areas such as utilizing the auditorium, gym areas and libraries.
- **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)-** The district has disposable facemasks, cloth face masks, protective face shields, hand sanitizer, hand gloves and other PPE inventoried and ready to utilize. Students will be expected to provide their own mask to wear throughout the school day.

2- Will the Remote Learning option be similar to the Continuous Learning Plan from 4th quarter?

No, the Continuous Learning Plan utilized last spring will not be used again. Students participating in Remote Learning will be held accountable to meet attendance and academic expectations. Students in Remote Learning will have daily interaction with their teachers. Students and parents will be responsible weekly for turning in a daily log of attendance, and will not be eligible for any Extra-Curricular or KSHSAA sports/activities/events.

3- How will each building limit the amount of students in the hallways?

The high school will encourage students to move expeditiously between classes and staff will be in place to ensure that students are not loitering in the hallways.

4- Will there be adequate space between students at lunch?

Each building will be working to provide additional lunch space for students. This will include limitations on the number of students seated at each table and will also require additional tables to be placed in the auxiliary gym at PHS.

5- Who will be enforcing students to wear a face covering?

Similar to other school policies, all staff will ensure that students are wearing masks. Students will not be required to wear masks during strenuous physical activity or while they are eating in the lunch room.

6- What will happen if a student refuses to wear a face covering?

Students that refuse to wear a facemask will be referred to the building administration. If a student continues to refuse to wear a mask they may be asked to enroll in the Optional Remote Learning Environment.

7- Will masks be required while students are involved in physical activity, such as PE class?

During time of physical exertion in physical education courses students will not be required to wear a face covering. While not actively participating students will be required to wear a mask.

8- Will bathrooms be unlocked and available to students all day?

Bathrooms will be unlocked and available for students. The custodial staff will be sanitizing bathrooms on a regular basis. Students will be encouraged to use the bathroom during class to avoid students congregating in this area during passing periods.

9- How will temperatures be taken?

Each building's main entrances will have thermal cameras installed. These cameras will quickly and accurately measure the body temperature of each individual that enters our building without slowing the normal flow of entering the building. We will be requiring all students and staff to go through these main entry doors only.

10- Can parents provide hand sanitizer?

Yes, families may provide hand sanitizer for their students. The district will have hand sanitizer throughout the buildings, near the main entrances, in the hallways, and in each classroom.

11- How will classrooms be set up to allow for social distancing?

Teachers will be asked to remove personal items and some furniture to provide additional space in their classrooms. Some teachers may also be using different areas throughout the building to provide more space for social distancing. For example, auditoriums, unoccupied science labs and common spaces may be utilized when available.

12- Will parents be required to provide their students with PPE (Personal Protective Equipment)?

Yes, families will be asked to provide face coverings for their students. However, if a student does not have one when they arrive at school, each building will have additional face

coverings available. If you are unable to provide a mask for your child please reach out to PHS Office Staff. Students will not be sent home if they do not have a face covering.

13- Are parents/visitors allowed to enter the building during regular school hours?

Parents will be permitted to enter the building to check their students out of school for essential appointments. Parents are *encouraged* to call the office upon arrival, and the office will send your student out. There will be NO outside visitors allowed past the office.

14- What if a student has an allergy to the cleaning products?

If a student has a known allergy to cleaning materials we ask the families please communicate with the building administrator. The custodial department will be notified and appropriate measures will be taken.

15- What will seating be like on the buses?

All bus riders will be required to wear face coverings. Students will be assigned seats and the buses will be regularly sanitized. Bus drivers will wear a face covering when bus riders enter and exit the bus.

16- Will parents have to sign a release agreement to not hold the school accountable?

No, parents will not have to sign a release agreement.

17- Will spectators be allowed to attend sports/activity events?

It is USD #368's intent to allow parents to watch their students participate in activities. The schools will be working in partnership with the County Health Department and Frontier League schools to determine protocol for spectators.

18- Will students be able to take their masks off throughout the day?

Students may be provided with masks breaks throughout the day, as well as during lunch, and strenuous physical activity.

19- What will dropoff and pickup look like at each building?

Dropoff and pickup will look the same at each building. *PHS will not be open to students until 7:30.* When students arrive they will have the option to eat breakfast in the Commons Area OR report directly to their 1st Block Class. Students will not be allowed to loiter in the hallways or common spaces within the building.

20- Will school days have to be longer?

No, at this time there have been no alterations to the length of days.

21- Will students be using lockers?

Students at the High School will be issued lockers. No change is planned regarding use of lockers from previous school years. Students will be encouraged to move quickly between classes and will not be allowed to congregate in the hallways.

22- Will there still be events such as Homecoming, Prom, Fine Arts Performances, etc?

Building administrators will work with the USD #368 Reopening Plan guidelines and the Miami County Health Dept. (MCHD) to determine which activities/events can be held in a safe environment.

23- Who closes a school if there are too many cases of COVID-19? What is the number of cases that closes schools?

The MCHD or the State of Kansas will make the determination to close schools. Superintendents and School Boards do not have the authority to close schools due to COVID-19.

24- Will we be notified if a student in our school building tests positive?

USD 368 will contact parents/students and staff members to notify them that a person who tested positive for COVID-19 was in one of our school buildings. The individual who tested positive will not be identified in communications to the school community at large.

25- What happens if we have to shut down school like we did in March?

If we are mandated by the MCHD or the State of Kansas to shut down, we would implement our Remote Learning plan. Students in grades 6-12 would be required to log-in daily, via a program, such as Zoom, with their teachers at their regularly scheduled classroom time. Unlike the Continuous Learning Plan, students will be required to meet daily with their teachers, an attendance log will be required and assignments and tests will be administered and graded.

26- Will other organizations be using PHS for their events?

At the present time outside organizations WILL NOT be utilizing PHS. Should the building become available and an event does occur all protocols and social distancing will be required, and cleaning protocols will be put in place.

27- If my student tests positive for COVID-19 or is notified that they have been in direct contact with someone who is positive, will they switch to remote learning?

No, students that are enrolled for in-person classes and miss school due to COVID-19 reasons will work with their individual teachers to make-up the work. Students may have access, similar to remote learners, to their teachers and classes on a daily basis until they are released to return to in-person classes.

28- Will students that choose Remote Learning or Virtual be required to take state assessments?

Yes, all students in grades 3rd-8th and 10th grade that are enrolled in USD 368 schools are required to take state assessments.

29- Will students be turned in for truancy if they do not attend or participate in Remote Learning or Virtual Program?

Yes, normal attendance laws will be followed and enforced. The Optional Remote Learning options are much different than the Continuous Learning Plan from last spring. Those families that choose the Remote Learning option will be required to complete a Remote Learning Log on a daily basis. The virtual program also keeps track of attendance.

30- Can my student participate in KSHSAA activities if they are enrolled in a Remote learning or Virtual program?

At this time, students enrolled in remote learning or the virtual program are **not** allowed to participate in USD 368 activities and sports.

31- Will students have access to a device if we enroll in the Remote Learning or Virtual program?

Yes, all in-person or remote students in grades 6-12 are issued a Chromebook at the beginning of the school year. Remote students will use their district issued Chromebook. Students opting to enroll in the Virtual Program are provided with a laptop from Greenbush.

32- If a student starts school under the Remote Learning Program or Virtual Program may they change to On-Site Learning during the semester?

Students are asked to commit to a Remote learning plan until the end of the semester. Students enrolled in the Virtual program are asked to commit for the year.

33- How will shared materials be handled?

Shared materials will be discouraged as much as possible. When sharing of materials must occur, the materials will be sanitized between use. If further protection is needed, i.e. gloves, they will be made available.

34- Will there be any changes to the attendance policies?

Communication will be key. There are compulsory attendance laws that schools must adhere to. If a child is sent home by a school nurse, that will always be excused. If a parent communicates an absence due to illness the attendance policies found in the PHS Student Handbook will continue to be followed. School administrators and nurses are most concerned with attendance in the event of chronic unexcused absences.

35- Will my student receive SPED services if we choose Remote Learning or Virtual?

Yes, an IEP team will review current services and determine what changes are needed to ensure the success of your child. Additional support or guidance may be provided by the East Central KS Special Education Cooperative.

36- Will students have access to the water fountains?

Not at this time. Students are encouraged to bring water bottles. Students will be able to use the water bottle filling stations and will be able to refill their water bottles regularly.

37- If the thermal cameras indicate that an individual has a fever what procedures will be followed?

An assigned staff member and the building administration will be notified immediately by the system that an individual has a fever. The individual will be discretely asked to see the nurse. The nurse will conduct an additional assessment to confirm whether the individual has a temperature and determine if they need to go home.

38- How will after-school sports/activities be handled with regard to providing a safe environment for everyone ?

A review of current restrictions, guidelines, and recommendations from: MCHD, KSHSAA, CDC, KDHE, and state government will be used to create a plan that minimizes risk for athletes, coaches, officials, and spectators.

39- At what point does a student, staff member or visitor put their face covering on?

Face coverings will be required while inside all district buildings or when outside and social distancing is not possible.

40- How can students request schedule changes?

Students will be emailed a google form on Wednesday, August 5th, when schedules go live. This form will be utilized to request a schedule change. NO in-person schedule changes will be made prior to the start of school.

41- Can remote learners/virtual students enroll in Off Campus Programs provided through Flint Hills Tech, FSCC or Neosho?

Yes. Direct communication will come from the PHS Counseling Department for students that enroll in these programs.

42-Can remote learners enroll in dual credit classes and receive college credit through FSCC this year?

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1HgVhhxPhRS70sbBV5-13MZuHjzGEA-br/view?usp=sharing>

Yes. Please continue to watch your student email account for enrollment and fee deadlines related to these courses. Remote learners will have similar expectations for coursework as in-person students.

43- Will remote and virtual students pay all fees at enrollment?

Yes. PHS will still require all student fees. The class dues and activity fees are used to pay for miscellaneous expenditures that do not fit into specific categories.

44-When is the first day of school for high school students?

Wednesday, August 19th will be utilized for Freshman/New Student Orientation. This Orientation Day will run from 8am until 3:10pm. Students in grades 10-12 will report to school on Thursday, August 20th. Separate start dates are being used by off campus programs. Those students affected will be emailed this information.

45-I have questions about Virtual Learning, who do I contact?

Karen Ulanski is the Director of Virtual Learning. She can be reached at karen_ulanski@usd368.org or by calling 294-8018.