

# Sarcoxie Bears

## Re-entry Plan



Aug 6, 2020

**Sarcoxie R-II  
School District  
School Year  
Planning**

**2020-2021**

# A Message from the Superintendent

Parents and Students,

I expect the 2020-2021 school year to be a unique one that is full of successful achievements for our children. At this time, the Sarcoxie R-II School District is planning on having face to face classroom sessions this fall. We have been working hard to modify the traditional school experience to make our campuses as safe as possible for students, teachers and staff.

We cannot wait to see our students return to school August 25! Our continued partnership with our parents and families will lead to many opportunities for student success and growth as we move forward. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

**Phil Lewis**  
Superintendent

Sarcoxie Bears:

As we all continue to work through the challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic and prepare to reopen school this fall we wanted to share with you our plan for the reopening of our Sarcoxie Schools.

**School will open on time and be as normal as possible:**

Our district campuses will open as scheduled on Tuesday August 25<sup>th</sup> for full day classes. We plan to have school on our normal schedule from 7:55 – 3:35 at the HS and 8:05-3:45 at Wildwood daily on our four-day week schedule according to the regular school calendar.

**What will the school day look like?**

Please be patient with us as this will be a work in progress and some procedures will most likely change as we progress through the year and recommendations from health officials adjust.

We will do our best to socially distance whenever possible and keep kids as separated as possible. We plan to have all our normal classes in their respective classrooms – PE and other non-traditional classes will be held outside as much as the weather permits.

**Entering the buildings:**

- Daily temperature checks will be required for all students and staff.
- Students and staff should not come to school if they have a fever (defined as a temperature of 100 degrees or above) or have displayed other symptoms of COVID-19.
- If a student or staff member is found to have a fever (defined as a temperature of 100 degrees or above) while at school, they will be referred to the school nurse for evaluation.

*Again, please be patient and flexible with us as we go through this process and know the procedures may change to meet the needs of our students.*

**Food Service:**

- Breakfast at Wildwood and the High School will be served in the classroom. Lunch will be served in classrooms or a location where social distancing is possible.
- Students can of course bring their own meals from home if they choose.

**Restricted visitors:**

- Visitors will only be allowed in the building by appointment and will be screened for temperature. All visitors will be required to wear a mask.
- If picking up a child during school hours, call the office and we will escort the student to your vehicle. (Students will not be signed in/out in the office.)
- No lunch guests will be permitted until further notice.

**Face coverings (Masks):**

Because it is not feasible to expect students and staff to maintain the CDC recommended physical distance of six feet at all times, all students/staff riding the school bus will be required to wear a mask. Also district employees will wear a mask/face covering when within six feet of another person. We ask and highly recommend that students wear face coverings in the buildings, especially when within six feet of another person.

**Transportation:**

- Temperatures will be taken upon boarding the bus. If any student has a temperature at or over 100.0 degrees. That student will not be able to ride district transportation. The parent must contact the school before the student can re-enter a school building.
- If you are capable of transporting your own children to and from school we ask that you do that.
- Buses will run later than normal to ensure they do not arrive early due to students going directly to classrooms.
- Leave open seats whenever possible
- Your child **must** wear a face covering while on the bus.

*We will disinfect the buses at least twice daily, once following the morning route and then again following the afternoon routes.*

**Protecting your children through cleaning and sanitizing of the schools:**

- Sanitization and disinfecting efforts will be stepped up throughout the school day.
- Highly touched surfaces will be sanitized three times daily.
- Teachers and students will also take a role in sanitizing classroom surfaces and materials.
- Hand sanitizing stations have been set up outside classrooms and throughout the building.

**Athletics and Extracurricular activities:**

As of right now MSHSAA is planning a full athletic and extracurricular schedule. The MSHSAA guidance is that as long as schools are able to meet face to face athletic and extracurricular activities may continue. This is of course subject to change as we go, but for now we are planning on athletics and extracurricular activities taking place.

**Large gatherings and common spaces:**

Large assemblies, gatherings, and field trips will be suspended at this time.

**Health awareness and education:**

Students and staff will receive education on physical distancing, avoiding the touching of the face, use of face coverings, personal hygiene, cleaning, and disinfection.

**Temporary closures:**

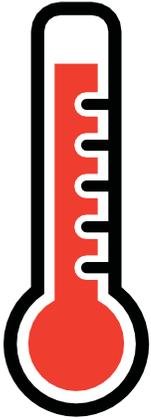
The superintendent may temporarily close school for appropriate cleaning and planning if he determines daily student attendance has been significantly impacted by COVID-19 infections. All measures outlined in this policy are temporary and subject to further review and change based on information received from local, state, and federal officials. The superintendent and designees will continue to monitor available data including local case counts, hospital readiness, and trends over time. The superintendent shall also have the authority to make changes to these procedures based on emergent changing conditions, subject to review by the Board.

**Virtual School Option:**

Sarcoxie R-II School District can provide a virtual school option for grades K-12. This will be through the DESE approved MOCAPS program. To be eligible for this option we ask that you have your own computer or device and have working and stable internet access. Virtual students will still be enrolled in Sarcoxie Schools – just attending virtually.

- High School virtual option is a full semester commitment – meaning that if you choose this option for your child he/she must complete one semester of school virtually before returning to in person school.
- Grades K-8 virtual option is a full quarter commitment – meaning that if you choose this option for your child he/she must complete one full quarter of school virtually before returning to in person school.
  - Traditionally to be successful in a virtual setting students will need to be actively engaged in the program for multiple hours per day to meet all academic requirements.
- While we understand there are special circumstances that justify the decision to choose a virtual learning environment, Sarcoxie Schools believe it is best for the academic, social and emotional wellbeing of students to attend school in person.

\*Please contact your student's school office to inquire for more information regarding the virtual education option.



## Screening at School

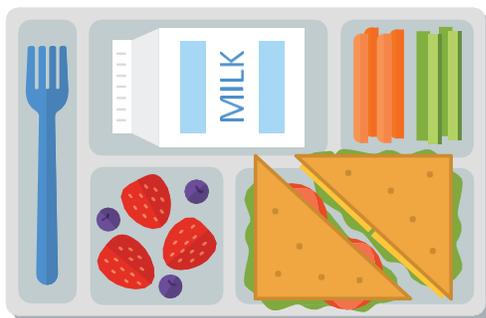
- **Anyone with a fever of 100 or higher should not go to a school site.**
- **Parents should not send their child to school if they have a fever or other symptoms of illness.**
- **Student temperatures will be taken once per day on the forehead before a student is allowed to enter the building.**

## Arriving at School

- **When possible we ask parents to transport their own children to school.**
- **Face coverings are required when students ride district transportation.**
- **We encourage all students to wear face coverings throughout the day.**
- **Students will not be permitted to congregate outside or in common areas within the building.**
- **Personal, pre-filled water bottles are encouraged. Only bottle filling stations will be available during the school day.**



- **Breakfast will be served in the classrooms.**
- **We ask that parents do not eat lunch with their child at school at this time.**
- **Restricted visitors: visitors will not be able to enter school buildings except by appointment.**



# General Safety Precautions Throughout the Day

Sarcoxie will focus on strategies for basic hygiene, social distancing, identification and isolation of sick students/employees, safety protocols and flexibilities, and employee training.

Recess for students in grades PreK-5 will be conducted in a designated location by class.



Daily enhanced cleaning and disinfecting of high-touch areas and restrooms will occur several times daily.

Hand sanitization stations will be readily available

The district will increase the frequency of cleaning restrooms, conference rooms, break rooms, cafeterias, and buses.

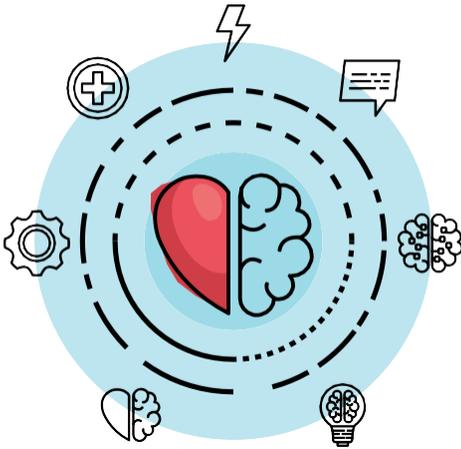
Lockers will not be utilized to discourage congregating between classes.

## When Someone Shows Symptoms

- The school will immediately separate any staff or students with **COVID-19 symptoms** (such as fever, cough, or shortness of breath) at school.
- All buildings will have a room/space to isolate anyone who displays symptoms.
- The school nurse will contact parent, guardian or emergency contact list.



# Attending to the social emotional well-being of our students will be a top priority as they return to school.



**District and school staff are committed to supporting students' social emotional wellness and offering resources to ensure students transition back to school smoothly. Support may include social emotional learning, building relationships, community building activities, and increased access to mental health/wellness services. Families and schools will need to work together to check how students are feeling and assess their individual needs to process the support our students need during these challenging times.**

**In order to maintain social distancing, activities that require students to congregate will be limited and modified as guidelines change.**



**Social distancing is important when feasible to ensure the health and safety of students and staff. In cases where social distancing is possible, it is encouraged. Social distancing is required in instances where face coverings are not appropriate such as extracurricular activities like band and athletics. Modifications on how the course is taught may be necessary to limit the risk of spreading the virus. Schools will work with students and families to ensure accommodations are made and alternative options are considered.**

# Section 1: Health and Safety Considerations

## School Site/Campus procedures

- **Students and adults entering campuses will be screened for symptoms.**
- **The district will not conduct COVID-19 testing. This is a responsibility of parents/guardians.**

## Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- **All students are highly recommended to wear a face covering in the school building.**
- **Building staff/teachers will wear face coverings where social distancing is not possible.**
- **Hand sanitizing stations will be set up throughout the district.**

## Social Distancing

- **Social distancing protocol of maintaining a 6ft distance from another person should occur when possible.**
- **Students may not be able to maintain social distancing in a majority of classroom settings or on district transportation.**

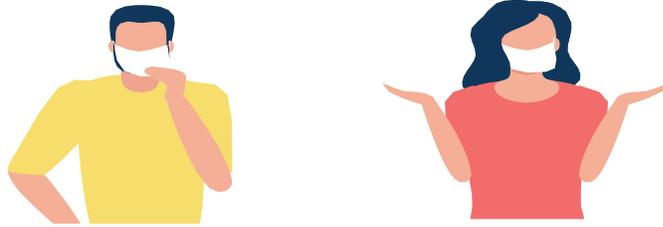


## Transportation

- **All student bus riders are asked to wear a face covering on the bus.**
- **When a student boards the bus, they will use hand sanitizer to clean their hands.**
- **Upon arrival at school, students will disembark the bus while remaining masked, and enter the school through entry points designated by the building principal.**

## School Athletics and Activities

**Sarcoxie will follow the guidance of the Missouri State High School Athletic Association (MSHAA) regarding school athletic and activity programs.**



## Reporting/Health Protocols/ Communication

August 6, 2020

Sarcoxie Parents/Guardians:

As School and County Health officials work together to monitor the current COVID-19 Pandemic in our community, the district nurses want to provide information to you regarding our school re-opening in August. The health and safety of each student and staff member is our highest priority. As a safeguard, focused efforts are being made to follow the CDC guidelines for in-depth cleaning and sanitizing of our buildings. The use of personal protective equipment, physical distancing where possible, intensified handwashing practices, and increased availability of hand sanitizer will also be implemented.

We ask that you help us protect our students and community from the spread of infectious illness by keeping sick children at home. We also ask that they stay home if there are other members of the household who are ill. If a student becomes ill at school, he/she will be screened by the nurse for symptoms and sent home if indicated. **If you are contacted regarding an ill child, please make every effort to pick him/her up within one hour. It is critical that emergency contact numbers for your child be kept up-to-date in the school office.**

According to the CDC, symptoms of COVID-19 may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus, ranging from mild to severe. The following symptoms would indicate the need to keep your child home from school:

- \*fever (temperature of 100 degrees or greater) in the last 48 hours
- \*cough
- \*difficulty breathing
- \*fatigue
- \*body aches
- \*new loss of taste or smell

Additional symptoms can occur and you may refer to the following CDC links for more information:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/steps-when-sick.html>  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/end-home-isolation.html>

The Sarcoxie School District is committed to taking a proactive approach in addressing this pandemic and will continue to follow the guidance of health officials as the local situation changes. If you have health concerns regarding your child, you may contact the individual school in which they attend.

