

Instruction – K-3 FT Updated 11242020

What hours will school run? Drop off (either by car or bus) will be between 8:30 and 9:00 and pick up will be at 2:00 pm. Both will be staggered to allow for proper distancing upon entry and exit from the building.

What will classes look like? Classes will be the same as a traditional school program with teacher led instruction, student projects, instruction in all topics typical of the school day.

What will be different? Students will be seated and move within the building with proper social distancing. The teacher will be wearing a type of protective covering so they may be in proximity with students. Specialist time will be delivered differently (PE, special education support, etc.) to ensure that students do not mix cohorts.

Will students have to wear masks? Yes, under current Department of Education guidance, students must wear masks. These may be provided by the family and the school will have them available as well.

Will there be an online component? Yes, through the generous support of the Knappa Schools Foundation, a program called SeeSaw will be used to support instruction. This program is student friendly for young learners. If a student got ill and they and others needed to quarantine, the teacher could temporarily deliver content online, and students would already be familiar with the program because they use it during class regularly.

What if a classmate or the teacher gets ill? Their teacher would not change, but that student and others who have been in contact with the student would quarantine. The level of quarantine is determined in cooperation with the Health Department. Just like normal, sick

students will stay home and rest until better. If they are better prior to the end of the quarantine period, the remaining days would be delivered online temporarily until the student could return to school, typically around 14 days.

If I don't like this model, can I change? Yes, changes will be allowed at the nine week periods (at the end of each quarter) throughout the year.

How often will this program be reviewed? The district will formally review the plan for educational effectiveness and safety every four weeks, and adjustments will be made as needed. The program may also be adjusted “along the way” if unexpected needs arise.

What role will parents play? Because this model is similar to “normal” parents play their typical role of supporting their student with home-tasks, communicating with the teacher about their student(s) needs, etc.

Can I volunteer in the classroom? Unfortunately, classroom volunteers, while welcome, will be unable to join classes at this time.

Why was K-3 chosen to return full time first? K-3 learners are unique. They are learning to read, and this instruction is difficult to deliver in an online or hybrid format. Online learning is hard at this age because of difficulty with reading AND a need for a lot of parental help and supervision. Additionally, one of the goals of early learning is to teach students “how to do school.” In a hybrid environment, your young learners do not learn traditional skills about how to interact and learn in a “normal” classroom. This is essential for student success in the future and full time instruction supports long term learning goals. Older students, while this model is not ideal for all, are more capable of using an online platform for part of their learning with support when they are in school with their teacher.

Will things change? Yes. We are constantly updating our plan. We know we have work to do to better accommodate those who receive special education services or are English language learners. We also know we need to continue to find solutions for those who have internet connectivity issues at home. We are also continuing dialogue with the community and are making adjustments based on feedback. The Department of Education and Health Department will update their requirements and our program will also change. Please return regularly to this website to see what has changed. In times of a virus, we do not have control over the whole situation, and adjustments will be needed.