

Weld RE1 District Reopening Plan 2020 – 2021



Mission:

Our Total Commitment is to provide
an Exemplary and Safe education for all students.

Introduction

I want to start by sharing my gratitude to our students, staff, and parents. You have responded to this crisis in such a graceful way. I am proud and blessed to be your superintendent and I know that together we can navigate these difficult times.

Our Board of Directors approved our reopening plan and it represent our best thinking at this time with the information we have. We also realize that this plan may change in the weeks to come as the everchanging medical situation in our county/state will dictate our actions.

Our plan provides quality in-person and remote learning options while taking prudent steps to protect the health and safety of our students, staff, and community. The health and safety of our students, families, and staff is our top priority.

We know that in-person instruction is the best option for most of our students, and we understand the financial, social, and emotional impacts this pandemic has had on many. Weld RE 1 is committed to ensuring all students receive high-quality educational experiences. We certainly, recognize the majority's desire to return back to normal, especially after enduring so many months of restrictions. Knowing that in-person learning might not be the best option for every family, Weld RE 1 will be offering an online remote learning option for those who choose to take that route.

It is difficult for schools to predict what the fall may look like when it comes to the COVID-19 pandemic. The reality of the situation is that students will likely be learning in a variety of ways. We ask for your understanding in this ever-changing situation and know that health and safety protocols will be updated frequently depending on the guidance from state and local health agencies and governor orders. These changes or updates in protocols or procedures will be communicated to families, staff, and students.

School districts across the state based their plans on the guidance and recommendations from the Colorado Department of Education (CDE), the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE), the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and our local county health departments.

I understand that there is likely no plan or approach that will make everyone happy. Opinions and perspectives on if, and how schools should open vary greatly in our community. In this plan we have attempted to provide quality in-person and remote learning options that allow our families to decided what is best for them, and do it in such a way that mitigates the risks while maximizing the potential rewards.

Executive Summary

RETURN TO 100% IN-PERSON LEARNING, WITH A REMOTE/ONLINE OPTION

Weld RE1 Schools will open **all PreK-12 schools** on August 10th for Staff and August 20th for students. Staff will train and prepare for a safe and healthy in-person learning environment during the first week. All students have the option of attending school in-person, four days a week, Tuesday through Friday. Students and families who wish to choose remote learning will have that option. While schools will provide in-person learning four days a week, safety, health, and hygiene protocols aligned with guidance from public health will contribute to a different school experience. The District will continue to provide ongoing business and support services to all sites to maintain an environment supporting the student educational experience.

By attending in-person learning, students, families, and staff agree to follow all school safety, health, and hygiene practices.

HEALTH & SAFETY

The health and safety of students, staff, and the community are our priority. The safety, health, and hygiene protocols outlined throughout the Reopening Plan align with the principles: **Ventilation, Space, People, and Time** developed in collaboration with public health experts.

- **Ventilation** - Maximize airflow in places where people are gathering.
- **Space** - Utilize 6 feet of social-distancing to the extent possible.
- **People** - Maintain consistent cohort groupings of individuals and limit the amount and size of gatherings to the extent possible.
- **Time** - Limit the duration of interaction between individuals outside of cohort groupings.

One of the most common symptoms of COVID-19 infection is a fever. Consequently, all students will have their temperature taken and answer a health screening questions during the first 15 minutes. Staff will do a screening prior to their arrival at school or workplace.

Students with a temperature over **100.4 degrees Fahrenheit** will be sent home. If students or staff are ill, they must stay at home.

**Face coverings in Secondary schools will be required during the day when 6 feet of social distancing cannot be maintained. Face coverings in Elementary schools are HIGHLY Recommended.

Additionally, family members and visitors will not be permitted in school facilities without an appointment.

If a staff member or student presents COVID-19 symptoms, they will be relocated to an established isolated room (not the health room, as this must be kept available) until they can safely leave the building. In this case, and with a confirmed case of COVID-19, the Chief Safety Officer or HR manager will coordinate with Weld County Public Health (WCPHE) and District Leadership to determine the correct course of action for individual schools on a case-by-case basis. WCPHE has indicated this may include ceasing in-person instruction for a period with a return to remote learning until the contagious period has passed.

SCHOOL DAY SCHEDULES

Schools will develop and follow a full 7 period schedule to the extent possible. Individual school schedules will be developed with the goal to group students in a way that minimizes co-mingling of students. Student cohort groupings will be consistent and limited to the same grade level or course, to the greatest extent possible. School schedules will be constructed under the following guidelines and will be announced by schools to their students and families before school begins in August.

Elementary School Structure (PK - 5):

- Students will remain with the same grade level cohort the entire day. These cohort groups will learn, transition, play and eat together.

Middle School (6-8) and High School Structure (9-12):

- Students will be scheduled into two (2) groups A/B.
- Students will follow in-person classes 2 x per week and remote learning 2 x per week.
- Students will follow a full schedule including electives to the extent possible.

School administrators will develop a plan specific to their buildings to address pick-up/drop-off, building entry, symptom screening, transitions, lunch schedules, etc. Individual schools will communicate their plans to their staff and school community for review prior to implementation.

ACADEMICS

Teachers will administer benchmark assessments on August 13th and 14th to diagnose student learning needs and place students in groups to address any academic slide that may have happened since mid-March. In a situation where students at a school would need to switch to remote/online learning due to an outbreak of the virus, teachers will be prepared with tools and training to ensure a seamless transition. This will include learning resources and tasks in a learning management system (i.e. Google Classroom, and Edgenuity). Please read the section on Learning Models below.

FOOD & NUTRITION SERVICES

Weld RE1 Schools will continue to provide meal service to students for both in-person and remote learners. Therefore, the meal service program may be a combination of in-school serving and a “grab & go” program like the one implemented in the spring of 2020.

All Food and Nutrition Services employees will follow **cleaning and disinfecting protocols** aligned with [Centers for Disease Control \(CDC\) Cleaning/Disinfecting School Guidance](#) and **will wear face coverings** during food preparation and service.

TRANSPORTATION

In accordance with the CDC, CDPHE, CDE and WCPHE guidelines, bus capacity will be restricted to 22-24 passengers or less depending on the school bus size. This requirement limits our ability to provide the same extensive transportation this district is known for. We will eliminate the bust stop at Valley Village because we do not have enough buses or drivers to accommodate the number of students at that stop; this stop is also within the 1 mile radius as stipulated in Board policy.

****We ask ALL parents that can, to help us with transporting their children to school****

STUDENT SUCCESS

The District seeks to meet the unique needs of all students in Weld Re1 Schools and this includes

Special Education, and Gifted and Talented students. Teachers work diligently to consider and plan to equitably serve the diverse needs of all students. The respective teachers are committed to working with families to answer questions, resolve concerns, and problem-solve barriers to a student's success.

Learning Models for 2020 - 2021

In-Person Learning Model

This model includes staff and students returning to traditional in-person learning with increased safety guidelines in place as advised by public health officials.

Hybrid Model

Under this model, students in grades 6-12 will attend school in-person two days per week, and do remote learning two days per week, Tuesday through Friday.

Remote learning will include combinations of video instruction by teachers and engaging in individual learning activities and assignments. Attendance in remote learning will be required and learning activities will be graded.

The first five Mondays, students will be required to engage in remote learning activities from home.

Remote Learning

This model is available for any student K – 12th grade that want to work from home four days per week (full time). Students must commit to this model for at least the first semester, and possibly for the whole school year. Our remote learning model will focus on learning opportunities during the school day and will include a greater focus on rigor and enhanced interaction between educators and their students. (The learning experience will be different from the 4th quarter experience and the rigor and pace will match the in-person learning).

The district is working hard to ensure that there is little difference in the quality and rigor between the different models.

Students enrolled in remote/online programs must meet the same instructional hour requirements that students at brick-and-mortar schools must meet. Although the nature of a remote/online program allows flexibility, students and families are encouraged to develop a set routine and structured time for learning to ensure students can meet the necessary hours for success.

*Remote learning will be utilized when groups of students are not able to attend in person for an extended period of time due to positive COVID - 19 cases in the community or in the case of regional/local outbreaks, or within a specific cohort or school. *

Grade Level Information

Preschool

- Preschool students will attend school at the building and time that they select at registration.
- Additional precautions will be in place to ensure social distancing and a safe learning environment.
- Students will be brought in and dismissed in a way that keeps classes separated as much as possible with start/end times potentially being slightly staggered when needed to maintain social distancing.
- Parents and guardians will still be required to sign children in and out, but only essential visitors will be allowed to enter the building. Students who are late will need to go to the main entrance so that they may be escorted to class.
- Upon arrival, students will use approved hand sanitizer until they can wash their hands in the classroom.
- It is highly recommended that students bring a cloth facemask to school daily.
- Students will see that tables and seating areas will be spaced apart as much as possible and will face in the same direction rather than clustered into small groups whenever possible.
- Students will have opportunities for outdoor recess daily, except during inclement weather where movement activities will occur in classrooms.

Elementary Schools

- All K-5 students will attend school for in-person learning four days per week and will stay with their classroom and/or grade level cohort throughout the day.
- The first five Mondays, K-5 students will participate in Remote Learning from home.
- Additional precautions will be in place to ensure a safe learning environment to the extent possible.
- To minimize close contact with other students, there may be directional arrows in hallways to help guide students. As much as possible, students will stay to the right in hallways and use the directional arrows to keep traffic flowing.
- Upon arrival, students will use hand sanitizer and will be screened for symptoms including visual screening, temperature checks, and symptom-related questions.
- It is highly recommended that students bring a cloth facemask to school daily and wear it when social distancing is not possible.
- Hand sanitizer and approved cleaning supplies will be available in each classroom and kept out of reach of students and used only under direct supervision.
- Students will see that desks and tables will be spaced apart as much as possible and will face the same direction rather than clustered into small groups.

- Students will attend specials (art, music, P.E.) on a regular schedule; however, there will be less sharing of equipment and materials.
- Students will have opportunities for recess and daily movement, except during inclement weather.
- Students will be required to enter and exit the school in a way that keeps cohorts separated as much as possible. Schools will establish arrival and pick-up schedules.
- Students may not arrive at school earlier than their scheduled time.
- Alternatively, students and parents may choose to enroll in the district’s full-time remote program as described above.

Secondary (Middle and High School)

- Students will be assigned to one of two grade-level cohorts (A or B).
- All 6 – 12th grade students will attend school for in-person learning two days per week and remote learning two days per week.
- Students will stay with their grade-level cohort to the extent possible.
- The first five Mondays, students will participate in Remote Learning from home.
- Precautions will be in place to ensure social distancing and a safe learning environment.
- Students will enter the school at the same entrance as others in their same grade-level cohort to keep cohorts separated as much as possible.
- Upon arrival, students will use hand sanitizer and will be screened for symptoms including visual screening, temperature checks, and symptom-related questions.
- Per health department recommendations and executive orders, students must bring a cloth facemask to school daily and should expect to wear it throughout the day. There will be scheduled “mask breaks” in spaces where social distancing can safely be achieved.
- Hand sanitizer and approved cleaning supplies will be available in each classroom and kept out of reach of students and used only under direct supervision.
- Students will see that desks and tables will be spaced apart as much as possible and will face the same direction rather than clustered into small groups.
- Students will attend electives on a regular schedule; however, there will be less sharing of equipment and materials.
- Alternatively, students and parents may choose to enroll in the district’s full-time remote program as described above.

Additional Information

Changes to the School Calendar

To provide additional staff training and collaboration opportunities to ensure that they can do in-person and remote instruction the student calendar changed a little.

The first day of in-person learning for K – 12th grade students will be **Thursday, August 20, 2020**. The first two days will be half days so that students can learn how, in-person learning with restrictions, will

work this year. Group A for middle and high school students will start on the 20th and Group B on the 21st.

However, students will be taking benchmark assessments on Thursday August 13th or Friday August 14th. This will be only for a short time during the day and students will be released after the assessments.

There will be no school on Monday – Wednesday, August 17, 18 and 19.

The first official remote learning day for students in grades K-12 will be on Monday, August 24th.

Note: The first five Mondays will ALL be Remote learning days.

Attendance

Weld RE 1 is waiting on further procedural guidance from the Colorado Department of Education for tracking attendance for students that are participating in Remote learning. The district will be required to closely monitor and document student attendance for both in-person and remote learning days. Student attendance reporting will be used for CDE compliance reporting, local County Health reporting, truancy, and accountability. This will include reporting students who are absent due to COVID-19 symptoms or quarantine. If students are quarantined at home, the expectation is they would engage in remote learning during that time.

Procedures:

- Attendance for Remote learning will be annotated in Infinite Campus.
- Attendance will be taken once per day for all grade levels and recorded when students log in to their course and/or complete assignments through self-paced courses.
- The same absence excusal policy will apply to absences as in-person learning. Examples for “attendance/participation includes, but are not limited to:
- Logging in to online platform
- Written email correspondence
- Written or virtual Google Classroom correspondence
- Phone calls
- Work completion
- Assignments completed at home (both eLearning and hard-copy instruction

The District will continue to use this information to check in on our students in the following ways:

- Know which students have attended class and/or completed their work.
- Know if the District must follow up with families if we are concerned about a student’s well-being.
- Know if students cannot engage because of lack of internet or if their technology does not work.

Grading Policies

Strong grading policies support meaningful, timely feedback on student progress. All schools will have grading policies that set clear expectations for learning. Building administration and professional teaching staff shall incorporate a grading system for evaluating and recording student progress to measure student performance in conjunction with the district's academic standards.

Consistent with normal practice, teachers will use appropriate discretion in deciding which specific measures are factored into students' grades.

More information about accessing your student's grades and assignment progress will be provided by your child's teacher.

Student Code of Conduct

The District's Student Conduct and Discipline Policies apply during in-person and remote learning. **Students enrolling for in-person learning are expected to adhere to all public health guidelines, protocols and procedures established at schools to create a safe and secure learning environment.** Student attendance at school will serve as agreement to these terms and conditions.

Any violation of terms and agreements regarding public health will be considered a violation of the Student Conduct Code and could be subject to disciplinary action.

All cloth face coverings must be in compliance with staff and student dress codes as outlined in Board policies.

- All staff will be required to bring and wear masks or other facial coverings when they cannot maintain a 6-foot distance. In some instances, face shields may be utilized.
- The Governor will supply every adult a KN95 mask (one per week) for the first 8-10 weeks.
- All Middle and High School Students must bring a cloth facemask to school daily and expect to wear it throughout the day with scheduled "mask breaks" in spaces where physical distancing can safely be achieved. The school will provide a face coverings if a student needs one.
- It is Highly recommended that Elementary students wear a face covering.

Times when students will be required to wear a face covering include but are not limited to:

- While riding the bus
- When entering or leaving the school or classroom
- When moving through hallways
- When using the restroom
- When in a communal setting, such as a gymnasium, cafeteria, office, and library
- In classrooms and other instructional settings where 6-foot distance cannot be maintained
- In outside locations when social distancing cannot be achieved
- Masks should be changed if they become wet or soiled.

- Cloth face coverings should be washed routinely.

****NO secondary school student will be allowed to participate in in-person learning without a face covering****

Public Health - KEY POINTS

1. Group Gatherings and Social Distancing Requirements

- Today there are state and local public health orders (PHOs) limiting the size of group gatherings. We will continue to follow these orders and loosen restrictions as PHOs are lifted and determine feasibility within the schools.
 - No assemblies.
 - No in-person field trips will be allowed.
 - When using auditoriums, cafeterias, and gymnasiums for instructional purposes, we will minimize the number of people, restrict cohort mixings, and maximize the spacing between students.
- Social Distancing Expectations
 - Maintain 6 feet (about 2 arms' length) from other people, to the greatest extent possible.
 - Classrooms will have as much distance between students as possible. Classroom desks/tables will be arranged so that all students face the same direction.

2. Hand Washing/Hand sanitizing

- Hand washing is always the preferred choice, however, when not possible, all schools and classrooms will be supplied with adequate hand sanitizer. Hand washing/sanitizer times throughout the school day will be implemented including, but not limited to: entering/exiting the building, entering/exiting classrooms, before/after eating, before/after recess, before/after mask removal and touching the face, after handling shared objects and after coughing/sneezing/blowing nose.
- Gloves
 - Provided for cleaning/disinfecting/sanitizing surfaces or objects.
- Thermometers
 - Provided for daily temperature screenings for all students.

3. Building Traffic Guidelines and Symptom Screening

- a) Upon building entry, a symptom screening process occurs.
- All students will be screened in the first period classroom by the teacher.
 - Itinerant staff (CBOCES) will be asked to complete a home screening form before entering a school. That includes temperature check and answering symptom screening questions.
 - Student bus riders will not be screened by bus driver but will be screened when they arrive at school.
 - To the extent possible, the same staff will conduct symptom screening with the same group of students each day. This will increase entry efficiency and enable

staff to become familiar with students and better recognize if a student is exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms.

- There will be multiple entry points for students to enter the building. School staff will be trained by our Registered Nurses (RNs) and provided protocols in July/August on how to screen students.
- Staff may be screened for international or out-of-state travel. May require quarantine for 14 days depending on guidance from WCPHE.

b) Each building will attempt to create a one-way traffic flow with separate entry and exit doors.

- Visual cues will be utilized such as floor decals or signs to indicate to students and staff the flow and direction of one-way traffic and effective distancing.
- Furniture will be arranged to maximize the amount of physical distancing possible and to align students in the same direction during the instructional day.
- Schools will control the flow of traffic into and out of the building to ensure that maximum capacity plans are adjusted and managed at each entry and exit point.

1.4 Confirmed positive COVID-19 Cases

- Symptomatic staff and students in the building will need to go to a designated isolation room (not the health room, as this must be kept available), until they can safely leave the building.
- District RN, Health Aides, and other designated staff will receive more detailed training for isolation rooms and management of symptomatic students and staff. Follow-up from the district RN will continue and all symptomatic staff and students will be sent home.
- Coordination with WCPH regarding suspected and confirmed cases.
 - WCPHE will assist the Weld RE 1 Schools leadership team to determine a course of action for individual schools on a case-by-case basis.
 - WCPHE has indicated this may include the exclusion of students and staff for an incubation period of 14 days in some cases.
 - Notification letters will be sent by the District Nurse and the Communication person with the collaboration of school administration.

1.5 Cleaning Procedures

- Consider increasing the circulation of outdoor air as much as possible by opening doors if it does not pose a safety or health risk to other students - for example, seasonal allergies.
- To the extent possible, students and staff should limit the sharing of all supplies, utensils, devices, toys, books, and learning aids.
- Custodial Services cleaning practices will be focused on cleaning for health, which includes an emphasis on disinfecting surfaces where bacteria or viruses are most likely to be transmitted.

Operations:

1. Athletics/Activities:

Weld Re1 will continue to promote and support student participation in athletic and activity programs to the extent permitted in the fall. We have maintained excellence in the extracurricular programs afforded to our students and will facilitate whatever is necessary to continue.

- Adherence to the [Colorado High School Activities Association \(CHSAA\)](#) parameters for sports and activities programs. (CHSAA has not yet provided guidance for fall 2020).

2. Facilities Management:

The Facilities Department prioritizes the health, safety, and education of students and staff within the educational environment.

In alignment with [guidance from public health](#), the facilities staff will implement cleaning and disinfecting protocols at all schools and will increase ventilation to maximize the circulation of outdoor air. In addition, the facility divisions will continue with:

- Ongoing site repair, remodel, renovation, and reconstruction projects.
- Staff allocations to meet the needs of the educational model.
- Modified work schedules depending on building and site use.

3. Food and Nutrition Services:

Weld Re1 will continue to provide meal service to students to the extent possible for in-person and remote/online learners. Therefore, the meal service program may be a combination of in-school serving and a “grab & go” program like the one implemented in the spring of 2020.

All Food and Nutrition Services employees will follow **cleaning and disinfecting protocols** aligned with [CDC cleaning/disinfecting School Guidance](#) and **will wear face coverings** during food preparation and service.

Parents are encouraged to complete the application for the Federal Free or Reduce Meal program if necessary.

4. School Safety:

The District Teams, and SRO program in collaboration with the Police departments in Platteville and LaSalle, will continue to provide ongoing daily coverage of all sites to ensure safe

environments for students, staff, and our community. The service includes:

- 24/7 dispatch and patrol teams
- Emergency management
- Threat assessment teams

5. Transportation:

The Transportation Department supports students by providing safe and timely transport services for eligible riders attending in-person learning. The district continues to serve special education needs.

- Capacities of the transport service will follow public health guidelines:
 - Number of students permitted to ride at any time
- If maximum capacity of bus ridership is reached, there will be a process in place to determine ridership.
 - Cleaning and disinfecting protocols following student pick up and drop-offs
- Scheduling dependent on ridership and capacities
 - CDC and public health guidelines have placed limitations on school bus ridership (For example, a 77-passenger school bus will only be allowed to transport 22 - 25 students).

School Bus Passengers Expectations:

- All students will be required to wear face coverings.
- Parents will be expected to withhold an ill student from riding the bus.
- Bused students will be symptom screened upon arrival at school.
- Students must sit one per seat on the school bus starting from the second row of the school bus.
- If students live in the same residence, those students will be required to sit together in the same seat to increase rider capacity.
- When students enter the school bus, they will load the bus from the rear to the front of the bus and unload the school bus from the front of the bus to the back (like some airlines).
- Students must stay in their seats and not change seats.

Technology

During the Fall of 2020, the IT Department will prioritize:

- Ensuring that all students and staff have access to a working device (Chromebook, iPad, laptop, desktop computer, or other);
- Collaborating with various departments, community partners, businesses, and others, as needed, in problem-solving efforts to ensure all students and staff have reliable internet access to complete their work remotely if necessary;
- Supporting students and their families, and our staff as they utilize our core digital learning tools and existing system applications;
- Modifying existing tools and applications to meet the needs of in-person and remote environments;
- Optimizing efficiencies and minimizing changes that will impact our existing tools and applications to provide stability across our system for all end users;
- **Internet connectivity for students:** We have developed an internal process for identifying students and families who do not have internet access at home. Once

identified, IT staff will collaborate with the schools and various departments, community partners, businesses, and others to ensure students have access to home internet for remote learning.

- **Student devices:** Feedback from the survey revealed that some students--sibling groups--were sharing devices during the spring remote learning period. We have identified the total number of devices we have available in the district and are working to redistribute those so that each student has access to a device that they can use for remote learning, if needed.
- **Internet connectivity and devices for staff:** Concerns were expressed about staff internet connectivity and device availability, as well. With the current models of staff primarily teaching from schools and few staff expressing the desire to operate in a fully remote environment, we will troubleshoot these issues on a case by case basis.
- **Technology tools:** We received widespread support for Google Hangout usage and have finalized a new contract with them to continue the use of that tool. Feedback concerning requests for many additional educational tools and a desire to streamline those for the benefit of teachers, students, and parents/guardians was passed along to the Technology team.

Communications

The district aims to inform, engage, and inspire all stakeholders and the community, no matter the environment. Whether functioning in an in-person school model, or fluctuating between in-person and remote learning, the district will continue to keep Weld Re1's employees, its families and students, and the extended community informed about the work of the District

Considering the changing dynamics of the 2020-21 school year and the district's intention to deliver two learning models simultaneously, we anticipate increased complexity in our communications efforts. These complexities will also be triggered by potential fluctuations in status of schools (open or closed in response to virus outbreaks), changing health guidelines, operational or central system modifications, increased needs to generate additional resources, national or local government actions, and multi-layered crisis situations.

Communication will be situationally responsive. Major announcements and day-to-day messaging for the community (families, students, employees, community members, and others) will include emails, newsletters, phone and text messaging, websites, social media, and video. Key communications tools to support the Reopening includes. Website, Newsletter, Social Media, and School Messenger (Voice and/or text)

Family Engagement

Family engagement initiatives create opportunities, programs, and resources for families to partner with their student's school, connect to educational progress, and engage in aspects of learning with their student. Engaged families have a direct impact on learning outcomes

and are especially critical for the success of remote learning. We want to be partners with you!

Special Education (With guidance from CBOCES Director)

OVERVIEW

The Special Education Department is committed to providing appropriate educational opportunities for students with disabilities in alignment with public health guidelines. Collaboration with families has always been a necessary part of the special education process and continues to be during this time. To address the unique needs of students with disabilities, special education providers will continue the work with families to collaboratively identify services for each student that can be provided both directly and indirectly in remote and in-person learning environments. Service plans may be adjusted as needed for the circumstances of the learning environment.

1. Community Involvement and Support

Weld Re1 believe student success is enhanced when schools, families, and the community work together to support learning.

2. Educator Support and Paraprofessional Support

Considering the COVID-19 pandemic, educators and paraprofessionals have been tasked to redefine how learning happens, and they have risen to the challenge with grace and innovation. To continue this momentum, the Special Education Department will carry on with creating avenues for learning and sharing new approaches as well as best practices. This will include professional learning sessions, online resources, working with current vendors for supplemental curriculum resources, and virtual collaboration platforms that support educators and paraeducators/paraprofessionals in setting the stage for this future learning.

3. Individualized Education Program (IEP) Meetings

Weld Re1 is committed to providing families an opportunity to have meaningful participation in the special education process. Whether in-person or an alternative format, such as videoconferencing or by phone, Special Education teams will partner with families to determine the most practical format to conduct IEP meetings and arrange for an interpreter if necessary.

4. Delivery of Special Education and Related Services

Schools will continue to ensure that students with disabilities receive an appropriate public education. They will be working to incorporate new health and safety precautions that must also be enacted while providing services to students with disabilities. Because education must now be provided consistent with the need to protect health and safety, there may be disruptions, delays, and/or changes in how services are provided.

Even so, it is a District priority to ensure that students with disabilities have equal access to the same opportunities as their non-disabled peers. IEPs will continue to be developed and implemented based upon each student's unique needs and the learning environment chosen by the family. While families generally may choose between in-person or remote/online learning, there are some students for whom remote learning will not be provided.

If a family chooses remote learning, an IEP meeting will be held to discuss the family's choice and consider whether an evaluation is necessary. At the meeting, the team will discuss whether remote learning is appropriate to meet the needs of the student based upon their unique circumstances and response to remote learning during the spring of 2020. The student's IEP will be updated to reflect the plan for the 2020-21 school year.

If a family chooses in-person learning, an IEP meeting may be convened to review and update the student's IEP for the 2020-21 school year. If a family agrees, a student's case manager may also communicate with the family and then follow-up with written confirmation (e.g., an IEP Amendment or a Prior Written Notice) regarding the plan for the 2020-21 school year. Such plans may, but are not required, to include contingency remote learning plans should there be future school closures.

For students receiving in-person instruction in Weld RE1 schools, staff will follow local health and safety guidelines. More specifically, students will be served with their assigned cohort of peers following social distancing precautions. Personal protection equipment (PPE), such as face coverings will be in place.

Similarly, students placed out-of-district will receive special education and related services according to the designated facility or school's instructional plan and approval from the facility or school's local county department of health.

a. Progress Monitoring and Reporting

Special Education teams will have in place consistent data collection and service log procedures for use across learning environments. Collecting data and tracking the provision of services will assist educators and families in determining the effectiveness of instruction provided, student performance on IEP goals/objectives, and assist IEP teams in making any necessary adjustments to instruction. Periodic reports on the progress the child is making toward meeting the annual goals will continue to be provided.

b. Accommodations and Modifications

Accommodations and modifications will be provided regardless of a student's learning environment. General and special education teachers will continue to collaborate in determining the appropriateness and success of a student's accommodations and/or

modifications. The IEP team (general education teachers, special education, related services providers, and families) will work collaboratively to identify alternate solutions if it believes an accommodation and/or modification is not appropriate or successful in a particular setting.

In addition, we understand that some students with disabilities may not be able to wear a mask or face covering for medical, physical, or disability-related reasons. Those with trouble breathing, or those unable to remove a mask or face covering without assistance, should not wear a mask or face covering. In such cases, IEP teams will work together to determine an alternate accommodation. Similarly, we know that some students with disabilities are at high risk of medical complications or have medical conditions that may preclude in-person learning. For such students, IEP teams will meet to consider individual needs and, as appropriate, alternate placement options.

School Management

OVERVIEW

School administration involves the management of all school operations, from creating a safe learning environment, to developing school schedules. The most recent public health guidelines allow for a 100% return of students PK-12, four days a week, with virus mitigation strategies in place. The primary virus mitigation strategy for 100% capacity return to school in August is “cohorting” or creating groupings of students that stay together throughout the day. Families also have the choice to opt their student(s) into a 100% remote learning environment. This section outlines how the principles of Ventilation, Space, Time and People will be applied to typical school routines and procedures.

KEY POINTS

The limited use of physical, social distancing requires schools to adopt other measures, including: creating consistent cohorts of students and teachers; requiring face coverings/face shields as much as possible; daily symptom screenings for students and staff; and rigorous hand hygiene. Symptom screenings will clear each person's entrance into the school building. In General, **Volunteers, visitors, or non-employees will not be allowed to enter the building during the school day without an appointment.**

Adjustments may need to occur over time based on state and local public health orders and guidance.

Classroom Setup & Procedures

Furniture:

- Classrooms may not have shared seating options (e.g. couches, bean bag chairs, other flexible seating).
- Desks or tables will be arranged facing the same direction. Cooperative learning

options may be limited - face coverings are required in small groups when social distancing is not feasible.

- Toys or classroom items that cannot be easily cleaned or sanitized, such as plush toys will be removed.
- Classrooms will be cleared of non-essential furniture and items to maximize space in classrooms.

Instructional Materials:

- All students should be assigned their own bag/box of manipulatives to use throughout the year. Supplies brought by students should ONLY be used by that student (community supplies are prohibited).
- If small cohorts use the same materials, those materials must be disinfected before another cohort uses them.
- All students should be assigned their own device to be used throughout the year (as much as possible based on school device inventory).

Student Groupings:

- Redistribution of students may be necessary to manage class size.
- Secondary students will be divided into two groups A/B to minimize class size.
- Sports, activities, and other co-curricular programs are an additional grouping.

Lunch/Recess/Other Non-Academic Time

Lunch: A single grade level cohort of students may eat lunch in the cafeteria if social distancing is possible, or in their classrooms, or eating outdoors if weather permits, and play together at recess.

- Students will wash their hands before and after eating.
- Students will clean their own area after eating.
- Cold lunch totes/bags/boxes should be stored in the child's backpack or near their desk (not in a community tote).
- All meals & snacks will be consumed in classrooms, outside, or in reorganized common spaces and monitored by staff.
- Students will need to wash or sanitize their hands before coming back into the classroom.

Recess:

Students will likely go to recess in staggered shifts to limited groupings outside at once.

- Schools may stagger the use of the playground equipment and should disinfect it in between uses. Students will need to wash or sanitize their hands before going outside and before coming back inside.
- Use of water fountains is not permitted. Only water bottle filling stations will be accessible.
- Face coverings do not need to be worn outside.

Building Access

In general, No volunteers, visitors, or non-employees should access the building during the school day. Delivery drivers can be met at the door or designated drop off/pick up space. If they are entering the building, they should have their temperatures taken. Drop-off spaces will be set up outside of the main doors for parents to place items to be delivered to students. Systems for checking students in and out of school during the day may need to be modified to meet public health guidelines.

Before and After School Enrichment/Tutoring

Before and after school tutoring/enrichment activities will be allowed if all providers follow safety guidelines. These guidelines will include the potential of limited capacity of school buildings, reduced ratios, and the need to clean and disinfect spaces before and after school sessions

Registration/Enrollment/Transfers

Current district policies for registration, enrollment, and administrative transfers still apply.

Health Services

OVERVIEW

Weld RE1 Health Services will continue to collaborate with school teams, community resources, and families to empower students to reach their optimal learning potential by addressing and modifying health related barriers to learning. A safe, inclusive, and supportive environment will be fostered for all students through the practice of professional School Nursing, and the School Health Services Program.

KEY POINTS

Nursing Services

Health planning/health support/medication requirements

- All Individual Student Health Plans (ISHP) will be updated to reflect the public health situation and families will be contacted. Completed plans will be in the health room/Infinite Campus/classroom.
- All necessary medications will be expected to be on site and stored in the health room for any time the student is at school.
- Health Aide and district RN response to care for COVID-19 symptomatic staff and students will receive additional training and in coordination with WCPH.
- Normal Health Room procedures and treatments will continue daily. COVID-19 symptomatic staff and students will utilize a different isolated room in the school building.
- District RN will be working in conjunction with WCPH on symptom reporting during daily attendance.

Immunizations

- State immunization rules/expectations remain in place.
- There will be a grace period for non-compliance exclusion due to COVID-19.

IEPs/504s

- Student health reviews will continue to be completed by a team with meetings occurring either remotely or in-person.

Healthy Schools

Wellness team (NPAAC)

- Wellness team will continue meetings – in person or remotely.

Healthy Kids Colorado Survey (HKCS)

- HKCS data will be shared online with departments and principals. Health goals will be determined remotely.

Recess and Physical Activity

- Physical activity and recess will continue in COHORTs.

Employee Wellness

- The Employee Assistance Program (EAP) will continue.
- Health clinics are available.