
HEALTH & SAFETY SMART RESTART PLAN

Scranton School Board Approved
August, 2020
Revised 11/16/2020
Revised 04/13/2021
Revised 08/11/2021

Scranton School Families,

It has been a challenge for our entire community since March, but we hope you have found ways to cope and embrace this new normal. Thank you to the students, staff, parents, and community members who have helped us succeed in these difficult times. The 2019-2020 school year was challenging but we are proud of students and thankful the district was able to celebrate our seniors' accomplishments with a graduation exercise.

The challenge now is planning for what school will look like during the 2020-2021 school year. This is a daunting task as we all realize how the impact and response to COVID-19 has changed rapidly over the past four months. This plan will try to address these challenges, while providing a flexible framework to guide our response over the next school year.

For academic, social-emotional, and economic reasons, we are compelled to strive to return to an in-person model. Yet, we cannot disregard that the health and safety concerns associated with the virus remain. The district must consider all practical steps to keep our schools from contributing to virus spread in our community.

This plan presents hundreds of hours of critical thinking, research, modeling, and work by our educators, staff, and school board. This group reviewed input gathered from our employees and parents.

We realize that reviewing this plan may not address every question you have. We recognize some concepts and actions may be polarizing, and there are strong opinions about what the school should do or should not. But we must remain open to what is possible and consider all options so we can move forward.

Thank you for your time reviewing this plan. We encourage everyone to ask questions and communicate their concerns as we move forward. Together, our school can provide quality education to our children in a safe manner, if we work together to solve problems.

Respectfully,

John Pretzer
Superintendent

Haley Evans
School Board President

Assumptions & Assurances

Scranton School believes:

- Every student should have the opportunity to engage in learning, regardless of the spread of COVID-19 in our community.
- Schools have a vital role in providing safe environments for students, focusing on both social-emotional and physical health.
- By working together with educators, staff, health care professionals, parents, students, and community members we can solve most challenges.
- Our district will make decisions based on the most current guidance from local, state, and national health care officials.
- Our School Board will ensure our plan meets the needs of our students, educators, staff and community.

Our Take Force Planning Team

The Scranton School's Return to Learning Plan was crafted and reviewed by a team consisting of the following:

Educators: KariLei Valloff (teacher/technology director)
Lea Doerr (elementary teacher)
Parents: Jodi Wilson (Family Nurse Practitioner)

Local Health official: Kayla Pauley (SW District Health/ RN Bowman/Slope Health Nurse)

Secretary: Angie Eberle (EMT)

School Board Member: Ryan Schumacher

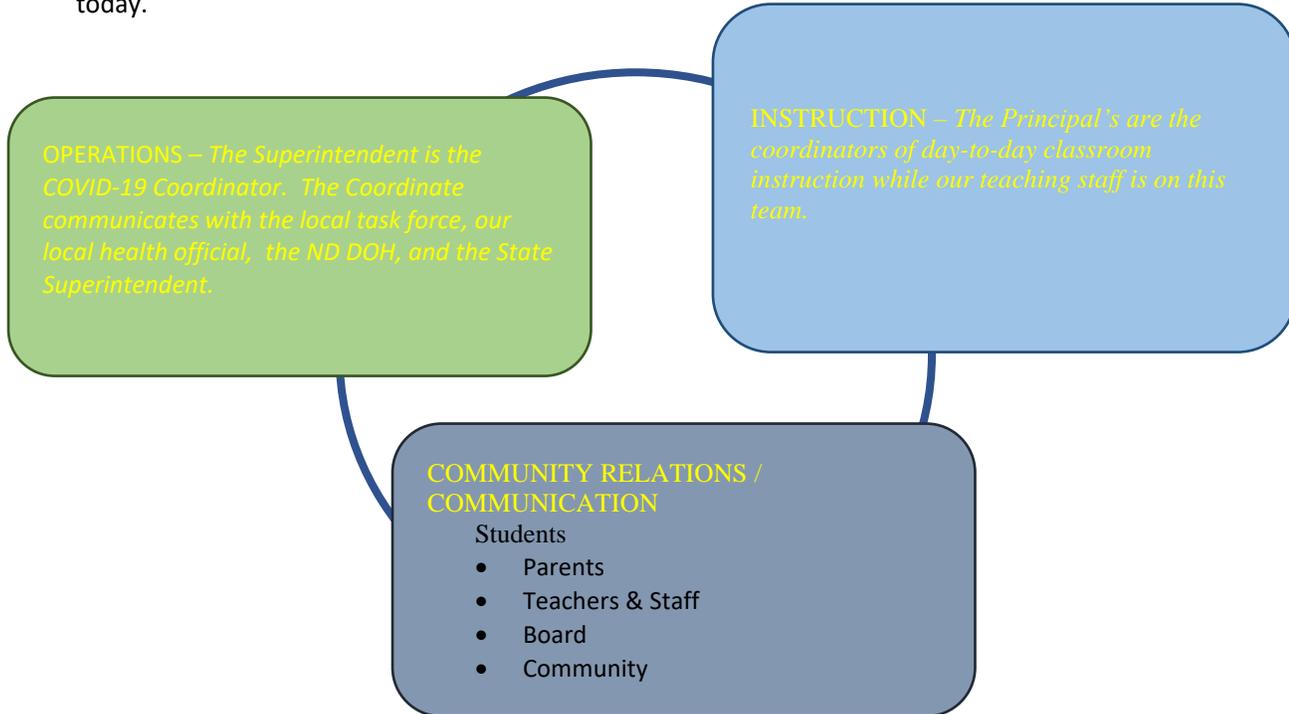
Student: Bailee Pierce

Superintendent/Secondary Principal: John Pretzer

Elementary Principal/AD: Kelly Pierce

COVID-19 Response Team & Coordinators

This organizational structure was crafted to assist in the development and monitoring of the district return to learning plan. This structure identifies leaders and guiding team members that will serve as a voice in how the district responds to COVID-19 during the school year. This plan is designed to address the issues of reopening as well as provide a nimble and responsive process to address issues that may not be recognized today.



The three components have been identified as key operational teams that consist of multiple departments. Each operational team will work implement the return to learn plan and address challenges as they arise.

COVID-19 Building Level Coordinators

Each school building will have an identified COVID-19 Coordinator who will be responsible for the health and safety preparedness and response planning. Coordinators will make themselves available to the NDDoH 24 hours a day / 7 days a week to respond to phone calls from public health. This position will assist public health in identifying and notifying close contacts in the school setting. The coordinator will be report cases of COVID-19, found in the school setting, to health officials and the State Superintendent's office.



The Superintendent will assume the role of building level coordinator. If the coordinator is unable to be reached the secondary contacts will be Elementary Principal.

Phases

The following phases will be used to define the school risk level associated with COVID-19. These phases may or may not align with the county colors as determined by the ND DoH. High risk in the community does not necessarily equate to an elevated risk at school. School related decisions will be determined by the Scranton Administration and School Board with the exception of mandates from the Governor's office.



Instructional Models

The instructional models used by the district will be guided, in part, by the risk level of COVID-19 in the community as defined within the phases above. This is a guide as instructional models could be altered based on other factors, such as occupancy levels, age of children, and abilities to move certain classes online.

Blue / Green

Priorities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ensure students and staff who are symptomatic stay at home.• Implement reasonable accommodations to reduce school-wide and community spread.
Districtwide Practices:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Social distancing where feasible and reasonable.• Masks will be recommended• Buildings routinely cleaned and disinfected according to CDC guidelines. Special focus on high touch/traffic areas.• Handwashing integrated throughout the day.• Hand sanitizer available throughout each building.• School's share "Stop The Spread" information with focus on preventative measures and symptoms.• Support and train parents on use of technology tools and online curricular resources.
School Spaces:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Protective measures will be implemented in office spaces.• All visitors will check in at the office.
Classrooms:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• When feasible students will be issued their own learning devices.• Limited use of shared materials and supplies.• Desks arranged to allow for cohort groups and social distancing where possible and reasonable.• Distance learning while school is open: teachers will post all daily assignments, monitor chatlines throughout the day on TEAMS, and video-conference with students when requested by a student/parent.
Common Spaces:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students when moving around the building will move in cohort groups and reasonably try to limit exposure to other groups.• Schedules may be adjusted to reduce the number of students passing in the hallways.• Lunch times may be staggered to reduce the number of students in the cafeteria and allow for some social distancing. Some students may eat in other areas of the school or outside, weather permitting.
Extracurricular & Activities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Guidance and directives from the NDHSAA and other governing boards will be used to guide these activities.
Communications:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Share information about how to stop the spread of COVID-19.

Yellow

Priorities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ensure students and staff who are symptomatic stay at home.
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Districtwide Practices:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximize social distancing cohort groups by reducing the number of students in school buildings • Masks will be worn by all employees and students when social distancing is not feasible. (Dress Code) • Buildings routinely cleaned and disinfected according to CDC guidelines. Special focus on high touch/traffic areas. • Handwashing integrated throughout the day. • Hand sanitizer available throughout each building. • Support and train parents on use of technology tools and online curricular resources. • Social distancing on school buses will be difficult so we require masks when riding on school transportation.
School Spaces:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protective measures will be maintained in office spaces. • Some school events, assemblies and gatherings may be changed or cancelled. • Access to campus may be limited. All visitors will use the temperature kiosk, check in at the office, and wear masks if further access is necessary.
Classrooms:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students/parents who opt for the distance leaning alternative will receive assignments and correspond with teachers via the TEAMS platform. Students will be assessed and graded consistently with on-campus instruction. • Desks arranged to allow for cohort groups and social distancing where possible and reasonable.
Common Areas:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students will move in cohort groups where possible and feasible to try and limit possible exposure • School schedules may be adjusted to reduce the number of students passing in hallways. • Lunch times may be staggered to reduce the number of students in the cafeteria to allow for social distancing. Some students may eat in other areas of the school or outside, weather permitting.
Extracurricular& Activities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guidance and directives from the NDHSAA and other governing boards will be used to guide these activities.
Communications:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share information about how to stop the spread of COVID-19. • Share technology support resources for parents.
Orange / Red	
Priorities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the risk of community spread by closing schools.
Remote Instruction:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focused, rigorous instruction on key learning essentials in each grade and content area. • Traditional grades and accountability. • Clear expectations and communication with students and families.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some of the structure of a regular school day with face-to-face online instruction with some flexibility for families. • Support and training for parents who need help accessing technology, tools and online curriculum.
School Spaces:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closed to the general public except by special arrangement with the district office. • Small group meetings or instruction may be allowed, particularly for special needs students or academic interventions.
Classroom Spaces:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students will engage in learning at the home. • Students will be expected to engage in learning opportunities online on the TEAMS platform.
Extracurricular& Activities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guidance and directives from the NDHSAA and other governing boards will be used to guide these activities. • Athletic and other extra/co-curricular activities likely suspended.
Communications:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear communication about academic expectations and grading shared with students and families. Assessments and grades will be posted on Power School.

Traditional Learning

All instruction is delivered in-person with some building and group modifications. Teachers and students maintain a normal daily schedule. Safety precautions are implemented to enhance staff and student safety.

Combined Learning

If students have underlying health conditions or if parents are concerned about the health risk of their child/ren. A school alternative will be provided using our TEAMS platform. Parents will notify the school administration of this choice and this plan will be implemented on nine- week time periods

Distance Learning

All instruction is provided off-campus through the use of distance learning resources or suited to the unique needs of the student.

Health and Safety Guidance

The district strives to provide a healthy and safe environment for all who occupy our schools. The following guidelines are intended to provide a framework for the district’s response to COVID-19.

Resources

ND Department of Public Instruction - <https://www.nd.gov/dpi/parentscommunity/nddpi-updates-and-guidance-covid-19>

ND Department of Health - <https://www.health.nd.gov/diseases-conditions/coronavirus>

Center for Disease Control and Prevention - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/clean-disinfect/index.html>

Best Intentions

Despite taking every reasonable precaution, there is not guarantee that our school's will be without risk as it relates to COVID-19. The virus will be present on our buses, in our classrooms, and at our activities. In certain situations, social distancing is not possible in a school setting. Our actions, as outlined in this plan, will not prevent any student or staff member from being in contact with the virus.

Protect Yourself and Others

Wash your hands often



- Wash with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- If soap and water are not available, use hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Students are encouraged to wash their hands often throughout the day.

Avoid close contact



- Keep social distance from others especially important for people who are at a higher risk of getting sick.
- Alternate or modified schedules, adjustments to use of common areas, use of outdoor spaces and other actions that increase physical separation may be considered.
- The sharing of instructional materials should be limited as much as possible.
- Physical separation on busing, one student per seat, will be recommended but cannot be guaranteed.

Cover coughs and sneezes



- Always cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or use the inside of your elbow.
- Throw tissues away and wash hands or use hand sanitizer to prevent spread.

Clean and disinfect



- School staff should clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily.
- Shared materials (not recommended) should be cleaned.
- Classrooms will be cleaned nightly by custodial staff.

Cover your mouth and nose with a cloth face cover when around others.



- The wearing of masks will be applied in phases based on the phases within the [ND Smart Restart Guidance](#).
- Educators need to teach students how to properly wear a face covering so they are prepared to use them on school buses or other situations in close proximity with others.



Health & Safety Protocols

Student & Staff Health

Monitoring the health of students and staff will be an important component of a safe and healthy educational environment. XYZ School will take the following measures to ensure all students and staff are healthy while they are at school.

Keeping Schools Open Will Take Community Effort:

Health Checks: To accomplish our goal of reopening our schools and keeping them open, it will be important for students, staff, parents and patrons to do their part by following health guidance and monitoring their health.

In cooperation with local Public Health Officials, we ask as students and staff prepare for school each day, they ask themselves these questions:

Since your last day in school have you had any of these symptoms that are NOT attributable to another condition?

- *Fever or Chills (A fever is considered having a temperature of 100.4 F)
- *Cough
- *Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing o Fatigue
- * Congestion or Runny Nose o Nausea, Vomiting or Diarrhea o Muscle or Body Aches o Headache
- *Sore throat
- * New loss of taste or smell
- *Nausea/vomiting
- *Diarrhea

If the answer is YES to any of these symptoms we ask that:

- *You DO NOT send your child to school.
- * Contact your healthcare provider for guidance to determine if testing for COVID-19 is recommended.

If your child has tested positive for COVID-19 OR was directed by a healthcare provider to stay home, we ask that You DO NOT send your child to school UNTIL:

- Your child has isolated for at least 10 days from symptom onset and at least 3 days have passed since symptoms have improved.....OR.....
- Your medical provider has determined a different illness than COVID-19 and cleared your child to return to school.

If your child has had close contact (within 6 feet for more than 15 minutes) with someone testing positive for COVID-19, we ask that:

*You DO NOT send your child to school UNTIL your child has isolated for 14 days and experiences no COVID-19 symptoms.

*If symptoms DO present during the isolation period, follow instructions above for seeking medical guidance and possible testing for COVID-19

Responding to a Confirmed Case of COVID-19:

*An important part of limiting the spread of COVID-19 in our community is identifying those who may be sick, infected or who have been exposed, and requires all of us working together to keep the virus in check.

Students/Families:

* If your child has tested positive for COVID-19 we ask that:

*You do not send your child to school.

* Notify your school of the positive test.

*Follow guidance from your health provider regarding isolation and contact tracing.

School & District:

*School personnel will alert Supervisor.

* Supervisor will contact local Health Officials and will assist Public Health with contact tracing and investigation.

*District will coordinate efforts to communicate to staff, students, and parents the possible exposure to COVID-19 while maintaining confidentiality as required by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and the Americans with Disability Act (ADA).

If a student or staff members becomes sick at school (or school event)

- Student
 - Direct / escort the child to the office.
 - The child shall be provided a facial covering and isolated in the building sick room.
 - Parent / guardian will be contacted to pick up their child.
- Staff
 - Inform your supervisor immediately and wear a face mask / shield until they can be replaced if supervising students at that time.
 - Leave the school building/grounds and consult with a health care professional.

Return to School

- When a student or staff member has been isolated or quarantined as directed by school administration, NDDoH or Southwest District Health they will be allowed to return to school after fulfilling protocols.

The page features several green, stylized virus icons with spikes and dots, scattered around the central text. The text is in a large, bold, black font.

BEFORE SCHOOL!

Parents are asked to review this daily health checklist by answering these questions before sending their child to school.

(Parents do not need to send the questionnaire to school)

Has your child had close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19 in the past 14 days?

Yes ___ No ___

Does your child have a new or worsening shortness of breath?

Yes ___ No ___

Does your child have new or worsening cough?

Yes ___ No ___

Does your child have a fever of 100.4 or greater?

Yes ___ No ___

Does your child have chills?

Yes ___ No ___

Does your child have a sore throat?

Yes ___ No ___

Does your child have a new loss of taste or smell?

Yes ___ No ___



If **YES** to any of the questions **STOP!**

Do not send your child to school. Contact your healthcare provider. Contact your child's school to inform them of your child's absence.



If you are able to answer **NO** to all questions, go to school.

COVID-19: What's the Difference Between Physical Distancing, Quarantine and Isolation?

	PHYSICAL DISTANCING	QUARANTINE	ISOLATION
Who is it for?	People who haven't been exposed to the virus or are not aware of exposure to the virus.	People who don't currently have symptoms of the virus but were exposed to the virus.	People who are already sick from the virus.
What is it?	A precautionary measure used to help prevent the spread of the virus.	A prevention strategy used to monitor people who were exposed to the virus for a period of time to see if they become ill.	A prevention strategy used to separate people who are sick with the virus from healthy people.
Where does it take place?	Takes place outside the home in public places like grocery stores and work environments.	Takes place in a home setting.	Can take place in a home when medical attention is not required. Takes place in a hospital when medical care is required.
When do I use it?	At all times until further directed by the ND Department of Health.	If you have recently traveled internationally or have known exposure to the virus.	If you have tested positive or have symptoms and have not yet obtained a test.
How long is it for?	At all times until further directed by the ND Department of Health.	14 days after your last exposure. Once your quarantine period has ended, if you do not have symptoms, you may return to your normal routine.	A minimum of 10 days from the beginning of symptoms and 72 hours after your fever is gone without the use of fever-reducing medicine and other symptoms have significantly improved.
What does this mean for my daily life?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid large gatherings. • Stay 6-feet away from people. • If you are unable to stay 6-feet away from other people, wear a cloth face covering. • Call or video-chat with friends or loved ones, particularly those that are elderly or have underlying health conditions that places them at high-risk. • If possible, work from home. • Practice good hygiene and avoid shaking hands or touching your face. • If you become ill and need medical attention, call your health care provider. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay at home and avoid close contact with others. • Do not attend school, work or any other setting where you cannot maintain a 6-foot distance from other people. • Call or video-chat loved ones. • For food, medication and other necessities, obtain through friends or family, or use a contactless delivery service. • Practice standard hygiene and precautionary measures like not sharing household items, washing your hands, and cleaning frequently touched surfaces often. • Monitor your symptoms. If you become ill and need medical attention, call your health care provider. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not leave your home unless it is in an emergency. If you are in a home with others, stay in a "sick" room by yourself and, if possible, do not share a bathroom. • If you have a pet and live with others, do not touch your pet. • For food, medication and other necessities, obtain through friends or family, or use a contactless delivery service. Try to stock up for the duration of the isolation. • Practice standard hygiene and precautionary measures like not sharing household items, washing your hands, and cleaning frequently touched surfaces often. • If a caregiver cleans your room or bathroom, they should wear a mask and wait as long as possible after you've used the bathroom. • Contact your health care provider immediately if you experience severe symptoms.

SCRANTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
4-13-2021

The regular meeting of the board was called to order by President Mellmer at 8:03 p.m. in the library. Members present were Mellmer, Schumacher, Fisher, Sanford and Evans. No one was absent. Others present were Superintendent Pretzer, Principal Pierce, Business Manager Eberle, Kari Lei Valloff and Chad Evans.

The agenda was reviewed, and two additions were made. There was a motion by Sanford, a second by Evans to approve the minutes. All were in favor. The motion carried.

There was a motion by Evans, a second by Sanford to approve the bills. All were in favor. The motion carried.

The board reviewed the monthly financial reports and filed them for the auditors. The March 2021, payroll expenses were \$189,608.90. The checks issued were numbers 28296-28303. The check stubs issued were numbers 11274- 11331. There was a motion by Fisher, a second by Schumacher to approve the payroll. All were in favor. The motion carried.

There was a motion by Fisher, a second by Evans to revise the Scranton School Health and Safety Plan to remove the mask wearing requirement effective April 14, 2021, while in the Blue/Green status. All were in favor. The motion carried.

Superintendent Pretzer reported Kelly Hedge has been hired to fill the custodial position.

Superintendent Pretzer updated the board on legislative issues