

Parent Handbook Addendum

Fall 2020 (COVID-19 supports)

Overview

Mission: *District 6 engages every student in a personalized, well-rounded and excellent education, preparing students to be college and career ready.*

Vision: *District 6 engages, empowers and inspires today's students in partnership with families and communities to succeed in tomorrow's world.*

District 6 is committed to ensuring all students are prepared for their future. As we plan for reopening schools in August 2020, the District 6 Mission and Vision are at the core of every decision we make. We know that school closures due to COVID-19 have had a large impact on our students, families and community. Based on survey feedback, we know the majority of our families are ready to get back to in-person learning this fall. While we know we cannot mitigate every risk, through thoughtful and careful planning, we believe we can safely bring students and staff back to in-person learning in August. We are continuing to take guidance from the Colorado Department of Education (CDE), the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE), and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

This fall, families can choose to participate in Online Learning or In-Person Learning. No matter which option is best for your family, we promise to engage, nurture and support students through this phase of their education. These values steer our work:

- *Our students come first.* In all our planning, we make decisions based on what is best for our students.
- *We provide safe, secure and healthy schools.* We have listened to the experts and take the health guidance to heart. We have a highly qualified team who have and who continue to build protocols to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission when students return to in-person learning.
- *We promote access, opportunity and choice.* While the majority of families want in-person learning, we know that this is not the right choice for all families which is why there will be an online learning option.
- *We commit to excellence, innovation and continuous improvement.* We have had to think outside of the box and innovate to educate students through the pandemic. We will continue to keep up to date with expert guidance and make adjustments when necessary.
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Considerations for Reopening School in August 2020

District 6 believes that teaching students in-person is important for the wellness of our students and families. As we reopen schools this fall, the health and safety of our students and staff is our number one priority. Using the following guiding principles, we will be able to minimize the risk to students, staff and the public.

Guiding Principles

- Prioritize the safety and wellbeing of students, staff, and community
- Minimize the risk of infection

- Ensure that we can identify and contact anyone who has been in close contact with individuals who have been infected
- Open schools as close to “typical” as possible to provide familiarity and stability for our students and families; understand that the school year will not be “business as usual” and maintain flexibility to respond as needed
- Provide parent choice to enroll their children for either in-person or full-time online (remote) learning
- Maintain appropriate physical distancing and reduced group size/capacity loads in each classroom and/or building, to the extent possible
- Support and accommodate those students with unique learning needs (including English language learners, students with disabilities, and gifted students) who might face barriers in accessing their in-person, remote, or online learning environment.

While we cannot guarantee that your child won't get COVID-19, we will continue to put safety procedures in place for all of our students, families, and staff. Some of those procedures include:

- Cohorting students to the smallest reasonable number of students, allowing them to participate in school, but limit the number of other students that they have daily contact with to protect all students.
- Face covering wearing will be exercised by students and staff.
- Social distancing will be in place to the best of our ability in each classroom. We have removed some items from classrooms to create the largest space possible for us to spread students out within the classroom.
- Taking temperatures of all staff and students when they first arrive at school. This will allow us to isolate anyone with a fever prior to them interacting with other students and staff.
- Issuing devices to all students so that we can support learning in classrooms or remotely if the need arises.
- Implementing additional disinfecting procedures throughout all schools.

Parent and Student Commitments

Knowing this context and in order to keep our students and staff safe, we expect families and students to commit to the following actions:

- Wear face coverings when at school, including on the bus
- Stay in the student cohorts while at school.
- Follow staff directions as they take student temperatures each morning.
- Keep good care of the computer that is checked out to each student.
- Keep student home from school if they show any illness symptoms.
- Student will stay on campus during the school day.

As parent/guardian, I will support the school and my child in following these commitments.

Student Name and Grade

Parent Name

Parent Signature