

Frequently Asked Questions – COVID-19

1. *When is the first day of school for students?*

The first day of school is August 26, 2020.

2. *Can you guarantee students and staff will not become ill?*

No. While the well-being of our students, staff, and families is of utmost importance, we cannot guarantee no one will get sick. Every risk cannot be mitigated, but we will do all we can to ensure everyone's safety.

3. *What are the requirements for face coverings?*

Face masks are an important part of employee/student protection, as well as personal hygiene, social distancing, and frequent cleaning efforts. All employees and staff will be required to wear a mask. Cloth face coverings are an additional step to slow the spread of COVID-19 when combined with everyday preventive actions. Cloth face coverings should be washed after each use.

4. *What are the requirements for face coverings for students?*

Students: We strongly encourage that anyone above the age of 9 years old wear a mask when social distancing isn't possible (e.g. in hallways, during entry and dismissal periods, and in large group gatherings). At Scott City R-I we are sensitive to the diversities and needs of all individuals. If a student does not wish to wear a mask there will be no negative consequences.

5. *Will transportation be provided?*

Yes, the district will provide bus transportation for students. If there are any changes to bus schedules, stops, or routes, information will be communicated to parents.

6. *Will students have to wear face coverings on the bus?*

Although, we strongly encourage that anyone above the age of 9 years old wear a mask when social distancing isn't possible (on buses). At Scott City R-I we are sensitive to the diversities and needs of all individuals.

7. *What will the school day look like for my child?*

Administrators are working diligently to create schedules that include minimizing close physical interactions. Our goal is to maintain as normal of a day as possible while mitigating risk.

8. *How will students social distance in the classroom?*

Classrooms will be arranged to maximize spacing between students and teachers to the extent possible. We will make every effort to conform to social distancing guidelines. Please know that social distancing is not always possible in the K-12 educational setting. We will be doing our best to stay in cohorts and class families. We will recommend social distancing when at all possible.

9. *Where will my student eat lunch?*

Based on current DESE guidelines regarding limited capacities in cafeterias, we are working on adjusting lunch schedules and possibly using alternative areas if necessary. Other measures will include proper sanitation of all areas after every meal service. Groups will stay in their class families and/or cohorts when possible.

10. Will my students still be able to have recess or play on the playground?

Yes, students will have outdoor play time with their grade level. Social distancing will be followed when possible.

11. Will students still have extra classes like P.E., art, music, and library?

Yes, students will still have the opportunity to participate in activity classes. Social distancing will be followed when possible.

12. Will water fountains be available?

Students are encouraged to bring filled water bottles. All water fountains have been upgraded to hydration stations so students can fill their water bottles easily.

13. Will preschool still be available for students?

Yes, we are still offering our preschool program. Please contact Christa at 573-264-2131 for information or to get on our waiting list.

14. Will extracurricular activities and sports be offered in the fall?

Yes, we will be following the guidelines set forth by Missouri State High School Activities Association (MSHSAA). We anticipate there will be modifications for these activities and will be releasing updated information soon.

15. What precautions will be taken for cleaning and sanitizing?

Disinfecting, sanitation, and cleanliness continue to be a high priority on our campus. Extra attention will be given on high touch surface areas. Restrooms will also be continuously cleaned throughout the day. Students will be expected to wash or sanitize their hands throughout the day. We have installed hand sanitizing dispensers in all classrooms and common areas as well as touchless paper towel dispensers, faucets, and toilets.

16. Will students and adults be screened daily?

Employees will complete a daily self-screening which may include a temperature check. Students will be visually inspected for signs and symptoms as they are entering the building and throughout the day, this may include a temperature check.

17. What happens if a student comes to school sick?

The student will be screened by the school nurse. If the student has a temperature over 100 degrees, or they have any of the symptoms that are outlined in our return-to-school handbook, then they will be sent home.

18. What happens if an individual tests positive for COVID-19?

Scott City R-I school district will be contacting the local health department and following their recommendations.

19. *Can I visit the school, classroom, or eat lunch with my student?*

Under current DESE guidance, we will be limiting non-essential visitors. Parents will not be allowed to eat with their child. Visits to the school will be limited to essential activity.

20. *Can I walk my child into the school?*

No, parents and guardians may not walk students into the school building.

21. *What about students who have special needs or students with compromised immune systems and pre-existing conditions?*

The district will be prepared to accommodate students with special needs through both onsite and remote instruction. Our Special Education instructors will be taking extra precautions when working with students. If parents have concerns about their students who may be at high-risk for COVID-19, they may be interested in exploring our virtual school option which allows the students to continue their education from the safety of their home. The application for Scott City R-I Virtual School is found in the Scott City R-I Return-to-School Plan. The deadline for the application is Sunday, August 9 at 11:59 pm CST.

22. *How will you help fill any gaps in learning for my student from the previous year?*

The district curriculum team, along with classroom teachers and administrators will monitor student needs and provide interventions and support when needed.

23. *What happens if schools are mandated to close again?*

This is where “blended learning” for traditional students comes in. With blended learning, students will learn content through in-classroom instruction with their teachers as well as through Google Classroom. Students will learn how to use these digital learning systems by participating in lessons throughout the week while at school. In the event of a school closure, or if a student becomes ill, students will be able to easily transition to online learning at home. Blended learning will become part of our new normal. PreK - 2nd grade will use Seesaw and 3rd-12th will use Google Classroom.

24. *If I do not want my student to return to traditional school, what are my options?*

For families considering the Scott City R-I Virtual School, click [HERE](#)

25. *Why do parents need to make a decision on the Scott City R-I Virtual School by Sunday, August 9, 2020 by 11:59 pm CST.*

While August 9 may seem early in regards to school opening on August 26, there is a substantial amount of work and preparation that goes into reopening school. To staff and schedule accordingly, we need to know your intention by the deadline in order to provide the best learning experience for our students. Applying by August 9 will also ensure that you are on the application list.

26. *Can I change my decision about Scott City R-I Virtual School?*

I understand that enrollment in Scott City R-I Virtual School is for one semester and there will be no switching back to in-person learning for one semester. At the end of the fall semester, my child may 1) return to in-person onsite learning for the spring semester or 2) remain in the online learning program (as long as the student met the attendance and participation requirements.) Extenuating circumstances will be reviewed on a case by case basis.

27. *I understand that I will not be able to walk my child into school. Will there be someone who can help them get to their classroom, especially on the first day?*

At this point we are not allowing parents to walk their child in the building. We understand that this is an important part of the first day of school for kindergarten and we will work on a way to make it as memorable as possible. During the first week of school we will allow kindergarten parents to walk their child up to the sidewalk. At that time they will be met by a kindergarten teacher and escorted into the building.

28. *Will there be Back to School Night, will we be able to meet the teacher, or see the classroom?*

Back to School Night is scheduled for Monday, Aug. 24 from 5-7 pm. We understand that parents and students need to meet teachers and become familiar with their classroom before we open on August 26. <https://www.smores.com/h32ds>

29. *When and how will students be receiving their schedules and learning where classrooms are located?*

Elementary, class lists will be posted at the main entrance the week of July 27. 5th and 6th grade, class lists will be posted by the high school library doors on Aug. 10. 7th-12th, may pick up their schedule starting Monday, Aug. 10 - Aug. 24 from 8-3 pm.

30. *Will my child's teacher be teaching his/her classroom students as well as online digital students?*

Staff that is teaching in a traditional classroom may be assigned to students that are in the Scott City R-I Virtual School. We will have staff specifically assigned to work with our students that are offsite.

31. *What if a student wants to play football or another sport, or be on the cheer team but wants to do digital learning, is that possible?*

No, students enrolled in Scott City R-I Virtual School will not be able to participate in athletic or extracurricular activities.

32. *If my student is enrolled in the Scott City R-I Virtual School will they be allowed to come to school to attend band class?*

No, students enrolled in Scott City R-I Virtual School will not be able to participate in athletics, extracurricular activities, or in person classes.

33. *Can students in the Scott City R-I Virtual School still go to prom, homecoming, and graduation?*

Students enrolled in Scott City R-I Virtual School will not be able to participate in athletic or extracurricular activities. Students will be able to participate in graduation.

34. *Will it be possible for my child to attend school part of the day and do the rest of their curriculum online?*

No, if you are enrolled in Scott City R-I Virtual School, this is a full-time online learning program. We do not offer part time online classes.

35. *Will attendance still be taken regardless of in-class or Scott City R-I Virtual School?*

Yes, attendance will be required and taken regardless of the learning environment. Attendance is a critical component for learning.

36. *If my student enrolls in Scott City R-I Virtual School, will they have different teachers for each core curriculum, or will they have only one teacher?*

If a teacher has dual certification, they could be teaching more than one core subject. This would completely depend on staffing and the certification of the teachers. They can only teach subject areas in which they have certification.

37. *Will those enrolling in the Scott City R-I Virtual School be able to take Pre-AP and AP courses?*

Our secondary courses will be offered via Edgenuity and Google Classroom. The counseling center will provide a list of electives and courses available to virtual school students.

38. *I filled out an application for Scott City R-I Virtual School, how will I know if my application is approved?*

The application deadline for Scott City R-I virtual school is Sunday, August 9, 2020. The district will send out official notification through email or phone call by Friday, August 14, 2020.

39. *If we are in the Scott City R-I Virtual School program, will my student be able to have his/her picture taken and be in a yearbook?*

Yes, our Scott City R-I Virtual School program students are part of our district. As such, we will have a plan for ensuring they get their pictures taken and be represented in a yearbook. Virtual school students can come in on a scheduled picture day. Please call the office for the specific times. If you want your picture taken, it will be your responsibility to come in at that.

40. *Did Scott City R-I consider a hybrid schedule such as A/B?*

Yes, we considered all options. The challenge with a hybrid schedule is that students attend in-person instruction on set days during the week and the other days are online. The primary challenge would be for parents that work and have children that could not care for themselves on the days that they would not be at school. We believe that providing the option for a totally digital curriculum for those students that are able to work from home was our best option. In-class instruction is by far the best for many

students. We need to maximize this setting for students as much as possible since we've already missed so much last spring.

41. *Will the gifted program be part of the Scott City R-I Virtual School?*

No, Gifted/Talented services will not be provided through our Scott City R-I Virtual School.

42. *What do I need to do if I plan on sending my student back to school for in-person instruction?*

If you are a returning student (which means you attended the district last year), you do not need to do anything at this time. In August we will ask parents to go online to update information using online forms. We will share the link when it is available.

If you are brand new to our district, new student registration will take place on August 12 & 13 from 8-3 in the cafeteria.

43. *If I have multiple students in the district, can I choose different learning options for each one?*

Yes, if you have two children then one might opt to apply for the virtual school and the other might opt for in-seat instruction.

44. *What about school supplies?*

Elementary School Supply list <https://scr1.org/files/featured/20-21/essupplies20-21.pdf>

Middle School Supply list <https://scr1.org/files/featured/20-21/mssupplies20-21.pdf>

Secondary Supply Lists (7th-12th) – Supplies are class specific. Information will be released at a later date.

45. *Is there a supply fee for Scott City R-I Virtual School?*

No, there is not a fee for the virtual school.

46. *If my child goes to school and there is a COVID-19 case in his/her class or at school what will happen? Will the parents be notified?*

The district will follow the guidance from our local health department. All persons that were said to be in “close contact” with suspected individual(s) will be contacted.

47. *When can we pick classes for our students who have chosen the virtual school option?*

Once the district has finalized all plans for the Scott City R-I Virtual School, you will be contacted regarding any next steps. Depending on your student's grade level, the majority of the classes are the required core classes -- math, English, social studies, science.

Schedules will be created with the counselor.

48. *Are the school hours going to be the same as usual for in-seat instruction?*

We have no plans to change our school hours for this school year. All of our planning is based upon our normal school day schedule.

49. *Can students/staff wear face coverings they purchase/make themselves or can they only wear the ones provided by the district?*

Students and staff will be allowed to wear face coverings that they purchase or make. As of now they need to follow the same guidelines for clothing as outlined in the student handbook: "Clothing and accessories not allowed include, but are not limited to, the following: Clothing that displays obscenities, promotes violence, including pictures of guns or other weapons, has sexual implication/content or has reference to alcoholic beverages, tobacco or illegal substances;" The face covering material or depictions should not be a disruption to the learning environment.

50. Will the Scott City R-I Virtual School start the same day as when traditional school begins?

Scott City R-I Virtual School will begin the same day as on campus instruction.

51. Will we be allowed to send disinfect wipes and hand sanitizer with our children to use throughout the day?

Yes, you are welcome to send hand sanitizer and wipes with your child to school.

52. Can Scott City R-I Virtual School students return to the traditional classroom at semester?

Yes, virtual school students may return to the traditional classroom at semester.

53. What materials will we need to get for our students for the Scott City R-I Virtual School?

Once students get their schedule they will be able to see the materials needed for their courses.

54. I still have questions. Can I email a question or speak to a staff member over the phone to help me discuss the best option for my student?

Yes, you can email your questions to the appropriate building principal. If you would like someone to call you back, please include your name, your student's name, and your phone number in the email and a district employee will contact you as soon as possible to help answer your questions.

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