



Kirksville R-III School District

Phone (660) 665-7774

Administrative Offices

Fax (660) 665-3281

1901 East Hamilton Kirkville MO 63501

Kirksville R-III School District

Preliminary Plans for School Learning Activities for the 2020-21 School Year

July 15, 2020

The Kirksville R-III School Board and Administration is releasing the following information as part of regular updates that will be coming over the remaining weeks of the summer. Please keep in mind that some of the specific elements may change based on new information from our collaborating agencies.

Kirksville R-III is excited about the start of the new academic year but recognizes that there is apprehension and concern. The plans **outlined** here will be refined over the next several days and we hope to release more comprehensive plans for each building later in the week.

The District is finalizing a *four-level school instruction model*. These levels are being developed collaboratively based on consultations with health care professionals, guidance from the Centers for Disease Control, Missouri and Adair County Health Departments, Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, and survey data gathered from parents and teaching staff.

Schools and our community were impacted in an unprecedented way by COVID-19. As we have moved through this pandemic, we have learned that children are less vulnerable to infection and very few have become seriously ill as a result. The profound negative impact of loss of in-person schooling on the wellbeing of children has been well documented. In addition, we need to consider the health risks involved for our staff. This and other information lead us to believe that preparing a four-level plan for instruction during the 2020-2021 school year is best.

We recognize that it is in the best interest of students to begin classes on site with students physically present on August 25, 2020. However, we believe that because of COVID-19 we will not be able to start at Level 0. Instead, we will need to pivot to one of the other three Levels described below. A pivot decision will be made in early August. Please stay alert for additional announcements from the District website and social media pages.

LEVEL 0:

This level is the same learning model with which we began the 2019-2020 school year--all students physically present for all-day instruction with no special protocols in place and no restrictions on student movement.

LEVEL I:

Under Level I all students will begin **on-site** learning with age appropriate safety protocols in place. A more detailed description of protocols for all PK-12 schools will be provided by Friday July 17, 2020.

LEVEL II:

PK-5 students will continue on-site learning in classroom cohorts for instructional activities. Most learning activities will be contained within individual classrooms and areas where physical

distancing can be easily maintained. Additional age appropriate safety precautions will be put in place.

6th-12th grade students will move to an alternating day (A/B) schedule. The goal is to reduce the total number of students attending school each day to allow for greater social distancing. Students would alternate between on-site and distance learning. For example, during week #1 a student would attend school in person on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday and during week #2 would attend in-person on Tuesday and Thursday. During both weeks, however, there will also be off-site or virtual learning activities. We will continue to have rigorous expectations, frequent teacher-student-feedback, and students will be held accountable for all their work both in and out of the school setting. Aside from a reduced number of students being in classrooms, additional age appropriate safety protocols will be included

LEVEL III:

All on-site learning activities will be suspended. All PK-12 students will move to a complete distance-learning model for all instructional activities. Individual school buildings will announce the specific activities and age appropriate expectations as needed. We will continue to have rigorous expectations, frequent teacher-student-feedback, and students will be held accountable for all their work both in and out of the school setting.

Please note schools have begun working on the instructional components of these Levels and more specific details will be forthcoming.