

District Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services



KANSAS STATE SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND

1100 STATE AVE.

KANSAS CITY, KS 66102

For the 2021-2022 school year, KSSB will maintain the health and safety of students and all staff in the following ways:

Masks

- KSSB will maintain the mask mandate for students and staff, with limited exceptions, for the school based on vaccination rates and infection rates in our immediate community.
- Health Department officials indicated the “fully vaccinated” rate for Wyandotte County, as of June 22nd, remains low (30%) and COVID variants that are highly contagious continue to circulate.
- KSSB will provide accommodations for students with disabilities as determined by individual student needs and in accordance with an individual’s documented accommodations and/or individualized education plan (IEP).
- Masks will be required to be worn indoors only.

Other Safety Measures

- Where possible, physical distancing practices will be utilized. Efforts will be made to maintain classroom seating with a minimum of 3 feet of physical distancing between students and between students and staff for the 2021-2022 school year.
- Handwashing hygiene will continue to be taught to students as a point of emphasis.
- Signage will continue to be posted throughout our buildings as reminders of handwashing and respiratory etiquette. Hand sanitizing liquids will continue to be made available for use in all classrooms.
- Custodial staff will continue to follow specific cleaning protocols and procedures. We will continue to use cleaning solutions that are rated to eliminate the COVID-19 virus. We will continue to monitor ventilation efficiency and effectiveness for opportunities to continually improve air quality.
- KSSB nursing staff will complete all contact tracing documentation and will work with the school administration to contact individuals who have been in close contact with a person who has tested positive for COVID.

Diagnostic and Screening Testing

Students, staff, and community members can access COVID-19 diagnostic or screening tests through a variety of community partners. School nurses and health support staff will continue to monitor for symptoms, trends, and clusters, and request that students and staff seek medical services as appropriate.

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Vaccinations

KSSB will participate and partner with vaccination efforts in accordance with state and federal law for staff. We will not refuse, withhold from, or deny a person any services, goods, facilities, advantages, privileges, licensing, educational opportunities, health care access, or employment opportunities based on the person's COVID-19 vaccination status.

Coordination with State and Local Health Officials.

KSSB stays in close contact with the Wyandotte County Public Health Department and is able to seek guidance from officials with the Health Department, as needed.

In-person Learning

KSSB plans to continue full time, in-person instruction beginning the fall of 2021. KSSB provides an intensive, short-term placement option for students on our campus. Our Field Services team will provide on-site, in-person instruction for students in their home schools and communities following local protocols and policies.

Social, Emotional, Mental Health

KSSB employs a social worker with the goal of helping students and families overcome obstacles with connecting to school. We have provided staff with opportunities for social and emotional support through our district's participation with an Employee Assistance Program (EAP) provider. We will utilize a curriculum called "Core Essentials" <https://coreessentials.org/> with all of our students as a means of promoting character development.

Nursing and Food Services

Free meals will be made available for all eligible youth during the 2021-2022 school year. Families may contact us for any other health or food service needs. KSSB's nursing staff is available, as always, to ensure students' health and well-being.