



Hitchcock County Schools

Robert Sattler, Superintendent & Secondary Principal
Mike Tines, Elementary School Principal
Deb McCarter, Assistant Secondary Principal & School Counselor

Back to School COVID 19 Plan 2022-2023 reviewed on 8.9.22

Hello Falcon Nation,

I hope everyone enjoyed their summer break. I want to update you on the status of starting school in the fall on August 11th and the ideas and items the planning committee has been discussing and doing to get ready to bring back the students safely again. We have been given guidance from several different entities; Nebraska Department of Education, Southwest Nebraska Public Health Department, Nebraska School Activities Association, Nebraska Rural Schools Association, Center for Disease Control and others that we have been using to plan and prepare for a safe start to the 2022-2023 school year. I ask that you read the following information and please call the schools to speak to Mr. Sattler, Ms. McCarter, or Mr. Tines if you have any questions. Any comments, questions, or ideas you have in regards to this return to school plan please email to the superintendent of schools, Mr. Robert Sattler, at rsattler@hcfalcons.org.

We will proceed with the beginning of school in the same manner we finished the last month of school last year. The following is the plan we will follow this year. Again if you have any questions, thoughts, or ideas regarding this please contact me at rsattler@hcfalcons.org.

Pre Screening at Home:

Parents screen children at home for temperature, runny nose, cough, and other symptoms. Random screening if necessary. Teachers self-screen at home for temperature, runny nose, cough, and other symptoms. **Do not report to school if symptomatic and call a medical professional.**

Students ill at school.

Parents are encouraged to ask their children or monitor for any cough, congestion, shortness of breath, or gastrointestinal symptoms every morning. Any positives should prompt the parent to keep the student home from school and seek out testing.

Children who become ill at school will be placed in a designated area of quarantine. Parents or guardians will be contacted. Students sent home from school should be kept home until they have completely recovered and are free from fever for at least 24 hours.

All non-school persons entering and exiting the building must sign in documenting date and time.

Parents are encouraged to check student's temperature at home every morning. **Students with a temperature of 100 or greater should stay home and be fever free for 24 hours before returning to school.**

Busing/Transportation:

Bus drivers will inquire about the health/wellness of children when getting on the bus. If a child indicates they are not feeling well or have symptoms they will be given a temperature check. If they have a temperature of 100 or above parents will be contacted.

Hand Washing and Hand Sanitizing:

Students and staff should sanitize their hands consistently, i.e. upon entering the building, entering a classroom, exiting a classroom, entering cafeteria, exiting cafeteria, exiting building. Hand sanitizer will be available at each area mentioned previously.

Medically Vulnerable Students and Teachers

The school administration, School Nurse, and Special Education Teachers and staff will systematically review all current plans (e.g., Individual Healthcare Plans, Individualized Education Plans or 504 plans) for accommodating students with special healthcare needs and up-date their care plans as needed to decrease their risk for exposure to COVID 19.

Hygiene:

The schools will provide adequate supplies to support healthy hygiene behaviors (e.g., soap, hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol for safe use by staff and older children, paper towels, and tissues). We will teach and reinforce handwashing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and/or the safe use of hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol by staff and older students. We will systematically and frequently check and refill hand sanitizers we will encourage staff and students to cough and sneeze into their elbows, or to cover with a tissue. Used tissues should be thrown in the trash and hands washed immediately with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. We will clean and disinfect each classroom several times a week. Teachers and students will wipe down the desks with disinfectant wipes frequently.

Ventilation: Maintenance and custodial staff will routinely check and change filters in the HVAC system.

LUNCH ROOM: Students will wash their hands and use hand sanitizer before being served.

Extra-Curricular Activities/Sports:

All activities all cleared for full participation at this point and time. We will follow closely all recommendations and guidelines from the NSAA and the local health department.

If you suspect your student is ill, please keep them home from school and please be sure to call the school to let us know. Please check the school website for updates on this plan. Thank you for your support.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Robert Sattler". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Robert" and last name "Sattler" clearly legible.

Robert Sattler
Superintendent/Principal
Hitchcock County Schools