

USD 273 - Beloit Schools

August 2023 Opening of School

Welcome Back!!

Having a Safe and Successful school environment has always been a priority at USD 273. As we return for the 2023-2024 school year we are working hard to return to post pandemic educational setting within our school district. To do this in a safe and efficient manner we will need your help. If your student is not feeling well call the school, keep them at home and have them see the doctor. We have always had safety protocols for this and have kept in place some safety protocols that we implemented last school year. These safety protocols were kept because they were found to reduce the possible sickness of students and staff. Allowing students and staff to stay On-Site and in school. They are outlined below:

We are planning for a three-tiered approach. Each level will be dependent on the situation as it presents itself in conjunction with both federal, state and county agencies guidance/regulations. When making decisions USD #273 will keep in mind the health and well-being of everyone involved.

1. **School as Normal – On Site and In Person Learning: (GREEN)**

The school day will be as normal as possible. Protocols from last year that will remain in place will be extra cleaning and extra hand washing opportunities, cohort groups can and will be used if necessary. **Families will not have the option to select Remote Learning for their student – All students will be On Site with In Person Face Learning.**

2. **School Extra Safety Protocols – On Site and In Person Learning (Orange)**

The district would move to this learning mode if unsafe health conditions would arise making it necessary though a mandate by local, state or federal agencies. These agencies may include Kansas State Department of Education, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Mitchell County Commissioners and the Mitchell County Health Department. **During this Phase the district would return to wearing face covers/masks, social distancing and limited movement within our school buildings.** The district would do temperature checks before student's board buses and/or entering school buildings. Hand washing with soap and water, sanitation of our schools and cohort student grouping would take place. During this Phase USD 273 is in an On-site Learning Environment. USD 273 values our students and teachers learning in an In-Person environment. **Families will not have the option to select Remote Learning for their student – All students will be On Site with In-Person Learning.**

3. **School with Most Extreme Safety Protocols – School Wide Remote Learning instruction: (Red)**

This phase will only be used if health conditions in our communities warrant this extreme measure. It would also be used if official state or county Health officials advise/mandate us to reduce direct contact. The goal is for this to be in place for short periods of time. Not to exceed 14 consecutive school days. The goal of USD 273 is to keep everyone safe while remaining On Site and In-Person Learning with all of our school buildings.

TRANSPORTATION PROCEDURES

Bus Riding

1. Busses will be loaded back to front and unload front to back.
2. Bus Seating will be assigned by the Director of Transportation.
3. Social distancing will be observed if school is in the Orange category as much as possible on buses.
4. Students who do not adhere to bus rules will be corrected and referred to the Building Principal if non-compliance continues.
5. All bus riding students will be picked up and dropped off at their regular
6. locations, which are designated bus routes. If students need different pickup or drop off points, it will be the responsibility of parents/guardians to make travel arrangements.

Arrival to School

1. Students who ride the bus:
Upon arrival at Beloit Schools, all PreK-6 students will be directed where to enter the Beloit Elementary building by bus drivers and Elementary staff. All 7-12 students will enter the main South doors at the Beloit Jr/Sr High School. Staff will direct them on where to go before the school day starts. Students will social distance as best as possible when necessary.
2. Elementary students who don't ride the bus:
If you get dropped off at school or walk you will need to enter the Elementary school doors. Students will social distance as best as possible if the district must go into the Orange category for extra safety protocol.
3. Jr/Sr High School Students who do not ride the bus:
Upon arrival, all students that rode to school will be dropped off at the South Doors. Students that walk will also enter the north student doors. Students will line up for temperature checks before entering the building. Students will social distance as best as possible, when necessary.
4. All students will then be directed to breakfast or their first hour classroom.

General Sanitation Procedures

1. All route buses will be fully sanitized after transporting students
2. Trash will be dumped after each route.

Elementary School Departure

- Bus students: dismissed before town kids
 - Bus students: Classes will be dismissed by classroom in intervals. Staff will help facilitate this dismissal
- Town Kids: dismissed when buses have left school property
 - Classes will be dismissed by classroom in intervals.
- Parents are not to congregate at the front door waiting for students to exit, rather are encouraged to stay in their vehicles if they are non-walking families.

Arrival Procedures

- Beloit Faculty & Staff will enter the appropriate staff doors of the Elementary.
- Beloit Jr/Sr High Faculty & Staff will enter the appropriate staff doors.

Jr/Sr High Departure Procedures & Sports Practice

- Staff will monitor student dismissal from school.
- District Coaching staff will supervise Sports practice. KSHSAA Policies, regulations and rules will be followed.
- Social distance when possible while in the buildings is strongly encouraged.
- Teachers will dismiss per set dismissal schedule.

Classroom Procedures

- Teachers must be organized and have sub binders with lessons, classroom procedures and safety protocols ready for a substitute teacher.
- Classrooms will be locked when not attended by a teacher. Teachers need to report to their classrooms before 1st period bell so that their classroom is open for students to enter and they are supervised.
- Upon entry to the classroom, students may use sanitizer and then go directly to seat.
- 7-12 Students backpacks must be carried by the student to all classes throughout the day. Be sure to have writing utensils, calculators and any personal needs with you in your back. You will be permitted a water bottle, as well.
- NO lining up or gathering before the bell's rings.
- Teachers may allow time at the end of class to sanitize tables, wash/sanitize hands. Teacher responsibility to implement and enforce.
- Students will need to leave class in an orderly fashion. social distance is encouraged as students transition to their next class.
- Student Library use is important. Students need to follow Library rules. Social distancing when possible is strongly encouraged. Washing and/or sanitizing of hands after handling Library materials should take place.
- Each classroom will have a sanitizer dispenser, sanitation wipes, box of disposable masks. Any sink areas in classrooms will have soap dispensers and paper towel dispensers.
- Fill water bottles at bottle refill stations.
- No students in the teacher/faculty room. No students to the copier.

Halls:

- Everyone must follow the flow, even if it means they need to make a longer, less direct route. Watch and read signage in the buildings.
- Non-use items and locations will be marked off.
- No gathering or loitering in halls, lobbies or other school areas.
- Monitoring and Supervision will take place in halls and throughout school
- Buildings and parking lots at the Jr/Sr High School.

Bathroom

- Passes should be very limited.
- Sinks, urinals, water fountains, stalls that are marked off are not to be used.

- Students must use good handwashing techniques and good hygiene practice.

BREAKFAST:

Elementary Breakfast

When a student arrives at school they need to decide if they are eating breakfast. If a student is eating breakfast, they need to enter the serving line after washing or sanitizing their hands. Please practice social distancing and follow staff direction for seating when this is needed.

Students must have 3 items on the tray. (EXAMPLE: MILK IS ONE, JUICE IS ONE, AND ENTRÉE) Everything that each student needs will be put on the student's food tray before they receive it from the cooks. Students then will be directed where to set to eat their breakfast. When the student is finished, they will bring their food tray to the kitchen window.

Breakfast

- Breakfast eaters will be allowed in the cafeteria
- Students will wash or sanitize their hands before and after eating breakfast
- Students will be social distanced while seated at the tables when possible if in the Orange Category and extra protocols are needed.
- In **Orange** Phase: Each spot will be marked with a piece of tape for quick seating. Students will be seated in assigned seats to help with contact tracing should the need arise.
- In **Orange** Phase: Children will wear their masks to the cafeteria and until they are seated at their spots. They will put them back on after finishing their meal.
- When finished, students will be sent outside to the playground or to their classroom.

Jr. –Sr. High: Breakfast

When a student arrives at school they need to decide if they are eating breakfast. If they are not eating breakfast, they will be directed by staff to their designated place. If a student is eating breakfast, they need to enter the serving line and sanitize their hands. Please practice social distancing when possible.

LUNCH PROCEDURES:

Elementary Lunch:

Students will go and wash hands before eating or sanitize at the serving line. Please practice social distancing when possible. Students then will be directed where to set to eat their lunch. When the student is finished, they will bring their food tray to the kitchen window.

Elementary Lunch (routines, protocols, location, etc.)

- Students that routinely bring sack lunches will be asked to pack a cold pack or warm pack and keep that lunch in the classroom. Children that have special milk are asked to find self-contained milk containers for daily consumption instead of a large carton.

- Children will not have the option of having their lunch warmed up at school to minimize the traffic in and out of the kitchen serving area.
- Students will wash and/or sanitize their hands before and after lunch
- All lunch items, including forks and milk will be put on the tray before it leaves the window area for each student/adult.
- Students will be socially distanced at the lunch tables when necessary.
- **In Orange Phase:** Each spot will be marked with a piece of tape for quick seating. Students will be seated in assigned seats to help with contact tracing should the need arise.
- **In Orange Phase:** Children will wear their masks to the lunchroom and until they are seated at their spots. They will be given or expected to have a second mask to put on for the remainder of the school day after returning to the classroom.
- **In Orange Phase:** There will be a marked spot for children to stand on the red line in the lunchroom for them to be able to quickly identify where they should stand, 6 ft apart.

Jr. –Sr. High: Lunch

Students will go and wash hands before eating or sanitize at the serving line. Please practice social distancing when necessary.

Beloit Elementary

School Supply Distribution (getting supplies to students, where to store extras, individual supplies needed, etc.)

- Each student will have a box/basket or something that will stay in their own desk. The teacher will put what supplies are needed for each student in that basket (that will already be in their desk) prior to their arrival in the classroom.
- Supplies will be handed out before school starts (pencil boxes, pencils, erasers, scissors, glue, art supplies, notebooks, textbooks, work books, iPads if needed). Elementary Chromebooks remain at school.
- Teachers can hand out other supplies as needed.
- Extra supplies will be stored in an area out of sight of students.

Other

- If you would like to volunteer at a school building, please contact the principal of that building.
- Visitors will be limited to essential personnel or through pre-scheduled appointments.
- Again, this year we will not be having visitors at meals.
- Birthdays and classroom parties: parents may send sealed boxes of prepackaged snacks with your student in his / her backpack. No homemade treats.

Sick individual protocols:

Students who arrive for school and are found to have a temperature of 100.4 or higher will be placed in a separate area and supervised by staff while parents/guardians are being contacted to pick up their student. Students will be allowed back to their classes after they are fever free for 48 hours.

If a staff member comes to the building and is found to have a temperature of 100.4 or higher, staff will return home and call administration immediately. Staff will not enter any farther into the building. Staff will not be allowed in their classroom or work area till they are fever free for 48 hours.

Exclusion from School

Students and employees exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 without other obvious explanations are prohibited from coming to school, and if they do come to school, they will be sent home immediately. The current known symptoms are:

- Fever (100.4 or higher)
- Chills
- Rigors
- Muscle or body aches
- Fatigue
- Headache
- Sore throat
- Lower respiratory illness (cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing)
- New loss of taste or smell
- Diarrhea

USD 273 strongly encourages each family to contact the Mitchell County Health Department for up-to-date vaccination information. USD 273 reserves the right to change this plan depending on student and staff needs and will work with the Mitchell County Health Department to establish any needed changes. Communication between families and school will be vital for another successful school year.