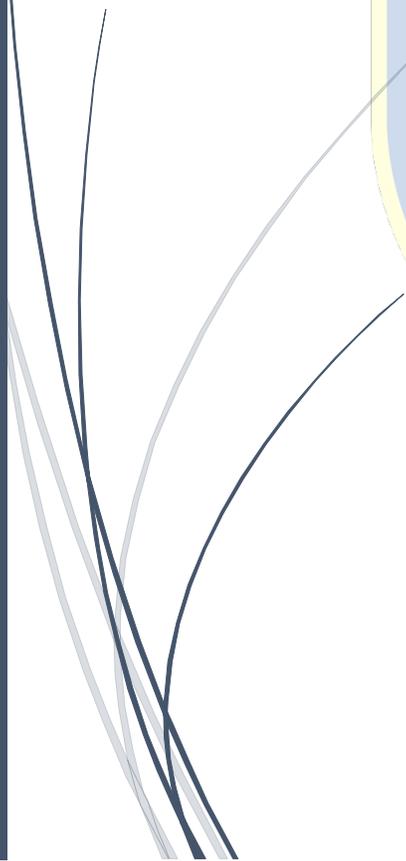


Updated 8/10/2021

Safe In-Person Learning Plan

Guidance for In-person School Attendance

*Practices and Procedures to Mitigate the Effects of COVID-19
and variant virus strains*



Return to Learn

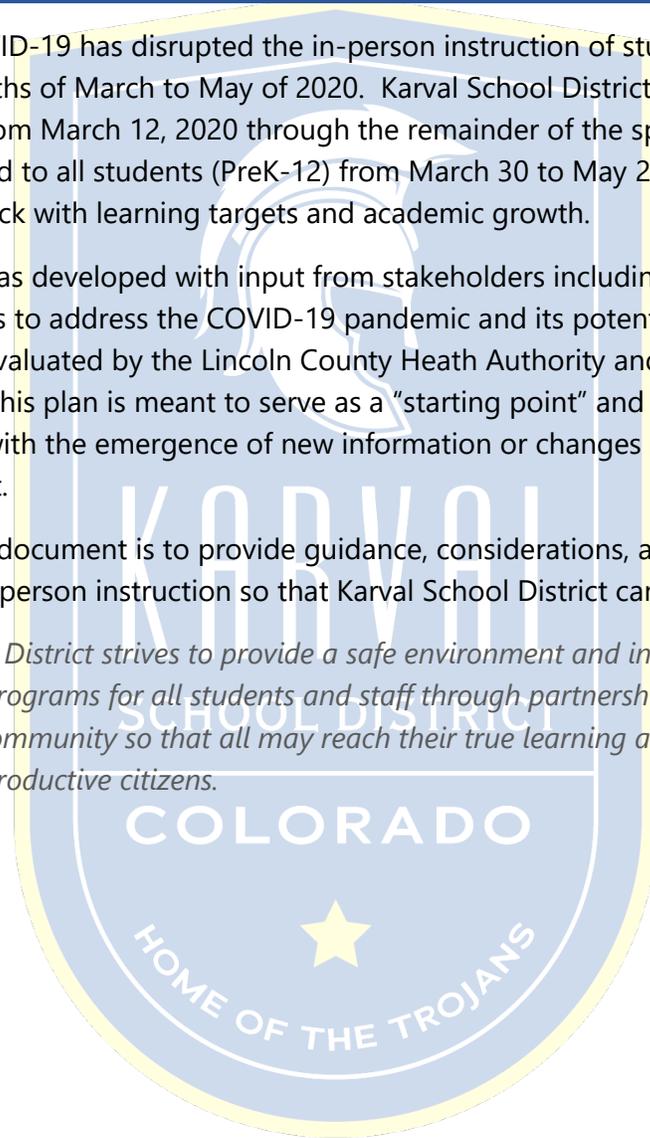
COVID-19 Response and Return to In-person Instruction Karval School District RE-23

The presence of COVID-19 has disrupted the in-person instruction of students across the United States from the months of March to May of 2020. Karval School District RE-23 was closed to in-person instruction from March 12, 2020 through the remainder of the spring semester. Remote learning was provided to all students (PreK-12) from March 30 to May 21, 2020 in an attempt to keep students on-track with learning targets and academic growth.

The following plan was developed with input from stakeholders including staff members, faculty, parents, and students to address the COVID-19 pandemic and its potential effects in our community. It was evaluated by the Lincoln County Health Authority and incorporates the feedback received. This plan is meant to serve as a “starting point” and as such is subject to change at any time with the emergence of new information or changes in infection rates directly impacting the district.

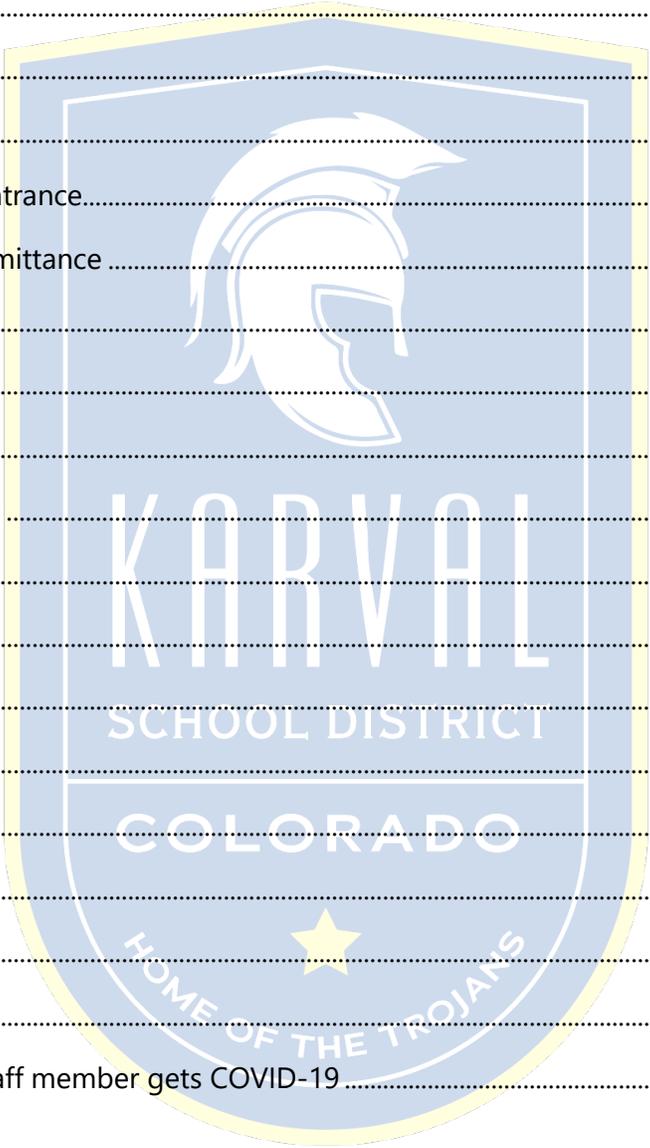
The intention of this document is to provide guidance, considerations, and requirements for a safe reopening of in-person instruction so that Karval School District can fulfill its mission:

Karval School District strives to provide a safe environment and innovative educational programs for all students and staff through partnerships with home, school, and community so that all may reach their true learning and teaching potential as productive citizens.



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Hand Washing

Instructors will facilitate systematic hand washing throughout the day. It is recommended that students have **at minimum 6 dedicated times daily** (beside bathroom breaks) for them to wash their hands thoroughly with soap and water. The following schedule is suggested:

1. Upon arrival to the school
2. After recess/PE
3. Before lunch
4. After lunch
5. After recess/PE
6. At the end of the day

Lotion will be available for student use at all hand washing stations.

Health Checks

To minimize the risk of spreading COVID-19 and other contagious illnesses, students will need to be monitored consistently by parents and staff.

Step 1 - Home

Students

We ask that parents not send their child(ren) to school without assessing their health each morning. Check your student(s)' temperature and do not send them to school if they have a temperature over 100.4 degrees or if they have symptoms of infectious disease such as:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

Staff

We ask that staff members conduct a self-check at the beginning of each work day. Look for the same symptoms as above and take your temperature to ensure it is below the 100.4 degree threshold. The health screener will have a staff log sheet in the lobby for staff members to initial once daily.

Step 2 – Bus and Entrance

Students riding the bus will have their temperature checked as they get on the bus in the morning. Anyone with a temperature over 100.4 degrees will be asked to remain at home (or get back in their parents' vehicle if meeting the bus at a drop off/pick up stop).

Students not using school transportation services arriving at the school with parents and/or guardians will be checked at the front desk by Tasha Lindt or the acting health screener. Anyone with a temperature over 100.4 degrees will be asked to return home.

Preschool Daily Admittance

After preschool students have passed the health screen, parents need to remain in the lobby where they can sign them in with the preschool director or acting delegate. Parents and visitors will not be allowed to enter the building beyond the front lobby.

Masks

Karval School will provide face masks and shields to any students or staff members that need them.

(Updated 8/10/21) Staff interacting with students face-to-face must wear a face covering (either a mask or face shield) unless they can maintain 6 feet or more of physical distance or have been vaccinated. While instructors are lecturing, it is advised that they utilize a face shield (if 6 feet or closer) so students can better understand them.

Masks are required for students ages 4th grade and older if social distancing is not possible. If students have health conditions precluding the use of face masks, the district is happy to provide them with a face shield or other reasonable accommodation. Masks are not required for recess or physical education class because of the increased social distancing we can accomplish with our small class sizes.

Quarantine Zone

A section of the gym bleachers will be designated the quarantine zone should a student develop a fever during the school day. The health screener will be responsible for placing students into the quarantine zone until arrangements can be made for the student to be picked up. Every effort will be made to make the quarantine zone comfortable for the student for the duration of his/her time in it. After student has departed, and 2 hours have elapsed, staff will thoroughly disinfect the area.

Remote Learning

In situations where students cannot participate in on-site, in-person classes (e.g. quarantines, isolation, seasonal sniffles, etc.), remote learning will be available as a short-term alternative. Remote learning may also become necessary for all students in the event of school-wide closures due to the pandemic.

Students will have the ability to connect to instruction live via Zoom Monday through Thursday for most classes (CDLS and MCC classes can continue as normal in all cases). If they cannot connect live, students must contact instructors ahead of time to request a recorded lesson which will then be sent to the student's email so they can access instruction when convenient. Instructors will be responsible for contacting students with instructions for accessing materials, Zoom, or Google classroom. Furthermore, instructors will inform students how they can demonstrate their understanding of the content they are accessing remotely and prove their participation in that learning. Examples include:

- a. presence during in-person instruction
- b. assignments completed at home
- c. logging into an online platform (such as "Into Reading", iStation, or Google Classroom)
- d. signing an online form attesting to work completed at home
- e. submission of scanned, copied, or photographed completed work
- f. student demonstration of learning upon return to in-person school
- g. responding to instructor emails or communication
- h. returning completed packets or other worksheet-like assignments

Sanitization Measures

Buses

Bus drivers will be responsible for wiping down frequently touched areas of buses after every route or activity route. Examples of frequently touched areas include:

- door handles
- door locks
- windows
- arm rests
- hand rails
- seats

Classrooms

Consistent cleaning of rooms including desks, floors, and frequently touched surfaces such as doorknobs and light switches is the front line of defense against virus transference. Teachers will have handheld steam devices that they will use throughout the day to quickly sanitize surfaces. We will try to keep disinfecting wipes available for student and staff use, if possible.

Common Areas

The entire facility (indoor spaces frequented by student and staff daily and the playground) will be treated with a commercial grade disinfectant at the end of each day.

Drinking Fountains

Drinking fountains will remain off for the foreseeable future. Staff and students need to bring water bottles from home that they can refill from a faucet.

Social Distancing

One of the great strengths of Karval School is our small student and staff numbers that allow us to use much greater social distancing. Classrooms need to be set up with one goal in mind: give each student as much space as possible. Removal of excess furniture, books, etc. to allow maximum a) air flow and b) space in which students can move freely will be imperative. Classroom teachers will be responsible for the student environment by providing:

1. **Assigned seating** so a student has one location in each classroom that he/she occupies daily if activity allows.
 - a. PE, Ag shop, preschool, and other activities involving free movement are exempt.
2. As much **physical distance** between all classroom occupants as the given room will allow.
 - a. More space is always better. Studies show that the difference between 3 and 6 feet from a transference standpoint is negligible. If 6 feet of distance is practical and feasible between student desks/seats, arrange accordingly. If only 3 feet is practical and feasible, it is still better than arranging desks/seats side-by-side.
3. **Minimization of close proximity activities.**
4. Activities involving increased movement and student interaction should be **relocated** to the outdoors, gym, or shop when practical.
 - a. More space allows for greater ventilation and less proximity between students and the teacher/other students.

Passing Periods

Students will stagger their passing period to avoid congestion in the hallways, bathrooms, or other common areas. If teachers have two entrances to their classroom, one will be designated "In" and the other door will be designated "out".

1. Ag shop
 - a. South door = IN
 - b. West door = OUT
2. Music room
 - a. South door = IN
 - b. West door = OUT

If a classroom has only one door, keep the door open during passing period to minimize germ transference via the doorknob or surface of the door.

Utilizing outdoor space will be helpful in passing periods; two classes moving through the outdoor space is optimal. If student groups will be expected to travel the same hallway, one teacher should move the students at the first bell and the second group will be moving at the second bell and they should pass in the gym on opposite sides.

EXAMPLE:

Group 1 (ag classroom): When the first bell rings, students in the shop classroom collect their things and exit the west exit and proceed to their next class.

Group 2 (science classroom): Meanwhile, students in the Science room can wait one to two extra minutes to time their arrival in the outdoors simultaneous with Group 1. They need to enter the south door of the ag shop and proceed to class.

Ventilation

Maximizing air flow in classrooms and the gym is optimal. Every effort should be made (weather permitting) to have windows and doors open to allow fresh air to circulate.

Visitors

To minimize the amount of people traversing the facility on a daily basis, we ask that all parents and other visitors wait on the front step/lawn when picking up students or dropping off materials, lunches, etc. unless entrance to the building cannot be avoided (e.g. inclement weather). In the event that a visitor does need to enter the building, please remain in the lobby.

Update (8/10/21): Continue to minimize the amount of people traversing the facility, but allow preschool parents to pick up/drop off at the classroom. Allow parents more access for circumstances such as: attending child's classroom birthday party, using bathroom, or delivering items to student(s).

Special service providers from EC BOCES are not considered "visitors" and will have a dedicated room at the east end of the hall to provide services to students.

When a student or staff member gets COVID-19

Staff members experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 should stay home and notify the district superintendent as soon as possible. Likewise, parents/guardians should keep students home if they are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 and notify the district as soon as possible by contacting a) your route bus driver or b) the administrative assistant.

The district will take the following actions following a confirmed COVID-19 case:

1. Notify all staff and families with students affected that there has been a confirmed COVID-19 case.
 - a. A 10-day quarantine will be initiated for all affected individuals.
 2. Commence virtual learning to accommodate a 10-day timeframe (see also "Remote Learning").
 - a. Learning will continue via the Zoom platform with instructor facilitation.
 - i. CDLS – proceed as normal
 - ii. MCC – proceed as normal
 - iii. Brick and mortar classes (7th-12th) – teachers will communicate with families and students to establish Zoom instruction, Google classroom assignments, or other appropriate activities.
 - iv. Brick and mortar classes (PreK-6th) – teachers will communicate with families and students to either provide digital instruction (Zoom instruction, Google classroom assignments) or to facilitate the dispersal of paper packets for students to complete and return.
 - b. Seamless Process
 - i. Because we would like to go in and out of the virtual learning environment as quickly and easily as possible, **students need to take necessary textbooks, workbooks, materials, and devices home with them each day.** To keep backpack weight manageable, consider the following:
 1. Keeping some school supplies at home and some at school.
 - a. Teachers: give students a copy to keep at home if quantities allow.
 2. Making sure devices and chargers are kept together
 3. Families make sure they have stable internet if possible:
 - a. Please contact the school if you need help getting affordable internet; we can help.
 4. Teachers: keep textbooks/workbook load manageable by utilizing worksheets, digital copies, etc.
3. Sanitize the facility
 - a. After 24 hours, custodial staff will sanitize the facility including all areas frequented by students and staff.
4. Come back to in-person learning after the 10-day quarantine is complete.