Dear Friends,

We are grateful for your continued support and patience as we move through some of the most challenging and difficult times we have seen in education. That being said, we are excited to move forward with the upcoming school year. We love each of our students and understand that children need school. Students thrive in safe, structured and nurturing environments. Currently, we are planning a normal school opening on August 11. Our hope is to keep school “in the building” through a shared commitment from students, teachers, families, and staff by preventing the spread of COVID-19 as outlined in the following document.

Together with the Southwest Utah Health Department, teachers, district staff, administrators, nurses, doctors, parents, and community stakeholders we have developed guidance for the opening of school with all students having the opportunity to attend on a regular schedule. However, we realize the risk of infection and the corresponding need to follow health guidelines increases as we come together again in our schools.

After reading the following plan guidelines, if you would like your child — for any reason — to not attend school in a traditional on-campus setting, the Iron County School District has two full online school options.

- **Elementary students** are encouraged to enroll in Iron K-6 Online School, where they will work online with support from an Iron District teacher during school hours. These teachers will not likely be teachers from a student’s boundary school. Iron K-6 Online School will follow the same standards as traditional campus schools. Iron K-6 Online will begin instruction on August 25th. To indicate interest in this option, please fill out the information in the link below. This information will help us determine the numbers of students interested and the amount of instructors needed. Additional information regarding this option will be forthcoming. [https://forms.gle/yWDHJnZvSSrX125d6](https://forms.gle/yWDHJnZvSSrX125d6)

- Secondary and Elementary students could enroll in My Tech High K-12 or Harmony Education K-9. These are full self-contained online programs for either a semester or full year with teachers from My Tech High and Harmony Education supporting students as they progress. Students will be enrolled under Southwest Education Academy(SEA) which is an Iron County School. Secondary students who would like to take up to two classes in their boundary school will have that option. NCAA and Military options need to be considered. Many of these options are Pass/Fail and as a Secondary student we recommend discussing this with Tim Marriott, Counselor at SEA. tim.marriott@ironmail.org If you are choosing this option you MUST inform your students' boundary school prior to August 5th.

- Additional information regarding these options and their enrollment deadlines can be found on their websites: [https://www.mytechhigh.com/](https://www.mytechhigh.com/) or [https://harmonyed.com/](https://harmonyed.com/).
Students enrolling in one of these options will need to enroll for an entire term. Students will have the opportunity to re-enroll at their original school at the beginning of each new term if desired.

Please keep in mind, circumstances will likely vary from school to school. Each school will have unique challenges and solutions. Specific school details will be communicated to you directly by the administration of the school your child attends.

The information that follows will provide you more details about the Iron County School District’s Reopening Plan. Please read it thoroughly, and please know we are making every effort to provide the best educational experience possible.

We ask for your support through this process.

Shannon Dulaney
The following pages will provide additional details regarding Iron County School District’s approach to operating schools while COVID-19 exists in the community.

Please be aware there is no such thing as a “COVID-free” zone in our classrooms or schools. The more people congregate in society — no matter where that takes place — the more opportunity there is for the virus to spread. COVID-19 exists everywhere and, at the time of the printing of this document, no vaccine has been developed. That being said, representatives from the Iron County School District and the Southwest Utah Public Health Department (SUPHD) have been meeting at least weekly since March. In a related note, the school district will continue to meet with the SUPHD and share information with you, utilizing its webpage as a way to provide additional information and resources.

The information that follows will provide the best measures to not only prevent the spread of the virus, but also give us an opportunity to keep schools open and provide the best education we can for all students.

What we commit to do as school and district personnel:

- Mitigate risk/spread by encouraging physical distancing, proper hand hygiene, sanitization, face coverings when needed, hallway flow adjustments, spacing of students in classrooms, and common areas.
- Provide options for online learning opportunities for students.
- Be aware of student illness/symptoms and inform parent/guardian immediately if a student exhibits symptoms.
- Monitor positive COVID-19 cases and its spread in Iron County School District, and follow the recommendations of the health department regarding school closures or additional in-school adjustments.
- Continue to implement digital curriculum (Google Classroom or Canvas) to provide parents a central landing place to access learning resources when needed.
- Modify our method of delivery, however necessary, to ensure the health and well-being of students and staff.

What parents can do:

- Understand that these guidelines are determined by health, educational, and civic professionals who care for your child’s health as it relates to physical environment, time spent in school, potential risk factors relating to students, faculty, and staff.
- Monitor your child’s health daily and keep them home if they have symptoms such as fever, cough, cold or flu symptoms, or if exposed to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 in the last two weeks.
- Obtain a doctor’s note and send it to school if your child shows symptoms for another reason (allergies, etc.) This may be required to allow a student to remain at school.
- Talk to your child about changes they may notice at school, reinforcing that these measures are in place to preserve their health and the health of others.
- Send your child to school with a clean and appropriate face covering and encourage them to wear it as required.
• Be adaptable to change. As we found out last spring, things can evolve quickly, which precipitates the need to be flexible as schedule changes and school closures may be unavoidable.
• Know that you, as the parent/guardian, have the right to keep your child home at any time as you assess risk for your student.

What students can do:

• Prepare for a unique school year and remain engaged in your learning, no matter the format.
• Wash your hands frequently and avoid touching your face.
• Wear an appropriate face covering while on the bus, in common areas, during transition times, in classrooms, and when arriving and dismissing from school.
• Sit in assigned seats in classrooms.
• Participate in activities and athletics, according to approved guidelines and safety measures.
• Bring a personal water bottle to school each day and for use during extracurricular activities.
HYGIENE ETIQUETTE

Handwashing

Schools will increase instruction and monitoring of student and staff handwashing. Proper hand-washing techniques include lathering hands with soap, scrubbing between fingers, washing the backside of each hand, scrubbing each wrist, washing underneath fingernails and rinsing with water. The process should take 20 seconds.

Schools will provide frequent opportunities for students and staff to wash hands, including between classes, before and after recess, lunch and other activities.

Hand Sanitizing

If soap and water are not readily available in some classrooms, hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol will be used (for staff and older children who can safely use hand sanitizer).

Students and staff will be encouraged to sanitize hands each time they enter and exit a classroom and frequently throughout the day. Students will be instructed to cover all surfaces of their hands with sanitizer and rub them together until their hands feel dry.

Each school will have hand sanitizing stations positioned throughout the school in high traffic areas, including the main office, library, counseling center, cafeteria and gym. If health conditions allow for concerts, plays and athletic events to be held, the hand sanitizing stations also will be used at the entrances of those events.

Respiratory Etiquette

Staff and students will be instructed and encouraged to use proper etiquette when coughing and sneezing. Tissues will be available. Used tissues should be thrown in the trash and hands washed or sanitized immediately.

No Physical Contact

Students and staff will be reminded to practice physical distancing when it comes to greetings — no handshakes, high fives or hugs. Air high fives, air elbow bumps or a simple wave can be used in place of physical contact.

Students and staff are encouraged to avoid touching their eyes, nose and mouth.
STAY HOME WHEN SICK

Don’t Hesitate To Stay Home

If you feel sick, stay home, except to get medical care.

Students and staff are asked to stay home from school if they have any of the following COVID-19 symptoms:

- Shortness of breath, sore throat or persistent cough
- Temperature higher than 100.4 degrees
- Congestion or runny nose
- Vomiting or diarrhea
- New loss of taste or smell

Students should also stay home from school if they are experiencing other illness symptoms such as severe or long-lasting abdominal pain, rash with fever, strep throat, head lice before first treatment or any other illness that prevents a student from participating comfortably in school activities.

Staff and parents of students are encouraged to notify school officials of any COVID-19 symptoms, positive tests for COVID-19, or exposure to someone with COVID-19 symptoms or a confirmed or suspected case. See included health department flow chart. Staff and students who are sick or who have recently had close contact with a person with COVID-19 should stay home.

Accommodating High-Risk Students and Staff

Staff and parents who consider themselves as high-risk, will complete a form with health information that will be shared with the health department to help facilitate contact tracing. Employees will work with their immediate supervisor if there is a concern about risk. High-risk students also will be given the option to attend the district’s online school.
STAY HOME WHEN SICK

Health Rooms

Schools will identify a health room where symptomatic individuals can stay until they are able to go home. These rooms will be dedicated to use for students who feel ill once at school. They will not be used for other purposes, such as storage.

Students or staff who are symptomatic should not come to school. If a student begins exhibiting symptoms after arriving at school, they will wait in the health room with a facial covering and maintain physical distancing while arrangements are made for them to be picked up by a parent or emergency contact as soon as possible. Parents and guardians need to make sure their emergency contact list is up to date.

Monitor Symptoms

Staff will be encouraged to safely and respectfully monitor any observable symptoms in students, such as fever, cough, or shortness of breath. Staff will observe all applicable privacy laws and regulations in doing so. Additionally, schools will continually remind parents and students to check for symptoms daily.
Face Covering Etiquette

According to the CDC, the COVID-19 virus spreads mainly among people who are in close contact with one another, usually within about 6 feet, so the use of cloth face coverings is important in settings where people are close to each other or where physical distancing is difficult to maintain.

Cloth masks will be provided for all students and employees. As mandated by Utah Gov. Gary Herbert, students, employees and visitors will be required to wear appropriate face coverings during the school day in accordance with the most recent state public health order.

In some instances, face shields will be used as needed for special education, language immersion and an approved requested accommodation.

Face Coverings On School Buses

Since physical distancing measures cannot be maintained while transporting students, all individuals on the bus will be required to wear a face covering, as mandated by Utah Gov. Gary Herbert, in accordance with the most recent state public health order.

Visitors, Non-Regular Staff And Volunteers

Visitors and volunteers will be required to have a temperature check, complete a symptom checklist and wear a face covering upon entry into a school building.
PHYSICAL DISTANCING

One of the best ways to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 is by doing your best to physically distance from one another. The rule of thumb is to maintain 6 feet of distance between yourself and anyone else. If that distance is maintained, the virus is less likely to be passed from one person to another.

Classrooms

Physical distancing is challenging in a school where classroom walls cannot be moved. In addition to providing as much physical distancing as possible, students and staff will be required to wear face coverings, in accordance with the state public health order.

Lunch Service

Students will be distanced as much as possible. In elementary schools, additional time will be added to the beginning of the meal session to allow for more spacing and less crowding in the cafeteria. Lunch will be scheduled by grade level with tables sanitized between each seating. In secondary schools, additional eating spaces will be designated, tables will be spaced and students will be required to wear face coverings in line.

Playgrounds

Safety and physical distancing requirements will also be encouraged during recess. If students are within 6 feet of one another, they will be required to wear a face covering as mandated in the state public health order. Supervisors will be encouraged to provide organized recess activities that include physical distancing, as well as behavior management strategies. Schools will determine the best structure for playground use.

Layout Modifications

Teachers may also put forth efforts to distance students from one another. They may be able to distance desks farther apart than normal. Those with larger class sizes may not be able to do that. Teachers may choose to have students face the same direction rather than facing one another and remove reading corners, etc. to optimize space.

In elementary schools, when possible, teachers/specialists/aides will travel to classes where students would typically move to another room (e.g. computer, art, music, library, etc.).
Large Gatherings

Because of the need to stop the spread of COVID-19, large gatherings, such as the typical back-to-school nights, band and choir concerts, may be held differently. Schools will limit assemblies to only those considered essential, and events will be conducted virtually when possible.

Directional signs in all schools will indicate expected traffic flow (travel on the right).

After school activities such as concerts, plays and sporting events will require participants to be screened and symptom checked before any activity. Audiences and spectators will be required to wear face coverings for outdoor events when social distancing cannot be maintained. Face coverings will be required when attending all indoor events. See most recent state public health department order.
CLEAN & DISINFECT

Cleaning Schedule

The district will implement a multi-step cleaning protocol in all schools, to include daily disinfection of touchpoints — drinking fountains, handrails, door handles, sinks, toilets, partition walls and locks. Other daily disinfection will include bathroom floors, student desks and chairs, locker handles and computer mice and keyboards. Buildings will be electrostatically sprayed using a powerful hypochlorous acid that carries an EPA kill claim for COVID-19 and other viruses.

Lunch rooms tables will be disinfected by lunch room monitors, custodians and nutrition staff between each lunch group. High touchpoints on school buses, such as the backs of seats and handrails, will be wiped down and sprayed with disinfectant after each riding group. Restrooms will be cleaned on a regular schedule throughout the day.

Shared Objects

Students will have assigned classroom seating and may help with sanitizing high touch areas and items throughout the day. Students in 1st through 12th grades will be assigned a Chromebook for use at school and at home, when needed. The sharing of supplies (glue sticks, scissors, pencils, crayons, etc.) will be discouraged and reduced where possible. All equipment (balls, weights, jump ropes, etc.) will be disinfected frequently.

Lockers will not be used in secondary schools to prevent congregating of students. Students will be allowed to bring backpacks to class in order to keep their belongings separated from others.

Air Handling & Filters

Iron County School District maintenance and custodial departments will implement guidelines to help mitigate the spread of COVID-19, which includes increasing outside airflow throughout buildings.
Additional Resources
Symptoms of COVID-19

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have identified common symptoms for Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after being exposed to the virus. Any individual who develops one or more of these symptoms should get tested for COVID-19, even if the symptoms are mild.

- 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

Some individuals may develop additional symptoms, or may not experience any symptoms. To learn more, visit: cdc.gov/coronavirus.

To find a testing location near you, visit: coronavirus.utah.gov/testing-locations/.

07.18.2020
Case Investigation and Contact Tracing in Schools (K-12) 2020-2021

Local Health Department (LHD) Conducts Disease Investigation
- LHD Issues Isolation Notice for the Individual Testing Positive
- Quarantine Notices May Also Be Issued to Other Individuals in the Same Household

School POC Notified About Positive Case and Other Related Household Contacts

School Ensures/Increases Preventative Measures to Slow the Spread of COVID-19 Following Individual School’s Plan, as Outlined in USBOE Handbook

School POC Compiles List of High-Risk Contacts and Provides List to LHD

School POC Sends Informational Letter and Education Packet to All Individuals Identified As Being Potentially Exposed, Including Information on Self-Monitoring & When to Get Tested for COVID-19

LHD Contacts High-Risk Individuals & Their Parent/Guardian(s) to Provide Education & Assist Families in Making Informed Decisions to Protect Their Student

High-Risk Individuals Self-Monitor for Symptoms & Get Tested for COVID-19 if Needed

Individuals Self-Monitor for Symptoms & Get Tested for COVID-19 if Needed

LHD Monitors Isolated Individual and Notifies School POC When Individual Testing Positive Has Been Cleared to Return to School

Tasks Prior to School Opening:
- Identify a POC for each school
- Provide contact information for each POC to the LHD
- Compile a list of high-risk* individuals within each school

Key:
- Local Health Department (LHD)
- Release of Positive Individual
- Action for Exposed Individual
- School Point of Contact (POC)

*See “High-Risk Individuals Defined” Handout

07.18.2020
Case Investigation and Contact Tracing in Schools (K-12) 2020-2021

To help slow the spread of COVID-19, local health departments and schools can work together to notify students, parents, staff members, and volunteers when an exposure to COVID-19 has occurred at school. For questions regarding this process, please contact ______________ at ______________.

Tasks Prior to School Opening:
- Identify a POC for each school
- Provide contact information for each POC to the LHD
- Compile a list of high-risk* individuals within each school

Local Health Department (LHD) Conducts Disease Investigation
- LHD issues isolation notices for the individual testing positive
- Quarantine notices may also be issued to other members in the same household

School POC Notified About Positive Case and Other Related Household Contacts

Before the 2020-2021 School Year Begins:
- The school should designate a point of contact (POC) to work with the local health department (LHD) when a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19
- A list with contact information for each POC should be provided to the LHD
- The school POC should identify high-risk* individuals and compile a list within each school

When an Individual Tests Positive for COVID-19:
- The LHD will contact the individual and conduct a disease investigation, which includes beginning the contact tracing process, to identify others who may have been exposed to COVID-19
- The individual testing positive will be instructed to isolate and be issued an isolation notice, and cannot return to school until meeting the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) criteria to be released
- Other members in the same household who had close contact with the individual (being within 6 feet for 15 minutes or more) will be issued quarantine notices and should quarantine for 14 days from their last exposure to the individual who tested positive. Quarantined individuals that are students, staff members, or volunteers should not return to school until they have completed their full quarantine period, even if receiving a negative test result during their quarantine period

School-designated Point of Contact (POC) Notified:
- If an individual with COVID-19 attended school within 48 hours of symptoms starting (if symptomatic) or of being tested (if asymptomatic), the health department will contact the POC to notify of individuals who have been isolated and others who have been quarantined in the same household

*See “High-Risk Individuals Defined” Handout
**See “COVID-19 Symptoms” Handout
High-Risk Individuals Defined

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have provided information on conditions that increase the risk for severe illness from Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) or may potentially increase the risk for severe illness. Individuals with any of the conditions listed on this handout should be classified as being high-risk, and should take extra precautions when attending school and work.

Anyone with Certain Underlying Medical Conditions

People of any age with the following medical conditions are at an increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19:

- Cancer
- Chronic kidney disease
- COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease)
- Immunocompromised state (weakened immune system) from solid organ transplant
- Obesity (body mass index [BMI] of 30 or higher)
- Serious heart conditions, such as heart failure, coronary artery disease, or cardiomyopathies
- Sickle cell disease
- Type 2 diabetes mellitus

People of any age with the following medical conditions might be at an increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19:

- Asthma (moderate-to-severe)
- Cerebrovascular disease (affects blood vessels and blood supply to the brain)
- Cystic fibrosis
- Hypertension or high blood pressure
- Immunocompromised state (weakened immune system) from blood or bone marrow transplant, immune deficiencies, HIV, use of corticosteroids, or use of other immune weakening medicines
- Neurologic conditions, such as dementia
- Liver disease
- Pregnancy
- Pulmonary fibrosis (having damaged or scarred lung tissues)
- Smoking
- Thalassemia (a type of blood disorder)
- Type 1 diabetes mellitus


07.18.2020
WASH YOUR HANDS!

1. Wet
2. Get Soap
3. Scrub
4. Rinse
5. Dry
Cover Coughs and Sneeze

Stop the spread of germs that can make you and others sick!

Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you sneeze or cough.

If you don’t have a tissue, use your elbow.

Wash hands often, especially after coughing or sneezing.

cdc.gov/coronavirus
Stop the spread of germs that can make you and others sick!

- Wash your hands often
- Wear a cloth face cover
- Cover your coughs and sneezes
- Keep 6 feet of space between you and your friends

cdc.gov/coronavirus
Board of Education
Dr. Stephen Allen, President
Michelle Lambert, Vice-President
Michelle Jorgenson-Jones
Dr. Mary Ann Kemp
Dale Brinkerhoff

Iron County School District Administration
Superintendent Shannon Dulaney
Business Administrator Todd R. Hess
Secondary Director Roy Mathews
Elementary Director Steve Burton
Special Programs Director Kevin Garrett

Special thanks to:
District Nursing Staff
Custodial Services
Transportation
Iron County Health Department
Dr. Blodgett
Dr. Gray

Updates to this plan will be available at
irondistrict.org