



# RUSSELL COUNTY USD 407

802 North Main Street, Russell, Kansas 67665 · P: (785) 483-2173 · F: (785) 483-2175 · [www.usd407.org](http://www.usd407.org)

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## HEALTH/SAFETY MEASURES

Per CDC and KDHE guidance, the USD 407 health team recognized the importance of maintaining a layered approach to protecting students, staff, and the community. This layered approach may include masks, physical distancing, appropriate ventilation, hand hygiene, and encouraging vaccinations for those who are eligible.

For the 2023-2024 school year, USD 407 will resume normal school operations and monitor recommendations from the Russell County Health Department, Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The district will follow state and federal mandates and protocols are subject to change based on recommendations from federal, state, and local health authorities.

### Hygiene

USD 407 will encourage effective handwashing and hygiene practices, good respiratory etiquette, and strong cleaning/disinfecting practices.

### Masks

Masks are optional in all buildings and on all USD 407 property.

### Vaccinations

- COVID vaccinations are NOT required for students or staff members.
- USD 407 encourages staff and eligible students to discuss the COVID vaccine with their healthcare provider.

## COVID-POSITIVE INDIVIDUALS

Individuals who test positive for COVID must follow the district's Communicable Diseases policy and Russell County Health Department guidance before returning to school.

### Symptomatic Individuals

Individuals with COVID-like symptoms should stay home and inform the school.

This plan was approved by the USD 407 Board of Education on September 11, 2023. Protocols are subject to change based on updated guidance from national, state, and local health officials.

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**Simpson Elementary School**  
(Grades PreK - 1)  
1323 N. Main  
Russell, KS 67665  
P: (785) 483-6180  
F: (785) 483-5459

**Bickerdyke Elementary School**  
(Grades 2 - 5)  
348 N. Maple  
Russell, KS 67665  
P: (785) 483-6066  
F: (785) 483-5982

**Ruppenthal Middle School**  
(Grades 6 - 8)  
400 N. Elm  
Russell, KS 67665  
P: (785) 483-3174  
F: (785) 483-5386

**Russell High School**  
(Grades 9 - 12)  
565 State Street  
Russell, KS 67665  
P: (785) 483-5631  
F: (785) 483-5636