Platte-Geddes School District #11-5 Safe Return to In-Person Learning Plan

(Approved August 15, 2022)

(Updated May, 2023)



Fall 2022
Updated Spring 2023
Reviewed December 2023

Overview

The Platte-Geddes School District Safe Return to In-Person Learning plan outlines the intended procedures for providing instruction for all students while continuing to address the ongoing effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and to meet the requirements of the American Rescue Plan legislation.

The plan addresses our assumptions about the start of the 2023-2024 school year, what learning will look like, what health and safety procedures will be implemented, and additional steps the district will take to address student academic, social-emotional, and mental health needs.

The Platte-Geddes School District will monitor community, county, and state-wide health conditions while consulting with local health officials, the South Dakota Department of Health, and Center for Disease Control to make common-sense decisions. This plan is subject to change based on the recommendations of those listed above. The Plan will be reviewed monthly during the Platte-Geddes School District Board Meetings.

District Priorities

- The health and safety of our students, staff, and community are the district's highest priority
- In consideration with the community and county health conditions, the district will offer full-time, in-person learning opportunities for all students
- The Platte-Geddes School district is committed to educating all students to high levels through knowing, valuing, and using as assets students' cultural backgrounds, languages, and learning styles to ensure learning disparities between and amongst student learning groups are eliminated

Safe Return to In-Person Learning Plan

Learning Models

The Platte-Geddes School District will provide full, in-person learning for students at all grade levels, while implementing standard health and safety mitigation procedures

Assumptions

Based on the current COVID-19 climate, the Platte-Geddes School District makes the following assumptions prior to the start of the 2023-2024 school year

- Class sizes will be normal
- Buses will operate at pre-COVID capacity
- COVID-19 vaccines are available for all students.
- The Platte-Geddes School District will coordinate with local and state health officials, as well as, the CDC in response to the changing COVID-19 climate

Mitigation Procedures

The Platte-Geddes School District will continue to make the health and safety of our students, staff, and community members our highest priority. Mitigation procedures will be implemented to combat the potential effects of the COVID-19 pandemic in accordance with guidance from federal, state, and local health officials.

Mitigation Procedures Include but are not limited to:

- Based on the current COVID-19 climate, masks are voluntary.
- The Platte-Geddes School District will provide face coverings (if necessary)

- Requiring students and staff to stay home if they are ill, leave school/work if they become ill during the day
- Signage encouraging those with COVID-19 symptoms not to enter school buildings or events
- Promoting healthy hygiene habits that limit the spread of disease, including covering your cough and washing hands through signage
- Promoting social distancing whenever possible, including during athletics/activities and all other communal events
- All classrooms equipped with sanitizer dispensers and disinfectant wipes
- Continual cleaning of high touch areas and restrooms
- The Platte-Geddes School District will rely on the South Dakota Department of Health for contact tracing
- The Platte-Geddes School District recommends following the latest CDC and South Dakota DOH guidelines for close contact identification and periods of isolation/quarantine (see appendix)
- The Platte-Geddes School District may serve as a conduit of information for the Platte Health Center and share vaccine information and resources with students, staff, and community members
- The Platte-Geddes School District will administer the Abbot Binax Rapid Antigen Tests to students (per parent permission) and staff who are displaying COVID-19 symptoms
- Families who wish to participate will be provided with Quidel Quick View At-Home Tests

Continuity of Academic Services

The Platte-Geddes School District recognizes that academic instruction has been interrupted due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Academic programming and services will be provided to address student needs as a result of that disruption, including academics, social-emotional growth, and mental health.

Continuity of Learning

During the summers of 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023 the Platte-Geddes School District has and will continue to offer summer school services to students. One-on-one learning opportunities are offered via certified teachers.

Academic Services

- Summer school offered to K-12 students
- Waterford Early Learning At-home Access
- Board Works
- Google Classroom Suite for in-person, remote, or hybrid learning
- Better Lesson Virtual Instructional Coaching for all certified teachers and school counselors
- Picture in Writing
- KSB School Law Student Crisis Management Training

Social, Emotional, and Mental Health Services

- Cooke Center for Human Connection Partnership
- ParentGuidance.org Family Virtual Mental Health Nights
- Hope Squad
- Teachers As Advisors
- Two Certified School Counselors
- KSB School Law Student Crisis Management Training

Contingency Plan

As long as the current COVID-19 climate remains status quo, the Platte-Geddes School District will follow the procedures outlined in this plan. If community and county data begins to see a substantial spike in COVID-19 cases, the district will

move to the necessary level within the plan. Decisions will be made by the Platte-Geddes School Board after consultation with local and state health officials.

Instruction

Level 1 & 2: In-person Learning (Remote learning will only be offered under unique circumstances and requires administrator approval)

In-person learning aligns to current district policies. If necessary, students learning via remote instruction will be required to sign-in to live classroom instruction throughout the school day as if they were attending school in-person. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each period for 6th-12th grade students. This will serve as their attendance. Attendance for elementary students will be based on viewing remote instruction, work completion, and check-in with school staff. All remote learners will be required to check in with their teachers on a predetermined basis. Remote learners may be asked to meet with their teachers on a 1:1 basis for benchmark testing and other assessments.

Grading/Timelines: All grades for Kindergarten-12th grade students will be consistent with current grading scales, handbooks and district policies. Due dates will be the same for students receiving inperson and remote instruction, unless otherwise determined by an individualized education plan or IEP.

Curriculum: All students choosing remote instruction will be expected to complete all content that one-site learners are completing unless otherwise determined by individualized learning plan or IEP.

Special Education: Special education students who opt to receive remote instruction will follow all of the above listed protocols. Students requiring additional academic support per the IEP will receive services virtually from a certified teacher or paraprofessional. Related services will be provided but determined by Core Educational Coop.

Level 3: Blended Learning

Blended learning will go into effect when the district is advised by local, state, and/or medical agencies to decrease capacity within classrooms or individual buildings. During blended leaning, the district will strive to limit capacity to 50% based on the specific infection rates and close contacts. During this time, students that are not able to receive in-person instruction will be required to receive remote instruction.

Every effort will be made to keep as many students in the buildings as is safely possible. Positive cases and close contacts are inevitable.

Capacity may be reduced by splitting grade levels in half. Students in grades Kindergarten, 2nd, 4th, 6th, 8th, 10, and 12th will report for in-person instruction on Monday, Wednesday, Friday on week one of blended learning. Students in Half-Day Kindergarten, 1st, 3rd, 5th, 7th, 9th, and 11th grade will report for in-person learning on Tuesday and Thursday on week one of blended learning. On week two of blended learning, the days and grades for in-person instruction will flip flop.

In an effort to make the schedule as convenient as possible for all families, all siblings will attend school on the same days. The building principals will develop a schedule for siblings to attend together.

All staff members will be on site each day to deliver both in-person and remote instruction.

Attendance: Attendance for in-person and remote learners aligns to current district policies. Students learning via remote instruction will be required to sign-in to live classroom instruction throughout the school day as if they were attending school in-person. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each period for 6th-12th grade students. This will serve as their attendance. Attendance for elementary students will be based on viewing remote instruction, work completion, and check-in with school staff. All remote learners will be required to check in with their teachers on a predetermined basis.

Grading/Timelines: All grades for Kindergarten-12th grade students will be consistent with current grading scales, handbooks and district policies. Due dates will be the same for students receiving inperson and remote instruction, unless otherwise determined by an individualized education plan or IEP.

Curriculum: All students choosing remote instruction will be expected to complete all content that one-site learners are completing unless otherwise determined by individualized learning plan or IEP.

Special Education: Special education students will follow all of the above listed protocols. Students whose IEP's require additional supports will receive those supports via a certified teacher or paraprofessional in a virtual platform or in person when conditions allow. COVID-19 safety protocols will be in place when special education services needs to be offered 1:1

Level 4: Emergency Remote Instruction

Emergency remote instruction will go into effect when the district is notified by local or state officials that the buildings need to close. All students will receive remote instruction.

Attendance: Attendance aligns to current district policies. All students will be required to sign-in to live classroom instruction throughout the school day as if they were attending school in-person. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each period for 6th-12th grade students. This will serve as their attendance. Attendance for elementary students will be based on viewing remote instruction, work completion, and check-in with school staff. All remote learners will be required to check in with their teachers on a predetermined basis.

Grading/Timelines: All grades for Kindergarten-12th grade students will be consistent with current grading scales, handbooks and district policies. Due dates will be determined by the classroom teachers, unless otherwise determined by an individualized education plan or IEP.

Curriculum: Platte-Geddes teachers will use district curriculum with additional supplemental materials that align to the South Dakota Content Standards.

Special Education: Special education students will follow all of the above listed protocols. Students whose IEP's require additional supports will receive those supports via a certified teacher or paraprofessional in a virtual platform or in person when conditions allow. COVID-19 safety protocols will be in place when special education services need to be offered 1:1.

Instruction	Elementary	MS/HS
Level 1	 Staff/Families self-screen for COVID symptoms Heathy hygiene habits enforced (handwashing and sanitizer) In-person instruction w/ a parallel learning environment for remote learners (if necessary) Remote Instruction delivered via Google Classroom Synchronous Learning Clearly communicated daily schedules Interventions/small group instruction permitted Meeting times on carpet/rugs is permissible 	 Staff/Families self-screen for COVID symptoms Heathy hygiene habits enforced (handwashing and sanitizer) In-person instruction w/ a parallel learning environment for remote learners (if necessary) Remote Instruction delivered via Google Classroom Synchronous Learning Clearly communicated daily schedules
Level 2	Elementary-	MS/HS
	 Staff/Families self-screen for COVID symptoms Heathy hygiene habits enforced (handwashing and sanitizer) In-person instruction w/ a parallel learning environment for remote learners (if necessary) Remote Instruction delivered via Google Classroom Synchronous Learning Clearly communicated daily schedules 	 Staff/Families self-screen for COVID symptoms Heathy hygiene habits enforced (handwashing and sanitizer) In-person instruction w/ a parallel learning environment for remote learners (if necessary) Remote Instruction delivered via Google Classroom Synchronous Learning Clearly communicated daily schedules

	 Interventions/small group instruction permitted Meeting times on carpet/rugs is limited to ten minutes or less 	
Level 3	Elementary	MS/HS
	 Student capacity is limited based on positive cases or close contacts Combination on in-person and remote instruction 	 Student capacity is limited based on positive cases or close contacts Combination on in-person and remote instruction
Level 4	Elementary	MS/HS
	Emergency Remote Instruction- no stud	ents in buildings

Operations		
Level 1	 Students are dropped off for school at elementary playground and enter building through normal entrances Students line up in classroom lines with distance between them as marked on lines Classrooms Students will remain in classroom "cohorts" in lines and in classrooms throughout the day. Specials will be in the classroom, gym, or outside Building access Building access is allowed for parents Water fountain use is limited to water bottle filling stations. Students asked to bring their own water bottles Office use Elementary school office is not restricted for students/staffsocial distancing is in place for everyone in the office. Staff members will not loiter in secretaries office, but only in office for school business purposes 	Entrances/Cohorts Students enter east doors Each student may use hand sanitizer upon entering/leaving every classroom Library access Library is open to students Building access Building access is allowed parents Water fountains Water fountain use is limited to water bottle filling stations. Students asked to bring their own water bottles Classrooms All classroom desks are arranged to face the same direction and maintain feasible social distancing Office use High school office is not restricted for students/staff-social distancing is in place Hallways/Lockers Students stay to the right side of the hallway when transitioning between classes
Level 2	Elementary- Entrances-	MS/HS- Entrances/Cohorts

- Students are dropped off for school at elementary playground and enter building through normal entrances
- Students line up in classroom lines with distance between them as marked on lines

Classrooms-

- Students will remain in classroom "cohorts" while in lines
- Desks will be arranged to maximize social distancing
- Carpet time will be limited to 10 minutes or less with as much social distancing as possible

Recess

Normal

Building Access

- Building access allowed only to school personnel and students. Parents, family members, and other visitors are restricted from visiting the school. Items may be dropped off at the front door.
- Parents/guardian must call the office when student pickup/drop off is necessary.
 School personnel will meet parent/guardian at the front door.
- IEP meetings will be held in the high school board room

Water Fountains:

- All students will have water bottles
- Water found use is limited to water bottle filling stations

Office

 Office is not restricted for students and staff members Students enter east doors and go directly to their first period classroom or a predetermined "homeroom"

Building access

 Building access allowed only to school personnel. Parents, families and other visitors are restricted from visiting the school, but can drop off items at the front door

Classrooms

 Desks will be arranged to maximize the distance between (social distancing)

Library

- Library will remain open
- Students will be socially distanced

Water fountains

- Restricted to water bottle fillings only
- Students encouraged to bring own water bottles

Office

- Staff members will not loiter in the secretary's office unless conducting official school business.
- Office occupancy is limited to three people, not included the secretary and principal.
- Social distancing is required.

Student Pick up during school day

 Any student needing to be picked up during the school day will have the parent/guardian call the office upon arrival. Student will be dismissed from the office.

Hallways/Lockers

 Students stay to the right side of the hallway when transitioning between classes

- Social distancing is required
- Staff members will not loiter in the office, but only in office for school business purposes

Library

- No more than 10 people in the library at one time.
- Students/staff must be socially distanced

Hallways

- Teachers will limit the number of students allowed in the hallways at one time
- When classes are in the hallways together (specials, lunch) they will stay to the right of the hall and allow other groups to pass before entering a hallway already in use

Level 3 Elementary

Entrances-

• Students are dropped off for school at their respective entrances (K,1,2, main south entrance)(3,4,5 northeast entrance). All students report directly to their classroom cohort. Students are not on the playground prior to their school day

Classrooms

- Students will remain in classroom "cohorts" in lines and in classrooms throughout the school day. Specials will be held with classroom "cohorts" in the general education classroom or outside.
- Carpet time eliminated
- Hand sanitizer will be used upon entering classrooms

MS/HS

Entrances/Cohorts

- Students enter east doors and go directly to their first period classroom or a predetermined "homeroom"
- Each student will use hand sanitizer upon entering/leaving every classroom

Building access

 Building access allowed only to school personnel. Parents, families and other visitors are restricted from visiting the school, but can drop off items at the front door

Classrooms

 Desks will be arranged to maximize the distance between (social distancing)

Library

- Library will remain open
- Students will be socially distanced Hallways/Passing time/Lockers

- Music in classroom w/ music teacher
- Recess will be restricted to grade level "cohorts"

Building Access

- Building access allowed only to school personnel and students. Parents, family members, and other visitors are restricted from visiting the school. Items may be dropped off at the front door.
- Parents/guardian must call the office when student pickup/drop off is necessary.
 School personnel will walk child to the door.
- IEP meetings will be held in the high school board room or via Zoom

Office-

- Elementary school office is restricted to three people total and for school business only
- Social distancing is required
- Staff members will not loiter in secretary's office and will only be in the office for school business purposes

Library

- No more than 10 people in the library at one time.
- Students/staff will be as socially distanced as possible

Hallways

- Teachers will limit the number of students allowed in the hallways at one time.
- When classes are in the hallways moving to specials or lunch, they will stay to the right side of the hall and allow other groups to pass before

 Students stay to the right side of the hallway when transitioning between classes

Water fountains

- Restricted to water bottle fillings only
- Students encouraged to bring own water bottles

Office

- Staff members will not loiter in the secretary's office unless conducting official school business.
- Office occupancy is limited to three people, not included the secretary and principal.
- Social distancing is required.

Student Pick up during school day

 Any student needing to be picked up during the school day will have the parent/guardian call the office upon arrival. Student will be dismissed from the office.

	entering a hallway already in use	
Level 4	Elementary	MS/HS
	Emergency Remote Insruction will be preferred from their classroom- no students allowed	provided. Staff members will instruct students wed in the buidling

Transportation	Elementary	MS/HS
Level 1	 Staff/Families self-screen for COVID symptoms for Geddes bus students Students required to use hand sanitizer when entering and exiting all school vehicles School vehicles sanitized after every use Atmos Clear Air Purifier added to Geddes and activity bus 	 Staff/Families self-screen for COVID symptoms for Geddes bus students Students required to use hand sanitizer when entering and exiting all school vehicles Atmos Clear Air Purifier added to Geddes and activity bus
Level 2	Elementary-	MS/HS-
	 Staff/Families self-screen for COVID symptoms for Geddes bus students Students required to use hand sanitizer when entering and exiting all school vehicles Masks recommended on buses and in all school 	 Staff/Families self-screen for COVID symptoms for Geddes bus students Students required to use hand sanitizer when entering and exiting all school vehicles Masks recommended on buses and in all school vehicles because social distancing isn't feasible

	vehicles because social distancing isn't feasible Geddes bus- students seating	 Geddes bus- students seating in family cohorts Single seating if possible
	 in family cohorts Single seating if possible School vehicles sanitized after every use Seating chart required Atmos Clear Air Purifier added to Geddes and activity bus 	 School vehicles sanitized after every use Seating chart required Atmos Clear Air Purifier added to Geddes and activity bus
Level 3	Elementary -	MS/HS-
	 Staff/Families self-screen for COVID symptoms for Geddes bus students Students required to use hand sanitizer when entering and exiting all school vehicles Masks required on buses and in all school vehicles because social distancing isn't feasible Geddes bus- students seated in family cohorts Single seating if possible School vehicles sanitized after every use Seating chart required Atmos Clear Air Purifier added to Geddes and activity bus Mileage offered to Geddes parents for driving children to Platte 	 Staff/Families self-screen for COVID symptoms for Geddes bus students Students required to use hand sanitizer when entering and exiting all school vehicles Masks required on buses and in all school vehicles because social distancing isn't feasible Geddes bus- students seated in family cohorts Single seating if possible School vehicles sanitized after every use Seating chart required Atmos Clear Air Purifier added to Geddes and activity bus Mileage offered to Geddes parents for driving children to Platte
Level 4	Elementary	MS/HS
	Emergency Remote Insruction- no stude	nts in buildings

PPE	Elementary	MS/HS
Level 1	 Social distancing-where feasible -Voluntary masking Hand sanitizer Healthy Hygiene Habits 	 Social distancing-where feasible Voluntary masking Hand sanitizer Healthy Hygiene Habits
Level 2	Elementary-	MS/HS-
	 Social distancing-where feasible Voluntary masking Hand sanitizer Healthy Hygiene Habits 	 Social distancing-where feasible Voluntary masking Hand sanitizer Healthy Hygiene Habits
Level 3	Elementary -	MS/HS
	 Social distancing-where feasible Masks required-provided by district Hand sanitizer Healthy Hygiene Habits Reduced building capacity 	 Social distancing-where feasible Masks required-provided by district Hand sanitizer Healthy Hygiene Habits Reduced building capacity

	Specials held in classrooms	
Level 4	Elementary	MS/HS
	Emergency Remote Insruction- no stude	ents in buildings

Food	Elementary	MS/HS
Level 1	 Healthy hygiene habits Lunch tables distanced farther apart with reduced seating at each table Social distancing Lunch room operates at full capacity w/ seating arrangement for contact tracing purposes 	 Healthy hygiene habits Lunch tables distanced farther apart with reduced seating at each table Social distancing in lunch lines-if feasible Lunch room operates at full capacity w/ seating arrangement for contact tracing purposes
Level 2	Elementary	MS/HS
	 Healthy hygiene habits Social distancing when and where possible 	 Healthy hygiene habits Social distancing in lunch lines-if feasible

	 Seating arrangement for contact tracing purposes Lunch eaten in classrooms (optional) Lunch tables distanced farther apart with reduced seating at each table 	 Lunch room operates at full capacity w/ seating arrangement for contact tracing purposes Lunch tables distanced farther apart with reduced seating at each table
Level 3	Elementary -	MS/HS-
	 Healthy hygiene habits No self-serve Limited lunch room capacity Staggered lunch times Students may eat in classrooms 	 Healthy hygiene habits Limited lunch room capacity Staggered lunch times Students may eat in classrooms
Level 4	Elementary	MS/HS
	Emergency Remote Insruction- no stude	nts in buildings

Wellness:

Elementary:

- 1. Simple wellness screening to be completed each week (first month of school) for students K-5 (this will look different for lower vs higher grades. Individual supports may come out of those screenings. This will also include remote learners.
- 2. Address and discuss thoughts/feelings about the changes taking place masks, social distancing, vocabulary beginning with talking circles. Other areas of focus will be self awareness, adapting to change, respect for self and others, healthy coping skills, safety and personal hygiene. This will be done during classroom counseling time and will meet mindset and behavior standards put forth by ASCA.
- 3. Support individual students/families that seek assistance or are referred by another student, staff member or caregiver.
- 4. Begin a "worry list" and keep in close communication with Elementary staff and caregivers to identify any students in need of support.

*** This is all subject to change based on individual experiences. We will have to address different needs if/when a student in a classroom is exposed or quarantined. Allowing a time for students to share their thoughts/feelings either individual, small group or large group will be important as everyone's experiences are different.

Middle School/High School

The return to school this year will be unlike any other and may be emotionally charged for students and adults alike. We at the Platte-Geddes School Counseling Department are committed to embracing these challenges and doing our part to promote a thriving school environment for all within our programming. Social Emotional Learning (SEL) provides a teaching and learning process where students and adults develop the skills and attitudes that will help them to be more successful in learning, build supportive and positive relationships, be positive citizens, and have positive mental health. Therefore, SEL provides a foundation for all students and adults to thrive

Middle School/High School cont...

The attention to students' social, emotional and academic development is particularly important now, as many students and adults may have experienced extraordinary stress and trauma. This attention will come in a variety of ways including but not limited to individual counseling, group counseling, and classroom experiences. The Platte-Geddes School Counseling Department will continue to use in house resources as well as our community resources on a needed basis.

Social Emotional Learning (SEL) carried out in the junior high and high school buildings will include:

SELF-AWARENESS: the ability to accurately recognize one's own emotions, thoughts, and values and how they influence behavior including but not limited to a sense of confidence, optimism, and a "growth mindset."

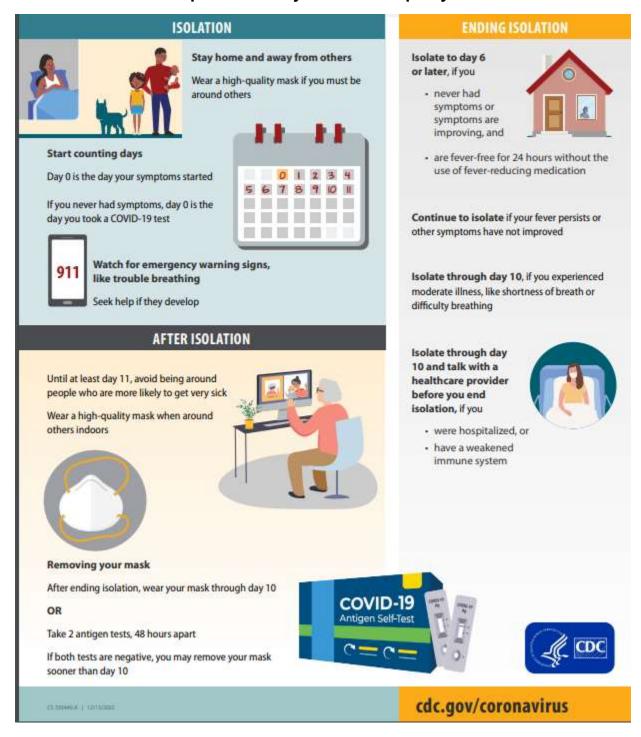
SELF-MANAGEMENT: the ability to successfully regulate one's emotions, thoughts, and behaviors in different situations—effectively managing stress, controlling impulses, and motivating self.

SOCIAL AWARENESS: the ability to take the perspective of and empathize

Appendix

CDC Quarantine Guidelines

Isolate and take precautions if you have or suspect you have COVID-19



The follow link takes you to a detailed recommendation for isolation, quarantine, etc.

Dates Reviewed:

August 16, 2021- Platte-Geddes School Board monthly meeting
August 15, 2022-Platte-Geddes School Board monthly meeting
September 13, 2022- Platte-Geddes School Board monthly meeting
October 2022-Platte-Geddes School Board monthly meeting
November 2022-Platte-Geddes School Board monthly meeting
December 2022-Platte-Geddes School Board monthly meeting
January 2023-Platte-Geddes School Board monthly meeting
February 2023-Platte-Geddes School Board monthly meeting
March 2023-Platte-Geddes School Board monthly meeting
April 2023-Platte-Geddes School Board monthly meeting
May 2023-Platte-Geddes School Board monthly meeting