Important Update Regarding COVID-19

Date: June 22, 2020
Time: 4:00 pm CST
Agenda

- Welcome from NDE - Lane Carr
- Return to School 2020-2021
- ESUs Update
- Launch Nebraska - Updates
  - Leadership and Planning
  - Conditions for Learning
  - Continuity of Learning
- NDE Update
  - CARES Act
  - Rule 62
  - NE P-EBT
Guiding Principles

• **Transparent.** We will share what we know and what we don’t know. We will be clear about what we can control and what is outside of our control.

• **Equitable.** We will center decisions on what is best for all students, families, and educators, especially those most impacted by educational inequities and COVID-19.

• **Listen.** We will bring together diverse stakeholders and experts to a) understand the realities on the ground and b) surface creative solutions.

• **Safety first.** We will leverage science, data, and public health leadership to inform the choices we make.

• **Decisive.** Given the size and scope of the challenge, we must move deliberately and make tough choices. We will make mistakes, and we will adapt quickly as variables on the ground change.
What We Know:

- School will be in session in the fall. What it looks like will be different.
- 244 districts with 244 different contexts. **One size does not fit all.**
- Protocols in place will be dependent on each district’s individual risk assessment completed in partnership with local public health.
- Flexibility and preparation are going to be key.
Agenda

- Welcome from NDE
- **Return to School 2020-2021**
  - Lincoln Public School - Dr. Joel
  - Lincoln Lancaster County Health Department - Pat Lopez
- ESUs Update
- Launch Nebraska - Updates
  - Leadership and Planning
  - Conditions for Learning
  - Continuity of Learning
- NDE Update
  - CARES Act
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LPS 2020-21 Pandemic Procedures

- Engage **Families**
- Accommodate **Students**
- Prepare **Educators**
- Collaborate with **Local Health Department- Community**

**Moderate Risk of COVID-19 Spread**

- All students in grades Pre-K through 12 will attend school in person.
- Accommodations will be made for K-12 students who are unable to attend in person to utilize synchronous online learning through Zoom and other remote learning tools. Synchronous means remote students log-on to receive instruction with their class at certain set times during the school day.
- Based on current recommendations from LLCID and to help reduce the spread of COVID-19, LPS will require face coverings to be worn by students, staff, visitors, and other building users while at school. Schools will provide multilayered cloth face coverings for students and staff who do not have them available. Students are welcome to bring and wear their own appropriate multilayered cloth face coverings. (Click here for more information on the CDC recommendation on face coverings.)
Assessing Risk at a Community School Level

- Recommendation for wearing masks (Who, when, where, why)
- Mask Availability (number masks/students, size, etc.)
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- Welcome from NDE
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- **ESUs Update - Corey Dahl**
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ESU Update

• Update regarding PPE
• Address masks and hand sanitizer order purchase status
• Mask Availability (number masks/students, size, etc.)
• Recommendation for wearing masks (Who, when, where, why)
Welcome from NDE
Return to School 2020-2021
ESUs Update
Launch Nebraska - Updates
  Leadership and Planning- Dr. Vargas
  Conditions for Learning- Dr. Rida
  Continuity of Learning- Dr. Epler
NDE Update
  CARES Act
  Rule 62
  NE P-EBT
Leadership and Planning

Recommend planning for three school reentry scenarios:

- **In-person** - where students attend school in a school building every day
- **Remote** - where students attend school from home or some other location via laptops and the Internet or printed instructional materials and scheduled touch points
- **Hybrid** - where students attend school both in-person and remotely based on an established, predictable schedule

Resources:
- [Decision Points for COVID Comeback Models](https://example.com), Education Resource Strategies, ERS
- [COVID Comeback School Models](https://example.com), Education Resource Strategies, ERS
### Measuring “Attendance/Being Present” During Distance Learning

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What are we (districts, schools, &amp; community partners) trying to find out?</th>
<th>What are school/district responsibilities, with support from community partners?</th>
<th>What data can we collect? (Possible data points)</th>
<th>The Equity Implications</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contact</td>
<td>Can we reach students and families?</td>
<td>Maintain regularly updated contact information.</td>
<td>% of families with working contact information.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Are we ensuring all students and families have digital access and literacy?</td>
<td>Provide access to technology and equip school staff and families to use it effectively.</td>
<td>% of students/families with technology (have computer, software, and internet).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Are we building relationships with students and families and creating a sense of connection and support?</td>
<td>Ensure students and families have meaningful opportunities to connect regularly with staff and each other and receive needed supports.</td>
<td>% of students documented as regularly participating in activities (adult led and among peers).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>Are students participating in learning opportunities?</td>
<td>Offering the opportunity to participate in meaningful learning opportunities.</td>
<td>% of students participating in classes.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Resources**

- **Launch Nebraska:** Implementation Guide
- **Attendance Playbook: Smart Strategies for Reducing Chronic Absenteeism in the COVID Era**, Future Ed and Attendance Works
The Supporting Considerations below are designed to assist in the preparation and implementation of strategies to ensure students, teachers, and staff stay safe as they return to school.

- FACILITIES Supporting Considerations
- HEALTH Supporting Considerations
- MENTAL HEALTH & SEL Supporting Considerations
- NUTRITION SERVICES Supporting Considerations
- PHYSICAL ACTIVITY & ATHLETICS Supporting Considerations
Continuity of Learning

• Planning for three scenarios: In-person, hybrid, remote

• Nebraska-specific academic guidance by July 1 and includes:
  • Core content, SEL integration, and considerations for assessment, instructional materials, and professional learning.
  • ELA and Mathematics Essential Content for 2020-2021.
  • Developed by Student Achievement Partners.
  • Does not prioritize individual ELA or mathematics standards, rather, essential content.

• Launch Nebraska Webinars:
  These introductory webinars offer over 10 hours of FREE professional learning.
  Coming Soon: Professional Learning for TSI & ATSI schools; SEL webinar series
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  - CARES Act - Dr. Folkers
  - Rule 62 - Brian Halstead
  - NE P-EBT - Sharon Davis
Hierarchy of Digital Learning Needs

1. Infrastructure
2. Devices
3. Software Systems
4. Digital Content
5. Professional Development and Training
6. Privacy
7. Security
Digital Learning Profile and Plans

• District and Nonpublic schools submit a Digital Learning Profile and Plan

• July 6, 2020
  • Submission deadline
  • http://www.Launchne.com
Rule 62 Update

• Declaratory Order on June 17, 2020
• The purpose of the rule
• Flexibility and Guidance
• For Questions: contact Deputy Commissioner, Brian Halstead: brian.Halstead@Nebraska.gov
Nebraska P-EBT

• What is P-EBT?
• Who is eligible for P-EBT?
• Who will receive their P-EBT benefits automatically?
• When will P-EBT benefits be received?
• Who needs to apply to get their P-EBT benefits?

• Key Dates:
  • June 22, 2020 through July 19, 2020 – Application for P-EBT benefits is available.
  • July 28, 2020 through July 31, 2020 – First P-EBT benefit amount issued to eligible families with active SNAP EBT cards.

• For question contact Sharon Davis at Sharon.l.davis@Nebraska.gov
Wrap-up

• For more information on Launch Nebraska, contact Lane Carr at lane.carr@Nebraska.gov or visit Launch Nebraska website https://www.launchne.com/

• As always, visit the www.education.ne.gov/publichealth page for additional information.

• Staff at the NDE are working to address key FAQs and other topics as we know them.

• Please continue to submit your questions to https://www.education.ne.gov/publichealth/contact/
Thank you!