

Parent Communication for 20-21 Back to School

Screening children at home:

Parents will need to screen their children at home each day for 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, etc. If symptomatic, students will not report to school and parents will need to consult a medical professional. Parents will need to contact the school office to report the absence.

Open House:

Open house and curriculum night for 1st grade-5th grade students and families will be virtual this year. On Friday, August 14th, families will receive email communication from their child's teacher which will include an overview of the grade-level curriculum, a video introduction about the teacher and classroom, and a video of how the student will enter the building on the 1st day to get to their new classroom. Families should receive this communication from your child's teacher by 2:00 PM on Friday the 14th. There will NOT be an Open House/Curriculum Night event in buildings on August 13th as originally planned.

New families to the district or building will have an opportunity for a building tour during New Student Registration by appointment on August 4th and 5th.

Kindergarten students will be able to come to West Bay in person on Monday, August 17th. Entry will be limited to the kindergarten student and one parent. Masks will be required. During this kindergarten ONLY meet and greet you may drop off your kindergartner's school supplies, see the classroom and meet the teacher. To maximize social distancing, please follow the schedule below by student LAST name. You will enter the building at the Pre-K/Kindergarten doors to the left of the building's main entrance.

2:00 (A-F)

2:30 (G-L)

3:00 (M-R)

3:30 (S-Z)

Registration:

Detailed registration information will be sent to you via email on Tuesday, August 4th.

This process replaces the paper forms sent home at the beginning of each school year. You will use the PowerSchool Parent Portal to access the registration. If you do not receive the email from PowerSchool or your student no longer attends Elkhorn Public Schools, please contact the West Bay office at 402-289-9045 to update your records.

Teacher assignments will be available to families in Powerschool on Tuesday, August 11th. Parents will need to login to Powerschool to find this information.

First Day of School:

We are very much looking forward to seeing you all on the first day of school. We ask that parents remain in cars when dropping off even on the first day. Teachers will not be standing outside with signs this year. First grade through fifth grade students will enter through their assigned entrance and will walk directly to classrooms. Classroom teachers will be sending videos to families highlighting which door to enter as well as the path to the classroom. If your child walks to school, feel free to walk them up to the school grounds and then allow them to walk to their assigned entrance on their own. Walking families will need to social distance. Masks are encouraged while outside on school grounds to help model safe behaviors for our students. As a reminder, students must wear masks upon entering the school.

We ask that kindergarten students wait to arrive until 9:00AM on the first day of school (Tuesday, August 18th). Kindergarten teachers will be outside the Pre-K/Kindergarten doors to the left of the building's main entrance with signs. Parents may walk their child up to this area to ensure their child gets into the correct line and is socially distanced from others. Kindergarten teachers will dismiss through the Pre-K/Kindergarten doors at 2:45 PM the first two days (Tuesday, August 18th and Wednesday, August 19th). After the first two days, kindergarten students will dismiss at 3:06PM through those same doors.

Arrival and Drop-Off Procedures & Entering the Building Procedures:

Students may enter the building as early as 7:55AM daily. Please do not drop students off earlier than 7:55AM, as they will not be allowed to congregate outside due to social distancing guidelines. Students will proceed directly to their classrooms upon arrival at school. Walking Club will not take place until further notice. ***To spread students out, please enter through the following assigned door:***

PreK-After 8:20 PreK/Kindergarten Door (these are the doors left of the main entrance)

7:45-8:15 Kdg PreK/Kindergarten Door (these are the doors left of the main entrance)

1st Grade Door #1 (Main Entry front doors-Left Side)

2nd Grade Door #2 (Main Entry front doors-Right Side)

3rd Grade Door #14 (Cafeteria Door)

4th & 5th Grade Door #10 (4th/5th Entry)

Children who would like breakfast each day are directed to enter through the Main Entrance or EKC/Cafeteria door beginning at 7:45AM. Students will pick up breakfast and go straight to their classroom. The cost of the "Grab and Go" Sodexo breakfast is \$1.55.

The school day will start at 8:10AM with the tardy bell ringing at 8:15AM.

Dismissal Procedures:

We will be staggering students at the end of the school day to promote social distancing at dismissal time.

*Students that walk home will be dismissed at 3:03PM.

*Students that ride the bus will be dismissed from the classroom at 3:00PM.

*Students that are picked up or go to EKC will be dismissed at 3:06PM.

Students will exit the building at the same doors assigned for entry (see above). As students exit the building, we encourage families to go directly to their next destination to ensure social distancing. Parents that are in the pick-up lane will be asked to remain in their vehicle. Please pull all the way forward to maximize the number of vehicles that can be loaded in the pick-up lane. Parents and families that walk to pick up their child(ren) from school should maintain social distancing while on school grounds. Masks are encouraged while on school grounds to help model safe behaviors for our students.

Misc:

The school will be providing each student with two cloth masks and a mask lanyard for student use. Students will also need to bring a water bottle to school as water fountains throughout the building will not be used. Schools will have water bottle fill stations available. Finally, each student will be provided with a Chromebook and charger by the district. Students will need to be responsible and bring their Chromebooks and chargers to and from school each day. Chromebooks will need to be charged at home overnight daily. There will be more information regarding Chromebooks at a later time.

Mask Pick-up:

On Friday, August 14th between 8:00AM. and 1:00PM., we invite you to drive through West Bay's drop off lane to pick up two (2) district provided masks per child if you need them for the first day of school. As a reminder, students must wear masks upon entering the school. District provided masks will be available for all students but for those who do not pick them up on Friday, August 14th, they will be sent home with the students on Tuesday, August 18th.

Additionally, students may supply and utilize their own masks if preferred.

Building Visitors and Volunteers:

We appreciate the parental support that our families provide during and outside of the school day. However, in order for Elkhorn Public Schools to limit potential exposure to our students and staff, we are eliminating the use of volunteers in the classrooms and/or school building at this time. This includes visitors during lunch time.

Mitigating Practices & Safety Protocols:

To keep all of our teachers and students safe and healthy, there will be numerous safety protocols and mitigating practices implemented this year. Social distancing of 6 feet will be expected in classrooms when physically possible. If 6 feet cannot be established between individual students, students will be seated in pods of two and socially distanced as the classroom allows. Cleaning will occur throughout the day by the teacher and custodians with district-provided sanitizers. Please do not donate hand sanitizer or Clorox wipes to the classroom teacher. You may send your own child with an individual hand sanitizer if you

choose to do so. The district is requiring that we use what is provided to each building for consistency. Every class will have a student seating assignment that will be stable and not differentiated throughout the day. Social distancing practices will be utilized as students are moving about the building. Once in the specials class, the seating arrangement will be similar to the classroom. Students will eat lunch in their classrooms and then go to recess. Disinfecting will occur within the classroom while students are at recess. Handwashing will occur frequently throughout the day.

Picture Day:

Lifetouch pictures will be rescheduled later in the fall if possible.

Lunch Accounts: <https://www.elkhornweb.org/parents/lunch/>

To make an online lunch deposit OR to set up your online lunch account complete with email notifications, please visit elkhornweb.org and go to the Parent/Student Login, and then the drop down labeled LUNCH Account and then access Lunchtime Online. You will need your student's ID (lunch #) and zip code (68130) to their school to set up this account. For new kindergarteners this number is located at the top of the letter you received in July. New families that registered over the summer will be receiving the letter in the mail shortly. Deposits made online will be available in your student's account immediately. Please be sure your school has your most current email address so online information can be emailed to you directly. If you should have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the Food Service Department: <https://www.schoolpaymentportal.com/Default.aspx>

Please know that I'm here to help, so feel free to email or call me with additional questions or concerns. I'm looking forward to seeing our students and families again soon!

**Mrs. Jen Coltvet
Principal
West Bay Elementary**