



## Return to School Plan to Keep School Safe

The following guidelines and considerations are based on the best available public health information and guidance at this time, best practices currently employed, and the practical realities of managing school operations. They are intended to inform planning and implementation and provide consistency of practices and procedures in Falls City Schools. Operationalizing these guidelines may vary to some degree as local circumstances and logistics unique to each building are considered. As new data, recommendations, and practices emerge, the local “Return to School” plan will be revised and updated to reflect changing conditions and needs. In addition, these guidelines and considerations do not reflect the full scope of issues that schools intend to address and manage, which range from day-to-day site-based logistics to the social and emotional well-being of students and staff.

### **General Provisions**

#### **Conflicts with Policy and Handbooks:**

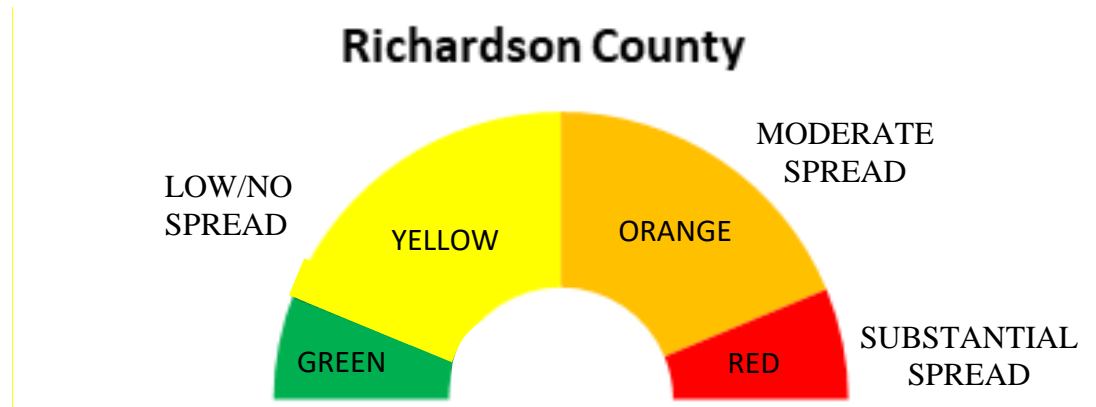
For components of this reopening plan that contradict school-approved mandates, the provisions in this document shall supersede any other policies, handbook provisions, or safety plans until such time that the administration takes action to discontinue this plan, or until COVID-19 pandemic conditions diminish to a degree that renders this plan no longer applicable.

#### **Administrative Discretion:**

Administration shall determine specific aspects of day-to-day school operations, not clearly addressed in this plan, for each category at each risk level. The superintendent has the final authority to determine the risk mode in which the school will operate any given day, using his best judgment in applying health department risk models to the CAO. If the CAO is unavailable, the decision will be made according to the CAO’s designee.

The general format this plan will follow for day-to-day operations for school year 2020-21 will fall into one of three risk modes based on the level threat of community spread of COVID-19 for the Falls City schools. The three risk modes are: 1) Low/Minimal Spread,

2) Moderate Spread, or 3) Substantial Spread. The risk mode in which Falls City Schools will operate on a given day will be based on the risk of COVID-19 spread for the District. To the degree possible, the school's risk mode will align with the [Southeast District Health Department](#) risk models as they apply specifically to the school and the counties in the school district. Additionally, directives from governing entities with legal jurisdiction over the school will be applied to the degree that the directives specifically require the school to operate in a particular manner. The COVID-19 Risk Model below will be updated by the SEDHD weekly and will be communicated to staff, students and parents.



# Operational Planning Scenarios

## **Green/Yellow - No/Minimal Spread**

- Local Health Departments analyze risk using variables such as number of positive cases, percent of positive cases, hospitalization rate (situationally factored in), and the increase in positive cases from previous rolling averages.
- Risk level corresponds to late Phase III or IV of DHMs.
- Recommendations and Consultation with Southeast District Health Department
- Recommendations and Consultation with the Nebraska Department of Education
- No Directed Health Measures that limit the school building capacity

## **Orange - Moderate Spread**

- Local Health Departments analyze risk using variables such as number of positive cases, percent of positive cases, hospitalization rate (situationally factored in), and the increase in positive cases from previous rolling averages.
- Movement from Red to Orange similar to movement from DHM Phase I to Phase II
- Movement from Green to Orange Similar to movement from DHM Phase III/IV to Phase II
- Risk level corresponds to Phase II and III of Nebraska Directed Health Measures.
- Robust testing, contact tracing, and containment protocols in place.
- Need for continued physical distancing, use of facial coverings, and mitigation in school and workplace settings.
- Gathering sizes limited to small numbers.
- Recommendations and Consultation with Southeast District Health Department
- Recommendations and Consultation with the Nebraska Department of Education
- Directed Health Measures

## **Red - Substantial Spread**

- Local Health Departments analyze risk using variables such as number of positive cases, percent of positive cases, hospitalization rate (situationally factored in), and the increase in positive cases from previous rolling averages.
- Risk level corresponds to Phase I of Nebraska Directed Health Measures.
- High, uncontrolled community prevalence rate.
- Recommendations and Consultation with Southeast District Health Department
- Recommendations and Consultation with the Nebraska Department of Education
- Directed Health Measures

# Operational Planning Scenarios

	Green/ <b>Yellow</b> - No/Low Spread	Orange - Moderate Spread	Red - Substantial Spread
<p><b>Overview:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School conducted as new normal</li> <li>Buildings open</li> <li>Enhanced daily screening</li> <li>All staff and students will have digital non-touch temperature taken to start the school day.</li> <li>At home screening procedures</li> <li>Planning for responding to positive cases</li> <li>Face coverings highly recommended for staff and students.</li> <li>Face coverings provided for all staff and students.</li> <li>Barriers installed in identified areas</li> <li>Changes to class sizes, spacing, and seating with social distancing to the extent possible.</li> <li>Utilize outdoor spaces as much as possible</li> <li>Lunch served in cafeteria or classrooms and meal activities continue as normal with NDE guidance.</li> <li>Rigorous handwashing before and after meals</li> <li>Morning school entry plan modifications</li> <li>Open House modifications</li> <li>Parent/guest limitations on building entry.</li> <li>Introduce/teach Orange-Moderate Spread plan and the Red-Substantial spread plan to students and staff to ease transition.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Buildings open</li> <li>Enhanced mitigation strategies</li> <li>Reduced number of students in classrooms and buildings</li> <li>Increased physical distancing</li> <li>Limit playground equipment use</li> <li>Limit gatherings and reduced size</li> <li>Face coverings highly recommended for staff and students. Directive on face coverings may occur with Directed Health Measure.</li> <li>Considerations of alternative scheduling to reduce number of students in building</li> <li>Pivot to hybrid model of instruction</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School buildings closed</li> <li>Schools return to Remote Learning environment</li> <li>Extracurricular activities and athletics discontinue</li> <li>School staff permitted in the school buildings on limited basis with PPE and cleaning protocols addressed.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Health/Custodial</b></p>	<p>Temperature checks for students and staff will be conducted at least once per day.</p> <p>All staff and students will have digital non-touch temperature taken prior to entrance at school at an assigned entrance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kindergarten- 4<sup>th</sup> grade students will enter the NORTH entrance, 5<sup>th</sup>- 8<sup>th</sup> students will enter the WEST entrance, and high school students should enter the SOUTH entrance (with the exception of the band and choir students who will enter through the WEST music room door. Preschool students will enter their designated classroom door.</li> <li>Bus students will enter the SOUTH entrance.</li> <li>Staff members and teachers will take temperatures before entering classroom. Students with a temperature of 100.4 or above will go to the office isolation room.</li> </ul> <p><b>Screening Students</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Utilize the Public Health Recommendations for the Screening, Exclusion, and Re-Admittance of Ill Students and Staff for COVID-19 in School Flowchart.</li> <li>Children who become ill at school should be placed in a designated area of quarantine with a mask covering mouth and nose until parents/guardians arrive. Students should not be placed in a mask if developmentally unable to remove it.</li> <li>Students sent home from school should be kept home until they have completely recovered according to CDC guidelines.</li> <li>Parents are encouraged to monitor symptoms at home.</li> <li>Provide How-To Temperature guide for parents to ensure successful temperature screening provided by the CDC.</li> <li>Parents are encouraged to ask their children or monitor for symptoms of</li> </ul>	<p>Temperature checks will be conducted at least twice per day. Screening for symptoms, including temperature, while maintaining social distancing in line and upon entrance to building for all.</p> <p><b>Screening Students</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Children who become ill at school should be placed in a designated area of quarantine with a mask covering mouth and nose until parents/guardians arrive. Students should not be placed in a mask if developmentally unable to remove it.</li> <li>Students sent home from school should be kept home until they have completely recovered according to CDC guidelines.</li> <li>Parents are encouraged to monitor symptoms at home.</li> </ul> <p><b>Testing Protocols for Students and Responding to Positive Cases</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parents should be notified of the presence of any positive cases in the classroom and/or school to encourage closer observation for any symptoms at home.</li> <li>In the event that a student tests positive, schools should immediately call the Local Health Department to report it. Additionally, Local Health Department should report to the school if a student tests positive and work with them to notify any close contacts (those who spent more than 15 minutes in close proximity to the student) so that they can be quarantined at home.</li> </ul> <p><b>Responding to Positive Tests Among Staff and Students</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In the event of a positive test among staff or a student, the classroom or areas exposed should be closed until cleaning</li> </ul>	<p><b>Mental and Social-Emotional Health</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Since learning is remote, schools should consider innovative ways to ensure the social-emotional and mental health supports for students and staff. Refer to the Conditions for Learning page on Launch NE for further resources and support.</li> </ul> <p><b>Screening Students</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Schools are closed for in-person instruction.</li> </ul> <p><b>Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and Hygiene</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Schools are closed for in-person instruction.</li> </ul> <p><b>Cleaning</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Schools are closed and cleaning practices adjusted to maintain school buildings in clean and well-functioning order.</li> </ul> <p><b>Medically Vulnerable Students and Staff</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All teaching should be moved to video conferencing platforms</li> </ul>
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	<p>COVID-19, including cough, congestion, shortness of breath, loss of taste or smell, or gastrointestinal symptoms every morning.</p> <p><b>School Reporting – Notification</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordination with Falls City Medical Clinics/Community Hospital on implementation of the COVID-19 Letters</li> </ul> <p><b>Symptoms Monitoring &amp; Self-Assessment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage staff and students who are sick or who have recently had close contact with a person with COVID-19 to stay home.</li> <li>• Encourage at-home screening for symptoms before arrival at school.</li> <li>• Conduct visual wellness checks of students.</li> <li>• Monitor staff and students throughout the day for signs of illness.</li> <li>• If a student is exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19, take temperature with a no-touch thermometer. Staff will communicate with parent/caregiver and refer to student’s health history form.</li> <li>• Students and staff with a fever of 100.4 degrees or higher, cough, or other COVID-19 symptoms will be sent home.</li> <li>• Siblings will not be sent home if one sibling is exhibiting symptoms, but will be monitored for symptoms at school.</li> <li>• Document/track incidents of possible exposure and notify local health officials, staff, and families immediately of any positive case of COVID-19 while maintaining confidentiality, as required under FERPA and state law related to privacy of educational records.</li> </ul> <p><b>Student or Staff contact of COVID-19</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The COVID-19 School Flowchart screening criteria for ill students and staff is based on the most current research.</li> </ul>	<p>and disinfection can be performed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the person was in the school building without a facial covering, or large areas of the school were exposed to the person, short term dismissals (2-5 days) may be required to clean and disinfect the larger areas. This decision should be made in concert with the local public health department.</li> <li>• If possible, smaller areas should be closed for 24 hours before cleaning to minimize the risk of any airborne particles.</li> <li>• Custodial cleaning staff should try to wait 1-3 hours if feasible, before starting the cleaning process on other areas requiring cleaning.</li> </ul> <p><b>Mental and Social Emotional Health</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assess social-emotional and mental health resources (personnel, existing partners) to determine if there is a need for additional external support, and reach out to the existing mental health provider community.</li> <li>• Designate a school-based mental health liaison to work with the school district, mental health providers, local public health agencies, and community partners.</li> <li>• Provide resources for staff self-care, including resiliency strategies.</li> </ul> <p><b>Cleaning</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Frequently touched surfaces including lights, doors, benches, bathrooms, etc. should undergo cleaning with either an EPA-approved disinfectant or dilute bleach solution should now be cleaned every two-four hours.</li> <li>• Libraries, computer labs, arts, and other hands on classrooms should undergo cleaning with either an EPA-approved disinfectant or dilute bleach solution</li> </ul>	
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	<p>Because people with COVID-19 have reported a wide range of symptoms – ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness, the following criteria has been developed to assist schools in identifying presumptive positive COVID-19 cases.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is no reason for a student or staff member to get a “negative test” to be cleared for the return to school. A COVID-19 positive individual does not need a repeat COVID-19 test or a doctor’s note to return. If a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19, call the Southeast District Health Department at 402.274.3993 or 877-777-0424.</li> <li>• Parents should be notified of the presence of any positive cases in the classroom and/or school to encourage closer observation for any symptoms at home.</li> <li>• Students sent home from school should be kept home until they have completely recovered according to CDC guidelines.</li> </ul> <p><b>Medically Vulnerable Students and Teachers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Systematically review all current plans (e.g., Individual Healthcare Plans, Individualized Education Plans or 504 plans) for accommodating students with special healthcare needs and update their care plans as needed to decrease their risk for COVID-19.</li> <li>• Create a process for students/families and staff who self-identify as high risk for severe illness due to COVID-19 and have a short-term plan in place to address requests for alternative learning arrangements or work re-assignments.</li> </ul> <p><b>Responding to Positive Tests Among Staff and Students</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In the event of a positive test among staff or a student, the classroom or areas</li> </ul>	<p>should now be cleaned after every class period. Efforts should be made to minimize sharing of materials between students as able.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student desks should be wiped down with either an EPA-approved disinfectant or dilute bleach solution after every class period. Clarify expectations of teachers and students by building-level.</li> <li>• Playground equipment should be cleaned twice daily, athletic equipment should be cleaned and disinfected with an EPA-approved disinfectant or dilute bleach solution twice daily.</li> </ul> <p><b>Hygiene</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teach and reinforce handwashing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or the safe use of hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol by staff and older students.</li> <li>• Systematically and frequently check and refill hand sanitizers</li> <li>• Limit sharing of personal items and supplies such as writing utensils.</li> </ul> <p><b>Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cloth face coverings are highly recommended for students and staff. Directive on face coverings may occur with Directed Health Measure.</li> <li>• Students with an underlying health condition should have a 504 Plan on file for appropriate accommodations to be determined.</li> <li>• PPE (facemasks, eye protection, gloves) should be worn by staff responsible for delivering direct personal care where physical distancing cannot be maintained. Such staff may include, but is not limited to Health Office staff, health support staff, and special education staff who have close contact with students (within 6 ft.).</li> </ul>	
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	<p>exposed should be closed until cleaning and disinfection can be performed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the person was in the school building without a facial covering, or large areas of the school were exposed to the person, short term dismissals (2-5 days) may be required to clean and disinfect the larger areas. This decision should be made in concert with the Local Health Department.</li> <li>• If possible, smaller areas should be closed for 24 hours before cleaning to minimize the risk of any airborne particles.</li> </ul> <p><b>Student Entry and Exit</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preschool students will enter through their designated classroom door, K-4<sup>th</sup> students will enter through the NORTH entrance, 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> students will enter through WEST entrance, and 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> will enter through the SOUTH entrance with the exception of band and choir students who will enter through the WEST music door.</li> <li>• Bus students will enter the SOUTH entrance.</li> <li>• When classes are dismissed, students will be required to leave the school premises and not socialize in the halls, commons, locker rooms, or parking lots, with the exception of school related afterschool activities.</li> <li>• Students move through hallways as normal.</li> </ul> <p><b>Handwashing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teach and reinforce handwashing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and/or the safe use of hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol by staff and older students.</li> <li>• Monitor students for correct use of hand sanitizer products.</li> </ul> <p><b>Hygiene</b></p>	<p><b>Medically Vulnerable Students and Staff</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Systematically review all current plans (e.g., Individual Healthcare Plans, Individualized Education Plans or 504 plans) for accommodating students with special healthcare needs and update their care plans as needed to decrease their risk for exposure to COVID-19.</li> <li>• Create a process for students/families and staff to self-identify as high risk for severe illness due to COVID-19 and have a plan in place to address requests for alternative learning arrangements or work re-assignments. Enable staff that self-identify as high risk for severe illness to minimize face-to-face contact and to allow them to maintain a distance of 6 feet from others, modify job responsibilities that limit exposure risk.</li> </ul>	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage staff and students to cough and sneeze into their elbows, or to cover with a tissue. Used tissues should be thrown in the trash and hands washed immediately with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not readily available, hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol can be used (for staff and older children who can safely use hand sanitizer).</li> <li>• Keep students' personal items separate and in individually labeled cubbies, containers or lockers.</li> </ul> <p><b>Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cloth face coverings are highly recommended for students and staff.</li> <li>• SH staff and students will wear masks when required. Parent/guardians providing documentation from a health care provider of their child having an underlying condition which would exempt them from wearing a mask should contact the administration.</li> <li>• Cloth face coverings will be provided by the school if a student or staff does not have access to a mask. Parents may provide their child a mask and are responsible for sending students to school with clean masks.</li> <li>• Various types of school appropriate cloth masks are appropriate if covering the nose and mouth (cloth face coverings, neck and face gaiters, disposable, etc.).</li> <li>• PPE (facemasks, eye protection, gloves) should be worn by staff responsible for delivering direct personal care where physical distancing cannot be maintained. Such staff may include, but is not limited to office staff, health support staff, and special education staff who have close contact with students (within 6 ft.).</li> <li>• Regular use of hand sanitizer and hand washing is encouraged.</li> </ul>		
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	<p><b>Restrooms</b> – Regularly scheduled</p> <p><b>Water Fountains / Bottle Filling Stations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regularly scheduled water breaks.</li> <li>• Bottle filling stations will be sanitized regularly.</li> <li>• We are asking all students and staff members to use water bottles throughout the 2020-2021 school year.</li> </ul> <p><b>Lockers &amp; Locker Rooms</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students will be asked to take their backpack with them to all classes. We will be limiting locker use and locker room use to just dropping off coats and clothing/activity and practice items.</li> </ul> <p><b>Cleaning</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Employ additional custodial support.</li> <li>• Provide adequate supplies to support healthy hygiene behaviors (e.g., soap, hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol for safe use by staff and older children, paper towels, and tissues).</li> <li>• Change air filters regularly.</li> <li>• Ensure all soap dispensers remain full.</li> <li>• Distribute hand sanitizer and sterile wipes as appropriate.</li> <li>• Post signage about frequent hand washing, coughing and nose blowing.</li> <li>• Follow CDC guidelines in all cleaning duties.</li> <li>• Spray misting equipment will be purchased and be utilized to sanitize as needed.</li> <li>• Limit sharing of personal items and supplies such as writing utensils.</li> <li>• Keep students’ personal items separate and in individually labeled cubbies, containers or lockers.</li> <li>• Limit use of classroom materials to small groups and disinfect between uses or</li> </ul>		
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	<p>provide adequate supplies to assign for individual student use.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Post signs in highly visible locations (e.g., school entrances, restrooms) that promote everyday protective measures and describe how to stop the spread of germs (such as by properly washing hands and properly wearing a cloth face covering over the mouth and nose).</li> </ul> <p><b>Mental and Social Emotional Health</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Where feasible, institute evidence-based universal mental health screening tools appropriate for school staff and students in different grades.</li> <li>• Provide resources for staff self-care, including resiliency strategies.</li> </ul> <p><b>Physical Distancing Barriers and Dividers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Install barriers and/dividers in necessary school locations (ie. Offices, isolation room, cafeterias, etc.)</li> </ul> <p><b>Seating chart documentation to assist in contact tracing efforts.</b></p>		
<p><b>Logistics</b></p>	<p><b>Weekly Mass</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students and staff will participate in-person and remotely.</li> <li>• Staff and students attending in-person will help sanitize after Mass.</li> </ul> <p><b>Spacing, Movement, and Access</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Changes to class sizes, spacing, and seating with social distancing to the extent possible.</li> <li>• Movement between classes with social distancing to the extent possible.</li> <li>• Utilize outdoor spaces when possible</li> <li>• Parents have limited access in the school building except under extenuating</li> </ul>	<p><b>Weekly Mass</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students and staff will participate in-person and remotely.</li> <li>• Staff and students attending in-person will help sanitize after Mass.</li> </ul> <p><b>Spacing, Movement, and Access</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At the Orange level, consider alternative schedules resulting in a hybrid instruction model (ex. half days or A/B days, 3/2 days etc).</li> <li>• Utilize outdoor spaces when possible.</li> <li>• Arrange all desks facing the same direction toward the front of the classroom.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Weekly Mass</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students and staff will participate remotely.</li> </ul> <p><b>Spacing and Movement</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Schools are closed for in-person instruction and will implement a remote learning plan.</li> </ul>

	<p>circumstances determined by administration; Recommend adults entering the building wash or sanitize hands prior to entering, have temperature taken, and wear a mask.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strict records, including day and time, should be kept of visitors entering and exiting the building. If resources allow, any visitors should be temperature screened and, ideally, asked about symptoms, close contact with a known or suspected case, and recent travel history.</li> </ul> <p><b>Recess Procedures</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Playground equipment will be available to play on during recess time and rotated on a daily basis between classes. Each grade may have a designated area to play outside for recess. There shall be no inter-mingling of grades during outside recess.</li> <li>• Recess - Handwashing or hand sanitizer upon re-entry.</li> </ul> <p><b>Inclement Weather (Recess)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• During inclement weather, each class will be required to go back to their respective classroom for a classroom activity.</li> </ul> <p><b>Building Access</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Temperature checks and masks are required for all visitors, including parents that enter the building.</li> <li>• Parents/guardians enter only by administrative permission.</li> <li>• Parents arriving to pick up students wait in vehicle or outside for student to exit building.</li> <li>• Additional considerations for parents entering Afterschool Daycare.</li> </ul> <p><b>Classroom Seating/Materials Usage/Sanitization</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social distancing will be utilized to extent possible.</li> <li>• Encourage individual student supplies.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Desks should be placed 3 to 6 feet apart when feasible (if this reduces the amount of time children are present in school, harm may outweigh potential benefits).</li> <li>• Encourage outdoor lessons, when weather permits and students are able to maintain distancing.</li> <li>• Class sizes should be kept to 20 students or fewer (as afforded by necessary spacing requirements and personnel).</li> <li>• Teachers should try to maintain six feet of spacing between themselves and students as much as possible.</li> <li>• Assemblies are suspended.</li> <li>• Classroom windows should be open as much as possible and conditions allow.</li> <li>• Flow of foot traffic should be directed in only one direction, if possible.</li> <li>• If one way flow is not possible, hallways can be divided with either side following the same direction.</li> <li>• Efforts should be made to keep six feet of distance between persons in the hallways.</li> <li>• Staggered movements at incremental intervals should be used if feasible to minimize the number of persons in the hallways as able.</li> <li>• Floor tape or other markers should be used at six foot intervals where line formation is anticipated.</li> <li>• Provide physical distancing floor/seating markings in waiting and reception areas</li> <li>• Mark six feet of spacing to remind students and staff to always stay six feet apart in lines and at other times when they may congregate</li> <li>• Have staff monitor arrival and dismissal to discourage congregating outside the building.</li> <li>• Parents are not allowed in the school building except under extenuating</li> </ul>	
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	<p><b>Student Attendance</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All students in grades PK-12 will attend school in person.</li> <li>• Short-term accommodations will be made for students in K-12 who are unable to attend in person to utilize synchronous online learning through PowerSchool Learning, Zoom and other remote learning tools. Synchronous means that students log on to receive instruction with their class at certain set times during the school day.</li> <li>• Students will only have this option with a medical excuse provided by a doctor with a specified period of time notated.</li> </ul> <p><b>Calendar</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Utilize Sept. 18 (Fair Day) as professional development day. Amend school calendar.</li> <li>• Restructure In-service schedule to accommodate current training needs.</li> <li>• Professional development scheduling for increased time allotted teacher professional development and COVID-19 protocols and hybrid/remote learning models.</li> </ul>	<p>circumstances determined by school officials; adults entering the building should wash or sanitize hands, wear a face covering, and have temperature screened prior to entering.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Only one parent per child should be allowed to enter except under extenuating circumstances determined by school officials. Strict records, including day and time, should be kept of parents and visitors entering and exiting the building. If resources allow, any parents or visitors should be temperature screened and, ideally, asked about symptoms, close contact with a known or suspected case, and recent travel history.</li> <li>• Recess zones so students are in classroom cohorts.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Food Service</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Food service staff will follow NDE guidelines for school nutrition programs.</li> <li>• Lunch served in the cafeteria or classrooms.</li> <li>• Only food service staff place food on trays, no self-serve items.</li> <li>• Students may bring their own lunch to school.</li> <li>• Require students, teachers, and cafeteria staff to wash hands before and after every meal. If soap and water are not readily available, hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol can be used (for staff and older children who can safely use hand sanitizer).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Only food service staff place food on trays, no self-serve items.</li> <li>• Consider having cohorts of students that stay in the same class, eat lunch together, break together, and arrive/leave at the same time. For upper classes, have teachers rotate/move rooms rather than students, as much as possible.</li> <li>• If possible, school supplied meals should be delivered to classrooms with disposable utensils, and classrooms should be utilized for eating in place, taking into consideration food allergies.</li> <li>• If cafeterias need to be used, meal times must be staggered to create seating</li> </ul>	<p>School enacts grab and go program or off site food programs. Clear expectations for food service personnel on PPE, handwashing, temperature and symptom screening and disinfecting practices under the guidance of NDE School Nutrition.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No self-serve items in cafeteria. All items will be placed on trays by staff or prepackaged.</li> <li>Staff will enter student lunch ID numbers.</li> <li>Food preparation barriers will be utilized.</li> </ul>	<p>arrangements with six feet of distance between students.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Disposable utensils should be employed.</li> <li>Serving and cafeteria staff should use barrier protection including gloves, face shields, and masks</li> <li>Consider having students cohorted, potentially in their classrooms, especially if students remain in their classroom throughout the day.</li> <li>Create separate lunch periods to minimize the number of students in the cafeteria at one time.</li> <li>Utilize additional spaces for lunch/break times.</li> <li>Utilize outdoor spaces when possible.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Instruction</b></p>	<p><b>Instruction conducted as new normal</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assemblies may be allowed with appropriate screening of the presenters.</li> </ul> <p><b>During Class Time</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All students and staff will follow social distancing guidelines whenever possible during classroom instruction.</li> <li>All desks will need to face the same direction and they will need to remain six feet apart whenever possible.</li> <li>Staff and students will wipe down all classroom tables, desks, and chairs during the day.</li> </ul> <p><b>All Students</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students in the building prior to 7:45 need to be in an approved</li> <li>Students will enter the building through their designated door (as listed above by grade level) and go directly to the classroom.</li> <li>Meeting/practice and be supervised by a teacher/coach/sponsor until the 7:45 bell.</li> </ul> <p><b>Passing Periods (Between Classes)</b></p>	<p>Utilize virtual field trips in all planning zones.</p> <p>Particular avoidance of close physical proximity in cases of increased exhalation (singing, exercise); these activities are likely safest outdoors and spread out.</p> <p>Cohort classes if possible, limit cross-over of students and teachers to the extent possible.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ideas that may assist with cohorting:</li> <li>Block schedule (much like colleges, intensive 1-month blocks).</li> <li>Eliminate use of lockers or assign them by cohort to reduce need for hallway use across multiple areas of the building. (This strategy would need to be done in conjunction with planning to ensure students are not carrying home an unreasonable number of books on a daily basis and may vary depending on other cohorting and instructional decisions schools are making.)</li> <li>Have teachers rotate instead of students when feasible.</li> <li>Teachers should maintain 6 feet from students when possible and if not disruptive to educational process.</li> </ul>	<p>Remote learning environment.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All students and staff will wear a face coverings during passing periods.</li> </ul> <p><b>Special Classes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The location of elementary special classes (library, art, music, band, PE) may be adjusted to homerooms or alternate locations.</li> </ul> <p><b>Band and Music</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Utilize gym space to the extent possible to increase social distancing.</li> <li>• All rows will be straight.</li> <li>• Utilize bell covers on instruments.</li> <li>• HS students will keep their instruments, music and stand at their chairs to reduce classroom movement.</li> <li>• Music and choir students should be socially distanced. When singing, masks will be required.</li> </ul> <p><b>Library</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The library will be restricted. A schedule will be developed for PreK-12 classes to have the opportunity to check out library books. The library will follow strict guidelines set by the State Library Commission.</li> </ul> <p><b>End of the day</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Elementary - All students will be required to stay in their individual rooms until it is time to line up for bus routes or to be dismissed for the day.</li> <li>• When classes are dismissed, students will be required to leave the school premises and not socialize in the halls, commons, locker rooms, or parking lots, with the exception of school related afterschool activities.</li> </ul> <p><b>Technology</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Restructure elective offerings to allow small groups within one classroom. This may not be possible in a small classroom.</li> </ul>	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Devices will be cleaned after each use to the extent possible by the teacher and/or students. Provide cleaning wipes.</li> <li>• PreK-12 adoption / professional development in PowerSchool Learning (PSL). Common learning platform for students and parents.</li> <li>• Teach and practice remote learning with students PreK-12 immediately.</li> <li>• Provide support early for parents on remote learning.</li> </ul> <p><b>Field Trips</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Utilize virtual field trips in all planning zones.</li> </ul> <p><b>After School Daycare Program</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hand sanitizing upon arrival.</li> <li>• Regular scheduled program activities.</li> <li>• Staff will sign students in/out.</li> <li>• Parents will pick children up outside if on the playground. If in the classroom, parent will enter the north door and should be masked.</li> </ul> <p><b>Social-Emotional Health supports for students and staff to be implemented with school and community resources.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assess social-emotional and mental health resources (personnel, existing partners) to determine if there is a need for additional external support, and reach out to the existing mental health provider community.</li> <li>• Designate a school-based mental health liaison to work with the school district, mental health providers, local public health agencies, and community partners.</li> <li>• Provide resources for staff self-care, including resiliency strategies.</li> </ul>	<p><b>After School Daycare Program</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May be discontinued.</li> </ul>	
<b>Personnel</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff will report for duty as assigned.</li> <li>• Identify staff requesting or requiring accommodations. Surveyed.</li> </ul>	Due to COVID-19, duties may be assigned in which are different. For example lunchroom duty, screening for temperature with students, extra cleaning, etc.	Extra-duty pay if the sports season is partially or fully cancelled to be considered.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enable staff that self-identify as high risk for severe illness to minimize face-to-face contact and to allow them to maintain a distance of 6 feet from others, may modify job responsibilities that limit exposure risk.</li> <li>• Provide staff information on ADA, FMLA, and FFCRA.</li> <li>• Staff orientation on school reopening plan.</li> <li>• Check in with staff to address any legal or emotional concerns or issues.</li> <li>• Utilize Leave flowcharts</li> <li>• Adjustments to in-service schedule to accommodate evolving training needs.</li> <li>• Guidelines for working from home in a remote learning environment and expectations regarding hours, duties, etc.</li> <li>• Use of leave under different scenarios reviewed.</li> <li>• Additional custodial, health and support staff personnel employed.</li> <li>• Implement substitute staff orientation.</li> <li>• Employ additional support staff.</li> </ul> <p><b>Families First Coronavirus Response Act</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Under the law, an employer must provide paid sick leave to an employee if the employee is unable to work (or telework). Provide staff FFCRA information.</li> </ul>	<p>Discuss possibility of staff reassignment to meet student, district, staff needs.</p> <p>Extra-duty pay if the sports season is partially or fully cancelled to be considered.</p> <p>Plan for both face to face and hybrid/remote learning environments.</p>	
<b>SPED/504</b>	<p>Revisit IEP and determine if goals can be accomplished under current operating conditions.</p> <p>Each IEP will be reviewed and amended if necessary to fit the current learning environment.</p> <p>When the student IEP is due for review, there will be a statement in the IEP document addressing masks and who will wear them when working with a special education student.</p> <p>Systematically review all current plans (e.g., Individual Healthcare Plans, Individualized</p>	<p>Revisit IEP and determine if goals can be accomplished under current operating conditions.</p> <p>Systematically review all current plans (e.g., Individual Healthcare Plans, Individualized Education Plans or 504 plans) for accommodating students with special healthcare needs and update their care plans as needed to decrease their risk for COVID-19.</p>	<p>Revisit IEP and determine if goals can be accomplished under current operating conditions.</p>

	Education Plans or 504 plans) for accommodating students with special healthcare needs and update their care plans as needed to decrease their risk for COVID-19.		
<b>Transportation</b>	<p><b>Falls City Public Schools will be issuing new bus safety guidelines to ensure all students and bus drivers are safe at all times.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cloth face coverings are highly recommended for students and staff on the bus.</li> <li>• We will load all buses with students in a back to front order and all students will exit buses in a front to back order.</li> <li>• Students will be required to sit by their siblings on all bus rides (Students will not be allowed to sit by anyone on the bus other than a sibling or classmate).</li> <li>• All bus drivers will clean their buses thoroughly after every daily bus route.</li> <li>• Children must not be present when a vehicle is being cleaned.</li> <li>• We are highly recommending older siblings that currently drive to school to take their younger sibling each day to school to allow for more social distance space on daily bus routes.</li> <li>• Bus drivers will keep a couple windows down on all bus routes to provide ventilation for bus riders (A new plan will be implemented during the winter months).</li> <li>• Temperature screenings daily when students get on bus.</li> <li>• Seating chart considered to assist contact tracing efforts.</li> <li>• Consider changes to schedules and routes to minimize student numbers on the bus.</li> <li>• Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces in the vehicle (eg. surfaces in the driver’s cockpit, hard seats, arm rests, door handles, seat belt buckles, light and air controls, doors and windows, and grab handles).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage alternative modes of transportation for students who have other options.</li> <li>• Assigned seating; if possible, assign seats by cohort (same students sit together each day).</li> <li>• Cloth face coverings are highly recommended for students and staff.</li> <li>• Tape marks showing students where to sit.</li> <li>• Minimize number of people on the bus at one time within reason.</li> <li>• Adults who do not need to be on the bus should not be on the bus.</li> <li>• Have windows open if weather allows.</li> <li>• Ensure safe and correct use and storage of cleaning and disinfection products, including storing products securely away from children and adequate ventilation when staff use such products. Ensure proper and adequate ventilation after cleaning and before returning students to the area. Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces in the vehicle (eg. surfaces in the driver’s cockpit, hard seats, arm rests, door handles, seat belt buckles, light and air controls, doors and windows, and grab handles) prior to morning routes and prior to afternoon routes.</li> <li>• Encourage the use of hand sanitizer before entering the bus. Where possible, hand sanitizer should be supplied on the bus.</li> <li>• Where possible, allow for six feet of physical distancing between students, and between students and the driver, while seated on vehicles if feasible (e.g., by utilizing larger vehicles with more</li> </ul>	All busing operations are suspended.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider bus stop monitors in Rulo, Verdon, and Salem.</li> <li>• Create a plan for a morning route student screened for high temperature and parents not home.</li> <li>• Create a plan that if an individual becomes sick during the day, they must not use group transportation to return home.</li> <li>• Create a plan for getting students home safely if they are not allowed to board the vehicle.</li> <li>• If a driver becomes sick during the day, they must follow protocols for sick staff above and must not return to drive students.</li> <li>• Encourage the use of hand sanitizer before entering the bus. Where possible, hand sanitizer should be supplied on the bus.</li> <li>• Essential student and staff on activity trips to reduce the number of riders.</li> </ul>	<p>seats, by increasing frequency of routes to reduce occupancy, one rider per seat in every other row)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider keeping windows open while the vehicle is in motion to help reduce spread of the virus by increasing air circulation, if appropriate and safe.</li> <li>• When doubling up in seats is necessary, sit students together who are from same household.</li> <li>• Develop seating arrangements based on the order students get on and off the bus (e.g. for AM routes, the first student on sits at the back of the bus, the last student on sits at the front of the bus).</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Activities</b></p>	<p><b>Practices for football and volleyball are set to begin August 10<sup>th</sup>.</b></p> <p><b>Gatherings are allowed per current DHM.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Temperature scanners for all activity programs and passed onto the next seasons.</li> <li>• Activity meeting with Athletic Director concerning fall activities.</li> <li>• Extracurricular activities and gatherings conducted per DHM.</li> <li>• After school programs are open and operating normally.</li> <li>• All activities are allowed to continue per NSAA procedures.</li> <li>• Temperature screenings prior to activity departure.</li> <li>• Communicate at a high level with participating schools.</li> <li>• Concessions as allowed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep groups small and attendance recorded</li> <li>• Large scale assemblies of more than 50 students should be discontinued.</li> <li>• Activity Director to confirm that participants are healthy and without any symptoms prior to any event.</li> <li>• All equipment should be disinfected before and after use.</li> <li>• Follow guidance from the NSAA and local public health departments when deciding which sports can be safely conducted and with any restrictions required.</li> <li>• Weight room should follow guidance from the NSAA.</li> <li>• Large scale spectator or stadium events are not allowed.</li> <li>• Handshakes, fist bumps, and other unnecessary contact should be minimized.</li> </ul>	<p>All athletics and extracurriculars are suspended.</p> <p>No outside usage of building.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Activities and Athletics will be conducted in accordance with NSAA guidelines.</li> <li>● Utilize NSAA Return to Activities guidelines.</li> <li>● Keep all, practices, and scrimmages in-house to avoid interaction with other teams</li> <li>● Disinfect equipment regularly</li> <li>● Stay home if you don't feel well</li> <li>● Stay home if someone in your household tests positive for COVID-19</li> <li>● Social distancing will be practiced at all home extra-curricular activities when possible.</li> <li>● Handshakes, fist bumps, and other unnecessary contact should be minimized.</li> <li>● Consider option to allow parent to transport students to extra-curricular events.</li> <li>● Essential students and staff on activity buses to reduce the number of riders.</li> </ul> <p><b>Dances</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Activities such as the homecoming dance and prom will be evaluated based on the Directed Health Measure throughout the 2020-2021 school year.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Any uniforms or other clothing that need to be washed/laundered at school can be washed in warm water with regular detergent. These should be single use without sharing of ice, towels, or other materials.</li> <li>● Each participant should use a clearly marked water bottle for individual use. There should be no sharing of this equipment.</li> <li>● Participants will be responsible for filling his/her own water bottle.</li> <li>● Spectators required to socially distance within the family unit in the bleachers (parents and siblings).</li> <li>● Consider option to allow parent to transport students to extra-curricular events.</li> </ul>	
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### **Physical Distancing Inside and Outside the Classroom**

Physical distancing is the act of keeping people separated with the goal of limiting spread of contagion between individuals. It is fundamental to lowering the risk of spread of COVID-19, as the primary mode of transmission is through respiratory droplets by persons in close proximity.

### **Healthy Hygiene Practices** Model and practice proper and frequent handwashing.

- Wash hands before and after eating, after coughing or sneezing, after being outside, and before and after using the restroom.
- Wash hands for twenty seconds with soap, rubbing thoroughly after application, use paper towels to dry hands thoroughly.
- Use a clean paper towel to shut off water after washing hands.
- Avoid contact with eyes, nose, and mouth, cover coughs and sneezes.
- Use tissue to wipe nose, cough/sneeze inside tissue or elbow.
- Use hand sanitizer when handwashing is not available. Sanitizer must be rubbed into hands until completely dry.
- Develop routines to wash hands frequently and at staggered intervals.

### **Limit Sharing**

- Keep student belongings separated and in individually-labeled storage containers, cubbies, or areas. Ensure belongings are taken home each day to be cleaned.
- Ensure adequate supplies to minimize sharing of high-touch materials (art supplies, equipment, etc.) to the extent possible or limit use of supplies and equipment to one group of students at a time—cleaning and disinfecting between uses.
- Avoid sharing electronic devices, clothing, toys, books, and other games or learning aids as much as possible.
- Limit use of shared playground equipment. Encourage physical activities that require less contact with surfaces.

### **Cleaning, Disinfection, and Ventilation**

- Suspend or modify use of resources that necessitate sharing or touching items. Utilize water bottle filling stations for water and encourage use of personal, reusable water bottles.

- Clean and disinfect frequently-touched surfaces within school and on school buses at least daily and frequently throughout the day by trained staff.
- Custodians or other individuals cleaning for COVID-19 positive spaces wait 1-3 hours to disinfect.
- Thoroughly clean buses and disinfect daily and after transporting any individual who is exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19.
- Provide disinfectant wipes and disposable gloves to support disinfection of frequently touched surfaces during the day.
- Disinfect frequently touched surfaces including, but not limited to:
  - Door handles
  - Light switches
  - Sink handles
  - Restroom surfaces
  - Tables
  - Student desks
  - Chairs
- Establish cleaning and disinfecting schedule to avoid both under and over-use of cleaning products.
- Ensure safe and correct application of disinfectant; keep products away from students.
- Ensure proper ventilation during cleaning and disinfecting. Introduce fresh outdoor air as much as possible, for example, by opening windows. When cleaning, air out space before children arrive; plan thorough cleaning when children are not present.
- Replace and check air filters and filtration systems to ensure optimal air quality.

### **Return to School After Exclusion**

**Utilize the Public Health Recommendations for the Screening, Exclusion, and Re-Admittance of Ill Students and Staff for COVID-19 in School Flowchart.**

**The COVID-19 School Flowchart screening criteria for ill students and staff is based on the most current research. Because people with COVID-19 have reported a wide range of symptoms – ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness, the following criteria has been developed to assist schools in identifying presumptive positive COVID-19 cases.**

**There is no reason for a student or staff member to get a “negative test” to be cleared for the return to school. A COVID-19 positive individual does not need a repeat COVID-19 test or a doctor’s note to return. If a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19, please call the Southeast District Health Department at 402.274.3993 or 877-777-0424.**

\*Remote learning plan to be implemented while excluded for an extended period of time.

### ***Siblings or Other Students in the Household***

If a student is excluded from school due to COVID-19 symptoms or has had a positive COVID-19 test, his or her siblings or other students living in the same household will also be excluded from school and asked to self-quarantine.

### ***School Response to Exclusion from School or Self-Quarantine***

As soon as the school becomes aware that a student or staff has COVID-19, the custodial staff will be informed so that all desks, cubbies, lockers, workspaces, etc. of the person are thoroughly disinfected. If the school is not open when notification occurs, the custodial staff will wait 24 hours or as long as possible prior to disinfecting and instead will block off the area so that others do not have contact. However, if a 24-hour wait time is not possible or school is in session, the cleaning will occur after at least 1-3 hours have passed if feasible.

### ***Separation While in School***

Each school will have a dedicated room or space where students or staff who may have COVID-19 or another communicable disease will wait to be evaluated or for pickup. Students will wear a mask in this separate area. Only essential staff and students assigned to the area may enter; the area will be disinfected several times throughout the day. Strict physical distancing is required, and staff must wear appropriate PPE including a mask, gloves and eye protection. Students who are ill will be walked out of the building to their parents/guardians.

Reference-<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

### **Considerations for the Falls City Schools Return to School Plan developed under the review and guidance of the following:**

- University of Nebraska Medical Center
- American Academy of Pediatrics
- Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services
- Southeast Nebraska District Health Department
- Nebraska Department of Education
- Nebraska Rural Community Schools Association
- Nebraska Association of School Boards
- Nebraska School Activities Association
- Educational Service Unit 4
- Falls City Family Medicine / Falls City Family Practice
- Falls City Schools Ad hoc Advisory

- Falls City Public Schools
- Sacred Heart School
- Diocese of Lincoln Education Office