



June 24, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians:

I hope all of you have been able to enjoy the summer and have gotten to spend some time with family and friends. At Seward Public Schools we have been busy developing plans for reopening school this fall. Our plan has been created not only with our staff, but also in coordination with Four Corners Health Department, Nebraska Department of Education, ESU 6, and other area school districts. I appreciate the work our administrators, staff, and school board has done in helping create, revise, and edit the Seward Public Schools reopening plans and the work that will continue over the rest of the summer. The goal of providing a safe environment for students and staff with reasonable restrictions continues to be the lens we develop our plan through.

- At this time Seward Public Schools is planning to be open for in-person teaching and learning on our scheduled start date of Thursday, August 13.
- Guidance from Four-Corners will dictate protocols within the risk dial and safety measures (face coverings, social distancing, group size, etc.) that will be in place at the start of the school year that may also change throughout the school year.
- Graduation is scheduled for Saturday, August 1 at 10:00 AM. More details will be shared depending upon the health directive toward the end of July.
- Nebraska School Activities Association (NSAA) and the governor's office continue to help guide restrictions and what can and cannot be done over the summer months in the area of extracurricular activities. At this time we can have 25 students in the weight room with intensive cleaning after every student uses the equipment. We are also able to have open gym for basketball, volleyball and non-contact drills for football.
- Specifics about the Seward Public Schools Reopening Plan will be shared with parents/guardians the first part of August.

I continue to be impressed with the patience, understanding, and common sense approach our parents have had during the COVID-19 pandemic. I wish I had all the answers to the many questions that are brought up about opening school in the fall. As you can imagine, hitting a moving target is difficult, but rest assured that our goal is to provide a safe environment for our students and staff while having students and staff back in person on Thursday, August 13. Have a great Fourth of July and the rest of the summer!

Sincerely,

*Josh Fields*

Dr. Josh Fields

Superintendent