

COVID-19 GUIDANCE FOR RANGELY SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4

AUGUST 20, 2020

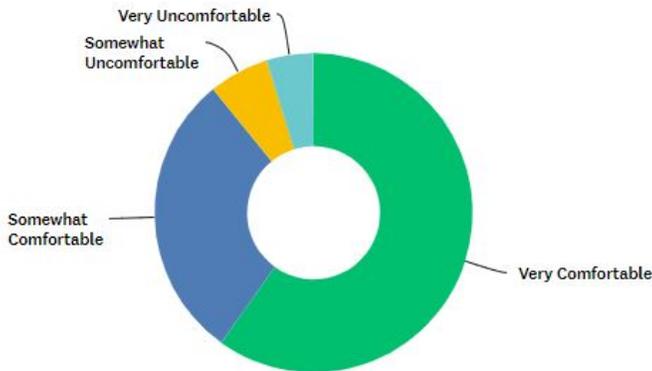


RANGELY SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-4

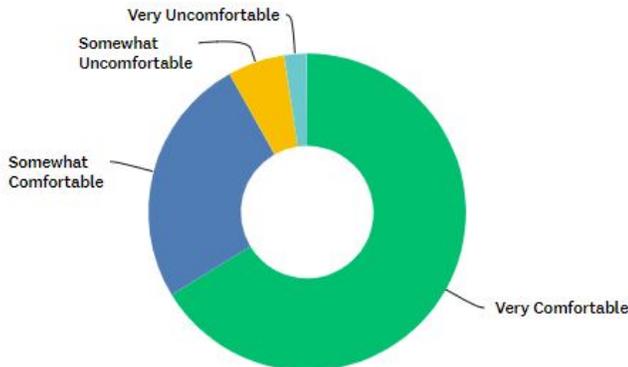
We believe in-person learning is best for our students, staff and community and that continued school closures threaten the health and safety of our children. In addition to learning losses, children face increased risks of food insecurity, potential abuse, poor mental health and social-emotional wellness, and lack of physical activity.¹

COVID-19, short for "coronavirus disease 2019," is the official name given by the World Health Organization to the disease caused by this newly identified coronavirus and it has affected our community, state, country, and world in ways we would have never imagined. We are in uncharted waters and with each new day we have new requirements and guidance that at times is contradictory to what we were told the day before. One thing we do know is that our community is ready for in-person learning based on survey results.

Parent Comfort Level



Staff Comfort Level



As we have put this guidance together we:

- Will be consistent with applicable federal, state, and local guidance.
- Will take every step to protect our students and staff.
- Know that it will change.

We understand that getting students back in school involves risk, however, on balance we believe the health benefits of a student being in school outweigh the health risks. As reported by the American Academy of Pediatrics Colorado Chapter, the harms of school closures, including isolation and loss of community, will lead to adverse risks that can and should be mitigated by thoughtful prevention measure to allow a return to school.¹

The information that follows provides the guidance that will be followed in Rangely School District Re-4. It is based on the most current information available and will likely change. In the end, we want to work with our Public Health Department to create the safest environment possible that is the least restrictive to students and staff.

Finally, Children will be Children, and we will do the best we can. We will love the kids, do our very best to make sure they have the opportunity to learn, and be there for them. We know there are a million "What ifs" and as well as a wide range of perspectives regarding this situation. We will respect each other, strive to understand each other, empathize, and care for each other.

RANGELY PROUD / PANTHER PROUD

Starting Dates

Guidance

- **Preschool:** Begin school on August 24th
- **K-5:** Return to school August 24th with preliminary testing August 17th – 20th
- **Junior/Senior High School:** Return to school on August 24th
- **Staff:** Return to school on August 10th

Other Considerations

- Watch for possible changes to our calendar as directives from the state will affect our planning.
- Staff will reach out to students for any testing or other matters in setting up schedules.

Health Screening

Guidance

- **Students:** Self-screen for symptoms and temperature prior to coming to school. Watch school prepared training video and sign acceptance of Self-Screening Form.
- **Staff:** Self-screen for symptoms and temperature prior to coming to school. Watch school prepared training video and sign acceptance of Self-Screening Form.
- **Visitors:** All visitors who need to be in the buildings will be screened prior to entering, including a temperature check.

Other Considerations

- Remain home if experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 or if a family member or other close contact has been diagnosed with COVID-19 or is experiencing symptoms.
- A Temperature Screening Kiosk will be at each building.
- If a student or staff member develops symptoms during the day, they will be required to go home.

Masks/Face Coverings/PPE

Guidance

- **Students 5th & Under:** Face coverings over the nose and mouth are encouraged except during outdoor recess and exercise activities.
- **Students 6th & Over:** Face coverings over the nose and mouth are required except during outdoor lunch and exercise activities where appropriate social distancing can be maintained.
- **Staff:** Required at all times (except as noted under Other Considerations), including for in-person instruction.
- **Visitors:** Required at all times.

Other Considerations

- This is subject to current State orders as well as variances obtained through Public Health.
- If necessary, staff may remove their mask for instruction for the shortest duration possible.
- Adults are required to wear coverings over the nose and mouth when they are with other adults including in faculty lounges.
- People who cannot medically tolerate a face covering are exempt.
- Students will need to bring their own masks, however, if you need help getting one, let us know.

Physical Distancing

Guidance

- **All:** Distance between students and staff will be maximized with a distance of 6-foot or more preferred.

Other Considerations

- 3-foot distancing still provides substantial benefits and is acceptable in the context of a comprehensive disease control strategy.
- Teachers and other adult staff should make the greatest effort to adhere to 6-foot distancing, as their risk and disease transmission potential is higher than students.
- Shields will be used with small group work.

Hygiene

Guidance

- **All:** Wash hands frequently with soap and water or utilize hand sanitizer.
- **All:** Cover coughs and sneeze in tissues/elbows.

Other Considerations

- Hand sanitizer, Clorox wipes, and tissues will be available in every classroom.
- Automatic Hand Sanitizers will be available at entry ways.

Classes and Cohorts

Guidance

- **Students and teachers:** Work to keep same groups together each day.
- **Students:** Each grade level is its own cohort through 8th and then the high school is a cohort. Recommendations from County Health will be applied when responding to cases.
- **All:** Cohort guidance will vary with phase and grade level.

Other Considerations

- Guidance will change based on the phase we are under and what executive orders are in place.
- Cohorts will reduce the number of exposed students/staff from a confirmed COVID-19 case and will result in fewer students/staff required to quarantine.
- We will limit use of lockers and locker rooms.

Cleaning Procedures

Guidance

- **All buildings:** Cleaned daily by vacuuming or scrubbing and washing with soap and water
- **High-touch areas and shared objects:** Cleaned and disinfected regularly.

Other Considerations

- Disinfect means to eliminate most or all pathogens. This is generally accomplished by the use of liquid chemical solutions

Transportation

Guidance

- **Capacity:** One student per seat.
- **Routes:** No in-town routes other than La Mesa due to distance and safety.
- **Preschool:** Transportation will not be provided for preschool students.

Other Considerations

- Face coverings over the nose and mouth are required for all students.
- Face coverings over the nose and mouth are required for all adults.
- People who cannot medically tolerate a face covering are exempt.

Protocols for Positive Cases and Return to School

Guidance

- **Community Transmission:** Lab-confirmed case of COVID-19 with-in the boundaries of Rangely School District Re-4
 - 7 or fewer confirmed cases in a two-week period, in-person learning.
 - If 8 or more in a two-week period, we will work closely with County Health and schools may be closed to students and if so, we will proceed with virtual learning
- **In-District Transmission:** Lab-confirmed case of COVID-19 of a staff or student member.
 - The infected person and possibly their cohort will stay home for a specified time-period to be determined. Refer to separate document: Criteria for Building Closures for COVID-19.

Other Considerations

- The district will work with Public Health to further define the guidelines.
- The State will weigh in on this as well and we are waiting on guidance.
- Preschool will not have an on-line component.

CNCC and Concurrent Enrollment

Guidance

- **CNCC:** Students will be able to take classes as before.

Other Considerations

- Students will need to follow protocols established at CNCC when on their campus.
- There may be some options of instruction delivery.

Online Learning Option

Guidance

- **Students** who have health conditions that would cause undue risk to themselves by returning to in-person learning will be provided all classes online.
- **Staff:** These classes will be taught by Colorado certified teachers and overseen by a Rangely District staff member.
- **Cost:** The district pays for these classes and provides the necessary technology.

Other Considerations

- Registration for online classes is by semester.
- Both core content and some elective classes are offered.
- Contact the Rangely School District main office for more information. 675-2207
- Students will be connected with other Panthers and stay involved.

Endnotes

1 Van Lancker W, Parolin Z. (2020). "COVID-19, school closures, and child poverty: a social crisis in the making". Lancet Public Health. 2020;5(5):e243-4 [https://www.thelancet.com/pdfs/journals/lanpub/PIIS2468-2667\(20\)30084-0.pdf](https://www.thelancet.com/pdfs/journals/lanpub/PIIS2468-2667(20)30084-0.pdf)

2 AAP Return to School Guidance <https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/clinical-guidance/covid-19-planning-considerations-return-to-in-person-education-in-schools/>; NSW, Australia Study <http://ncirs.org.au/sites/default/files/2020-04/NCIRS%20NSW%20Schools%20COVID%20Summary%20FINAL%20public%2026%20April%202020.pdf>, French Alps Contact Tracing Study; <https://academic.oup.com/cid/article/doi/10.1093/cid/ciaa424/5819060>

Resources

CDE guidance: <http://www.cde.state.co.us/planning20-21/healthguidancebycovidphase>

CDC schools guidance: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/schools.html>

CHSAA guidance: <https://chsaanow.com/coronavirus/>