

Scranton School Health & Safety Plan

Dear Scranton Public School Parents and Community:

As a part of the Federal ESSER II and ESSER III Covid-19 relief grants for schools, each school is required to publish and take community feedback on their back-to-school plans. Keep in mind that most schools across the country in 2020-2021 did not have in-person learning as we did in Scranton. Nonetheless, to fulfill this requirement I will provide a review of our return to school plan and process as it took place in August of 2020. Our Health & Safety Smart Restart Plan was adopted by the School Board on August 11, 2020. The plan has been posted on our website since that time.

Backtracking to last summer, we were aware that the state would require each school to have a plan in place and approved by the School Board prior to being allowed to start school in person. These plans would also require a distance learning plan and option for each school. We had been providing distance learning to our students since March 16, 2020. While we waited for guidance from the state which would indicate all the components required in the plan, we prepared our building for the return to school in August.

Our building preparations were based on recommendations by the North Dakota Dept. of Health and the CDC. We restructured our classrooms to utilize as much space as possible to social distance students. We equipped our building with hard to get PPE supplies such as barriers, disinfectants, fogging machines, droplet spraying machines, hand sanitizers, masks, face shields, music instrument covers, infrared temperature machine, thermometers, etc.

When the ND Restart guidance was received in late July, we needed to create a plan based on the guidelines given. We organized a task-force committee to review the guidelines and make recommendations for the plan. Our school board meeting was scheduled for August 11 so there was little time to organize people and complete the plan. The plan we developed was based on recommendations by the state and ND Department of Health.

Once the Back-to-School Health and Safety Plan was adopted by the Scranton School Board, revisions to the plan would need to be made by the school board. Each month, as a part of the meeting agenda, the health and safety plan is and has been discussed by the School Board. Throughout the school year we followed the plan as adopted and adhered to the mandates of our Governor and State Health Officer. The Scranton School Health and safety plan and amendments to the plan can be found on the Scranton Public School website (www.scranton.k12.nd.us). We invite you to submit your comments pertaining to the Back to School Health and Safety Plan on the Scranton Public School Facebook page under the discussion tab.