



ROLAND-STORY MIDDLE SCHOOL

2020-2021 Return to Learn Building Plan

Dear RSMS Families:

I hope that you all have had the opportunity to enjoy some summer time activities with your friends and family amidst this pandemic. I know our staff is very excited to once again have kids in our building and I hope you and your student(s) feel the same. As we prepare for students to return to school, I want to assure you that the RS leadership team has worked hard and dedicated a large amount of time to what this return would look like and what safety measures we can put in place to help protect our students and staff. While a great deal of information seems to change on a daily basis, the plan in this document outlines what we plan on implementing to help mitigate the virus. Please understand that this is a starting point for us as we have never needed to do this before. Everything in this handbook is subject to change as we learn better ways of doing things or realize some things are difficult to keep in place. Thank you in advance for your patience and flexibility.

As we prepare for this school year it is important that the school and families work together and communicate in a way that is best for students. We understand that this virus poses a risk to each individual that walks through our doors, but want to assure you that we will do our best to help minimize the risk. We are committed to provide a rigorous learning experience for your student and in order to do this we will need to work together. The following things will help us accomplish this:

- 1) Encourage Mask Wearing-students are encouraged to wear masks when in our building. Some teachers may require students to wear masks for different reasons and we ask for your support and cooperation with this. Disposable masks will be available in each classroom for those that may forget one.
- 2) Wash hands well and often and use hand sanitizer
- 3) Please communicate any concerns directly to us and give us the opportunity to alleviate any situation in a positive manner.

Go Norse!

Brian Town
Principal

RSMS Mission Statement and District Core Values

Our Mission: Shaping learners for today and tomorrow.

At Roland-Story We Believe...

**people are the priority.
in passionately pursuing learning.
in humbly serving others.
in consistently committing to excellence.
in communicating, collaborating, and connecting.
in being leaders with character.
in the power of positivity.
in focusing on the journey, not the destination.**

Safety Processes and Procedures

- **Band**
 - Rehearsals/Class in Old Gym-students carry their own stand, chair, and music
 - Bell covers on instruments
 - Protocols in place for lessons-distance, masks, horn covers, sanitizer
 - Students wear face coverings until time to play
 - Entrance/Exit procedures in place
 - Examining options for concerts

- **Chorus**
 - 5th and 6th Grade-first 3 weeks music education and limited singing
 - Class and Rehearsal in old gym when singing
 - No shared music folders
 - Entrance/Exit procedures in place
 - Wearing and singing with face covering
 - Examining options for concerts and informances

- **Physical Education**
 - Outside games as much as possible
 - Disinfect equipment after use
 - When possible, implement activities allowing for social distancing
 - Incorporate more cardio/strength training activities with small groups/partners
 - Assign students “squads” or “cohorts” in each class period

- **Breakfast**
 - Hand sanitizing upon entering cafeteria
 - Nutrition staff will be serving food to students other than wrapped items
 - Tables will be spread out in cafeteria

- **Lunch**
 - No student workers
 - Hand sanitizing upon entering cafeteria
 - Nutrition staff will be serving food to students other than wrapped items
 - Tables will be spread out in cafeteria and in old gym
 - Assigned seating rotating periodically
 - Staggered dismissal times to lunch
 - Tables are sanitized after each lunch period

- **Tornado, Fire, and Intruder Drills**
 - Will not be performed entire school at one time
 - Rotate dates and/or times to allow for distancing among students

- **Assemblies, Meetings, Special Events**
 - Design for smaller groups as much as possible
 - Make available appropriate PPE for those in attendance

- **Recess**
 - Outside-social distancing available for students
 - Inside-rotate homerooms that are in gym during that time period
 - Hand sanitizer upon re-entry to building or classroom

- **Classrooms**
 - Social distancing when possible
 - Face coverings are strongly encouraged by the school district
 - Face coverings may be required by some teachers in their room and they will be communicating this to families
 - Face coverings may be required in certain situations due to closer proximity-ex: FCS and Science Labs
 - Hand sanitizer and masks readily available
 - Assigned seating in each classroom
 - Teachers and students will wipe down their own individual desk at end of day

- **Art**
 - Students will be spaced out as far as possible utilizing all tables in the room
 - 7th/8th grade only: storage will be with their same tablemates to limit exposure. 5th/6th: storage will be by classroom to limit exposure
 - Students will be given materials/equipment that is either for them specifically or for their table only. Students may bring in their own materials, if requested, and where feasible
 - Students will be dismissed by tables to avoid clustering at the door
 - Masks/sanitizer/disinfectant available

- **Library**
 - Hand sanitizer used upon entrance
 - Books quarantined and disinfected after use
 - Assigned seating
 - Regular cleaning of tables

- **Building Cleaning Process**
 - Teachers and students will wipe down their own individual desk at end of day
 - High touch areas given extra attention daily
 - Bathrooms cleaned more often each day

- **Parent Pick-Up/Drop Off and Bus Drop Off**
 - No Changes

- **Sign In/Out of Students**
 - Parents will no longer need to do this to limit adults in our building
 - Secretaries will visually see you outside and then dismiss student unless the nurse/principal need to speak with you

- **Visitors**
 - We are limiting visitors in our building
 - We ask that any parent wanting to eat lunch with their child please take them out for lunch
 - We are allowing personnel that have a direct impact on academics or the social-emotional well-being of a student to be in our building: AEA, student teachers, counselors, etc...
 - We are asking that our visitors wear a face covering

- **Hand Sanitizing/Water Fountains**

- Best practice urges students to wash their hands or use hand sanitizer upon arriving to school
- Each classroom will have hand sanitizer available, but we encourage students to have a small bottle for personal use
- Students will be asked to use hand sanitizer as they enter and begin each class period
- Students will bring their own water bottle. Drinking fountains won't be used- only bottle filling stations will be used

Student Illness and/or Nurse Assistance

We understand that students may come to school feeling healthy, but exhibit symptoms of illness at some point during their day. In addition, we realize that many students seek the nurse for non-illness related issues. We want to ensure that these two groups of students have little to no interaction, yet are able to obtain the nursing assistance they need. Due to this we have implemented the following protocols:

1. Each classroom/grade level is equipped with regular medical supplies and a thermometer to triage students with basic first aid in their classroom and not send them to the nurse's office.
2. Students exhibiting needs beyond this will be sent to the nurse's office. First, the teacher will call down to the office before sending the student so the nurse and/or secretary are able to put on the appropriate PPE. This student will enter through the nurses door from the hallway. Second, student is evaluated and if determined they should go home, the parent will be called and the student will remain in curtain enclosed in area until parent is able to pick up their student.

Picking up Covid-Related/Suspected Ill Students

If a student has Covid related symptoms, the nurse or secretary will call the student's parents. Upon arrival, parents will call the office to let them know they are here and the student and nurse/secretary will meet the parent outside the main entrance to talk through next steps and the student will go home. The parent will talk with their health care provider and receive direction. The parent will then report to the school nurse or secretary by phone the guidance given by the doctor or inform them of when they will have an appointment. The school nurse or secretary will report findings to the principal and if it is a positive Covid case, the principal will begin the contact tracing process and then communicate to other families who had a student within 6 feet of the ill student for more than 15 minutes.

Picking up Non-Covid-Related/Suspected Ill Students

If a student has Non-Covid related symptoms, the nurse or secretary will call the student's parents. Upon arrival, parents will call the office to let them know they are here and the student and nurse/secretary will meet the parent outside the main entrance to talk through next steps and the student will go home.

Testing Positive for COVID-19: If a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19 they must quarantine for 10 days from the date of the test, AND have improving symptoms, AND be fever-free for 72 hours without fever-reducing medicine prior to return to school.

Exposure to Someone Testing Positive for COVID-19: If a student or staff member is exposed to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, the individual "exposed" must quarantine for 14 days. Exposure is currently defined by Story County Public Health as being within six feet of the individual who tested positive for more than 15 minutes.