We are providing these FAQs to support your children’s return to school in the fall. Please note that any future mandates or closures set by city, state or federal governments could alter information in this document. We will update this information should that occur.

These FAQs and other information for the school year are available at skiatookschools.org.

Q. Has the first day of school changed for our district?
A. No, the first day of school is Thursday, August 13.

Q. Has the school day schedule changed for the 2020-2021 school year?
A. No, as of today the school day schedule has not changed. There will be changes to the normal operating routines at each site.

Q. Are there any planned closures of school for the 2020-2021 school year?
A. No. There are no planned closures. If a closure was required for the health and safety of students, Skiatook Public Schools would continue to provide instruction for students at home and we would refer to it as “Distance Learning.”

Q. If school has to be shut down for health reasons, how much notice will parents be given?
A. Skiatook Public Schools will give as much notice as possible. We know that keeping school in session is a priority for families. For that reason, we are examining each procedure and protocol in our district so that we can keep school open. However, we will never keep school in session if it is wise to close the school doors.

Q. Will there be any virtual days built into the school calendar?
A. No, we do not have any virtual days built into our calendar.

Q. Will Skiatook Public Schools offer full-time online classes as an alternative to classroom instruction?
A. Yes, Skiatook Public Schools will offer full-time online learning for K-12 students through our Skiatook Virtual Academy. Please contact your child’s principal for more information or to enroll.

Q. Can students shift back-and-forth between online learning and face-to-face learning?
A. There would be flexibility for students starting face-to-face to allow them the flexibility to apply for Skiatook Virtual Academy. Students choosing full-time online learning through the Skiatook Virtual Academy will be required to complete the semester. After the semester they would be allowed to move to face-to-face learning.
Q. What steps will the district take to keep school as safe as possible?
A. Skiatook Public Schools will make every effort to promote healthy practices and protocols in our schools. Schools will have daily cleaning protocols that align with guidance from health officials. Social distancing will be practiced to the extent possible. Frequent hand-washing and other healthy protocols will be modeled by adults and encouraged for students. Additionally, hand sanitizer and hand sanitizing stations will be present throughout school buildings.

Q. How will social distancing occur in our schools?
A. It will be difficult to consistently maintain distance between students in our schools. Every effort will be made to reduce close contact among students in the classroom, as well as in common areas such as hallways, restrooms, cafeterias, gyms, etc. Teachers will be encouraged to space student desks as much as possible and to reduce activities that require close contact between students.

Q. What steps can families take to keep school safe as possible?
A. We ask that parents check their children’s health status at home every morning. Please use the School Attendance Questionnaire before coming to school or getting on a bus.

By sending your child to school, you are representing to Skiatook Public Schools that the answer to each of these questions is “no”.

1. Does your child have a fever of 100 degrees or more?
2. Is your child experiencing a new loss of taste or smell, nausea or vomiting, or diarrhea?
3. Is your child experiencing two or more of the following symptoms of COVID-19?
   - Chills
   - Cough
   - Fatigue
   - Muscle or body aches
   - Headache
   - Sore throat
   - Congestion or runny nose
4. Is your child experiencing any of the Emergency Warning Symptoms of COVID-19?
   - Shortness of breath
   - Persistent pain or pressure in the chest
   - New confusion
   - Inability to wake or stay awake
   - Bluish lips or face
5. Has your child had, or do you think your child has, COVID-19?
6. Has your child tested positive for COVID-19?
7. Has your child been around a person with COVID-19?

Q. Will staff members be taking these same protocols?
A. Yes. Skiatook Public Schools is requesting that every employee complete the School Attendance Questionnaire before leaving home each day.

Q. How can I remember all of the steps for my students regarding when to stay home and when the student can return to school?
A. Our district will provide a school attendance questionnaire for parents that you can print or keep on your phone.

Q. Will students have their temperature taken each day at school?
A. No. Parents checking temperatures at home is more practical and, with the parents’ help, children would not even come to school if they are running a fever.

Q. Will parents be notified if their child has come in direct physical contact or close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19?
A. Yes, if a child has been in direct physical contact or close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 the parent will be notified. While the district wants to respect the confidentiality of health information, notifying parents regarding their child’s potential contact with COVID-19 is a priority of the district. The district will use the CDC guidelines for these procedures.

Q. Will parents be notified if anyone in the school has tested positive for COVID-19?
A. No. Parents will be notified if their child has come in direct physical contact or close contact with someone who has tested positive, but parents will not be notified if there is no direct physical contact or close contact with a person testing positive. The district will use the CDC guidelines for these procedures.

Q. Should a parent notify the school if their child or someone in their family tests positive for COVID-19?
A. Yes. The child should not return to school and the parent should notify the principal of the school. The principal, through a series of questions, can help determine what steps should be taken next.

Q. Will wearing face coverings/masks be mandatory for students to attend school?
A. Yes, face coverings/masks will be required for all students in grades 4-12. Grades kindergarten through 3rd grade are required to wear a mask on the bus. It is recommended that face masks or face coverings be worn until they are in their classrooms.

Q. Will wearing face coverings/masks be mandatory for staff?
A. Yes, all employees of the district will be required to wear face coverings/masks when social distancing cannot be maintained. There may be times in which wearing a mask is not conducive to the learning process so those masks may be removed during those times.

Q. What if my child misses more than 10 days in a semester due to illness or possible contact with someone with COVID-19?
A. Students who are ill or suspect they are ill should remain at home. Our district will work with parents to support students during periods of absences when families are working to support their child’s health and the health of others.

Q. Will activities (field trips, assemblies, concerts, etc.) be held in the fall semester?
A. Our primary focus right now is making every effort for school to be in session for the 2020-2021 school year and to keep our students and staff safe and healthy. Athletics and fine arts activities have taken place this summer with modified protocols. Determinations about activities will be made as we enter each phase of the school year. If school were to be shut down completely, then all activities would also stop.

Q. Will the district host schedule pickup and “Meet the teacher” events?
A. These activities will likely be modified. Our principals have adjusted the start of the year routines. Whether these activities are done traditionally or modified, please know our focus is making sure each student has a positive start to the school year. Your site principals will have those details.

Q. Can parents volunteer in the school buildings?
A. We will limit volunteers to only those that are essential. Volunteers are an extraordinary asset to our schools, but again our priority is the safety of our students and staff and working together to keep school in session.

Q. Will Skiatook Public Schools be providing transportation for the 2020-2021 school year?
A. Yes. Bus routes for the 2020-2021 school year will be the same routes as last year.

Q. What precautions will be taken to address COVID-19 on our buses?
A. Buses will have daily cleaning protocols that align with guidance from health officials. Windows will be down for air circulation unless it is impractical to do so.

Q. Will wearing face coverings/masks be mandatory for students to ride a bus?
A. Yes, face coverings/masks will be mandatory for students.

Q. What can students do to assist with a safe ride to school on the bus?
A. Students should not get on a bus if they are ill or have any symptoms outlined in the daily health checklist. Students should face forward at all times and respect the directions provided by the bus driver.

Q. If my student has always been a bus rider, can I transport my child to and from school?
A. Yes. Parents are always welcome to transport their children to and from school. For the fall of 2020, any parent who can drive or walk their child to school will assist with reducing the number of bus riders. However, we are aware that not all families can make that adjustment to their schedules.
Q. Can I walk my elementary child into the school building?
A. No, building principals will be reviewing this information with parents before

Q. Will Skiatook Public Schools be offering breakfast and lunch to students for the 2020-2021 school year?
A. Yes. Meals for the 2020-2021 school year will be provided and menus will be located on the district’s child nutrition page. Payment procedures will remain the same as the 2019-2020 school year.

Q. Will parents be able to eat in the cafeteria with their child?
A. During the fall semester, parents will not be permitted to eat in the cafeteria with their child. Our hope is that this is a temporary change in practice.

Q. If I have a question that hasn’t been answered here, what do I do?
A. If, after reading these FAQs, you still have questions please feel free to email or call your child’s principal.