

INTRODUCTION

Our Primary objective here at 439 is to educate our students while following the classroom and program models that were in place pre-COVID-19 as closely as possible. This goal also includes maintaining a **safe learning environment** for all Sedgwick students be that learning on campus or remotely. At this time, safety precautions involve procedures such as social distancing, wearing of facemasks, health checks, and lots of handwashing.

We here in the district understand that our students are not accustomed to some of these precautions. One of the district's first responsibilities is to help each student learn these procedures in a way that is appropriate for each grade level and in ways that promote safety confidence, not fear. Although everyone would like for the current circumstances to end as quickly as possible, the provision of educational services to our students while also focusing on reestablishing peer relationships through interactions and extracurricular activities is a critical function of the district. USD 439 also recognizes the social and emotional impact from the many disruptions our students have experienced since March. This district is committed to address the social and emotional impact on our students through classroom activities and student support services.

Educational services will be provided to both students who are able to attend **on campus** and students that, for various reasons, must learn **remotely** from home. The Kansas Department of Education has provided expectations for students learning remotely including compiling a daily log of educational activities and attendance requirements. Teachers and administrators will help students and families adjust to these remote learning standards. The district has also developed contingency plans in the event that circumstances require a **hybrid learning process** or complete school closure.

The USD 439 plan for reopening schools has closely followed recommendations and regulations set forth by federal, state, and local guidelines. Recommendations from the CDC, the Kansas Department of Health, the Harvey County Health Department, and the Navigating Change: Guide to Learning and School Safety Operations have been followed. The reopening plan will address many of the questions parents may have. However, with the ongoing changes during this pandemic, it is not possible to address every issue through one document. As a district, we will pivot when needed to best serve our students. As guidance and recommendations change at the various levels, the reopening document may be modified. USD 439 will follow recommended guidelines and may exceed these guidelines if district or community circumstances require additional measures.

Sedgwick Public Schools recognize the additional stress and anxiety that students and families have experienced over the past several months. The district is confident that the resiliency of our staff and students will allow them to quickly adapt to the changes at the beginning of this school year. The district is also confident that as a community, Sedgwick will continue to navigate these times in positive, effective ways to best serve our patrons.

The main objective of this plan is to establish a workable educational platform for those for whom buildings were built, our students.