

SFSD Return to Learning Update – Part 2 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Purpose of Report: To provide the Sioux Falls School Board with an update on the Return to Learning (R2L) for the start of the 2020-2021 school year.

The Sioux Falls School District is committed to a safe learning environment for each of its 24,000 students and 3,400 staff members. The COVID-19 virus has prompted the District to develop a Return to Learn (R2L) Plan to provide a framework for continued learning following the closure of schools during the 4th quarter of the 2019-2020 school year.

The R2L Plan represents the work and feedback of hundreds of people, including: school administrators, teachers, parents, students, state and local health officials, top-tier pediatric infectious disease doctors from Avera and Sanford, and the CDC. With public health as the overarching driver of all planning, the following work groups defined expectations for traditional delivery, on-campus modified delivery, remote delivery and a virtual learning academy:

- Public Health
- Curriculum/Instruction
- Operations
- Communications
- Resources

It is the District's full intention to begin school in the traditional-sense, face-to-face, with modifications in the classrooms on Thursday, August 27, 2020. The District will continue to monitor the virus' course and adjust plans if it becomes a necessary protection for students and staff – our greatest assets.

Administrative Recommendation to School Board: Acknowledge the Board update on the update of the R2L district planning process for the 2020-2021 school year.

SFSD Return to Learning Update – Part 2 2020-2021 School Year

Purpose of Report: To provide the Sioux Falls School Board with an update on the Return to Learning (R2L) for the start of the 2020-2021 school year.

Priority Area 1, 2, 3 and 4: Student Outcomes, School Climate and Culture, District Staff, and Community Engagement.

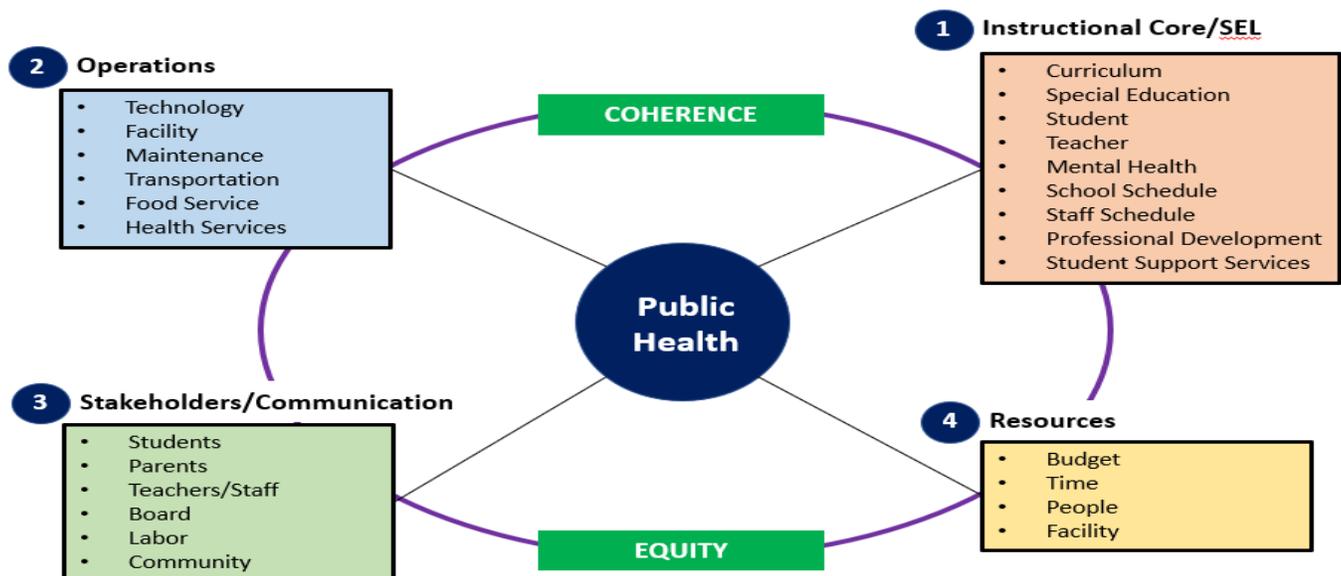
Priority Statement 3: Sioux Falls School District will provide a nurturing and safe learning experience for all.

Explanation: The Sioux Falls School District continues to prepare for the start of the 2020-2021 school year. This update will assist in providing information to the School Board, students, staff, and community regarding the plans for the Return to Learning this fall. Highlights representing the four pillars of planning will be provided. The plans are still in the final stages of preparation and vetting with additional information will be shared later this month.

Organizational Structure: In review, an organizational structure was created to develop plans for the start of the 2020-2021 school year. The structure consists of a guiding team and four pillars that serve as committees under the guiding team. Each area is covered by an overarching Public Health umbrella. The outline is as follows:

Four Pillars: The four pillars have been identified as key operational teams that consist of multiple departments. The operational teams will work jointly to develop and implement plans for the 2020-2021 school year. The four pillars are:

- (1) **Instructional Core/SEL** – Assistant Superintendent of Academic Achievement (Dr. Teresa Boysen)
- (2) **Operations** – Assistant Superintendent of Administrative Services (Dr. James Nold)
- (3) **Stakeholders/Communication** – Community Relations Supervisor (Mrs. DeeAnn Konrad)
- (4) **Resources** – Business Manager (Mr. Todd Vik)



The four operational teams worked to develop plans based on the model of instructional delivery that is needed. The instructional delivery models fall under three (3) general categories and the development of a Virtual Learning Academy to support students who have concerns about returning to school as it relates to the coronavirus.

Traditional Daily Instruction

Traditional instructional delivery occurs with facility and procedural modifications.

- Teachers and students maintain a normal daily schedule.
- Safety precautions are implemented to enhance staff and student safety.

Modified On-Campus

Multiple hybrid models of instructional delivery allow the SFSD to meet the educational needs through a variety of educational delivery models in response to resurgence.

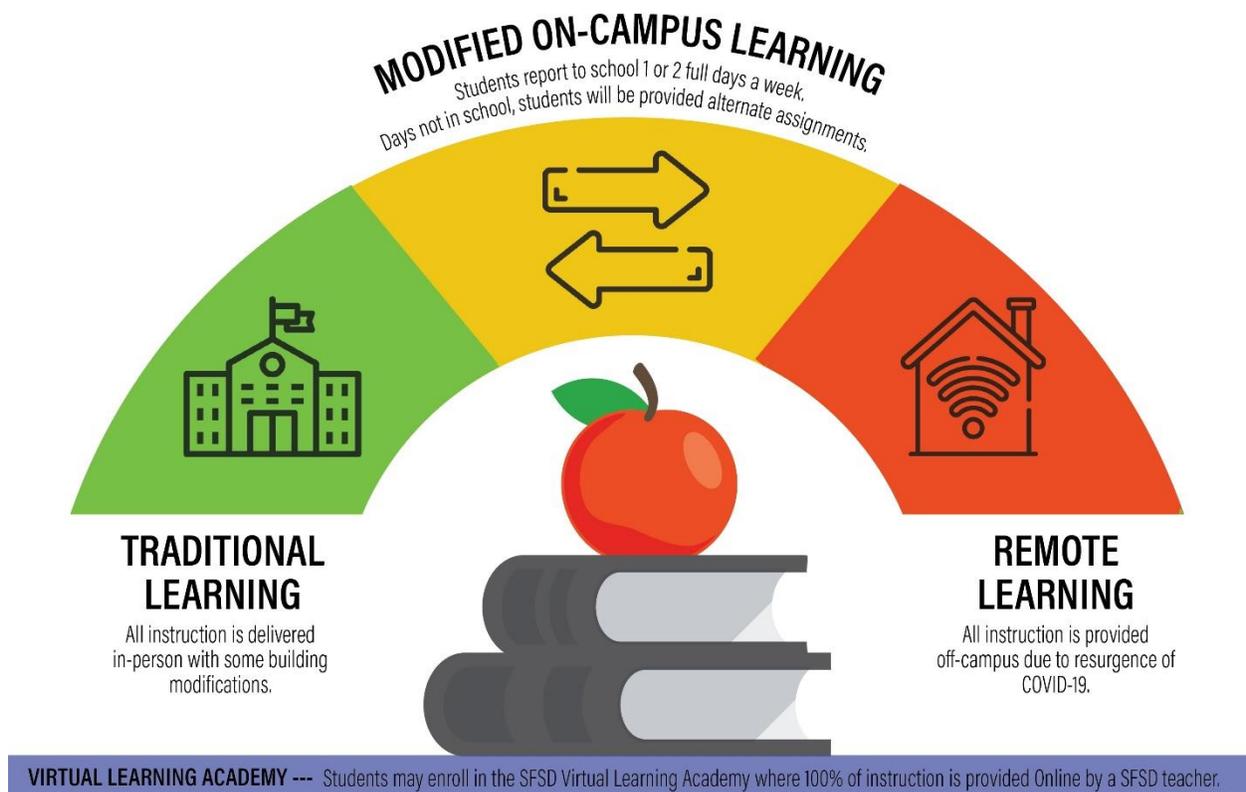
Remote Learning

All instruction is provided off-campus remotely through technology or learning packets.

Virtual Academy

A virtual educational opportunity for K-12 Sioux Falls School District students will be provided as an option for students who have concerns about returning to school this fall.

Sioux Falls School District Models of Instruction



Return to Learning (R2L) Plans: Teams began meeting on May 20th and are working to vet and finalize the plans. The following is an update on this work and the next steps in the process.

The R2L plan includes over 100 pages of planning, supporting documents, MOU's, and budgetary listings. The following will provide the School Board with abbreviated updates from multiple areas within the four pillars.

1. Instructional Core

District staff at all levels have developed plans as precautionary measures in the event that a classroom, building, or the entire district would need to move into an alternate learning model. The intent of the plans are to provide all staff with guidelines and expectations for learning models (remote, modified, and traditional) to support the teaching and learning of students.

SFSD K-12 Guiding Principles

1. Plans will allow buildings to move fluidly between all models without a loss of learning.
2. Instruction will be consistent across the district using the district approved curriculum, programs, and resources.
3. Each level will have a consistent Learning Management System to deliver instruction.
4. Evidence of engagement will be monitored, documented, and communicated to families.
5. Create cohesion between all stakeholders including, but not limited to, Gen Ed, SPED, and Specialists for collaborative and instructional purposes.
6. Develop relationships with families to support all instructional models.

Professional Development

Professional development will be provided for teachers, educational assistants, and substitute teachers on the following topics:

- Digital Platform
 - Early Childhood and Elementary (SeeSaw)
 - Middle School (Schoology)
 - High School (Google Classroom)
- Remind Communication Tool
- Effective Delivery of Online Lessons
- Effective use of Google Tools & Google Meet
- Screencastify

2. Operations

Health Services

- Health Services will assist in determining health and safety practices required for all operations.
- Health Services will determine PPE required for staff in various educational settings and provide the necessary training for the PPE. (See Staff PPE Guidance).
- Health Services will oversee the health screening practices for staff and students. Student and Staff Health Screening will be completed prior to coming into the building.
- Health Services will assist in providing education on handwashing, respiratory hygiene, and social distancing.
- Health Services will determine health office safety guidelines.
- The number of healthy students and staff will be limited in health office.

- Protocols for students/staff demonstrating COVID-19 symptoms will be established.
- Isolation spaced for students during wait period will be determined.
- Health Services will follow SD DOH health exclusion guidelines.
- Assistance and plans will be implemented for medically fragile students and students with special healthcare needs.
- Health Services will monitor data:
 - Daily tracking of attendance & monitoring for trends
 - Daily tracking of staff & students with symptoms of COVID-19 sent home
- Health Services will continue to uphold SD State law regarding vaccination requirements.
- Health Services will actively encourage routine healthcare.



SFSD COVID-19 PPE GUIDANCE

STAFF	PPE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All Staff (other than what is outlined below). 	Encouraged to wear cloth face coverings*
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All Staff for routine cleaning of frequently used surfaces. 	Required to wear disposable gloves
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public Facing Staff (i.e. receptionist/clerical) unless plexiglass partition is in place. 	Required to wear cloth face covering*
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff who MUST go into homes Staff who are working hands on (less than 6 ft) with a student continuously for 15 minutes or greater (i.e. B-3, therapists) ** 	Required face shield OR procedural face mask***. Use both when possible. (some work such as speech therapy may not be conducive to wearing a procedural face mask)
Staff (i.e. Nurses and Clerical) who: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Care for COVID-19 symptomatic students and staff Perform asthmatic healthcare procedures (i.e. nebulizers) 	Required procedural face mask + face shield, gloves, gown
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Custodial staff who clean areas where persons with COVID-19 or person suspected of COVID-19 have been 	Required procedural face mask, gown, gloves

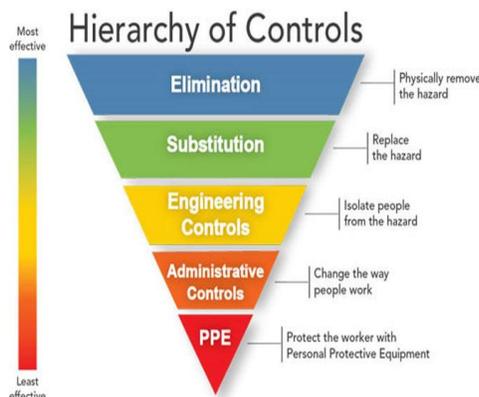
Encouraged - Staff choice. Not supplied by the District. **Required** - Mandatory. Supplied by the District.

*Cloth face coverings are meant to protect other people in case the wearer is unknowingly infected but does not have symptoms. Cloth face coverings are not surgical masks, respirators, or other medical personal protective equipment.

**Health Services will work with Supervisors to determine job duties/work that requires PPE based on CDC guidance.

***Per the SD DOH procedural face masks can be used for two days.

- All staff who use PPE must be trained in proper use. Training videos and documents can be found on the district COVID-19 website <https://sites.google.com/a/k12.sd.us/sfsd-covid-19-staff-resources/home/face-coverings>. The School Nurse can assist with training and questions.
- Routine/non-COVID-19 PPE is not outlined on this document but should continue as normal.
- If you have any questions about PPE use, please contact Health Services.
- Staff who to request to use their own PPE, not outlined on this document, should consult with Health Services. Some PPE may be deemed not necessary according to CDC recommended use.
- Remember PPE is one safety measure in a hierarchy of safety measures.



References

- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/cleaning-disinfection.html>
- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/using-ppe.html>
- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/ppe-strategy/index.html>
- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/respirators-strategy/index.html>
- <https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/hierarchy/default.html>
- https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/schools-faq.html?deliveryName=USCDC_2067-DM29945



BEFORE SCHOOL!

Parents must complete a daily health check by answering these questions before sending their child to school.

(Parent do not need to send the questionnaire to school)

COVID-19 SCREENING QUESTIONS

Has your child had close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19 in the past 14 days?

_____ YES _____ NO

Does your child have new or worsening shortness of breath?

_____ YES _____ NO

Does your child have new or worsening cough?

_____ YES _____ NO

Does your child have a fever of 100.4 or greater?

_____ YES _____ NO

Does your child have chills?

_____ YES _____ NO

Does your child have diarrhea?

_____ YES _____ NO

Does your child have unexplained muscle pain?

_____ YES _____ NO

Does your child have a headache (unrelated to a known health condition i.e. migraines)?

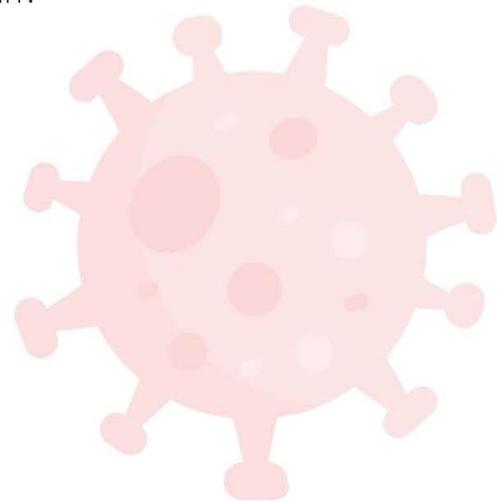
_____ YES _____ NO

Does your child have a sore throat?

_____ YES _____ NO

Does your child have a new loss of taste or smell?

_____ YES _____ NO



If YES to ANY of these questions, STOP!

Do not send your child to school. Contact your healthcare provider. Contact your school to inform them of your child's symptoms. You may also contact the SD Department of Health with any COVID-19 questions 1-800-592-186.



If you are able to answer NO to ALL questions, go to school.

Child Nutrition Services

- Touchless point of sale
 - Elementary lunch pouches with student ID's
 - MS/HS scanning ID's
- Plastic gloves, face coverings, aprons, and hair restraints, worn by child nutrition staff
- Meals served by servers with students using sanitized hard trays
- No self-serve
- Prewrapped utensils used by all sites
- Individual prepackaged condiments
- Milk coolers used with individual cartons
- Only Individually wrapped items for self-serve, such as salads, sandwiches, fruits, and vegetables used at middle school and high school levels
- Only prepackaged, individually wrapped, fresh fruit and vegetable items for elementary program sites
- Bleach solutions used for all sanitizing situations
- All staff continue with Sanitation and Safety training
- All managers and cooks are Serve-Safe certified
- When and where possible, reduce the number of students eating in one location
- Food served after a minimum of three (3) consecutive days of school closure at the sites utilized in the spring of 2020 and on similar days of the week
 - Food Sites: Laura B Anderson, Hawthorne, Hayward, Anne Sullivan, Terry Redlin, and Lowell Elementary
 - Food delivery busses will run on the routes identified in the spring of 2020
- If single or a limited number of school closings occur, feeding sites may be established at the closed school.
- All students will be eligible to eat meals at these sites regardless of free, reduced, or full pay status pending state and federal waivers.
- Meals distributed in two- or three-day quantities when needed
- District truck routes may be utilized as needed to supplement the food distribution process.

Facility and Maintenance

- Full deep summer cleaning will have been completed - Cleaning all furniture, fixtures, walls, extracting carpets, waxing floors etc.
- HVAC - Begin building earlier so temperatures are achieved for staff and to pre-flush the building - This will ensure multiple air-exchanges prior to the scheduled staff and activity start times.
- Operate HVAC systems during all scheduled student/staff activities - This will include music and athletic practices to ensure air-exchanges in occupied areas.
- Increase minimum outside air settings by 100% moving from a minimum of 10-20% settings to 20-40% - Continue to operate with CO2 monitors modulating the outside air if greater is needed.
- Change air filters in August before the start of school to a higher efficient filter (Merv 14) Change filters in August, December and April in lieu of as needed
- Flush plumbing fixtures monthly during unoccupied periods
- Drinking fountains: Currently have 21 facilities with touchless bottle filler units, 17 without
- Install sneeze guards at main reception counters and MS/HS lunchroom cashiers
- Provide building check-in protocols, staff, students, and visitors
- Hand sanitation dispensers for community areas, lunchrooms, and multipurpose rooms

- Support staff follow PPE established guidelines by health services
- All classroom doors to remain open during passing periods and should be opened and closed by the teacher to minimize common touch points
- Signage in all restrooms (handwashing)
- Install Electronic air devices (GPS) or UV light systems in all AHU units, that will kill mold and viruses
- EPA approved cleaning products will be used for all cleaning.
- All staff will be responsible for routinely wiping down frequently touched surfaces in their work area.
- Staff will be provided appropriate PPE routine cleaning (See PPE).
- Custodians will disinfect all common areas, door hardware and frequently touched surfaces on a consistent basis.

Technology and Connectivity

- Building Computer Specialists will repair and maintain device fleet using proper cleaning procedures outlined by Operations Services and following Health Service's recommended processes.
- ITS will work with local repair vendors to ensure timely repair schedules when factoring in proper handling procedures.
- All high school and middle schools will ensure that a student uses same device each day.
- ITS will work with local partners to bridge the connectivity gap for students.
- 1 to 1 - K-1 (iPad): ITS will propose moving forward with 1:1 device for grades K-1, and devices will be deployed to each student.
- 1 to 1 - K-1 (iPad) cases and Mobile Device Management
- 1 to 1 - 2nd-5th (Chromebooks) will be deployed to each student.
- 1 to 1 - 6th-8th (Chromebooks) taken home daily by students
- 1 to 1 - 9th-12th (Chromebooks) taken home daily by students
- ITS will standardize the check-in/check-out processes for devices through acquisition of inventory control system.
- ITS will purchase replacement chargers and loaner devices based on loss experienced from Spring semester.
- ITS will provide extra devices available for check-out by staff for remote work when possible.
- Implement support centralization in collaboration with other student services and curriculum functions to provide home-based education support for technology and other services
- Establish a single source for online support materials
- Activate internal resources for external use such as Time Management
- Establish Remote Learning Ticket Category for Tracking of Issues

Building Practices

- Promote Social Distancing
- Allow minimal mixing between groups as much as possible
- Follow the district requirements of any restrictions to nonessential visitors, volunteers, and activities involving other groups at the same time
- Space seating/desks as much as possible
- Turn desks to face in the same direction (rather than facing each other) or have students sit on only one side of tables, spaced apart as much as possible
- Limit student sharing of materials

- Avoid sharing electronic devices, toys, books, and other games or learning aids
- Promote Healthy Hygiene Practices
- Teach and encourage washing hands and covering coughs and sneezes
- Determine scheduled handwashing times for elementary students
- Face coverings are highly recommended and encouraged for all staff. Some staff will be required to wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) due to the nature of their work.
- Students are strongly encouraged to use cloth face coverings.

Transportation

- Staff will wear cloth face coverings.
- Have hand sanitizer on the bus for staff and students to use - Encourage students to use the hand sanitizer as they get on the bus
- Have disinfecting wipes on the bus for SBI staff to wipe railings, if time, after each route
- SBI staff must complete the COVID questionnaire each day before starting their routes.
- SBI staff will need to be trained on proper cleaning procedures.
- Students are encouraged to use cloth face coverings.
- Keep bus windows partially opened when possible
- Toys on the bus for ECH, RISE students will need to be cleaned and disinfected after each route if they were touched by a student.
- No signatures required for SPED students at the drop off
- Assigned seating on buses when able

3. Stakeholders and Communications

Communication is key to keeping all stakeholders informed. With the possibility that some of the District's 35 schools are in traditional delivery while others are in remote or modified on-campus delivery, all stakeholders must be committed to sending and receiving information.

Parents/Guardians must communicate with schools regarding any changes to phone numbers, email addresses, emergency contacts, etc. Schools must communicate about procedures and protocols that are specific to the building. The District must communicate the overall plan for educational delivery and changes to that plan in a timely manner. The plan requires a full investment of all stakeholders.

To that end, the District has established the following methods by which communication and information will be offered:

- Parent Handbook – Online and printed – Parents, Students
- Staff Handbook – Online and printed – Staff
- Let's Talk! – Website/Parents; inSite/Staff
- ParentLink – District phone messages, email, app – Parents, Staff, Students (translation tools)
- Remind – Building/Teacher-specific texting, calling – Parents, Staff, Students (translation tools)
- Language Line – Principal to Parent/Guardian Translation
- Website – COVID-19 Resource Page – All (translation tools)
- Smore Newsletters – All (translation tools)
- Posters – Students, Staff
- Weekly Superintendent Message – All
- R2L Board Updates – 2x/month – All

- Healthy Habits 101 – Video Series – All
- KLRN / Social Media – All
- Ignite – All
- Local Media – All
- Calling Trees – Staff
- HS Cafeteria Video Boards – Students, Staff
- Intercom Announcements – Students, Staff (Parents @ Events)

4. Resources

Human Resources

It is the desire of the District to maintain its talented workforce and also fully utilize their skills when their buildings are in remote or modified on-campus delivery. When a building is in remote or modified on-campus learning, building staff whose routine duties are significantly altered or not necessary due to the building status shall be available to work in another setting or will take the appropriate leave available to them.

In addition to the traditional negotiated leaves available to staff, staff have two leaves available to them from the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) depending on whether they cannot work due their own condition or because they must care for a family member. Additionally, the District is proposing to establish MOUs with all of its bargaining units to ensure paycheck stability if all leaves are exhausted along with defining the process that will be followed when asking employees to provide services outside their traditional roles.

Financial Resources

The District has identified five potential federal resources specifically to aid in funding COVID-19 related expenses. These resources are:

- **ESSER Grant:** Formula grant through the SDDOE for approximately \$4.3 million available for a wide variety of SFSD COVID-19 expenses
- **Federal Health and Human Services Grant:** Approximately \$273,000 directly from the Federal Government for one-time actions or activities to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19 in the early child setting - This is a non-competitive grant.
- **Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund:** Approximately \$5.7 million available to public K-12 Schools on a competitive basis. Grant applications will prioritize quality remote learning as schools prepare for many possible scenarios this next school year, teacher professional development, and support of students as they come back from extended school closures.
- **Coronavirus Relief Fund (Federal Aid to States):** \$1.25 billion allocated to SD to be spent on new activities related to the Coronavirus response as determined by the Governor. Funds are available to support counties, cities, and schools with expenses related to the pandemic. It is unknown how much, if any, funding will be available for public school districts.
- **FEMA:** Funding for response and mitigation to the effects of the Coronavirus are available through the State, then to Minnehaha County, and eventually to local governments within the County. Applications are made to the County, and it is uncertain how much will be allocated to schools.

Financial Expenditures

All working groups have identified over 100 line-items totaling approximately \$7.8 million of potential Coronavirus related expenditures. The District Exec. Team is reviewing and ranking the requests and approving requests where timeliness is critical. A detailed supplemental Coronavirus budget will be submitted to the Board in September.

Committee Participation: Administrators, staff, students, and our community, have been, and will continue to be, involved in the planning process.

Summary: The Sioux Falls School District is committed to a safe learning environment for students and staff. The District is currently in the process of finalizing the initial R2L to be communicated to our stakeholders for the start of the 2020-2021 school year.

Administrative Recommendation: Acknowledge the Board update on the update of the R2L district planning process for the 2020-2021 school year.