

**Please note the following Unatego Elementary Guidelines for the 2020-2021 school year.**

### **Arrival of Students Each Day**

- The doors to the elementary school will open at 8:00 AM. Students **cannot** enter the building prior to 8:00 AM. (bus riders, walkers, self-transport). Before 8:00 AM, students will have to wait outside. The buses plan to drop off students starting at 8:00 AM.
- Parents can use the drop-off zone in the front of the elementary building. Students will be able to enter the elementary school through two doors: the entrance at the front of the school and the bus entrance. This is the same as last year. Staff will be on hand to assist students.
- When students enter the elementary school, every student has the option to select a Grab-and-Go breakfast bag (breakfast and lunch are free to all students). Students will immediately go to their classrooms upon entering the elementary building. Staff will be available to guide them to their rooms.
- Parents and Guardians will be asked to submit daily notes provided by the District (see attached) to verify whether your child has a fever or has come into contact with someone with COVID-19 symptoms. We will be sending out booklets to each family. Enclosed are four notes to get the year started. Please remember to use these for the first days of school. One note should be submitted each day your child attends school.
- At each entrance, we will also check student temperatures using a stand-alone no-touch temperature scanner.
- If a student presents a temperature of 100 degrees or higher, he/she will be referred to the health office. We will also monitor students for signs/symptoms of corona virus and refer them to the health office as appropriate.

### **Dismissal of Students**

Students will be dismissed as follows:

2:30 – First round of bus students will be dismissed to their buses.

2:50 – All walkers and self-transport students will be dismissed.

2:55 – 3:00 – Second round of bus students will be dismissed to their buses.

### **Chromebooks**

- Every student K – 5 will be assigned a Chromebook, a charger, and also receive a Chromebook bag (generously provided by the Elementary PTO). Inside the Chromebook bag, there is a padded envelope. Students should place their Chromebooks inside the padded envelope to help protect the device during transport. Students will take their Chromebooks home each night and bring them back to school for in-person learning.

### **Masks**

- All students choosing the hybrid learning model will be supplied with two cloth masks. Students and families are responsible for laundering the masks. Students must wear masks when entering the elementary building and when traveling in the hallways. A mask must cover the wearer's nose and mouth at all times.
- Students may also wear masks from home. Please do not bring neck gaiters. Neck gaiters have been shown to be ineffective. A cloth mask or a paper hospital mask are most effective.
- Anytime students cannot maintain appropriate social distancing, they must wear masks. We will have markers and signs to help students, faculty, and staff monitor appropriate social distancing. In classrooms, students must maintain 6 feet of separation. When students are seated at their desks in the classroom, our protocol says that they can remove their masks. If they have to leave their desk area for any reason, or if a teacher approaches to offer assistance, everyone must wear a mask.

- The faculty and staff will instruct the students on social distancing rules and gently remind them throughout the year. This is new to everyone, but mask wearing has been shown to limit the spread of corona virus. Masks are required when students travel to the bathroom, go to PE, go to the cafeteria to pick up lunches, and anytime they must travel from their assigned seat in the classroom.

### **Parents / Guardians / Visitors**

- Because of the current pandemic, and out of an abundance of caution, parents and guardians cannot accompany students into the building. Parents, guardians, and visitors must wait at the main entrance or bus entrance.
- Parents, guardians, and visitors cannot gain entrance to the rest of the elementary school without a scheduled appointment, unless you are called to the school to pick up your child. If you are permitted to enter the building, all parents, guardians, and visitors must wear appropriate masks that cover nose and mouth.

### **Remote Learning Days**

Students will be provided with lessons and activities during their remote learning days at home. In addition to paper materials that will be sent home for the remote learning days, students will also access lessons on their Chromebooks. You will need internet access for this. More specific information will be coming out soon, regarding the Seesaw program for grades K-3 and Google Classroom for grades 4-5, including some training information and access to short training videos.

### **Snacks in the classroom**

If students plan to share snacks with the class for a birthday, for example, or if teachers ask parents/guardians to help bring in snacks throughout the year, all snacks must be individually wrapped and store-bought. This year, students cannot bring in homemade or “wrapped at home” snacks for other students. Any snack that students bring in with the intent to share with others, must be factory sealed and unopened. Thanks for your understanding.

### **Social Distancing – Student Desks or Student Work / Play Areas**

- In the classroom, we have separated student desks to allow each student to maintain 6 feet of separation. This follows accepted social distancing guidelines.
- For PE, music lessons, or other activities that involve movement or exercise, students must maintain 12 feet of social distancing or wear masks if they cannot do this. We will have areas marked with tape and signs to help students, faculty, and staff with this.

### **Supplies**

Supply lists can be found on the Unatego web site under the Elementary School section. Students will not be able to share supplies this year. Teachers will have classroom supplies they can assign to students and students will be asked to bring in some basic classroom supplies and a plastic case to hold supplies.

### **Water Bottles**

The water fountains will only dispense water through the bottle fillers this year. The other water fountain controls have been disabled. Each student should plan to bring a water bottle each day. The bottle filler is hands-free and automatically fills bottles.

To our parents and guardians: Our goal is to make this school year a success for our students. We are facing an unprecedented event (a global pandemic), and I want to thank you in advance for your patience and understanding as we embark on another year that involves elements of remote learning. Please don't hesitate to call or email me with questions, concerns, or if you just want to talk about education during a COVID-19 global pandemic.