



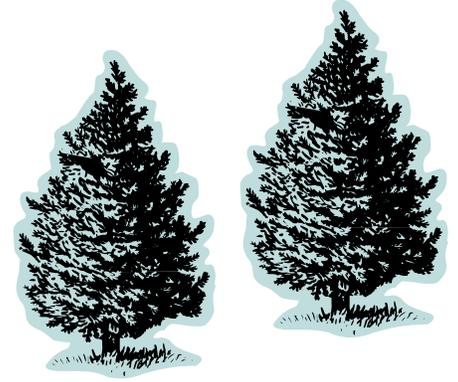
Pine Ridge Elementary

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August 4, 2020

As we approach the beginning of school you will receive numerous emails with valuable information from the Pine Ridge office and your classroom teacher. We are working to make our return to school safe and a smooth transition. Please be patient as many practices have changed greatly, and we anticipate additional changes to happen as we get into the year.

Our **Chromebook Agreement** did not show up on our registration until today. Please log in to the Harmony Family Access page to complete this form.

Please take time to visit and navigate the information on the Southeast Dubois County School Corporation's website for information on the [Covid-19 Reentry Plans](#). There is a lot on this site to sift through. These policies will be updated as necessary. Please pay special attention to the changes in our school day if we must transition to yellow or red stages found in the Reentry Framework document.

Please review the documentation on the Covid-19 page of the Southeast Dubois County Website in regards to procedures for students who are ill. This can be found in the Reentry Framework document as well. It is very important that parents follow the 24-hour fever, vomit, diarrhea, and Covid-19 symptom free without medication guidelines before sending your child back to school. If your child is sent home from school because of an illness, they may not come back to school for a full 24 hours. As of right now, the document suggests 72 hours, but that will be changed soon to current Health Department guidelines.

This is a [link](#) to the 2020-2021 calendar. Please take notice of the eLearning Day on September.

Please complete **registration** by the end of the day on Friday, August 7th. If you plan to enroll your child in the Covid-19 Online Academy please do so by the end of the day on Wednesday, August 5th. We are assisting parents with registration on Wednesday, August 5th for anyone who needs access to a computer. Parents must call Pine Ridge to sign up for a time. We cannot allow anyone entry without contacting our school for a specific time. We are limiting families to one parent to enter the building for registration, and they must wear a mask while inside the building.

Covid-19 Online Academy registration should be completed by the end of the day Wednesday, August 5th. We plan to set a day before school begins to distribute Chromebooks and chargers to families. Time and location will be determined. We will also push out information on getting families needed log in information as soon as possible. It is very important that families are registered on time so that there is not a delay in setting up their account.

Masks are required as outlined in Governor Holcomb's order for students. If a child does not have a mask Pine Ridge will provide a mask. If your child has a cloth mask or multiple masks we encourage them to bring them to school every day. **Exceptions for wearing a mask in the classroom is for students between the ages of 4-8.** We will be practicing wearing a mask while in the hallway and working in small groups. We must be ready for the possibility that everyone will be required to wear a mask

Revisions and approval of the corporation mask policy will be published after Wednesday's school board meeting. Recently, this guideline has been relaxed to provide flexibility for students as long as they keep a minimum of 3' distance from each other. **More details to come.**

Many families **drop off or pick up their child** for the first day of school. Please be patient as you enter the parking lot. We expect a lot of foot traffic in the parking lot and near the sidewalk. Keep in mind that we cannot allow visitors in the school at this time. Please bring them to the gym door, and a staff member will meet you to assist your child to their classroom. Preschool students will assemble in the gym with Mrs. Stevens. Kindergarten students will be taken to their classroom. It will be helpful for your kindergartener to know their teacher's name.

Car riders will be dropped off in the south parking lot. If you plan to walk your child to the door, please park in the parking lot and escort them to the door. If your child is comfortable with walking in on their own you may drop the off along the sidewalk. All vehicles dropping off along the sidewalk must continue west toward the dumpster and circle back around the parked vehicles in the lot. Do not cut a sharp left turn to enter the walking area that families will use to approach the building. All car riders will enter the 3rd set of double doors (southwest corner) of the gym.

K-4 students will exit their bus or car and **proceed to their classroom.** We will not assemble in the gym as we have in the past. Teachers will monitor their classrooms when students enter the building. Breakfast will be available.

We are finalizing our **bus rider policy** in regards to masks, and the school board will consider this policy on Wednesday, August 5th. Currently our policy is that students are encouraged to wear a mask. **Please be aware that a policy will likely state that students who ride the bus must wear a mask at all times.** It is vital that your child is ready for this possible change in policy for the first day of school. Refusal to wear a mask may result in removal from

the bus for the semester if they reach the end of the three-strike policy. Students will have **assigned seats**. Bus drivers have been instructed to group students by family as much as possible. Students will be grouped by class or grade to lessen the interaction with students they would not normally be in contact with during the school day. A final policy will be pushed out to families soon.

Students will have **assigned seats at lunch and breakfast**. Teachers will place students in groups that corresponds with grouping in their classroom and during small group instruction. Tables will be marked for each child to find their spot to keep the minimum distance from each other. We will have an overflow area for our larger grade levels. Masks are not required during lunch.

Water fountains have been shut off at our schools. Please send a water bottle that is spill proof and seals to school for your child. Students can fill their bottle at the bottle fill stations. Please wash their bottle every day. Please be aware that we experience many issues with water bottles during a regular year. Many books are ruined because of leaky bottles. Please test them at home before sending them to school. We will have small bottles of water for students who do not have a bottle from home.

Be on the lookout for videos posted to our Newsletter page on the [Pine Ridge website](#). Since we are not able to have visitors in our school, I hope they are helpful for our families to learn procedures and stay connected with our school.

Teachers have and will continue to send out information about their class and school news. Please read all newsletters that come home.

Please be aware that many of our policies and procedures will change as we move forward. I appreciate your patience and flexibility.

From the Ferdinand American Legion:

The Ferdinand American Legion will be hosting a **Back-to-School Clothing Swap** on Sunday, August 9, 2020 from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Families will be able to pick up donated clothing items for their children free of charge. If your children need clothing for this school year, this may be of help. All families are welcome to stop by!

If you have clothing to donate to the swap, you can bring your gently used clothing, backpacks, and shoes to the Ferdinand American Legion 425 Main St in Ferdinand on Wednesday, August 5th through Saturday Aug 8th after 3pm. Please, no clothing with holes or stains. Also, if you have extra hangers to donate, those will be welcome. Monetary donations will also be accepted to purchase back to school items for students. If you have questions, please contact the Ferdinand American Legion at 812-367-1241.