## **Cheyenne-Eagle Butte Braves**

Mission Statement: To prepare students with the academic, spiritual, physical, cultural, and social skills needed to be productive world citizens and lifelong learners in a technological world.

Vision Statement: Keeping our Wakanyaja (children) sacred through positive thinking and positive actions.



## **February 24, 2021**

Dear Parent/Guardian,

The health and safety of the children, staff, and members of our community is the number one priority for Cheyenne-Eagle Butte Schools (C-EB). Since last spring, we have all been experiencing a new way of life with the COVID-19 (Coronavirus). We have been quarantined to our homes, had to wear masks outside, physically distance ourselves from loved ones and friends, and some of us have not been able to work or go to school. Through all of this our community has remained Ohitika strong!

In alignment with the CRST COVID-19 Response Plan, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Bureau of Indian Education "Return to Learn! Plan", and the South Dakota "Starting Well" guidance we are poised for reopening C-EB Schools in a hybrid model for delivering instruction.

Within the hybrid model, parents/guardians have the choice to send their students to school in the following modes: in-person learning or to keep them home to continue with virtual learning. A parent/guardian's choice is prioritized and will be respected for the well-being of their families and our community.

We are pleased to announce C-EB students who have selected in-person learning will return on Monday March 8th. Virtual learning will not be disrupted during the week of March 1st and will continue. On March 8th, virtual learning will continue for those who have selected it and will remain an option for all families for the remainder of the school year. The spring season for sports will be announced on or around March 12th. Families have been contacted to learn their chosen method for receiving instruction. Please call your school's office if you did not receive a call due to a changed number or voicemail issues.

In order to maintain social distancing and student grouping protocols for safety, parents/guardians will have through March 12th to select the in-person learning option. After March 12th, one may revert to virtual at any time and others may be allowed to add in-person ONLY as space allows. Should the CRST COVID-19 Levels shift to a 4 or 5 at any time for the remainder of the year, C-EB Schools will also shift back to all virtual learning and will reopen as the levels change, accordingly.

We want you to be prepared for some of the changes that you and your child will experience when/if you choose to return. It is important that we continue to take precautions to prevent illness, as symptoms may not be the same for every person. Families are our partners in preventing the spread of COVID-19. Before sending your child to school you will need to check for symptoms and keep them home if they are showing them.

We are committed to protecting the health of our children, staff, and families by implementing preventative measures daily. We intend to take all reasonable precautions within school buildings to make sure COVID-19 does not continue to spread, such as but not limited to: bus, school entry, and classroom protocols; mask wearing, hand sanitizer, glove use, signage, sanitation of tables & handles, social distancing, plexiglass on teacher/student desks & testing tables, and more.

C-EB Schools will provide you with a schedule for each of your learners. Further health and safety information will be provided as well. Please watch your mail, student emails, school websites, phone messages, and the C-EB Facebook page.

C-EB Schools will continue to follow these guidelines diligently to slow the spread of COVID-19. All health & safety guidance sources will continue to be monitored closely for any additional guidelines and precautions. We will continue to update you as we receive new information to ensure clear communication and expectations and look forward to your partnership in maintaining these healthy practices.

A parent/guardian letter and supporting information such as infographics, school messenger, health & safety videos, etc. will be released through various means of communication. The C-EB Reopening Plan is available on school websites for your review and the CRST COVID-19 guidance is provided below as a reference.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact your school's office. We thank you for your partnership and continued support during this time.

Warm Regards,

Jennifer Bowman, BIE Principal Jennifer.Bowman@ohitika.com

Kara Four Bear, District 20-1 Superintendent Kara.FourBear@k12.sd.us

## **Cheyenne-Eagle Butte Schools**

Administration 605.964.8777 High School 605.964.8744 Junior High 605.964.7841 Upper Elementary 605.964.2702 Elementary 605.964.2702 Primary 605.964.7920 E.A.G.L.E. Center 605.964.8773

## **CRST COVID-19 RESPONSE PLAN**

| Education/                | Level 1  | Level 2 | Level 3  | Level 4   | Level 5 |
|---------------------------|--|---------|--|---|---------|
| Childcare                 |  |         |  |   |         |
| Systems                   |  |         |  |   |         |
| Daycares                  | Open with heightened hygiene and cleaning standards. Monitor children and employees for symptoms.  |         | May be open with enhanced cleaning & distancing protocols. | May be open with limitations per CRST Daycare Guidance to essential workers ONLY. |         |
| Head Start                | May be open with precautions determined by the Governing Body  |         |  | Distance learning. Distribution of  |         |
| Tribal College            | or Administration. School administration must cooperate with   |         |  | food and educational materials  |         |
| Secondary<br>Schools K-12 | CRST Tribal Health on contact tracing, and Tribal is permitted with precautions. recommendations for temporary closure when positive cases are identified. |         |  |   |         |