



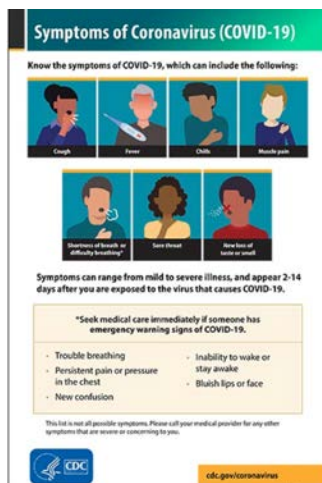
## Safety Matters

KW/Vina Elementary staff picked up garbage around the campus to demonstrate support for Earth Day on April 22nd.



(Rebecca Rappold: Assistant Principal)

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of



Staff, students, and families have been amazing at following our safety protocols for on-campus blended learning. Covid symptoms are self-monitored by staff each morning, student symptoms are monitored by our Meet & Greet staff drop-off, and parents/guardians are monitoring their symptoms as they enter the building for pick-up at the end of the day.

Families have been amazing to work with and have communicated well with the school when their child may have symptoms and needs to stay home. Staff have also communicated well with building administrators when they have Covid symptoms. Custodians are working diligently to clean and sanitize classrooms, hallways, and surfaces throughout the school each day.



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Classroom teachers and paraprofessionals assist in keeping areas and surfaces clean to ensure quick sanitization by the building custodians.

### *Positives:*

We are genuinely happy to have been able to maintain the health and safety of our staff and students since our transition to on-campus learning in March . We hope the diligent efforts of following our safety protocols through the month of May will ensure a successful year-end on our campus and for BPS.

### *Challenges:*

It has been a challenge since our Scenario 2 transition to find substitute teachers to cover for staff absences. Building administrators and secretaries work diligently during the week and each morning to plan for and find class coverage for both remote and on-campus classes when needed.

## Attendance Matters

(Rebecca Rappold: Assistant Principal)

Transitioning to the KWV Scenario 2 plan was successful and our days and weeks are flying by! Students walk in the front door, grab breakfast, go right to the classroom and the rest of the day just ZOOMS by. We have had many students transfer into the blended learning model since our 4th quarter start day and a few students transition back to remote learning. Adjustments to classroom rosters are made weekly with just a few openings still available for students in Cohort 1 and 2.

We feel fortunate to have had the ability to be flexible and meet the needs of families who have chosen remote or blended learning this quarter.

During the month of May, KW/V's School Leadership Team plans and prepares for the next school year. At this time, we are holding planning meetings for summer PD, coordinating a Child Find Event with Special Services for August, as well as establishing the 21-22 school calendar and master schedules for each grade-level. It is always our goal to increase student attendance and engagement by identifying and meeting the needs of our young children PreK-1st

## Graduation Matters

CONGRATULATIONS, to all those who have graduated from UM-Western! KW/Vina Elementary is blessed to have 5 of our extraordinary beautiful teachers amongst the group.





(Allison Windy Boy, Ashley BullCalf, Nathalie Lopez, Kelsey Hall, & Susie Small)



(Nicole Whitney :First Grade Instructional Coach)

Our first month back in school was wonderful. The students and teachers were all so happy to be back and build those in-person relationships that we have all been



missing so much. Teachers got right to work making learning fun and engaging and planning collaboratively to give the students the best education they can give their students in the blended model.

As a team, we have been focusing on math instruction with Eureka math, and making sure our reading instruction meets the needs of the students after not being in in-person school for a year. Teachers were able to complete one full cycle of a PDSA and progress monitor so they can get even more focused in the last month of instruction before break. We plan on gathering as much diagnostic data as we can in the short time we have these students to pass along to BES so they can design their instruction for next year accordingly.

The teachers are dedicated to making these two months back in person good months for our little ones, and it's working. As one student was getting ready to go outside for her morning recess she exclaimed to me, "Recess is the best time of my LIFE!" It filled my heart with joy to know that our students are once again able to experience the little things that make life and school fun- like recess with their friends. One more month! Here we go!

### Culture Matters

To also commemorate Earth Day the ladies of KW/Vina Elementary wore a skirt to work showing our support for All Women On Earth. "When you put your skirt on, you're showing Mother Earth who you are." ~Myra Laramie (Fisher River Cree Nation)

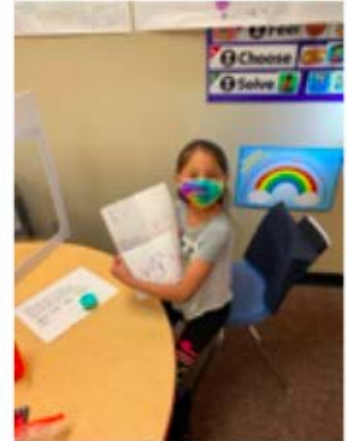






(Jocelyn Big Throat: PreK/ Kindergarten BNAS)

This month when we were back in the classroom the students learned some Blackfoot phrases like: stand up, sit down, line up at the door, jump, run, sleeping, dancing, and we are also relearning our colors, numbers and animals in Blackfeet. They also practiced Blackfeet words from the book, *Coyote and the Stars*: Earth, Sky, Moon, Sun, Star, and Coyote. Being back in the classroom and interacting with the students has been fun.





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(Ruth Shea: Pre-Kindergarten Leader)

It seems like we blinked and April is over. We have been so busy with our little ones establishing in person routines and relationships. This month we completed our unit on Earth and Sky. We learned about our planet Earth, weather, seasons and how to take care of our planet.

We will begin our last unit on May 3rd. We have been working very hard on strengthening the basic skills needed to be successful in Kindergarten, putting a strong emphasis on the phonemic awareness skills of blending, rhyming and letter sounds, along with letter recognition. In Math we are working on counting 10 objects, recognizing numbers from 0-9, naming shapes and rote counting to 20. Our on campus students are very happy to be in school.

They are enjoying being with their friends while following proper covid guidelines. Mrs. Crawford continues to teach our remote students and is focusing on the same skills for Literacy and Math. Her students continue to engage through Seesaw and Google Meets. Mrs. Taylor has worked very hard to increase and reward their engagement. We are looking forward to May!





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**(Kelley Sharp: Kindergarten Leader)**

In April, Kindergarten was adjusting to our new routines. For a couple of weeks after Easter students were adjusting to coming into campus on their scheduled days. Teachers have now got their schedules down and things are moving along smoothly. Class sizes are small so it makes it really nice to focus.

We will begin our last Aimsweb testing for this year soon so we are in the process of preparing for that. In Wonders we will be through Unit 8 week 2 by the end of the year. In Eureka we are working in Module 1 and 5. Every Friday we have training with our coach to go over the Modules. Kindergarten will be having a few training sessions with Marcy Parks in May.

**(Betty Brock: First Grade Leader)**

Blended model is going great. Flexibility is a must and our Vina team works hard together to make sure we are providing the best and safest learning environment possible. First Grade teachers have completed Parent/Teacher conference virtually this month. On Earth Day we helped clean up our campus grounds. Many teachers also wore their ribbon skirts on that day. We are always improving things and ourselves by having PDs and assessing what our students need to be successful as we continue on this journey of the new norm.

**(Bonnie Roberts: ParaProfessional Leader)**

The para's and PCA's at the KW/Vina have quickly settled into our new schedules. With the many new requirements for COVID, we have had to make adjustments to our routines and procedures. We chose as a group to make safety a priority to focus on. With our smaller numbers, we have been able to practice social distancing on the playground as well as adding other safety measures that we intend to carry on into the next school year.

We have invested in more equipment for each classroom to promote creative play in all the stations. We are looking forward to finishing this year safely and as productive as possible.