

District Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services

PART I.

Describe how the district will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff and the extent to which it has adopted policies, and a description of any such policies, on each of the following safety recommendations established by the CDC:

(A) Universal and correct wearing of masks.

- **Masks are optional for students, staff and patrons.**

(B) Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding).

- **Additional staffing has been employed to reduce class sizes. This will address academic loss while providing smaller class sizes and, in turn, more space in the classroom.**

(C) Handwashing and respiratory etiquette.

The following guidance is recommended for students and staff:

- **Students and Staff will be encouraged to wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds regularly.**
- **Always cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or use the inside of your elbow.**
 - **Throw used tissues in the trash.**
 - **Immediately wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Hand sanitizer is available as an option for students and staff.**
 - **School staff should educate students on proper hand washing and respiratory etiquette**

(D) Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation.

- **Classroom facilities and district vehicles will be cleaned thoroughly throughout the day to provide for optimal student and staff health.**
- **SEKMCHD will comply with K.S.A. 65-202 regarding inspection of K-12 schools.**
- **District facilities have been upgraded with REME-Halo technology to improve air purification. Additional staff may be utilized for cleaning and sanitizing district facilities. HVAC mini-split units will be replaced during the 2022-2023 school year.**

(E) Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments.

- **If you have tested positive and have questions, you may call your local health department. If you would like answers on when you should return to work, school, etc. please call the COVID-19 hotline (866) 534-3463.**

(F) Diagnostic and screening testing.

- Parents screen children for illness. Any testing would be completed through the parents' choice of physician. At this time, the district does not offer any diagnostic capabilities through the school. Students and staff members are encouraged to stay home when they are ill. We ask all parents and staff to follow 24 hour fever free protocol before returning to school.

(G) Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities.

- USD 479 will support the efforts of the SEK Multi-County Health Department in providing vaccinations to interested parties. The District will not refuse, withhold from, or deny a person any services, goods, facilities, advantages, privileges, licensing, educational opportunities, health care access, or employment opportunities based on the person's COVID-19 vaccination status.

(H) Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies.

- Crest will work with the ANW Interlocal to identify students who will need extra precautions to attend school in a safe environment.

(I) Coordination with State and local health officials.

- Crest works closely with the SEK Multi-County Health Department in identifying the number of COVID cases in the county. SEK Multi-County Health Department in turn is always in direct communication with state health officials to provide the school with the most recent information pertaining to the pandemic.

(J) Part II.

Describe how the district will ensure continuity of services, including but not limited to:

(A) services to address students' academic needs

- The district has hired additional staff to lower class sizes to directly impact student learning loss. The district is offering summer school. The district is also discussing options and investigating at-risk after school academic opportunities for the 2022 school year.

(B) students' and staff social, emotional, mental health

- Crest has a partnership with Southeast Kansas Mental Health to provide mental health services to students and staff within Crest facilities. This is available to all students and staff at Crest. This service is available on site to students and staff during the summer months as well. This is provided in addition to a school counselor employed by the district.

(C) other needs, which may include student health and food services.

- If families have extraordinary needs in regards to student health needs, we ask parents to notify the building principal for assistance.

***** All information provided in this document is subject to local school board authority as well as current local and state communal health guidelines and is subject to change.**