Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan (SRCSP)

2022-2023



North Nodaway R-VI School District

Board Originally Adopted on June 30, 2021 Reapproved by Board on January 5, 2022 Reapproved by Board on June 15, 2022 Reapproved by Board on September 21, 2022

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Introduction:

North Nodaway School District will be open to educate and provide a safe environment for students and staff members in the upcoming 2022-23 school year. This plan is a requirement of accepting and utilizing ESSER III funding provided by the federal government through the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. The experience that was gained from COVID in the past three years will help guide us and our decisions for the school year of 2022-23. This plan will focus on how our district intends to educate students and continue to provide services depending on the health risks and assessments that are taking place within our area and in the state of Missouri now and in the future concerning COVID. The purpose of this plan is to keep our school open in a way that is safe and responsive to the needs of our families and the community.

The path to reopening North Nodaway was based on the direction of public health and the current guidance of social distance measures being mandated or applied locally in Northwest Missouri, and more specifically, Pickering and Hopkins. These strategies were created in conjunction with the most current Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance. (CDC Guidelines for K-12 Schools and Early Care and Education Programs) The previous three years have showed that our district could put safety measures in place and keep students at school for most of the year.

The North Nodaway administration have devised this plan, from stakeholder input, to best understand the COVID pandemic and what was needed to contain and mitigate any concerns. A Safe Return to Schools Committee will meet every six months to discuss any needed updates/revisions to the plan. As this plan is a working document, all committee members understand that this plan may need to be modified more frequently depending on outside factors. Our meetings are scheduled for December 14, 2022 and May 17, 2023.

SRCSP Committee Members:

Chris Turpin- Superintendent/Transportation Director Roger Johnson- High School Principal Ashley Marriott- Elementary Principal Tiffany Whipple- Executive Assistant/Parent Prent Eaton- School Counselor Linda Russell- School Nurse Nicki Herndon- Technology Coordinator Cody Jenkins- Teacher Bo Hansen- Maintenance/Custodial Supervisor/ Parent Samantha Brown-Board Member/Parent Vicki Riley- Board Member Tim Blackford- Board Member/Parent Krista Barcus- Board Member/ Parent Kane Oberhauser- Board Member Jennifer Clements- Board Member/Parent Cari Cline- Board Member/Parent

Symptoms:

If students develop two or more of the symptoms below, they should consult their health care provider. The health and safety of our students is of vital importance to their education. Please do your best to prevent illness by practicing the universal precautions and staying home when ill.

- 1) Sore Throat
- 2) Fever
- 3) Body Aches
- 4) Headaches
- 5) Cough
- 6) Nausea
- 7) Vomiting
- 8) Diarrhea
- 9) Loss of Taste and Smell

Universal Precautions:

A. WEARING OF MASKS

a. Masks will **<u>NOT</u>** be a mandatory requirement for students or staff members in the school building, on district transportation, or at school events.

- i. Should a child become sick at school and show signs of COVID symptoms, the child will be isolated in a transition room until a family member can pick the child up.
- ii. Students are allowed to wear a mask if they choose to do so. If worn, the mask should be worn properly and training will be provided to ensure proper mask wearing. Students are responsible for their own mask. If needed, the school will provide a disposable mask to be worn. Masks are available should students need or want to wear them while supplies last.

B. PHYSICAL DISTANCING

- i. Classrooms will be set up for social distancing when necessary.
- ii. Students will be taught the importance of covering coughs and sneezes, hand hygiene, and not coming to school sick or with a fever.
- iii. Bus routes will run normal routes and seating charts will be used.
- iv. Our cafeteria will use normal operating procedures.
- v. The district will work to keep students three feet apart when necessary.

C. PROPER HYGIENE

- a. Hand Washing
 - i. Students will be encouraged to wash their hands regularly and properly.
 - ii. North Nodaway personnel will teach students the appropriate way to safely wash their hands.
 - iii. Signage will reinforce proper hand washing procedures.
- b. Hand Sanitizer
 - i. The school will make hand sanitizer available in all classrooms and throughout the building for student use.
- c. Respiratory Etiquette
 - i. The school will teach students proper respiratory etiquette. Students will be taught and reminded how to cover coughs and sneezes to reduce the spread of germs.

D. CLEANING AND DISINFECTING

- a. Cleaning Buildings/ Buses
 - i. High touch surface areas will be cleaned daily multiple times.

- ii. Students will be reminded to wash their hands regularly after returning from areas where they may have touched high volume surfaces.
- iii. Buses will be disinfected on a regular basis.
- iv. Students are encouraged to bring a water bottle to utilize bottle filling stations. Water fountains are available for public use.

E. DIAGNOSTIC AND SCREENING TESTING

- a. Families will be asked to continue to monitor student health symptoms at home, and are asked to not send kids to school if COVID symptoms are present.
 - i. The North Nodaway R-VI School District will not administer any test for COVID at this time.
 - ii. The school administration will remind students and staff that testing is available through the Nodaway County Health Department.

F. CONTACT TRACING

- a. Students identified as contacts by the Nodaway County Health Department will be allowed to attend school as long as they have no COVID symptoms. If a student is a household contact they can attend school as long as they are symptom free. Students who are vaccinated or have immunity from infection will be allowed to attend school if identified as contacts or are a household contact as long as they are symptom free. Information provided will be distributed as it becomes available to students and parents so everyone is aware of updated and current guidelines.
 - i. School contact tracing will not take place.

G. EFFORTS TO PROVIDE VACCINATIONS

- a. Currently the Nodaway County Health Department has provided multiple vaccination events for those wishing to get vaccinated. As vaccination information is updated, information will be distributed to district patrons.
 - i. There are no plans to require individuals to take the vaccination.

H. APPROPRIATE ACCOMMODATIONS FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

a. Appropriate accommodations for students will be made available on a case by case basis as determined by the IEP team.

I. TEMPERATURE CHECKS

- a. Temperature Checks-The district will NOT conduct daily temperature checks of students. In the event a student appears to have an elevated temperature the student's temperature will be checked.
- b. Parents are also asked not to give their children doses of medication designed to force the body to drive down a temperature for the purpose of sending their child to the school.
- c. Students who have a temperature at school over 100.0 or become ill at school will be isolated until a parent/guardian can pick them up from school. Students sent home with a fever are eligible to return to school when they have been fever free for 24 hours.

PROCEDURES FOR SICK STUDENTS:

Sick Students

- A. Contact the parent and determine if the child has been in an area where they may have been exposed to COVID.
- B. Students with a temperature of 100.0 or higher will be sent home.
- C. A child would not be allowed to return to school until they are fever free for 24 hours, and any other illness related symptoms are showing signs of improving.
- D. Any student testing positive for COVID will need to stay home for a total of 5 days from onset of symptoms or positive test.
- E. The student may return on day 6 if they have been fever free for 24 hours and symptom free.
- F. Proof of positive test may or may not be required by administration for attendance purposes.

PROCEDURES FOR SICK STAFF MEMBERS: Sick Staff

- A. North Nodaway School District has deemed that all staff are essential. As a district, we will continue to follow the CDC, and DESE guidelines put forth regarding COVID.
- B. Any staff member who tests positive for COVID will have to quarantine for five days at home and refrain from being in the building. After the five days of isolation, if the staff member is symptom free, they may return to work.
- C. At any point when a staff member thinks they have symptoms of COVID, they should refrain from working and or being in the building.
- D. There is no COVID relief pay for staff members. Meaning the district will not pay for any time off due to COVID. Staff members must use their own accrued time.
- E. While it is understood that having the COVID vaccine is a means of preventing transmission of the disease, it is the choice of the individual staff member to be vaccinated or not.

ACADEMICS:

Delivery Strategy

- A. Our initial plan is to open school as closely to normal as possible based on no or minimal community spread of COVID. All students will be allowed to attend as "normal".
- B. In the event that the school needs to close for an extended period of time, the school will transition into Distance Learning for students. All students will have work assigned through Google Classroom, or other online learning platforms and utilize their Chrome books or iPads to complete assignments.
- C. District devices will be provided for students. If internet connection is a problem for students, hotspots or data connected devices will be provided to meet student needs.
- D. In some instances, students will be delivered packets of needed materials such as library books, worksheets or assignment to complete
- E. Teachers will check-in with students daily through Zoom, Google Meets, Social Media platforms, text messages, phone calls or other means to provide daily feedback to guide learning.
- F. Students are expected to complete assignments and required work during their period of absence. Work will need to be turned back in to the teacher either electronically or by paper copies to be evaluated for the learning progress.
- G. Attendance will be determined by the completion of assigned lessons and activities. COVID positive students who complete within two days of the original assigned date, will be counted present for school attendance.

SOCIAL, EMOTIONAL HEALTH NEEDS OF STUDENTS AND STAFF:

Social/Emotional Health

The disruption to the lives of staff and students during the COVID pandemic has made education more challenging. Since we have provided in-building learning during the past school year, and will continue to during the 2022-23 school year, students and staff are aware of opportunities to visit with counselors or other staff members to offer support and encouragement. Counseling sessions are always available for students in a one-on-one setting, both in our building, and also virtually if necessary.

We will continue to utilize procedures and protocols to determine if there are students, staff, and/or families who are experiencing difficult situations. While it is impossible to determine the need for the upcoming school year, we will continue to support all students and staff through a wide variety of situations. The national distress hotline will be a piece of communication that we share with all families at the beginning of this year. That number is 1-800-985-5990, or text TalkWithUs to 66746.

The SRCSP Plan will be reviewed as necessary. This plan may be changed with short notice due to the nature of the pandemic. While COVID conditions continue to improve across the country, the pandemic has not yet been eradicated.

If the reader or someone you know needs this document translated or read to them please contact Chris Turpin, Superintendent.