

## **USD #432 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.**

As of April 12, 2021, the Board of Education removed the mandatory requirement of wearing masks in school facilities. It is at the discretion of staff and parents as to whether masks will be worn. Correct mask wearing has been taught in all classrooms and will continue to be addressed as the 2021 school year begins.

A note about masks being required in school vehicles was shared with parents via the school website.

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

When we return to school for the 2021-2022 school year USD 432 will provide proper social distancing when directed by the CDC, KDHE, and ECHD.

#### **(C) Handwashing and respiratory etiquette.**

USD 432 staff and students will continue to be expected to wash their hands frequently throughout the school day and signage will continue to be posted throughout VES and VJSHS. We recommend and teach handwashing for at least 20 seconds with soap and water. Hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol will also be available throughout our classrooms and buildings.

Teachers and custodians have been asked to disinfect tables/desks between classes. Doorknobs, light switches, and water fountains are being given frequent attention.

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

We will continue our daily cleaning regimen for all our Victoria USD 432 buildings, buses, and suburbans. We will continue to monitor ventilation efficiency and effectiveness for opportunities to continually improve, update, or improve the air quality.

Locker rooms and buses are “fumigated” after games.

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

Administration and the school nurse continue to attend meetings with the Ellis County Covid Advisory team. We will continue to follow the Ellis County Health Department's guidance on isolation and quarantine. Our nurse will also continue to work in conjunction with the recommendations for contact tracing put forth by the CDC, KDHE, and the ECHD.

The Board of Education had open discussion at the last scheduled regular meeting on September 13, 2021. New local mitigation strategies including tiered numbers of cases with options available for students to stay in school or quarantine.

**(F) Diagnostic and screening testing.**

Students, staff and community members can access COVID-19 diagnostic or screening tests through a variety of community partners. The school nurse will continue to monitor for symptoms and trends and request that students and staff seek medical services as appropriate. A KDHE representative attended via ZOOM and answered questions on the Test to Know strategy that USD 432 has applied for funding. This has been posted on our school website. Letters for permission to test will be shared as needed.

**(G) Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities.**

We surveyed the school staff and the community about receiving the vaccine. Based on that data, several vaccination clinics were offered through a joint effort of the local health officials. We will continue this effort throughout the 2021-2022 school year.

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

We will continue to follow accommodations that are written in IEPs for students with disabilities. We have a nurse available for students with known health issues to provide the services necessary to keep the students healthy and safe at school.

**(I) Coordination with State and local health officials.**

Applicable district personnel currently participate, and will continue to participate, with our local county health department on a frequent basis to determine next steps as needed.

**Part II.**

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

**(A) Services to address students' academic needs**

Our district plans to continue full-time, in-person instruction beginning the fall of 2021. Efforts will continue into the fall as students are assessed to determine levels of proficiency that align with district MTSS practices.

Additional resources for diagnostic testing are being provided. A part time interventionist was employed for the district.

**(B) Students' and staff social, emotional, mental health**

We have school families two times a month at the elementary school. Topics focus on relationships and social emotional needs. The half time school counselor helps with the activities that are done during family time. This year the new administration will be researching and adopting a Pre-K - 12 researched based social emotional resource. The junior/senior high school has a social emotional and a career-based program called Guided Personal studies (GPS) during seminar time. The students are grouped in classes that have similar career paths. The students can support each other and discuss their career options.

The district has adopted a schoolwide social emotional curriculum that is used daily in conjunction with the counselor and during GPS time.

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

At this time, the district is not offering a summer lunch program. However, the community at large has a program that is providing meals to students during the summer.

School meals continue to be offered free to all students.