USD #374 – Sublette Schools PLAN FOR SAFE RETURN, IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION AND CONTINUITY OF SERVICES 2021-2022

Because the cases of COVID-19, and its variants, are continually changing, this plan may change to meet new challenges.

Part I: Health and Safety of Students and Staff

- (A) Masks will not be required, but will remain optional for those who would prefer to wear them. For those who choose this option, per CDC guidelines, masks are to be worn correctly and should completely cover both the nose and mouth.
- (B) Masks will be optional for patrons attending, and any student participating in, any event hosted at any USD 374 schools.
- (C) Schools will continue to allow for physical distancing for large groups (lunch, classrooms, etc) as needed and recommended by state and local county health officials.
- (D) Schools will continue to recommend and encourage consistent handwashing and/or sanitizing practices.
- (E) Schools will maintain a regular cleaning schedule and plan that will include the cleaning and sanitizing/disinfection of surfaces and facilities. Staff will continue to be able to sanitize student desks/tables, as needed. Electrostatic disinfecting will continue to be utilized in all buildings.
- (F) Schools will continue to work with the school nurse and Haskell county health officials, to handle any contract tracing, isolation and possible quarantine issues. Decisions will be made in conjunction with current state and local recommendations.
- (G) Schools will continue to work with local county health officials regarding vaccination of school staff. The school cannot, and will not, force staff to be vaccinated but, if requested, will provide information from and state and local county health officials regarding vaccination.
- (H) Schools will continue and maintain appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities, based upon the student's specific health concerns and needs.
- (I) USD 374 will continue to monitor county and local illness/infection numbers, as they are provided by county health officials, as well as communicate with state and county health officials, regarding staff and student health and safety. Schools will make decisions based upon recommendations from local county health officials.
- (J) USD 374 students ARE REQUIRED, through federal mandate, to wear masks during any transportation in district school busses.

Part II: Continuity of Services

(A) In the event that a student cannot attend classes in-person, due to infection or illness, teachers will provide school work via Google classroom, ZOOM, or paper hard copies.

Teachers will be in consistent contact with students through video conferencing, phone calls or e-mails, if they cannot attend in-person. Teachers will make themselves available to assist students, and answer questions, by giving the student and parent(s) contact information, as well as specified times they are available.

- (B) USD 374 employs a full time school counselor, one district guidance counselor, and has access to a school psychologist through the local special education cooperative. The district also maintains a working relationship with the local ministerial alliance and Southwest Guidance Center of Liberal, if more or specific counseling is needed. These individuals would be available to assist students, teachers and families, if needed. The district will also use the Fastbridge program, in an effort to help screen and monitor the social-emotional health of students, as well as provide resources and healthy practices. Lastly, all schools will utilize the Character Strong program to reinforce proper mental health and social-emotional behavior.
- (C) The district employs a full time nurse who is available daily to assist students with health needs or concerns. Should a student not be able to attend in-person, the school will provide meals which will be picked up at a designated location.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this plan to return, please contact our superintendent using the information provided below.

Rex Bruce, Superintendent 620.675.2277 rexb@usd374.org