Blue Valley USD 384 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, the extent to which it has adopted policies, and a description of any such procedures on each of the following safety recommendations established by the CDC.

(A) Universal and correct wearing of masks

Blue Valley USD 384 Public Schools rescinded the mask mandate at the April 12, 2021 BOE Meeting. Masks are encouraged to be worn in school buildings by staff and students but not required for the 2021-2022 school year. We will continue to monitor and review the health and safety recommendations of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), and Riley County Health Department.

(B) Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing

The Superintendent in conjunction with the District administration directs school staff to provide as much distancing as possible given class enrollments and available physical space. When classes can accommodate 6 ft. of distancing, the district's expectation is to observe 6 ft. of distancing. Schools should continue to use large, open spaces and outdoor environments when feasible.

(C) Handwashing and respiratory etiquette

Students and staff should be encouraged to cover their coughs and sneezes with a tissue. Used tissues should be thrown in the trash. Hand sanitizer stations will be maintained at every exterior door where students and staff regularly enter and exit. Sanitizer stations will also be set up in classrooms and at lunch lines for additional opportunities to sanitize. Students and staff need to wash their hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, hand sanitizer that contains at least 70% alcohol should be used.

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

Custodial teams will follow established cleaning procedures as outlined by the district in maintaining healthy and clean environments and prioritize high-touch areas. Building administrators will communicate to non-custodial staff their responsibilities for cleaning and disinfecting.

Desks will be cleaned at least daily at all schools and more often if gating criteria shows a need for it. High touch surfaces such as door knobs, water fountains, and handrails will be wiped down throughout the day by custodial staff.

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

Blue Valley USD 384 Public Schools will follow all quarantine and isolation directives from our county health officer. In the event of a positive case of COVID 19, our nursing staff will conduct internal contact tracing and we will remove unvaccinated close contacts from school for 10 days or as otherwise directed by the county health officer.

(F) Diagnostic and screening testing.

Blue Valley USD 384 will work with RCHD to provide and distribute rapid COVID 19 tests. A test can be requested by parents and will be offered to parents if a student feels ill or is presenting symptoms. We encourage staff, students, and school families to take advantage of COVID testing options available through public outreach stations provided by the RCHD.

(G) Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities.

Blue Valley USD 384 will continue to make our students and staff aware of opportunities to be vaccinated in our community and encourage all community members ages 12 and older to take advantage of vaccination opportunities available at the RCHD.

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

Blue Valley USD 384 will work with our special education staff to ensure that our special education students have full access to appropriate educational supports even if we are forced to alter our delivery model.

(I) Coordination with state and local health officials.

The Blue Valley USD 384 Superintendent will continue to monitor information available from KSDE and KDHE to ensure that the district is ready for statewide changes to policies or recommendations. The superintendent will also communicate with the county health officer on a regular basis to monitor the current situation in the county and district.

PART II.

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

(A) services to address students' academic needs

Blue Valley USD 384 will use ESSER funds to improve our ability to deliver remote instruction. In the event of a widespread breakout, we will return to the least restrictive format possible, using the remote plans developed for the 2020-21 school year.

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

Blue Valley USD 384 will use ESSER funds to contract with licensed professionals as needed to assist with students and staff who need additional social, emotional, and mental health support.

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

Blue Valley USD 384 provided student meals (breakfast, lunch) free of charge by USDA. The district provided a school nurse to cover all the buildings as needed.

American Rescue Plan Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services. Updated August 2021.