



St. Anne Grade School #256
Safe Return Plan
2021-2022

Revised: August 31, 2021

St. Anne Community Consolidated School District #256 strives to provide a safe and secure learning environment for all students at all times. In order to safely return to full-time in-person learning for the 2021-2022 school year the following four areas will be of focus:

1. Health & Safety
2. Caring and Supportive Environment
3. Academic Engagement
4. Transparent Communication

SAGS District #256 will focus on the four areas above throughout the school year. In order to achieve success in these areas, several core goals have been established:

- ★ SAGS #256 agrees and supports the emphasis placed on in-person learning for the full day by the Illinois State Board of Education and the State Superintendent.
- ★ SAGS #256 has developed an aligned safe return plan to CDC, IDPH, and ISBE guidelines.
- ★ The physical and mental health of our students and staff is a priority.
- ★ Intervention and academic support for students who are not yet performing at expected levels is a priority.
- ★ This plan will be reviewed not less than every six months with special consideration to the latest guidance from IDPH, CDC, ISBE, and our community stakeholders.

Steps Already Taken:

- ★ SAGS District #256 Board of Education Resolution affirming the CDC and IDPH recommendation of local board control in our ongoing pandemic response.
- ★ Extra and enhanced cleaning protocols have been in place and will continue.
- ★ SAGS #256 continues to offer and utilize the Binax Now rapid test for students and staff.
- ★ Utilized ESSER II Funding to purchase new cafeteria tables in order to return to a more traditional dining experience while maintaining social distancing.
- ★ Curriculum and supplementary materials have been purchased and implemented to enhance student learning outcomes.
- ★ Additional Social and Emotional support has been provided and continues to be provided.
- ★ 1:1 Devices are available for use by all students.
- ★ Additional Wireless Hotspots have been made available for student use throughout the district based on need when requested.

Focus Area #1: Health & Safety

Masking:

- ★ Upon analysis of local health metrics regarding community spread, the presence of new strains of COVID-19, family input, and our ability to maintain 3-6 feet of social distancing in most instances, a mask will be recommended but not required for all students and staff. **Updated on 8/31/2021: Per Governor's Executive Order, all persons in St. Anne Grade School will be required to wear face masks.**
- ★ IDPH and CDC recommend masking for all individuals regardless of vaccination status. SAGS #256 will have masks available to individuals who wish to wear one. **Updated on 8/31/2021: Per Governor's Executive Order, all persons in St. Anne Grade School will be required to wear face masks.**
- ★ According to CDC guidance, masks are not required outside.
- ★ Appropriate signage will be displayed upon entry to the facility regarding masking and the recommended protocols.
- ★ Masks are required on all buses by staff and students in accordance with CDC and IDPH guidelines.
- ★ The mask policy is subject to change upon analysis of local transmission and health metrics.
- ★ Additional Safety Protocols:
 - SAGS #256 adheres to CDC & IDPH Guidelines
 - Social Distancing of 3 feet to 6 feet will be adhered to, to the greatest extent possible.
 - Students requesting additional distance within the classroom or communal spaces will be accommodated to the greatest extent possible.
 - Handwashing for at least 20 seconds and hand sanitization is recommended as a best practice by the CDC and strongly encouraged among all staff and students.
 - Hand sanitizer will be available throughout the building.
 - Students and staff members who have symptoms of any infectious disease should stay home.
 - Individuals waiting for test results should stay home
 - Binax Rapid testing will continue to be made available for student and staff use.
 - Contact tracing in combination with quarantine/isolation should be adhered to.

- SAGS #256 will monitor the transmission rate, vaccination coverage, and outbreaks to guide decision-making.
- The use of shared materials will be limited. Shared materials will routinely be cleaned and disinfected.
- Seating charts will be maintained with and shared with building administrators to assist with contact tracing.
- Enhanced cleaning and sanitizing protocols implemented in the 2020-2021 school year will be continued.
- SAGS #256 recommends all age-appropriate individuals discuss vaccination with their healthcare providers.
- SAGS #256 will layer additional protective strategies as necessary and appropriate.
- Remote learning will be available for limited reasons in accordance with ISBE guidelines and pursuant to ILCS 5/10-30 and 105 ILCS 5/34-18.66.

Focus Area #2: Caring and Supportive Environment

- ★ Family and student mental health services will continue to be made available in conjunction with the Helen Wheeler Center and St. Anne Community High School.
- ★ SAGS #256 will continue to work closely with local mental health and community resources to bring awareness to programs and assistance available.
- ★ All students will engage with the Social and Emotional Curriculum and lessons throughout the school year.
- ★ Tier 2 and 3 students will receive more intensive, individualized support.
- ★ SAGS #256 has 1 Licensed School Social Worker, 1 School Psychologist, and 1 School Psychologist Intern to assist with students.

Focus Area #3: Academic Engagement

- ★ SAGS #256 continues to provide Tier 2 and 3 support to students who are identified as not meeting the expected academic level for the age/grade level.
- ★ One Reading Interventionist and support personnel serve students in pull-out, intensive support.
- ★ SAGS #256 has hired one Math Interventionist and support personnel to serve students in pull-out intensive support.
- ★ Teams of teachers and appropriate personnel will continue to work across all grade levels and content areas to ensure standards are met and to meet the unique academic needs of our students in this situation.

- ★ During the summer of 2021, summer school was offered for the first time. A large group of students participated seeing 87% of students growing academically in Reading and/or Math. We will continue to offer this program in the summer of 2022.
- ★ Academic Tutoring will continue to be made available during the 2021-2022 school year after school.

Focus Area 4: Transparent Communication

- ★ SAGS #256 is committed to being a partner in the community.
- ★ We will continue to post updates to this plan and future plans on our website.
- ★ Survey information has been utilized to gather input and will continue to be utilized as needed throughout the 2021-2022 school year.
- ★ Parents/guardians will be notified of pertinent information through email, text, and voice calls as appropriate.

Recovery Funding:

- ★ ESSER I - Received in 2020 - to be spent by September 2022
 - Building and Facility preparation for initial reopening to increase protection.
 - Enhanced technology for staff and students including hotspots to increase equity.
- ★ ESSER II - Received in 2021 - to be spent by September 2023
 - Continued Building and Facility preparation for continued reopening
 - Continued increased supply of cleaning supplies and personal protective equipment for staff and students
- ★ ARP ESSER III - Allocated but not yet approved in the district - to be spent by September of 2024
 - 20% funds set aside for academic outcome recovery
 - 2023-2024 Extended School Year (Summer School)
 - After School Tutoring
 - Funds dedicated to reducing the spread of COVID-19
 - Continued SEL support for all students

Conclusion:

As mentioned previously, the St. Anne Community Consolidated District #256 believes that the physical and mental health of our students is a top priority. We believe the Return Plan for 2021-2022 supports the emphasis by the Illinois State Board of Education and State Superintendent to return to in-person instruction. In addition, with following the CDC, IDPH, and ISBE guidelines the SAGS #256 District believes it can

achieve the goal of full-day in-person learning in a safe manner for the 2021-2022 school year.