



OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

SVCS Return to School 2023-2024

The 2023-2024 school year will continue to function like “normal” operations for students, staff, parents and our community with the understanding that certain precautions will remain in effect, if needed. Our 2021-2022 Re-Entry Plan served our school corporation well and proved to be a very valuable guide as we fought through the pandemic and the issues that came into play impacting teaching, learning and the health and safety of everyone. Since the pandemic forced us to alter our way of how we operated education of our students, many of the restrictions have since eased to allow for a smooth and steady return to “normalcy.”

The easing of COVID-19 related mandates from the Governor and the ISDH provided us with options that were not available during the height of the pandemic. As a result, along with the outstanding cooperation of our students, staff, parents and community, we have cautiously returned SVCS to a traditional school setting with the understanding that should circumstances warrant, safety precautions which have already been established, will be reinstated, if needed. It is important to realize that some COVID-19 concerns and issues, although limited, may still remain to some degree. Therefore, SVCS will maintain a number of practices and precautionary measures.

Original precautionary measures included:

- ◇ Posting of signage regarding the importance of frequent hand washing and other recommended hygiene practices.
- ◇ Providing hand sanitizer stations in all SVCS facilities and on SVCS school buses.
- ◇ Conducting enhanced cleaning throughout the school day.
- ◇ Conducting routine air filtration inspections and cleaning.
- ◇ Face coverings will be optional in all schools.
- ◇ Face coverings will be optional on all school buses.
- ◇ Daily cleaning/disinfecting of all school buses.
- ◇ Practicing social distancing in classrooms, when possible.
- ◇ Seating for students facing in the same direction in classrooms.
- ◇ Utilizing assigned seating in all classrooms and on school buses.
- ◇ Limiting visitors in the schools/classrooms.
- ◇ Limiting in-person fundraising events.
- ◇ Large community events will continue to be at the discretion of the superintendent’s office following guidance from the local health department based on current circumstances.

Individual school circumstances may dictate additional measures beyond this plan, and school administrators will work closely with the Superintendent's Office and the School Corporation Nurse when making any such decision.

This plan may undergo revision, if necessary, and the SVCS Board of School Trustees provides the Superintendent the flexibility to make changes as needed. The Board will be kept abreast of any changes and will have the opportunity to address the changes at the next scheduled board meeting after the changes are implemented. Mandates from local, state, and federal agencies will be followed, and recommendations from these agencies will be considered.

The original 2020-2021 Re-Entry Plan has been used as a template to prepare the final 2023-2024 Return to School Plan in the event that local, state, and/or federal COVID-19 or other communicable disease mandates are issued during the course of the school year.