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**2022-23
SCSD
PLAN**

2022-23 SCSD RETURN TO SCHOOL ENTRY PLAN

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Overall Statement

As we begin the 2022-2023 school year, COVID-19 cases continue to occur in our community. Over the past few years, information on effectively managing the disease has developed. Our goal is to minimize the impact and disruption on our vulnerable community members, community resources, and our ability to maintain effective in-person learning by keeping students and staff in school. This requires everyone's cooperation and support, and we appreciate our SCSD community's support.

2022-23 Health Protocol (COVID-19) Guidelines

Mitigation strategies (masking, social distancing, quarantining, self-check assessments, etc.) are optional for all staff and students. If an individual feels the need to wear a mask, they may do so at any time. **Self-Check Assessments** are still a great tool to use at home prior to leaving for or entering the bus/school building. Self-Check Assessments are also recommended prior to participating in all activities such as band, choir or sports activities/practice/games.

Questions for the self-check assessments are as follows:

- *Do you feel ill?
- *Do you have a fever (100.4 or higher)?
- *Do you have a cough?
- *Do you have shortness of breath or difficulty breathing?
- *Do you have chills?
- *Do you have a sore throat?
- *Do you have muscle aches/pains?
- *Do you have a new loss of smell or taste?
- *Have you or a close contact been diagnosed or presumably diagnosed with COVID-19 in the past 14 days?

Vaccinations remain the best way to minimize the impact on individuals and the community. Therefore, the medical community strongly recommends that individuals take advantage of the vaccinations available. The vaccine has been proven safe and effective, and while it cannot prevent the contraction of the virus, it can mitigate the effects. Vaccination also reduces the spread of the virus, which can ultimately affect vulnerable populations and community resources.

Health Protocol Guidelines(cont.)

The main way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to the virus. The CDC recommends, and SCSD emphasizes, everyday preventive actions for this and other respiratory illnesses, including:

- Regularly washing hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and drying hands thoroughly.
- Using a 60% or greater alcohol-based hand sanitizer, if soap and water are not available.
- Cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched objects and surfaces with household sanitizer.
- Avoiding touching eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

Stay home when sick and follow your doctor's orders. In addition to vaccinations, staff and students must stay home when experiencing virus symptoms. This, coupled with the use of available testing, helps to reduce the accidental spread in our school community. We have tests available at each school (while supplies remain available).

In school... If one or more of the following COVID-19 symptoms is present, the person will be sent to the school clinic for immediate in-person symptoms screening. The school nurse will assess the following:

*Temperature check (should be below 100.4 F)

*Subjective Fever

*Chills

*Cough

*Shortness of Breath/Difficulty Breathing

*Fatigue

*Muscle or body aches

*Headache

*New loss of taste and/or smell

*Sore Throat

*Congestion or runny nose

*Nausea and/or vomiting, Diarrhea

The school nurse will contact parents and determine the appropriate next steps. If the person is sent home, they must NOT attempt to enter the bus/school building until 24 hours after being fever-free and symptoms are improving. They will be encouraged to seek testing.

Current **CDC recommendations** for mask usage depending on the levels of community transmission can be found [here](#). While masking is optional in SCSD, using a high-quality mask is an effective way to limit the spread of the virus and other contagious diseases. The City of St. Charles School District will continue monitoring transmission within our schools and community. Our priority is to keep in-person learning uninterrupted for all students and staff.

Teaching and Learning

The City of St. Charles School District will provide in-person instruction to students, starting in August. Participation in a state-approved virtual program must be determined to be in the best educational interest of the student. This determination is made through consultation between SCSD staff, parents/guardians and students.

Special Education

The City of St. Charles School District provides an abundance of appropriate resources to those students who are served through an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or 504 Plan. Accommodations to the health and safety protocols listed in this entry plan may be approved through the IEP team process, as necessary. Decision making is done by each IEP team at the school level. More information can be found by contacting your school's principal.

School Clinics

The SCSD Registered Nurses continue to play an important role in maintaining a safe, successful learning environment. Clinics have been stocked and set up with the appropriate resources, space, and information to maintain a healthy environment throughout each school year.

PPE for School Nurses

At a minimum, school nurses should have access to:

- Gloves • Disposable gowns • N95 masks

Standard Precautions

All nursing and medical care includes the use of gloves, a face covering or regular mask, proper hand hygiene and thorough cleaning/disinfection of environmental surfaces after use.

Contact and Airborne Precautions

When caring for a person suspected of having COVID-19 or performing a high-risk procedure, nurses will use gloves, disposable gowns and N-95 masks. High risk procedures include: - airway suctioning - nebulizer administration - high flow oxygen delivery - tracheostomy suctioning - nasal suctioning with bulb syringe - metered dose inhalers.

Testing

The District will continue with its COVID-19 testing program for students and staff (while supplies remain available). Each building is capable of testing students and staff, while staff members are also able to get tested at our Bridge Health Clinic. The District also has supplies to send (at-home) tests home with families.



Transportation

School transportation is a necessary and important part of the school system for many students.

Protocols for Drivers

- Drivers have the option to wear face coverings when driving a bus with students.
- Buses will be sanitized.

Protocols for Students

- Face coverings are optional for students to wear on all buses
- Student spacing on all buses will occur as much as possible.
- Have hand sanitizer readily available.
- Educate students on proper cough etiquette.
- If possible, practice social distancing.

Food Service/ Meals

- Students will be encouraged to wash hands before and after meal service. Hand sanitizer will be provided for students, faculty and staff.
- Clean and sanitize cafeterias and high-touch surfaces before/after every use.
- Cafeteria staff have the option to wear a face mask while working

Facilities

- Ductwork “sanitized” with chlorine dioxide to inhibit bacteria and improve indoor air quality and ventilation.
- Needle point ionization units being installed this school year.
- Switched to 60% alcohol-based sanitizer or higher
- Added hand sanitizing pump stations in the entire bus fleet.
- Moved district wax to a new brand (Clarion 25) containing Microban to inhibit the growth of bacteria.
- Adding signage promoting handwashing.
- High touch points (Doorknobs, water fountains, faucets, switches, etc.) sanitized several times daily.
- Continued routine cleaning and disinfecting
- Continued use of EPA approved disinfectants.
- Placement of plexiglass barriers and distancing signage will be used to mitigate spread.
- Continued education in proper cleaning practices with industry professionals.
- Full district HVAC filter swap

Routine Cleaning

Routine cleaning takes place daily and includes frequent disinfecting of public areas and high-touch surfaces.

Deep Cleaning

Deep cleaning takes place as/when needed.

Technology

Tech support is available for all students and parents throughout the school year by completing the Technology Service Request Form. Once the form is completed a tech support team member will reach out for support.

Community & School Events

The City of St. Charles School District looks forward to again welcoming our families and community members back into our schools, in the most safest and appropriate way. Events, such as open houses, orientations, assemblies, classroom parties (elementary), concerts, games, activities, clubs (at all levels), field trips, and other special events are all available for in-person participation. The SCSD is following all approved Board policies and procedures regarding illness, visitors, activities, and community/school events.

Review and Revision of Plan

Revisions will be made as necessary according to changing pandemic conditions. At a minimum, this plan will be reviewed and revised every six months as required by the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER III) Act. Input from stakeholders is gathered via email, calls, and public comments at Board of Education meetings. The Superintendent will continue to provide updates at upcoming Board of Education meetings, on the district website, via regular email updates to staff and parents/guardians.

