

# USD 439 – Sedgwick Public Schools Operational Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services

This plan will change and evolve as the 2021-22 school year approaches

## **PART I. Maintaining the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff:**

### **(A) Mask Requirements/Recommendations**

We will continue to use a variety of factors to determine if masks are necessary for students and staff. Decisions for recommending or mandating masks will be made by a vote of the Board of Education with input from the county health officials and CDC/KDHE guidance.

#### Masking Level

Level Green	Mask are optional except while students are being transported.
Level Yellow	Masks required on all buses and optional everywhere else. Intentional efforts to socially distance.
Level Red	Masks required for all individuals within the district at all times regardless of environment (unless working indoors alone or outdoors and socially distanced)

### **(B) Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding).**

The superintendent in collaboration with the school nurse, and the Harvey County Health Department will monitor the COVID-19 positivity rate and number of positive cases in our district to make decisions on implementing physical distancing.

### **(C) Handwashing and respiratory etiquette.**

Students will wash hands frequently, including before lunch, and will use hand sanitizer on a regular basis throughout the day. 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 at lunch lines for additional opportunities to sanitize. All classrooms will be continually stocked with hand sanitizer to make sure it is easily available to students in their rooms.

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

Desks will be cleaned at least daily at R.L. Wright Elementary and at least twice a day at Sedgwick Junior and Senior High School. High touch surfaces such as door knobs, water fountains, and handrails will be wiped down throughout the day by custodial staff. New HVAC units are being installed at R.L. Wright Elementary School and fresh air intakes will be adjusted on applicable HVAC units to maximize ventilation.

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

We will follow all quarantine and isolation directives from our county health officer. In the event of a positive case of COVID-19, our school nurse with the assistance of building administration will conduct internal contact tracing, and we will remove unvaccinated close contacts from school for 10 days, or 7 days with a negative test on the 7<sup>th</sup> day. Please refer to the COVID Case Protocols for 2021-2022 for more information regarding quarantines.

**(F) Diagnostic and screening testing.**

If a student or staff member feels ill or is presenting symptoms, information will be provided regarding available testing sites or to the Harvey County or Sedgwick County Health Departments.

**(G) Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities.**

We will continue to make our families, students and staff aware of opportunities to be vaccinated in our community.

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

We will work with our staff to ensure that students receiving special education services, Sections 504 accommodations, and/or at-risk support services continue to have full access to appropriate educational opportunities on campus and in the event that the district is forced to alter the delivery model.

**(I) Coordination with State and local health officials.**

The superintendent will continue to monitor information available from the Harvey County Health Department, Kansas Department of Education, and Kansas Department of Health and Environment to ensure that the district is ready for statewide changes to policies or recommendations. The superintendent will also communicate with the Harvey County Health Department on a regular basis to monitor the current situation in the county and district.

**(J) Transportation**

Per federal law, all students and staff shall wear a mask at all times while being transported in school vehicles.

**Part II. Ensuring continuity of services, including but not limited to:**

**(A) services to address students' academic needs**

Using ESSER funds, we have improved our ability to deliver remote and hybrid instruction if warranted. In the event of a widespread outbreak USD 439 would use alternative means such as a hybrid schedule or remote learning to ensure that all students continue to have access to instruction.

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

Using ESSER funds, USD 439 have purchased social and emotional curriculum to help students and their families deal with the stresses of the pandemic.

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

We have contingency plans and materials for quickly changing to grab and go meals if a shutdown is required.

**Masking Level**

- (A) **Level Green** Mask are optional except while students are being transported.
- (B) **Level Yellow** Masks required on all buses and optional everywhere else. Intentional efforts to socially distance.
- (C) **Level Red** Masks required for all individuals within the district at all times regardless of environment (unless working indoors alone or outdoors and socially distanced)