

Health and Safety Plan Summary: Rockwood Area School District

Initial Effective Date: August 29, 2023

Date of Last Review: Mar 19, 2024

Date of Last Revision: Mar 19, 2024

1. How will the LEA, to the greatest extent practicable, support prevention and mitigation policies in line with the most up-to-date guidance from the CDC for the reopening and operation of school facilities in order to continuously and safely open and operate schools for in-person learning?

The Rockwood Area School District will follow the prevention and mitigation policies and practices that allowed RASD students to successfully return to 100% in-person instruction during the 2021-2022 school year. Students and staff will be reminded and expected to practice proper and regular hygiene practices, including proper hand-washing and use of hand-sanitizer. Students and staff will be reminded of the benefits of social-distancing and will be expected to do so to the maximum extent possible, as practicable and feasible. The guidance and recommendations of the CDC in regards to the benefits and proper use of face-coverings will be communicated with the school community. While all students, staff, and school visitors electing to wear face-coverings will be fully supported by the District, the use of face-coverings by individuals will be optional and voluntary as per Rockwood Area School District Board Policy. Face-coverings will be made available to individuals electing to wear them. During the summer months, cleaning and disinfecting of all areas of school buildings, grounds, and buses will be performed. Cleaning, disinfecting, and ventilation protocols will be implemented daily. Increased cleaning, disinfecting, and ventilation protocols will be implemented between class periods, as practicable and feasible. The health of students, staff, and others interacting in the school environment will be self-monitored. Parents and guardians will be expected to screen children for symptoms before school each day. Children with symptoms should not be sent on a bus or brought to school. District staff are expected to self screen before leaving for work, and will stay home if ill. If a student is diagnosed with COVID-19, parents will be encouraged to report this information to the appropriate school office/nurse. Students, support staff and faculty members will be educated on the signs and symptoms of COVID-19. If a student, staff, or faculty member exhibits observable signs and symptoms of COVID-19 while in school they will be referred to the school nurse or Health Room Aide in a confidential manner. The school nurse will determine if a student, staff, or faculty member needs to be quarantined. A quarantine room will be in place for the beginning of the school year.

Visitors or volunteers who appear ill will not be able to enter the building. Students and employees should not return to school or work until the criteria to discontinue home isolation are met, in consultation with healthcare providers. Employees who are well but who have a sick family member at home with COVID-19 should notify their supervisor and follow the guidance of local health officials and healthcare providers. The District will communicate with families, staff, and the community using the District's mass communication system and website, as well as daily announcements, bulletin and written correspondence.

2. How will the LEA ensure continuity of services, including but not limited to services to address the students' academic needs, and students' and staff members' social, emotional, mental health, and other needs, which may include student health and food services?

Students impacted by COVID-19 will be provided with academic, social, emotional, mental health supports, as well as services to meet their health and food needs. Flexible attendance policies will continue to be practiced during the 2022-2023 school year. Individual students who are absent from in-person instruction will be provided with remote learning opportunities to meet their learning needs. In addition, arrangements will be made to meet the needs of students who require additional supports. In the event schools are closed due to COVID-19 related issues, students will transition to full-remote learning, including both synchronous and asynchronous learning opportunities. The District provides one-to-one technology enabling teachers to facilitate lessons through Google Classroom. Additionally, the District will operate daily materials and food distribution bus routes when closures are expected to last more than a few days.

3. Use the table below to explain how the LEA will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff and the extent to which it has adopted policies, and a description of any such policy on each of the following safety recommendations established by the CDC.

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
<p>a. Universal and correct wearing of <u>masks</u>;</p>	<p>The guidance and recommendations of the CDC in regards to the benefits and proper use of face-coverings may be communicated with the school community. All students, staff, and school visitors electing to wear face-coverings will be fully supported by the District. The use of face-coverings by students, staff, and school visitors will be optional and voluntary as per Rockwood Area School District Board Policy. Face-coverings will be made available to individuals electing to wear them.</p>

<p>b. Modifying facilities to allow for <u>physical distancing</u> (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);</p>	<p><i>Classrooms may be organized in a manner that increases space between students based on age level/grade level, size of the classroom, and available resources, as practicable and feasible, and as needed.</i></p> <p><i>Teachers are encouraged to use outside teaching spaces, as practicable, appropriate and feasible.</i></p>
<p>c. <u>Handwashing and respiratory etiquette</u>;</p>	<p><i>All students will be educated on the benefits of proper hygiene.</i></p> <p><i>Handwashing and general information/literature will be posted in hallways, restrooms, and common areas.</i></p> <p><i>Hand Sanitizer and disinfectant wipes will be available in classrooms and common areas.</i></p> <p><i>Individuals wearing a mask will be encouraged to cough or sneeze into their mask and to put on a new, clean mask as soon as possible and wash their hands.</i></p> <p><i>Individuals not wearing a mask will be encouraged to cover their mouth and nose with a tissue when they cough or sneeze, or use the inside of their elbow and do not spit. They will also be reminded to throw used tissues in the trash, and immediately wash their hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not readily available, they will be reminded to clean their hands with a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.</i></p>
<p>d. <u>Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation</u>;</p>	<p><i>During the summer months, cleaning and disinfecting of all areas of school buildings, grounds, and buses will be performed. Daily cleaning, disinfecting, and increased ventilation protocols will be implemented. Cleaning of high touch surfaces will be prioritized. This includes tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops,</i></p>

	handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, and sinks.
e. <u>Contact tracing</u> in combination with <u>isolation</u> and <u>quarantine</u> , in collaboration with the State and local health departments;	Students, staff, and educators diagnosed with COVID-19 should seek the direction of their healthcare provider.
f. <u>Diagnostic</u> and screening testing;	Students, faculty, and staff members will be referred to their healthcare provider or other local healthcare providers for diagnostic testing for COVID-19 when there is a reason to suspect that an individual may be infected, such as having symptoms or suspected recent exposure, or to determine resolution of infection.
g. Efforts to provide <u>vaccinations to school communities</u> ;	The Rockwood Area School District worked cooperatively with the PA Departments of Education and Health during the 2020-2021 to coordinate COVID-19 vaccinations for faculty and staff members who voluntarily received the vaccine through a State sponsored rollout of the vaccine for school employees. The District will work cooperatively to assist the PA Departments of Education and Health, as well as other local healthcare providers, to communicate additional vaccination initiatives in the future.
h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and	Students with disabilities are entitled to a free appropriate public education including services, or accommodations, or both based on their individualized education program (IEP) or 504 Plan. It may not be feasible, depending on the needs of the individual child or adolescent, to adhere to social distancing guidelines and/or face-covering requirements. The student's IEP or 504 Plan team will collaborate with the student's parent/guardian, medical provider, certified school nurse and school

	<p>administrators to develop an appropriate educational plan of care for students, including appropriate supports, services, modifications, and accommodations (i.e., 504 Plan or IEP).</p> <p>Students with disabilities who are impacted by COVID related school closures, or when the student is isolated or quarantined due to COVID-19, will be provided with all of the supports, services, educational modifications and accommodations.</p>
<p>i. Coordination with state and local health officials.</p>	<p>The Rockwood Area School District will continue to communicate and coordinate with State and local health officials in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The District will review the most current mitigation and prevention recommendations and guidance provided by State and local health officials in regards to reducing the spread of COVID-19. Those recommended mitigation and prevention measures which comply with Board approved School District policies will be considered for implementation, as feasible and practicable. The District will continue to monitor the current prevalence of COVID-19 in the school community using the information sharing resources made available by State and local officials. The information will be considered in determining future instructional models, as well as making adjustments to the District's Health and Safety Plan. Finally, the District will coordinate with State and local officials to determine the most appropriate and allowable expenditures of current and future ESSER funding.</p>

Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors/Trustees for Rockwood Area School District reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on March 19, 2024.

The plan was approved by a vote of:

8 Yes-

0 No-

Affirmed on: Mar 19, 2024

By:



(Signature of Board President)*

Dr. Tyler Pritts

(Print Name of Board President)