

## **Safe Return to In-Person Instruction & Continuity of Services Plan Indian Creek Schools (as required by the ARP ESSER III Grant)**



### **Safe Return of In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan 2021-2024**

The Indian Creek School District is committed to educating all students. The Board of Education, administration, and staff believes that the best place for children to learn is in-person while in a safe and conducive environment. With this belief in mind and in collaboration with the Jefferson County Health Department and other county schools, students had the option to return to full in-person instruction for the 2020-2021 school year. This enabled students and families to return to a normal mental and emotionally healthy routine. In addition, all students including those with special needs, received all of their services in accordance with local, state, and federal laws. The district will remain open full-time moving forward and for the duration of the 2021-2022 school year.

The district fully complied with state and local health orders until the Ohio health orders ended on June 2, 2021. School officials will continue to communicate with the Jefferson County Health Department to implement safety protocols.

#### Facial Coverings:

The wearing of facial coverings (masks) for students, staff, and the public is voluntary. If state or local health orders change during a time of elevated communicable disease community spread, the superintendent may require the correct use of facial coverings in accordance with Board Policy.

#### Physical Distancing:

The district will continue to utilize a 3-6 feet physical distance protocol in classrooms and in lunch rooms, when practical and necessary. Signage also reminds people of the importance of physical distancing.

#### Handwashing:

In accordance with CDC guidelines <https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/when-how-handwashing.html>, staff, students, and visitors are encouraged to frequently wash hands for 20 seconds with soap and water or

use a hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Hand sanitizer is provided in every classroom, office, and common areas and handwashing signs are placed throughout the facilities.

#### Cleaning & Maintaining Healthy Facilities:

- 1.) The district utilizes electrostatic disinfectant sprayers throughout the facilities and on buses. Common areas such as the lunch rooms, are also disinfected between groups.
- 2.) Staff and student training is provided to ensure adherence to the safety protocols. Signage and public announcements are used to inform the community of the expectations.
- 3.) When practical, buses will open vents or open windows to increase outside air flow.
- 4.) The district will be upgrading HVAC systems to help with the flow of air.
- 5.) The district will keep all typical cleaning protocols in place.

#### Contact Tracing, Isolation, and Quarantine:

- 1.) Anyone who is experiencing COVID-19 symptoms is not permitted on school grounds. All visitors must enter through a buzzer door system at the main office of the building where they will verify that they are not experiencing illness symptoms.
- 2.) In accordance with the protocols established by the Jefferson County Health Department for the 2021-2022 school year, the district nurse will monitor absences and provide recommendations to parents related to the amount of time a student should remain at home when ill.
- 3.) The district will follow all mandated Jefferson County Health Department protocols for the quarantine and isolation of staff and students.

#### Vaccination Efforts:

- 1.) The district collaborated with Change, Inc. and the Jefferson County Health Department to make vaccinations available and convenient for staff and eligible students.
- 2.) The district will continue to partner with local health officials to provide vaccination opportunities for staff, students, and the community.

#### Accommodations:

- 1.) The district will provide health and safety accommodations in accordance with students' Individual Education Plans.
- 2.) The district will make every effort to collaborate with families regarding individual special

needs. Various forms of communication are available to facilitate this process, including, but not limited to: email, U.S. mail, text messaging, Remind App, Google Classrooms, phone calls, Zoom meetings, and physically distanced face-to-face meetings.

#### Continuity of Services:

- 1.) The district plans to continue full in-person learning.
- 2.) In the event of school closure due to the pandemic, the district purchased Chromebooks for all students. Staff has received extensive training to deliver content virtually.
- 3.) The district also utilizes a fully online instruction to students who have health conditions that could prevent their regular attendance in-person.
- 4.) The district will use iReady and other appropriate testing materials to assess students in grades K-12 to ensure that students are progressing as expected and interventions are made as needed through the Response to Intervention protocol.
- 5.) A Summer Scholars Program was implemented in 2021 for grades K-12.
- 6.) Summer credit recovery is offered for grades 9-12.

#### Social and Emotional and Mental Health Needs:

- 1.) The district utilizes Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS) K-12.
- 2.) All students have access to in-school mental health services through and in-school counselors. Students have access whether their families are insured or not.

#### Student Health:

- 1.) The district employs two (2) full-time nurses.

This plan was created in June of 2021. The district will continue to assess and adjust procedures in accordance with state and local guidelines. The plan will be reviewed at least semi-annually. This document was posted to the website on June 22, 2021 for public access.

If you wish to make public comment or for any questions or concerns, please contact:

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