



# **SOUTHWEST SCHOOL CORPORATION SCHOOL PLAN 2021-22**

**Updated July 23, 2021**

As of July 1, 2021, local school boards of public K-12 education institutions will be responsible for implementing whatever measures and restrictions deemed necessary and prudent to address the impact and spread of COVID-19 for their buildings, facilities and grounds, to include transportation. Educational governing bodies are encouraged to review recommendations from the CDC guidance, Indiana Department of Health, Local Departments of Health and the Indiana Department of Education.

## **Face Covering/Masks**

- Face Coverings/Masks will be **OPTIONAL** for students and staff while on school property. **Exception: Per the Federal mandate, face coverings/masks will be REQUIRED of students and staff while being transported on all school buses.**
- Please note the CDC and the Indiana Department of Health both recommend non-vaccinated individuals wear face covering/masks while indoors. Students and staff are encouraged to wear face coverings/masks if they desire to do so.

## **Contact Tracing/Attendance**

- SWSC will follow IDOE attendance guidelines for students who are absent due to a COVID-19 related reason.
- Determine contact tracing requirements, if any, in conjunction with guidance from the Indiana Department of Health.
- SWSC will follow the most current Indiana State Department of Health isolation and quarantine requirements.

### **School Day**

- In-person instruction will be provided 5 days a week in Grades K-12.
- Virtual learning will be an option through Southwest Online. This will be available for Grades 6-12 only. There will be no online option for K-5 students. Students must apply for Southwest Online, provided by Apex Learning, for the 2021-22 school year. All applications must be approved by the building principal. Virtual students will not be able to participate in extra or co-curricular activities and are committing to this platform for a minimum of one semester. The deadline for applying for Southwest Online was Friday, May 21, 2021.

### **Supporting Teaching and Learning**

- Implement standard operating procedures while taking preventative measures such as:
  - ✓ Providing hand sanitizer for students and staff.
  - ✓ Conducting cleaning of classrooms and high touch surfaces daily.
- Establish an academic baseline:
  - ✓ Use formative assessments (IREADY).
  - ✓ Conduct meetings with teachers to analyze data and see where students are academically.
- Discuss the shared experience
  - ✓ Implementation of Interventions with fidelity; provide Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Resources.
  - ✓ Use of Panorama student assessment tool to target high risk students.
- Target interventions and supports:
  - ✓ Provide additional instructional supports to:
    - Students at-risk of not graduating on time.
    - Students with disabilities.
    - Students who had poor attendance in the 2020-2021 school year due to COVID-19 related reasons.
    - Other students identified as being behind academically or “at-risk” by teachers and/or parents.
- Classrooms will be organized to maximize available space for student seating.

### **Student Morning Drop-off and Afternoon Pick-up**

- Student morning drop-off will begin at 7:45 AM at all Southwest School Corporation schools. No student will be allowed within the building until 7:45 AM. Students will report directly to their assigned classrooms. Elementary students will report to their homeroom teacher. Middle school students will report to their 1st-period class. High School students will report to ACT. This will allow for social distancing. Parents/Guardians will not be allowed to walk students to the classroom. **Exception: Kindergarten parents will be allowed to on the first day of school.**
- Pick up procedures used during the 2020-21 school year will continue at all school locations during the 2021-22 school year.

### **Bus Transportation**

- Implement standard operating procedures while taking preventive measures such as:
  - ✓ **Per the Federal mandate, face coverings/masks will be REQUIRED of students and staff while being transported on all school buses.**
  - ✓ Students who ride a SWSC bus will be issued an **assigned** seat or zone. There will be no same day afternoon bus changes permitted.

### **Meal Service**

- Implement standard operating procedures while taking preventative measures.
  - ✓ Encourage students to wash hands before and after meal service. Providing hand sanitizer for students and staff.
  - ✓ Conducting cleaning of cafeterias and high-touch surfaces throughout the school day.
  - ✓ Breakfast will be Grab-N-Go and eaten within the classrooms.

**USDA has approved free meals (breakfast and lunch) for all students for the 2021-22 school year.**

### **Transitioning (Hallway)**

- Implement standard operating procedures while taking preventative measures.
  - ✓ Encourage students to limit congregating during passing periods or by lockers.
  - ✓ Conducting cleaning of hallways and high-touch surfaces throughout the school day.
  - ✓ Providing hand sanitizer for students and staff at entrances to classrooms.

### **Entering School Buildings**

- Implement standard operating procedures while taking preventive measures.
  - ✓ Provide hand sanitizer for students and staff.
  - ✓ Continue established COVID-19 protocol for students/staff who feel ill/experience symptoms when they come to school.
  - ✓ Visitors in schools will be limited. Parents, guardians, and family members will not be allowed to walk students to their classrooms or have lunch with their students.

### **Conducting Large Group Gatherings**

- Implement standard operating procedures while taking preventative measures.
  - ✓ Providing hand sanitizer for students and staff.
  - ✓ Follow any Indiana High School Athletic Association (IHSAA), Indiana State School Music Association (ISSMA), or other extra-curricular/co-curricular governing bodies guidelines for performances, and practices.

### **Vaccinations**

- Follow Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) guidance if COVID-19 becomes a required or recommended vaccine. **Currently, the COVID-19 vaccine is not listed as either a required or recommended vaccine.** Should that change, religious and medical exemptions will be followed like with all other vaccines.
- Provide parents/guardians with ISDH COVID-19 vaccination information for students.

### **Practicing Prevention**

- Parents will continue to self-screen their students before coming to school.
- Students and staff who are sick must be fever free without the use of fever-reducing medication for at least 24 hours to return to school.
- School clinics will have a separate space to treat symptomatic students.
- Teach and reinforce good hygiene measures such as handwashing, covering coughs, etc.
- Provide hand soap and hand sanitizer, paper towels, and no touch trash cans in all bathrooms, classrooms and frequently trafficked areas.
- Post signage to communicate how to stop the spread. Include COVID 19 symptoms, preventative measures (including staying home when sick), good hygiene, and specific protocols.
- Clean/disinfect frequently touched surfaces.
- Turn off the water fountains except for water filling stations and encourage students and staff to bring water bottles from home.
- Ensure ventilation systems operate properly through routine maintenance.

### **Protecting Vulnerable Populations**

- All federal, state, and local guidelines will be followed as well as adherence to FERPA and HIPAA requirements. In addition, adherence to state and federal employment law and extended leave allowances and offering an Employee Assistance Program to all staff members.

### **Communication**

- A weekly COVID-19 update will be sent to parents via email that lists cases per school *if individuals are still required to report positive cases to each school.*

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**NOTE: Please keep in mind that this plan is a very fluid document that is subject to change. If guidance from the Governor's Office, Indiana Department of Health, and Indiana Department of Education changes this document may be modified.**