

Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan

Hello Hale community. This past school year was certainly a difficult time for all of us; parents, students, teachers and administrators. We are hopeful that this school year goes more smoothly as we return to campus.

In order to comply with federal regulations, school districts are required to post a “Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan.”

Details are listed in the document following this message. Parts of this plan will look similar to the re-entry plan that was distributed last summer during the heights of COVID-19. We now know much more about how to combat the virus and district strategies will be outlined in the document. The document is much more simplistic now and will focus primarily on mitigation strategies and continuation of services should we find ourselves in a position to close the school doors for a period of time. These policies and protocols are required to be examined and revised as needed every 6 months with input from community members. If you need or know of someone who needs this plan read or translated to them, please contact:

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Director of Special Services
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Sincerely,

Clint Heussner
Hale R-1
Superintendent of Schools

The guidelines and protocols outlined in this document are subject to revision as needed to reflect local, state, and federal guidance.

Guidelines and protocols may also be revised as appropriate to reflect the needs of local conditions.

Mitigating Strategy Policies

The Hale R-1 School District was able to continue in-person instruction for most of the 2020-2021 school year, largely due to the mitigating strategies set forth in the board approved Re-Entry Plan that was approved for the 2020-2021 school year. Many of the protocols will continue in the 2021-2022 school year:

- Mask wearing for staff and students is optional.
- Physical distancing and will be incorporated into classes, to the extent possible.
- Handwashing and respiratory etiquette will be taught and/or reinforced.
- Daily sanitizing and disinfecting will be a priority at all district facilities.
- The school will assist with contact tracing in collaboration with the local health department.
- Parents will be asked to appropriately screen their child to assess wellness before sending their child to school. If the child is showing symptoms, they should be kept at home and the family health care provider should be consulted.
- Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to the health and safety policies will be determined, as needed.
- Vaccinations for staff are encouraged but not required. Information regarding vaccination distribution, locations and times can be obtained in the central office.
- Masks will be encouraged for all bus riders per regulations.
- Visitors will be screened before being admitted into buildings.

Continuity of Services

If students are required to quarantine or isolate, instruction will be provided to students via electronic methods, paper-pencil packets, or a combination of both. Teachers will provide students with information on office hours for student instruction and feedback opportunities via phone, email, text message, Remind, Google classroom, etc. in order to ensure learning is not interrupted. Teachers have received training, and will continue to receive training regarding how we can meet the social, emotional, and mental health needs of students and staff during any interruptions of in-person instruction, as well as during the regular school year.

Periodic Revision

This SRCSP has been developed using information from the previously developed re-entry plan for the 2020-2021 school year. It also includes information from the planning for continuity of services, particularly academic services, in the context of Alternative Methods of Instruction (AMI) and Alternative Methods of Instruction-Extended (AMI-X) planning. The plan includes many mitigating and prevention strategies that were previously board approved at a public board meeting. The SRCSP will be reviewed and/or revised, if necessary, at least every six months. The review and revision process will include consultation with stakeholders, including: ●

Students

- Families
- School and district administrators
- Teachers and other school staff
- The Hale R-1 Board of Education
- Stakeholders to the extent present in or served by the LEA in civil rights organizations (including disability rights organizations), or stakeholders representing the interests of children with disabilities, English learners, children experiencing homelessness, children and youth in foster care, migratory students, children who are incarcerated, and other underserved students.