

## Pratt USD 382

### District Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services for 2021-22.

*\*\*This plan is subject to change at any time pending the current health concerns in our schools and the community.*

#### PART I.

***Describe how the district 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 policies, on each of the following safety recommendations established by the CDC:***

##### **(A) Universal and correct wearing of masks.**

USD 382 has pandemic protocols divided into zones: Green, Green Plus, Amber, Orange, and Red. The zone is determined by several factors: 1) number of active cases in the county, 2) the number of active cases among school personnel and students, 3) the number of students and staff under quarantine, 4) the percent of absenteeism for students, and 5) the Covid infection rate of the surrounding county block. We require masking in congregate areas in Green Plus and above. In Amber and above, we require masking in classrooms or anywhere a six-foot social distance cannot be maintained. We teach reinforce the correct wearing of masks and maintain consistency in the buildings.

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

Pratt Schools continues to practice safe distancing at school whenever possible. Again, we follow our pandemic protocols by zone. We use cohort groups for lunch groups at all grade levels and use a modified cohort quarantine for elementary groups.

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

Correct and regular handwashing and respiratory etiquette is addressed by every classroom teacher based upon information provided by our school nurse. Posters are on display near restrooms and various places throughout the buildings. Hand sanitizing practices will remain in place and utilized a minimum of once every hour. Hand sanitizer is readily available at each main entrance of every school building.

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

The daily routine of each of our custodians has been modified and additional custodial staff have been hired in order to clean and sanitize the building more thoroughly. Every classroom is equipped with cleaning supplies to assist the custodial staff to assure continuous cleaning of all surfaces. Air purifiers have been placed in all music rooms and the installation of the new HVAC system this summer will allow for more outside air circulation in much of the middle school. We installed bipolar ionizers at our elementary and middle school buildings to reduce the number of VOC's in the air. We added a setting to our elementary and high school HVAC systems to increase air turnover.

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

Each of the school buildings has designated a room that will be utilized as an “Isolation Room” to temporarily quarantine individuals who are experiencing COVID symptoms. Our school nurse works very closely with the Pratt County Health Department on every COVID case or suspected exposure. Contact tracing is a huge responsibility of our nurse as she investigates and identifies individuals who may have come in contact with someone who tests positive for COVID-19.

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

USD 382 communicates with parents in order to arrange local testing through the Pratt Regional Hospital or the Pratt County Health Department when students need to be screened for COVID-19 symptoms. Our superintendent, assistant superintendent, and district nurse meet regularly with the Director of the Pratt County Health Department in order to discuss appropriate safe school practices and review the latest CDC and KDHE guidelines.

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

Vaccinations have been made available to all certified and classified staff who work for the district. If approved we will offer premium pay from ESSER funds for staff getting a vaccination. We have communicated to parents when vaccines have been made available to specific age groups for students and will continue to do so. Our school nurse can assist you if you have any questions about locations and the process involved in receiving the vaccine.

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

USD 382 along with the South Central Kansas Special Education Cooperative will continue to provide appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities in all aspects including health and safety concerns according to the Individual Education Plan or 504 needs of the student.

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

As stated previously, we regularly coordinate with the Pratt County Health Department to review our pandemic protocols and get approval from our Health Department. Our County Health Department follows KDHE policies and guidelines. We also attend sessions led by a state group of pediatricians and mental health professionals.

## **Part II.**

***Describe how the district will ensure continuity of services, including but not limited to:***

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

- The district will begin the 2021-22 school year with in-person instruction. For parents who choose not to attend in-person, the district provides a hybrid remote learning option for K-4<sup>th</sup> grade students. For students in grades 5-12, we offer a distance learning program.
- An additional 1<sup>st</sup> grade teacher was reinstated for the 2021-22 school year in order to maintain smaller student numbers in each classroom.
- An additional tech support staff supplemental position will be added to our elementary staff this summer in order to allow more time for the Technology and Integration Support Specialist to spend more time in the classrooms working with students and staff to integrate technology and enhance academic engagement.
- Our middle school added an MTSS position for the 2021-22 school year to facilitate growth in reading and math after learning loss from the 2020-21 school year and the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of the 2019-20 school year. This position will coordinate remediation efforts over specific standards for identified students—identified by progress monitoring assessments.
- Purchase of electronic curricula for remediating learning loss.
- Providing summer school for grades K-8. We also provided lunches for these students to increase attendance. We targeted students showing academic needs and maintained a 10:1 teacher/student ratio.
- Expanding preschool to meet 5 days a week with a full-day option from the previous 4 days per week for ½ day.
- We provide credit recovery assistance during the year for students in grades 9-12.
- The district provided hot spots for several families in need of internet connections.

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

- The district has contracted with Horizons Mental Health Services as part of the MHIT grant to provide in house case workers, therapists and mental health support for students throughout the district. This program will also be expanded for the 2021-22 school year.
- Social and Emotional Curriculums/Programs are in place in all school buildings. We have trained all staff in trauma-informed practices. The elementary uses morning meeting and Zones of Regulation to facilitate social-emotional wellness with K-4<sup>th</sup> grade students. Our middle school also uses morning meetings and regular team building sessions to increase social-emotional awareness and growth. Our high school uses GO time. We will have a trauma-informed practices review to begin the school year.

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

- The district has invested in sanitizing equipment for all of the school buildings including the transportation department for the buses. We used ESSER II funding to purchase new floor scrubbers, which will reduce time-on-task and increase the frequency we can clean.

- Serving breakfast and lunch will continue without utilization of an open food bar.
- The district follows KSHSAA COVID-19 safety guidelines (not shaking hands with opponents, no swapping benches in volleyball, etc.)
- Students are taught basic protocol besides sanitation (elbow bump, maintaining distance in the hallways, do not come to school if you don't feel well, etc.).
- Resources are posted on the district website.