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The purpose of the Return to Learn plan is to provide a framework for how the Sidney Community School District will respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on the educational program during the 2022-2023 school year. The framework is structured to allow the district to be flexible and responsive to changing public health circumstances. The plan helps support the district's goal of articulating its intentions for the year in a clear, comprehensive, and transparent manner. We intend to make and communicate decisions for 4-6 week periods of time as this could be an ever-changing ituation.

REVIEW/UPDATED - Feb. 2022 and August 2022

		Moderate Risk	High Risk
Definitions>	No COVID cases or community spread in the district	Verified community spread within the school district	Fremont County Public Health in conjunction with IDPH, Iowa Dept. Of Education and the school district has closed the building.
	School is in session on campus for students and staff	School is in session with occassional short-term closures	School buildings closed - Online required learning
Pre Screening for Students/Staff	- Parents will screen their children at home for fever (100.0 or higher) or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea. - Call a medical professional if symptomatic If you answer YES to above, Do Not Send Child to School - Staff will be screened upon arrival to the building for fever Notify school of symptoms and absence.	Same as "Low Risk" rules but now add temperature checks Temperature Checks -Temperature checks will be conducted once a day for all students and staff - during 1st hour at the HS and during attendance at the elementary - If temp is above 100.0 then the student/staff member must remain at home until fever free without medication.	All students stay home to learn online.
Pick-up / Drop-Off of Students	- Elementary arrival- Walking Club on concrete playground. Inside arrival assignment areas will be utilized on inclement weather days No congregating at the entrance or exit area while waiting Parents stay in their vehicle during pick-up and drop-off	Same as "Low Risk" rules but when students get to school they will proceed to assigned classrooms. JH/HS students will report to their ist Hour Class.	None
Entering Building	 Social distancing practices will be in place for entering and exiting the building. 	Same as "Low Risk" rules	No one allowed in the buildings
Student Attendance	All students in grades Pk ₃ -12 will attend school in person Accommodations will be made for students in PK ₄ -12 who are unable to attend in person (i.e. illness/quarantine) to utilize synchronous online learning through Zoom or Google Meet. Synchronous means that students log on to receive instruction with their class at certain times during the school daySAC Virtual Academy may be used for those in-district students/families who choose to not attend school in person. Families choosing this option must contact their bldg administrator to request this option.	Accommodations will be made for students in PreK-12 who are unable to attend in person to utilize synchronous online learning through Zoom or Google Meet. Synchronous means that students log on to receive instruction with their class at certain times during the school day.	Attendance and participation is required. Attendance will continue to be taken daily.
Masks	- Wearing of face masks and/or shields will be encouraged as it is backed by scientific studies and recommended by Fremont County and lowa Department of Public Health Students may bring their own masks, if chosen to do so. Students must be able to wear the mask without it being a classroom disruption School systems do not write directed health measures, but we must follow them. We also follow recommendations as they come from medical experts and are backed by scientific studies	The potential of mandatory masks to keep schools open. Decisions will be made in conjuction with Fremont County Public Health.	
Hand Washing Hand Sanitizing	- Students and staff will wash or sanitize their hands upon entering the building, entering/exiting individual classrooms and cafeteria. - Hand washing signs and directions displayed by all sinks Washing of hands prior to lunch.	We will increase the number of times a day students and staff wash or sanitize their hands	
Touch Surface Cleaning	-Enhanced protocols in place throughout the day.	Same as "Low Risk" rules	
Cafeteria / Meals	- Elem: Breakfast/Lunch in cafeteria, utilizing social distancing when possible JH/HS: Lunch will be in cafeteria and possibly additional locations provided to utilize social distancing when possible.	Elem: Breakfast/ Lunch in classroom. MS/HS: Increased number of lunch periods to social distance or eat in a different location.	
Response to students and staff who become COVID symptomatic during the day	- SCSD will follow guidance from Fremont County Public Health - If a student or staff member becomes sick with COVID-19 symptoms during the school day, the student/staff member will be sent home with recommenditions to seek guidance from their health care provider. Students and/or staff cannot return until COVID results have been received or isolation period is complete. Per CDC guidance dated January of 2022, students/staff members with a positive test result will isolate at home for 5 days upon onset of symptoms, if symptoms have improved and the individual has remained fever free for 24 hours without medication, they may return to district buildings and activities with a mask on days 6-10. If a student or staff member chooses to not wear a mask they will be required to stay isolated on days 6- 10 Classroom will be thoroughly cleaned Student/staff will be required to wear a mask while in the building waiting for pickup.	Same as "Low Risk" rules Positive Cases and Response: - SCSD will follow guidance from Fremont County Public Health Officials - Communication to families as recommended by Fremont County Public Health Officials - A classroom and/or building will be closed for a minimum of 24-48 hours and deep cleaned - A case is considered "confirmed" when the individual has had a positive test conducted by a medical professional A confirmed exposure will be based on the continued tracing of the medical community An infected individual may return to school 10 days after the symptoms started and no fever for 72 hours	
Water Fountains	No mouth drinking from fountainsWater bottles only. PK3-6 will be encouraged to bring a water bottle to school, to be taken home daily for washing. Water fountain bottle filler will be on for use.	Same as "Low Risk" rules	
Passing Periods	- Students will walk on the right side of the hallway and utilize social distancing when possible. - JH/HS: students and staff will utilize social distancing when possible.	Same as "Low Risk" rules plus	
Social Distancing Classroom seating	 Social distancing will be emphasized in classrooms, when physically possible Students will sit in pods of 2-4 	Same as "Low Risk" rules. Additional cleaning procedures	
Exiting the Building	 Elem: Students remain in their classrooms until an all-call is made for buses (by bus number), car riders, and walkers. No congregating in the halls. JH/HS: 	Same as "Low Risk" rules	
Visitors to School	- Visitors will be restricted to the school office Parents please call ahead to schedule meeting with school personnel - For all students who need to leave the building (have an appointment, are ill, need to leave early, etc.) parents will call the school office upon arrival to the building and the student will be released.	Same as "Low Risk" rules	No one allowed in the buildings
Transportation	- Surfaces are wiped down between routes - Students remain in the same seats once on the bus	Same as "Low Risk" rules	No school provided transportation.

Facility Usage by Outside Organizations	-Outside groups (i.e. Sidney Youth Sports) will follow Fremont County Public Health for guidance and recommendations	Outside usage of facilities is suspended	Outside usage of facilities is suspended
Extracurricular Activities	- Guidance from Iowa School Activity Association, Iowa Department of Education, and local public health officials will be followed for all extracurricular activities - Will follow Iowa Department of Education and Fremont County Public Health officials for travel guidelines	Same as "Low Risk" rules	Extracurricular activities are suspended
Technology	- Elementary- PK4-6th grade 1:1 devices remain at school, 6th grade takes devices home 2nd semester - JH/HS-7-12 devices are used at school/home.	- Elementary- PK4-6th grade 1:1 devices are sent home daily. - JH/HS- 7-12 devices are used at school/home. - Devices are cleaned daily according to tech guidance.	Technology devices will be sent home with all students.
Specialist Classes (Art, Music, Band, PE, Guidance, Library)-	 -Elem. (art, music, band, PE, Library) - classes held in specialist's classroom with social distancing, when feasibleEmphasis on proper hygiene and use of hand-sanitizer upon entering the room. 	- Elementary: Held in the classroom. Specialist will go to the general education classroom. Emphasis on hygiene continues, hand sanitizer upon entering a classroom.	Specials will be done via online with required online learning
Recess	-Schools continue to have recess as scheduled with hand washing or hand sanitizing upon entry. -Social distancing will be encouraged to the best of our ability. -No recess items allowed from home.	- Schools continue to have recess with a staggered schedule to reduce the number of students on the playground with hand washing or hand sanitizing upon entry No equipment available.	
School Closure		- Short term closure- School could be closed for 1-5 days, decision will be communicated to families - Online learning may happen during these closures	 - Long term closure. School could be closed for a long period of time. All decisions will be communicated to families. - Required online learning will happen during these closures for all students.



The Return to Learn Plan has evolved over the last year with one goal in mind - safety. The health and safety of all students, teachers, and staff is of the utmost importance, and we will remain responsive to that as we move forward. As we all work together, we feel confident we can bring students back to Il students have a productive and successful 2022-2023 school year.