

# **Bison School District Safe Return to In-Person Instruction Plan**

## **Mission Statement**

The Bison School District wants students, staff, and community members to be safe from infectious diseases such as Covid-19.

## **Parent Expectations**

- It is the responsibility of parents to report any COVID-19 positive results of students and household members.
- Parents should keep a student home if they are sick.
- If a student or household member tests positive for COVID-19:
  - Students are to remain home for five days and return to school after the five days if they are symptom free.
  - Students will complete school remotely for the five days

## **Student Expectations**

- Students can wear a mask to school, but it is not required.
- Students are encouraged to social distance on school buses, classrooms, and cafeteria.
- Students should use water bottle filling stations for water.

## **School District Personnel Expectations**

- Bison School District personnel will create an environment in school that will reduce the spread of germs.
- Bison School District will socially distance students as much as possible throughout the school day if the community is in moderate or high spread.

### **Social and Emotional Mental Health Needs**

- The school counselor will be available to meet with students and staff struggling with issues.
- If the school should go to remote learning, the school counselor will check in with students via Zoom.
- The school counselor will make referrals to other mental health professionals for students or staff who need further assistance.
- The school counselor will use an SEL (social-emotional learning) program with students struggling with mental health issues.

### **Special Education**

- The special education staff will collaborate with families to be sure they remain an integral part of the special education process.
- The special education staff will work with each student to address their needs.
- Services for students with IEPs will be provided when school is on-site or in remote learning,

### **Fever Protocol in School**

- If a student has a fever over 100, the parents will be notified, and the student will be sent home.
- The student will remain out of school until they are fever-free for 24 hours without fever-reducing medication.

### **Phases for Instruction**

- Depending on the COVID-19 circumstances in the Bison, the school district is prepared to implement each of the following phases listed below.
  - **Phase One:** Traditional on-site school
  - **Phase Two:** Remote learning for students who test positive for COVID-19, have a sibling who tests positive for COVID-19, or have a household member who tests positive for COVID-19. In each situation, the students will complete remote learning for five days. Students can return to school after five days if they are symptom-free.

- **Phase Three:** Remote learning for all students will be implemented when there are numerous positive COVID-19 cases within the community.

### **Positive Covid-19 Test**

- If a student or household member tests positive for COVID-19:
  - Students are to remain home for five days and return to school after the five days if they are symptom free.
  - Students will complete school remotely for the five days
- If a staff member or household member tests positive for COVID-19
  - The staff members are to remain home for five days and return to school after the five days if they are symptom free.

### **Health and Hygiene in the School Complex**

- Touchless hand washing and sanitization technology throughout the school complex.
- Students are encouraged to bring water bottles to school. Water bottle filling stations are provided.
- The heating and ventilation system has been updated to include Bipolar Ionization Technology.

### **Food Service**

- Students will social distance as much as possible in the cafeteria.
- All lunch trays are sanitized.
- All cafeteria tables are sanitized.
- If there is extended remote learning, food distribution to students will be available.

Contact the Superintendent at the school with any questions, 605-244-5961

School Board Approval Date: November 2, 2023