**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, sibling 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 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.
* 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**

* 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
    - 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 Two:** 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**

* 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: 8/12/24