

USD 334 Southern Cloud Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services

August 9, 2023

SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act, Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund, is to help safely reopen and sustain the safe operation of schools and address the impacts of COVID-19 on the nation's students by addressing students' academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs. This plan describes how USD 334 Southern Cloud Schools will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other school staff during and following the return to full in-person instruction. Questions about this plan should be directed to: Mr. Roger Perkins, Superintendent, PO Box 334, 619 Tootle Avenue, Miltonvale, KS 67466, (785) 427-3334.

PART I.

(A) Universal and correct wearing of masks.

As of April 12, 2021, the Board of Education removed the requirement of mandatory wearing of mask in school facilities. Any student or faculty member who would like to continue mask wearing will be encouraged to do so.

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

USD 334 will continue their plans to practice safe distancing at school. The district will function similar to last year with in person learning. No cohorting, podding, hybrid learning was utilized in mass and will only be used if necessary.

(C) Handwashing and respiratory etiquette.

Handwashing will continue to be encouraged, as well as covering of coughs and respiratory etiquette. These were promoted as good health practices and decisions before the pandemic as well, and will continue to be taught and stressed.

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

Cleaning and maintaining facilities will continue to be a high priority with increased sanitation. Both K-12 buildings have had updated HVAC systems throughout the pandemic. Teachers are equipped with cleaning supplies for classrooms to help assist the custodial staff in the constant cleaning of all surfaces.

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

We have staff to assist with the overall health and safety of our students and staff. USD 334 will continue to work with Cloud County Health Department.

(F) Diagnostic and screening testing.

USD 334 will continue to work with our students and staff to provide testing kits when they need to be screened and possibly tested for COVID-19 symptoms.

(G) Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities.

Vaccinations have been made available to all faculty members who work within our school district.

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

USD 334, along with Twin Lakes Education Cooperative, will continue to make 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.

USD 334 will continue to coordinate and collaborate with State and local health official to keep our students, faculty and community safe.

Part II.

(A) Services to address students' academic needs

Students' academic needs will be met through the instruction of our staff following the Kansas Curricular Standards and USD 334 Board of Education graduation requirements.

(B) Students' and staff social, emotional, mental health

Students' and staff social, emotional, and mental health needs are being addressed through curriculum and assessments provided by USD 334. We also have 2 full time K-12 counselors available to students and faculty members.

(C) Other needs, which may include student health and food services.

Other needs, including student health and food services will be provided to all students with the continuation of free breakfast and lunch meals per the USDA statement. As well as increasing our staff across the district.