

Sulphur Springs Union School District

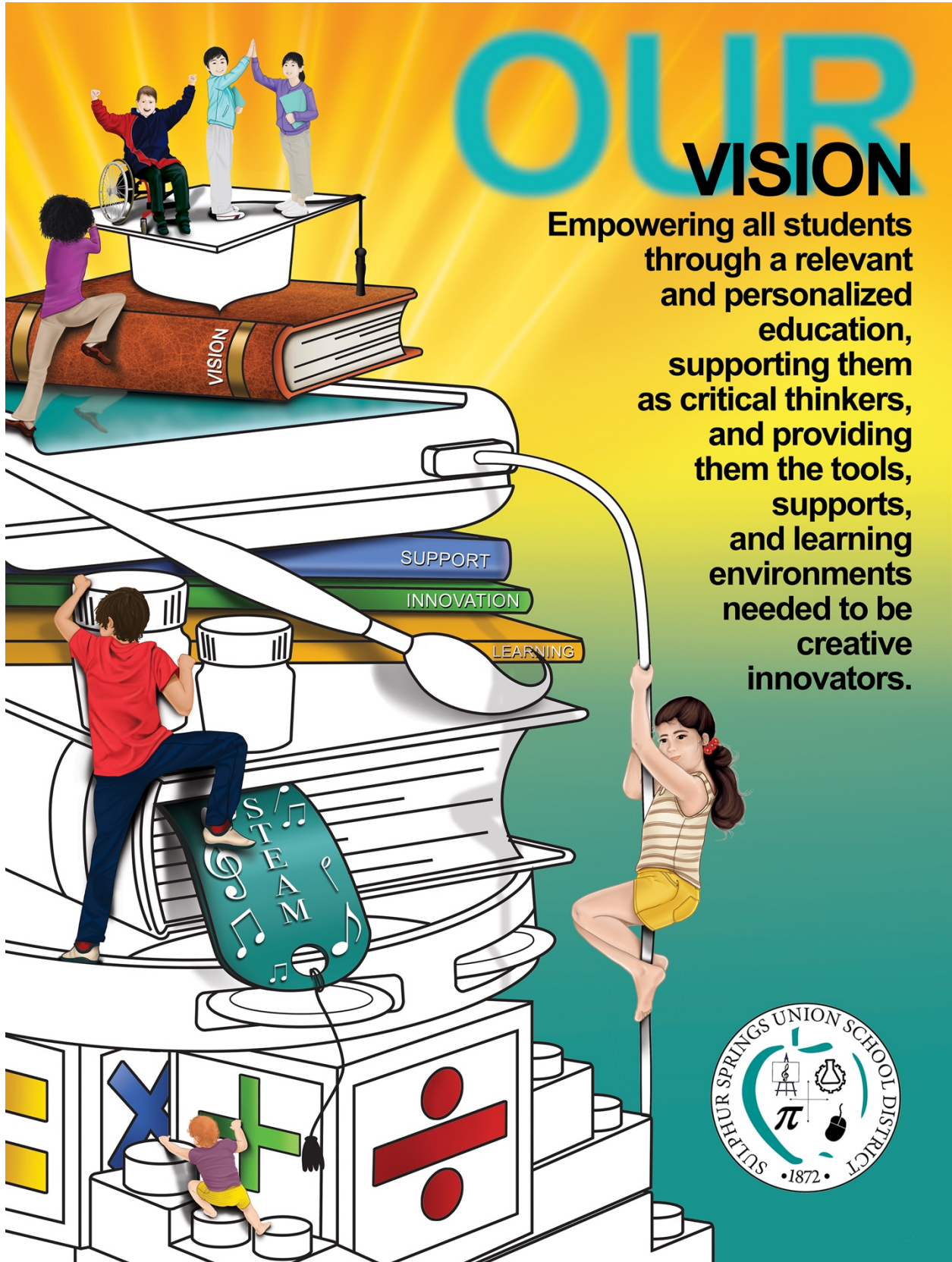
Safe Return to In-Person Instruction And Continuity of Services Plan

COVID-19 Prevention Program



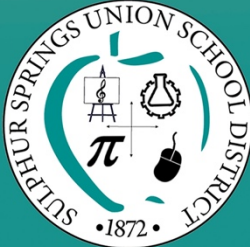
This Plan is based on information that the District has been provided from State and Public Health Officials. Plan Update: April 27, 2022

2021-2022
School Year



OUR VISION

Empowering all students through a relevant and personalized education, supporting them as critical thinkers, and providing them the tools, supports, and learning environments needed to be creative innovators.



Message from the Superintendent



Dear Sulphur Springs Families and Staff,

The Sulphur Springs Union School District **Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan and COVID-19 Prevention Program** have been designed to assist in preparing for the opening of our schools with health and safety as a top priority. We recognize the importance of returning students to school campuses for in-person instruction, as well as, the overarching need to protect the health and safety of our students, staff, and the broader community. The purpose of this Plan is to support families and staff as we work together to open our schools, and implement measures to reduce COVID-19 transmission in the school settings, while continuing to meet the educational needs of all students. The requirements in this Plan follow the State and local health orders.

I want to thank parents, certificated and classified staff members, who will continue to provide feedback on the Plan. The District will revisit the Plan every six months to keep the Plan up-to-date with the most current requirements from the State and local health orders.

It is important to remember that even though we are in very uncertain times, our goal for our students is to continue to provide them an enriching and rigorous education that consists of academic learning and social-emotional growth. Our children will continue to thrive while being surrounded by amazing families and talented teachers, staff, and administrators.

Dr. Catherine Kawaguchi, Superintendent

Part I

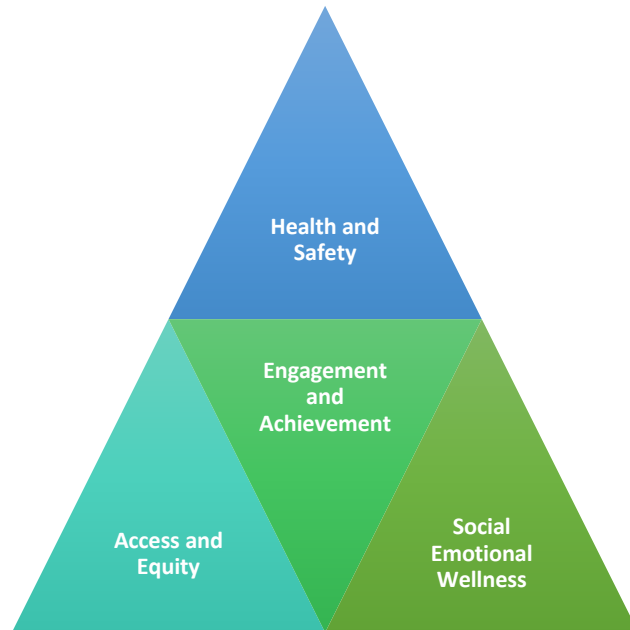
Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan



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Guiding Principles



Health and Safety

- Focus on safety is a top priority
- Follow State and local public health guidelines

Engagement and Achievement

- Engaging and rigorous curriculum
- Accountability in grading and attendance
- Adapt teaching to fit the learning environment for all students

Access and Equity

- Focus on embracing diverse students and families
- Targeted resources to assist English Learners, foster youth, homeless, and socially economically disadvantaged

Social Emotional Wellness

- Provide social emotional learning and resources to support student mental health
- Access to District Social Worker, Counselors, and Psychologists
- Continue to build social interactions



Health and Safety

The health and safety of our students, staff, and families is of utmost importance. It is important that when students, staff, and families are entering our school campuses and/or District office, the following measures are implemented District wide. Please note that the measures indicated in this section are in compliance with the guidelines as stated in the ***Reopening Protocols for K-12 Schools: Appendix T1, dated March 11, 2022 and COVID-19 Exposure Management Plan Guidance in TK-12 Schools, dated April 20, 2022.***

Protocols may be subject to change if additional guidance and directives are provided to school districts from the State and/or local department of public health.

Guidelines

District and all school sites have posted the ***Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan and COVID-19 Prevention Program*** on the website homepage as well as a hard copy at front offices for review. All staff are required to follow the Guidelines.

- **Physical Distancing**
 - Follow directions on signage reminding staff and students about physical distancing in prominent locations throughout each school campus
 - Allow only necessary visitors and volunteers on school campuses and limit the number of students and staff who come into contact with them
 - Outside organizations utilizing school facilities, when permitted, must follow all required health and safety measures
 - All school entry and exit points have markings on ground to facilitate physical distancing
- **Staff-to-Staff Interactions**
 - Staff have the option to use face coverings in accordance with Reopening Protocol for K-12 Schools and Cal/OSHA standards
 - Staff will minimize use of and congregation of adults in staff rooms, break rooms, and other settings
- **Arrival and Departure**
 - Minimize close contact between students, staff, families, and the broader community at arrival and departure
 - Use designated routes for entry and exit on school campuses

- Ask families to remain in their vehicles, to the extent possible, when dropping off or picking up their children
- Administrators at school campuses will provide supervision to disperse student gatherings during school arrival and departure
- Ensure each school is equipped with extra unused face coverings for students and/or staff who wish to request one

- **Classroom Settings**
 - Students and teacher remain in stable classroom groups for as many activities as possible
 - Students may be assigned stable seating arrangements
 - Student belongings will be kept separate from other students
 - Classroom furniture is set up to maximize distance between students and between students and teachers. Classroom furniture may be set-up in pod seating
 - Increase ventilation by increasing outdoor air circulation (i.e., opening classroom door) and using high-efficiency air filters
 - Use non-classroom space for instruction, playgrounds and grass areas, to further allow greater distance between students
 - Students with IEPs and/or 504s, see page 7 of Reopening Protocol for K-12 Schools

- **Non-Classroom Settings**
 - **Restrooms:** Stagger restroom use by groups of students to the extent practicable and monitor number of students in restrooms at one time
 - **MPR:** Meals may be served in classrooms and/or MPR. Markings on floors to facilitate physical distancing when students are lined up to pick up food. Mealtimes are staggered to reduce the number of groups in the cafeteria. Students may sit indoors or outdoors, weather permitting, to eat their meals
 - **Recess:** Recess is staggered throughout the day. Students are not required to wear a face mask when outdoors for recess
 - **Staff Break Rooms and Office Space:** increase space between employees in any room or area used by staff for meals and/or breaks
 - **Visitors:** Maintain six feet apart while in front office. If needed, visitors will wait outside the front office on marked spaces to be assisted due to limited space in the front office

- **Bus Transportation to and from School**
 - It is strongly recommended but not required for drivers and students to wear face coverings while on the bus

- Clean and disinfect buses daily between routes and end of day after transporting students
- **Face Coverings**
 - It is strongly recommended but not required for adults to wear a face covering while indoors
 - Staff must wash their face coverings daily
 - Parents have the option to send their child to school daily with a clean face covering
 - Medical grade mask is provided to any employee who cares for sick children
 - It is strongly recommended but not required for staff to wear a face covering when in close contact with any child with a medical condition that precludes the child's use of a cloth face covering
 - It is strongly recommended but not required for students over the age of 2 to wear face coverings while on school property
 - Alternative protective strategies may be adopted to accommodate students who are on Individualized Education or 504 Plans and who cannot use or tolerate cloth face coverings
 - People are exempted from the requirement if they have a medical or mental health condition or disability that would impede them from properly wearing or handling a face covering, those with a communication disability, or when it would inhibit communication with a person who is hearing impaired. Those communication disabilities or caregivers of those with communication disabilities can consider wearing a clear mask or cloth mask with a clear panel when appropriate
 - Persons exempted from wearing a face covering due to a medical condition, as confirmed by school district health team and therapists, may wear a non-restrictive alternative, such as a face shield with a drape on the bottom edge, as long as their condition permits it if the person chooses to do so
 - Face coverings will be provided for staff and students who request one. All students are provided with two cloth face coverings at the start of the school year
 - Staff have access to 3-ply surgical masks if requested
 - Workers or other persons handling or serving food must use gloves and is strongly recommended but not required to wear face coverings
 - For additional information regarding masking, please see Reopening Protocol for K-12 Schools, dated March 11, 2022
- **Handwashing and Other Hygiene Measures**

- All students will be taught proper handwashing techniques, avoiding contact with eyes, nose, and mouth, and covering coughs and sneezes
 - Students and staff should wash their hands for 20 seconds with soap, rubbing thoroughly after application. Soap products marketed as “antimicrobial” are not necessary or recommended
- Teachers will establish routines to ensure students wash their hands or use hand sanitizer upon arrival to campus, after using restrooms, after playing outside, before and after eating, and after coughing or sneezing
- Signage is posted in classrooms and restrooms to remind staff and students of proper techniques for handwashing
- Hand sanitizers are provided in classrooms, work stations, and offices. Students may use hand sanitizers under adult supervision
 - Sanitizer must be rubbed into hands until completely dry
- Students may use reusable water bottles, provided by the District or brought from home, for drinking instead of using drinking fountains
- Drinking fountains are available for student and staff use on school campuses

- **Cleaning and Disinfection**
 - Frequently touched surfaces are cleaned and disinfected daily at school and on school buses
 - Buses should be thoroughly cleaned daily and after transporting any individual who is exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19
 - Drivers are provided cleaning materials, including but not limited to wipes and disposable gloves
 - Use cleaning and disinfectant products approved for use against COVID-19 on the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) approved list “N” and follow product instruction
 - Establish a cleaning schedule to avoid both under- and over-use of cleaning products
 - Outdoor playgrounds/natural play areas only need routine maintenance
 - Students will wash hands or sanitize their hands before and after using these spaces
 - When hand hygiene is emphasized, cleaning of outdoor structures play is not required

- **Ventilation**
 - Sufficient ventilation will be provided in all school classrooms and office spaces

- All HVAC systems use filters with a minimum efficiency reporting value (MERV) of at least 13
- On buses, use open windows as much as possible to improve airflow
- **Food Services**
 - Follow all requirements issued by the County’s Department of Environmental Health to prevent transmission of COVID-19 in food facilities
- **Health Screenings**
 - Post signs at all entrances instructing students, staff and visitors not to enter campus if they have any COVID-19 symptoms
 - It is strongly recommended but not required for students and staff to conduct symptom screenings at home, prior to arrival
 - Schools do not need to monitor compliance with home screenings
- **Symptoms at School**
 - Schools will have an isolation room or area to separate anyone who exhibits 1 or more symptoms of COVID-19
 - Staff and students should self-monitor throughout the day for signs of illness
 - Staff should observe students for signs or symptoms of illness to support students who are less able to self-monitor or less likely to self-report
 - Any student or staff exhibiting 1 or more symptoms should be required to wait in the isolation area until they can be transported home or to a healthcare facility, as soon as practicable
 - Any staff or student exhibiting symptoms should immediately be required to wear a face covering and wait in the isolation area until they can be transported home or to a healthcare facility, as soon as practicable. For serious illness, call 9-1-1 without delay
 - If a student is exhibiting 1 or more symptoms of COVID-19, staff should communicate with the parent/caregiver and refer to the student’s health history form and/or emergency card
 - All school health offices will have a ‘well’ room for students needing assistance that are not exhibiting sick symptoms. This room will be separated from the ‘sick’ room where students will be picked up if they are not feeling well
 - Staff will notify the District’s school nurse of any positive COVID-19 case

**Protocols may be subject to change if additional guidance and directives are provided to school districts from the State and/or local department of public health*



Steps for Managing Exposures to COVID-19 Cases at School

(COVID-19 Exposure Management Plan in TK-12 Schools, dated April 20, 2022)

1 Case	<p>1) <i>Required:</i> School notifies case to follow isolation instructions.</p> <p>2) <i>Required:</i> School works with DPH to identify school contacts. Schools can call the TK-12 School COVID-19 Case Reporting Call Center for assistance with identification of close contacts and exposure management.</p> <p>3) <i>Required:</i> School identifies and notifies school contacts of exposure.</p> <p>4) <i>Required:</i> School submits a report to DPH with information on the confirmed case.</p> <p>5) <i>Recommended:</i> School sends general notification to inform the school community of the school exposure and precautions taken to prevent spread.</p>
2 Cases	<p>1) <i>Required:</i> Follow required steps for 1 confirmed case.</p> <p>2) <i>Recommended:</i> If the 2 cases occurred within 14 days of each other, <i>school consults with DPH to determine whether the cases have epidemiological (epi) links.</i> If epi links exist, school implements additional infection control measures. Schools can call the TK-12 School COVID-19 Case Reporting Call Center or email: ACDC-Education@ph.lacounty.gov for assistance in determining whether cases have epidemiological links.</p>
3+ Cases	<p>1) <i>Required:</i> If a cluster of 3 or more cases occurred within 14 days of each other, the school immediately notifies DPH by calling the TK-12 School COVID-19 Case Reporting Call Center or reporting online at: http://www.redcap.link/lacdph.educationsector.covidreport.</p> <p>2) <i>Required:</i> DPH determines if the outbreak criteria have been met. If a DPH outbreak investigation is activated, a public health investigator will contact the school to coordinate the outbreak investigation.</p>

- **Additional Information regarding Exposure Management**
 - Refer to: COVID-19 Exposure Management Plan Guidance in TK-12 Schools, dated April 20, 2022
 - See Addendum 2

**Protocols may be subject to change if additional guidance and directives are provided to school districts from the State and/or local department of public health.*



ENGAGEMENT AND ACHIEVEMENT

Access to Technology



Grades TK-6th

- Students will have access to technology at school. If a parent needs access to a device for their child enrolled in Scholars@Home Online Independent Study Program, a device will be issued to the student from the school campus.

Hot Spots:

- Students that are in need of a hot spot to support their learning in the Scholars@Home Online Independent Study Program will be provided one to use.




ENGAGEMENT AND ACHIEVEMENT

Instructional Programs

For the 2021-22 school year, two Instructional Programs are being offered to students:

- Full day, five days a week TK-6, In-Person Learning
- Scholars@Home Online Independent Study

Start and End Times for All Schools- Full Day, In-Person Learning

 Canyon Springs Union School District	Regular School Hours	Wednesday Early Release	Minimum Day Release
Canyon Springs	7:45 AM – 2:15 PM	1:15 PM	11:45 AM
Fair Oaks Ranch	8:45 AM – 3:15 PM	2:15 PM	12:45 PM
Golden Oak	8:15 AM – 2:45 PM	1:45 PM	12:15 PM
Leona Cox	7:45 AM – 2:15 PM	1:15 PM	11:45 AM
Mint Canyon	8:15 AM – 2:45 PM	1:45 PM	12:15 PM
Mitchell	8:15 AM – 2:45 PM	1:45 PM	12:15 PM
Pinetree	7:45 AM – 2:15 PM	1:15 PM	11:45 AM
Sulphur Springs	8:45 AM – 3:15 PM	2:15 PM	12:45 PM
Valley View	8:45 AM – 3:15 PM	2:15 PM	12:45 PM





Scholars@Home Online Independent Study Program

A program for families who wish to continue their child’s academic learning in the home environment with the ongoing support of a dedicated credentialed teacher. This program is a good fit for any family who chooses to continue their child’s instruction at home and can be an active partner with their child’s teacher to deliver at home curriculum and support.

Instructional Minutes

The Scholars@Home program falls under the state of California’s Independent Study guidelines and AB 130, students must complete daily assignments that equate to:

- 180 minutes per day for TK and K
- 240 minutes per day for grades 1-6

Attendance Requirement

- Student’s daily attendance will be determined by the completion of the minimum number of assignments as assigned by the teacher, required by the instructional minutes.
- Students who do not meet the required assignments for any given day (TK/K 180 min; 1st-6th 240 min) will not be given credit for the day.
- Students will be provided live interaction and one hour of synchronous instruction on a daily basis.
- Students who are not completing assignments on a regular basis will be assigned to in-person learning.

Students with an IEP

- If your child has an Individualized Education Program (IEP), and you wish to enroll your child in Scholars@Home, an IEP team meeting needs to be held.

- The IEP team must consider whether your child’s IEP can be fully implemented through the Scholars@Home program.
- If the IEP team determines that your child’s IEP can be implemented through Scholars@Home, the team can endorse this option.
- If the IEP team determines that your child requires a full instructional day of in-person teaching and/or support in order to implement his/her IEP, then the IEP team cannot recommend the Scholars@Home program

Enrollment and Program Change Requests

- All Scholars@Home families will need to submit a intra-district transfer form to join the Scholars@Home Program. Once approved, students will be registered in the program virtually based at Mint Canyon Community School.
- For enrollment purposes your child will be placed as a student at Mint Canyon Community School in the virtual Scholars@Home program.
- Students will continue to be enrolled as a Scholars@Home student unless requested to move to in-person instruction.
- Change in program is based on space at the student’s home school or another by request.
- Students who are not complying with the Scholars@Home contract will be switched to the in-person program.

Curriculum Support

- Benchmark Advance
- Math Expressions
- Social Studies Weekly
- Inspire Science
- Imagine Learning
- IXL

Instructional Delivery

- Each student will have access to interactive learning platforms including district issued curriculum.
- All textbooks, workbooks, and supplementary materials will be provided to students who attend SSUSD schools.



- Computer devices provided (WiFi available upon request.)
- Students will have the opportunity to participate in school events (assemblies, field trips, special events).
- A teacher will be assigned to students to track and record student participation and attendance.
- Weekly meetings with families to support the instructional schedule.

Family Support

- Access to an assigned teacher who is available daily to ask questions and clarify information. (office hours)
- Access to the site Computer Lab Tech to address technology concerns.

Access and Equity

Students who are learning English will have their needs met across all Instructional Programs. All Programs are designed to include designated and integrated English Language Development instruction.

Students who are foster youth, homeless, and/or socially economically disadvantaged will have their needs met across all Instructional Programs. Teachers and Principals will work with families to provide additional academic as well as social/emotional supports as needed.

Social Emotional Wellness



As we prepare for our schools to open on August 12th, some students may experience some uneasiness, anxiety and/or stress. Our District is committed to supporting social emotional wellness to ensure that students transition back to school smoothly. Some of the supports include: social emotional learning, building relationships, increased access to mental health/wellness services, both in person and virtually. If parents need access to supports for their child, please contact your child's teacher and/or school Principal.



Family Resource Center

Our District is proud to be able to assist families as needed. The goal of the District's Family Resource Center is to help remove the barriers that often interfere with many students attending and thriving in school by providing food, clothing, toiletries, and school supplies to our families in need. Additionally, the District Social Worker supports students and families to ensure that they get their social emotional needs met, either in the District or through referrals to outside resources. If a family is in need of any of these items or services, please call 661-252-4322.

Conclusion

It is our hope that the Sulphur Springs Union School District Schools **Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan** will serve as a resource for families and staff as we continue to work together to educate, support, and nurture our students. The Superintendent has provided families communication updates every Friday and these are posted on the District's website homepage for additional information. Please know that at any time, families can email their child's teacher and/or school Principal for additional support as needed.



Addendums

Reopening Protocols for K-12 Schools: Appendix T1

**COVID-19 Exposure Management Plan Guidance in TK-12
Schools**



Part II

COVID-19 Prevention Program

