American Rescue Plan: 2021-22 Safe Return to School

Introduction

In the summer of 2020, the Hagerman Joint School District #233 created a taskforce to create a return to school plan for the 2020-21 school year. This plan was created with the help of stakeholders, staff, administration, and approved by the South Central Public Health District (SCPHD). The finalized plan was revised throughout the school year and Covid-19 procedures were officially removed by the HJSD School Board as of February 2021.

Updated...On July 20, 2021 a new taskforce was created to provide updated protocols for the beginning of the 2021-22 school year. As required by law, this plan will be reviewed at least every six months. This review will include an opportunity for stakeholder (community, staff, student, etc.) consultation and input.

Updates to HJSD #233 American Rescue Plan COVID Protocols

Health & Safety Strategies

Face Coverings: Face coverings are optional for all staff, students, and visitors. The COVID-19 vaccine is not required or tracked by the HJSD for staff or students.

PPE: Each school has access to disposable masks available in the office for use by staff, students, and patrons electing to utilize a face covering. Plexiglass barriers may be used in high contact areas and at the request of staff.

Hygiene: Hand sanitizer will be made readily available throughout the school. Hand sanitizer dispensers are provided throughout both schools. Posters communicating the importance of hygiene (handwashing and respiratory etiquette) will be displayed and communicated.

COVID Positive/Presumed Positive: Students and staff who are COVID-19 positive will be excluded from all school related activities. Students/staff may return after 2 days of being symptom free.

COVID-19 Exposure: Contact tracing will not be in place for 2021-22 school year.

School Cleaning: Extra attention will be given to the cleaning of buildings with products approved to kill the COVID-19 virus.

Immunization: The COVID-19 vaccine is not required or tracked by the HJSD. Parents/guardians, and staff will be made aware of opportunities for immunization against COVID-19. The HJSD will continue to partner with SCPHD and communicate updates and recommendations regarding COVID-19 vaccinations.
Continuity of Services

In-Person Option: The HJSD is committed to maintain face-to-face instruction to the greatest extent possible. This includes maintaining open campuses for in-person learning four days per week, except in instances of emergencies.

Full Remote Option: Parents/guardians who desire a fully remote option for their child(ren) will be able to access courses via Hagerman Joint School District Venture Upward for grades K-8.

Continuity of Education: During times students are out of school with sickness, students will be able to continue in their coursework through the use of a distance learning platform as was made available during the 2020-21 school year.

Special Education: IEP teams will ensure student needs are met in both face-to-face and virtual settings. Special education teachers and general education teachers will partner to ensure all IEP components are met. Unique circumstances resulting from COVID-19 will be addressed in partnership with parents in order to meet the needs of the student. These unique circumstances will be communicated with all impacted employees.

Digital Access: All students will have access to a device to take home to complete work remotely when excluded. In addition, the district will have access to Hotspots which parents and staff can check out for internet access during times they are excluded from school due to COVID-19, if they are in need.

Student/Family Support: School counselor/teachers/administration will be available to students who need assistance with social, emotional, and/or mental health. Counselor will make available a variety of community resources for parents in support of their child. Counselors will also work with staff on school-wide programs designed to assist students. Social Emotional Learning will be implemented in grades K-12 through a program titled, Suite 360.

Plan Review

This plan will be reviewed and revised at least every six (6) months and will include a process for stakeholder input (i.e. survey, community committee, etc.). The next review will be complete by July 20, 2022. Timing of the review will be related to the health conditions within HJSD schools.