

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

Background: On July 27, 2020 the Baldwin USD 348 BOE delayed the start of the 2020-2021 school year until September 9, 2020, to provide more time for staff to prepare re-opening the schools.

On August 24, 2020 the USD 348 School Board approved to follow the Douglas County Education Unified Command chart regarding curricular educational delivery metrics.

On September 15, 2020, the USD 348 BOE voted to follow the current gating criteria developed by the county unified command for the remainder of the first semester.

On November 23, 2020, the USD 348 BOE voted to move forward with the present education format for second semester.

On May 28, 2021, all mitigation criteria were removed.

On June 3, 2021, the board voted to begin summer school with optional masks and optional mitigation practices.

PART I.

Describe how the district will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff and the extent to which it has adopted policies, and a description of any such policies, on each of the following safety recommendations established by the CDC:

(A) Universal and correct wearing of masks.

Baldwin USD 348 does not have a mask requirement. For those staff and students who would like to wear a mask, the wearing of barrier face masks is encouraged while inside USD 348 buildings. When outdoors, barrier face masks are not required but are optional for those who choose to wear them.

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

Appropriate distancing is not required. For those staff and students who would like to physical distance, physical distancing is encouraged when possible.

(C) Hand washing and respiratory etiquette.

Individuals are encouraged to wash hands or use hand sanitizer frequently. Hands should be washed or sanitized before and after using shared supplies. Covering coughs and sneezes is always recommended.

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

In spaces that are regularly occupied, enhanced cleaning and maintenance protocols will continue to be used.

Increased outdoor air will continue to be used as a mitigation strategy. The activities taking place in each space in a building will help determine the amount of fresh outside air utilized, along with, appropriate filtering of the air in the building.

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

Contact tracing will be done in cooperation with the Douglas County Health Department.

(F) Diagnostic and screening testing.

Testing (Test kits) of symptomatic students may be available at school. Diagnostic and screening testing is available throughout the community.

(G) Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities.

USD 348 is encouraging students and staff who want to be vaccinated to visit with the Douglas County Health Department, or one of the local sites providing vaccinations.

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

Specific student health needs are addressed through individual student health plans.

(I) Coordination with State and local health officials.

USD 348 officials meet regularly with the Douglas County Unified Command.

Part II.

Describe how the district will ensure continuity of services, including but not limited to:

(A) services to address students' academic needs

We are analyzing student data from this past school year to determine the amount of regression that students have developed. This includes the Kansas Assessment Program and the Measures of Academic Progress Assessments. We will be improving our progress monitoring and screening practices to ensure that students are making academic growth. USD 348 has expanded summer offerings for 2021 and will continue to evaluate student needs throughout the 2021-22 school year. We are looking at several academic interventions for this coming year including Lexia and RazKids to address reading and additional instructional materials to support structured literacy. We are looking into on-line tutoring that could be available 24/7.

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

USD 348 has incorporated social emotional learning and interventions as part of our Multi-Tiered System of Support. We are examining our Kansas Communities That Care Data

from this past year. We will continue to screen students for their social and emotional needs to assist our students. Social-emotional and mental health needs of students will continue to be evaluated throughout the 2021-22 school year. We will be adding the digital version of Second Step for this coming year. We will have social workers and WRAP workers from Bert Nash in all of the schools for student and staff support. USD 348 has a district paid employee assistance program and provisions through our health insurance provider allowing access to mental health supports.

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

USD 348 is continuing the expanded summer meal service for 2021. All students will be eligible for free meals during the 2021-22 school year. The district is also working to increase the availability of health aides to accommodate student health needs.