

## **USD 506 Safe Return to School Plan 2022-2023 School Year**

USD 506 is aware of and understands that the level of concern related to COVID varies by person and/or household. As always, our utmost goal is to have healthy kids in school as much as possible. This Safe Return to School Plan for 2022-2023 has been prepared by USD 506 staff with guidance from KDHE and the Labette County Health Department.

### **Test to Know:**

USD 506 will utilize the “Test to Know” plan which provides the resources to provide diagnostic testing for students, teachers, and staff on site within each school in the district. This plan aims to provide rapid COVID-19 testing on site within schools for students, teachers and staff who become ill with symptoms during the school day. Diagnostic testing is intended to identify current infection in individuals and should be performed on anyone that has signs and symptoms consistent with COVID-19.

Examples of USD 506 diagnostic testing which will be provided:

- Testing anyone with symptoms consistent with COVID-19, be it students/staff that become symptomatic at school during the school day or develop symptoms while at home.
- For school districts that do not allow in-person learning during quarantine:
  - Provide at-home OTC tests for student/staff to self-test on days 5 and 6 OR
  - Offer POC antigen testing at the school for student/staff to self-test on days 5 and 6.

If you would like your student tested at any time, it can be done at school with minimal interruption of their day. Simply contact the school to make the request and give consent.

Over the Counter (OTC) Tests - USD 506 schools will provide upon parent request an OTC antigen test for distribution to students and staff for home testing.

### **Quarantine Guidelines:**

If a student or staff member tests positive for COVID, they will be required to stay home for a minimum of 5 days from the start of their symptoms or the date they tested positive if they never had symptoms. If on day 6 they have improved, are fever free without the use of medication, they may return to school wearing a mask for days 6-10. If the symptoms persist or they are unwilling to mask they will need to remain home for the entire 10 days. No testing is required to return to school.

#### Positive Test:

Stay home for 5 days

If you have no symptoms or your symptoms are resolving after 5 day and you are fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medications, you can return to school.

Must wear a mask at school for those additional 5 days.

**Contact Tracing:**

In addition to testing, Public Health continues to recommend quarantine and isolation measures to prevent transmission of SARS-CoV-2. While Public Health has transitioned away from investigating every COVID-19 case and contacting everyone potentially exposed, identifying cases and close contacts in certain settings, such as schools, remains an effective strategy for preventing disease spread.

We will not be doing comprehensive contact tracing at the school. However, we will do our best to send out a Bright Arrow message if we are notified that a student/staff has tested positive who may have spent extended time in close proximity to your child. This may include classrooms, lunch tables, sports teams or school buses. We will not require these “close contacts” to stay home, however it will be your choice to keep your student home, wear a mask to school or be tested. We are providing you this information so that you can make the best decision about how to handle it for your family.

**Sample Bright Arrow Message:**

There was a positive COVID case reported to \_\_\_(enter school name)\_\_\_ today and we believe your student may have been exposed. If you would like us to test your child, please contact the school office at \_\_\_(phone)\_\_\_\_\_ for the consent and request to test.

Students or staff that have been in known contact with a positive covid case should be monitored for symptoms and not come to school if symptomatic. As mentioned previously, we will offer testing on a Test to Know basis. Testing will not be mandatory. Therefore, if a student is symptomatic, we could offer a test with parental consent at school.

**Expectations for parents:**

- Regularly monitor your children for symptoms of COVID-19.
- If your child is symptomatic, have them tested with a diagnostic test. If they test negative with an antigen test, keep your child home and retest in 24-48 hours to be sure.
- Do not send your child to school if they are sick or if they test positive.
- Notify your school if your child tests positive. CDC’s Isolation and Quarantine Calculator is a tool to help determine how long individuals should isolate, quarantine, or take steps to prevent spreading COVID-19.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/quarantine-isolation.html>

- If your child is exposed to COVID-19 outside of school, notify the school.

**Staff Covid Related MOU:**

If the employee remains fully vaccinated, any absence required by COVID illness or by quarantine required by the county health department or authorized designee will not be charged to the employee’s own accumulated sick leave. This item shall sunset on June 30, 2023, unless expressly renewed.

The requirements to be “fully vaccinated” will be the same as last school year (21-22).