

Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

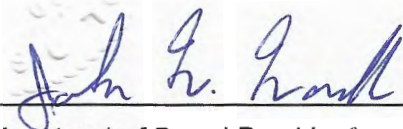
The Board of Directors/Trustees for **Big Spring School District** reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on **August 5, 2024**.

The plan was approved by a vote of:

9 Yes
0 No

Affirmed on: **August 5, 2024**

By:



(Signature* of Board President)

John W. Wardle

(Print Name of Board President)

*Electronic signatures on this document are acceptable using one of the two methods detailed below.

Option A: The use of actual signatures is encouraged whenever possible. This method requires that the document be printed, signed, scanned, and then submitted.

Option B: If printing and scanning are not possible, add an electronic signature using the resident Microsoft Office product signature option, which is free to everyone, no installation or purchase needed.



Health and Safety Plan

Big Spring School District

February 2024

Initial Effective Date: July 20, 2021

Date of Last Review: February 20, 2024

Date of Last Revision: February 20, 2024

The Big Spring School District's Health and Safety Plan provides a set of strategies, policies and procedures for instructional and non-instructional school programs. These strategies outline a variety of standards that address considerations related to health and safety. The District acknowledges that there are no strategies that will completely eliminate the risks associated with COVID-19; rather, the District's goal is to develop plans that will minimize risk, while also allowing the District to maintain school activities. The plan is intended to provide the District flexibility to transition, depending on changing public health conditions.

As with all emergency plans, the Health and Safety Plan has been tailored to the unique needs of the District and has been created in consultation with a variety of stakeholders and local health agencies. The Health and Safety Plan will be adopted by the District's School Board of Directors and will be posted to the District's website.

This plan shall be monitored throughout the year and is subject to revision based on changing public health conditions.

1. How will the LEA, to the greatest extent practicable, support prevention and mitigation policies in line with the most up-to-date guidance from the CDC for the reopening and operation of school facilities in order to continuously and safely open and operate schools for in-person learning?
 - The District will continuously monitor guidance, recommendations, and requirements at Federal and State levels. With the guidance provided by each of these organizations, the District will define appropriate protocols and support prevention and mitigation strategies by collaborating with staff working in areas of administration, health, safety, and human resources. This team will support prevention strategies and communication throughout the District.

2. How will the LEA ensure continuity of services, including but not limited to services to address the students' academic needs, and students' and staff members' social, emotional, mental health, and other needs, which may include student health and food services?
 - The District will establish alternative delivery models consistent with the requirements of the PDE to ensure a continuity of academic services to students impacted by health conditions. District support services including, but not limited to, counseling, special education, ESL, and gifted support, will establish plans for providing services in any alternative delivery model. Non-Instructional support services including transportation, technology, and food services, will also create plans for delivering services to students and families impacted by health conditions.
3. The table below explains how the LEA 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 policy on each of the following safety recommendations established by the CDC.

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
a. Universal and correct wearing of <u>masks</u>;	<p>On December 10, 2021, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court upheld the Commonwealth Court's November 2021 decision invalidating the August 31, 2021 PA Department of Health Masking Order for K-12 public schools. This decision immediately voided the Department of Health issued mask mandate, which required masking in school buildings from September 7, 2021. Decisions regarding masking in schools have been returned to local school boards.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Big Spring School District will not mandate the wearing of masks in the school setting. Students, staff, and visitors may choose to wear or not wear a mask.
b. Modifying facilities to allow for <u>physical distancing</u> (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes have been made to physical spaces allowing for individuals to choose social distancing.
c. <u>Handwashing and respiratory etiquette</u>;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue use of handwashing routines.
d. <u>Cleaning</u> and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving <u>ventilation</u>;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standard cleaning efforts implemented with additional attention to sanitizing frequently touched surfaces (i.e., door handles, water fountains, etc.)

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A comprehensive air quality assessment was completed, and system thresholds are closely monitored to ensure optimal efficiency and efficacy.
e. <u>Contact tracing</u> in combination with <u>isolation</u> and <u>quarantine</u>, in collaboration with the State and local health departments;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Districts are currently not required to contact trace. Staff and students are encouraged to stay home if sick/test positive and follow doctor's orders for return.
f. <u>Diagnostic</u> and screening testing;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued training and collaboration of certified school nurses to follow diagnostic and screening practices.
g. Efforts to provide <u>vaccinations to school communities</u>;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Those with questions and concerns about available vaccinations will be directed to ask their healthcare provider.
h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special arrangements will be made for students and staff deemed to be high-risk. Accommodation will be made on a case-by-case basis and will be based on the underlying or pre-existing conditions. • Identification of resources for students, staff, and families. • Provision of in-school supports for students
i. Coordination with state and local health officials.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consult with state and local health officials on practices, protocols, and changes in the level of virus transmission.