

# **ROCK PORT R-II SCHOOL DISTRICT**



## **Safe Return to In-Person Instruction & Continuity of Services Plan Updated January 2022**

BOE Adopted June 10, 2021  
Update BOE approved December 16, 2021  
Update BOE approved January 13, 2022

## **SRCSP Stakeholders**

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Role(s)</u></b>
Monica Bailey	Atchison County Dev. Corp. Executive Director, Parent
Joanna Burke	Family Medical Center PNP, Board of Education Member
Andrea Cook	Atchison County Health Dept., Parent
Jeremy Davis	Rock Port Telephone, Board of Education President
Cali Driskell	Student, Class of 2025
Shauna Farmer	Grades 7-12 Counselor
Keri Garst	Parent
Tayleigh Huntley	Student, Class of 2022
Rachel Jenkins	Grades 7-9 Science Instructor
Dylan Kemerling	Student, Class of 2024
Brogan Krutz	Student, Class of 2023
Maggie Lair	Atchison-Holt Electric, Parent
Leigh Ann Lawrence	Kindergarten Instructor
Julie Livengood	Atchison County Health Dept. Director
Katie McEnaney	Atchison County Head Start, Parent
Tabatha Meyer	Midwest Data Center, Community Member
Donnie Parsons	Grades 7-12 Principal
Christopher Roup	Stoner Drug Pharmacist, Parent
Afton Schomburg	Atchison-Holt Electric, Board of Education Member
Lori Shaw	Atchison County Mail, Community Member
Ethan Sickels	Superintendent
Stephen Waigand	Grades Pre K-6 Principal

## **Introduction**

The Rock Port R-II School District held instruction as normal as possible during the 2020-21 school year, and will continue to offer in-building learning during the 2021-22 school year and beyond. This plan serves as a reminder of our mitigation policies that may be implemented if cases and/or the need to exclude students from school who have a contagious disease rise during the school year. This plan is a requirement of accepting and utilizing ESSER III funding provided by the federal government through the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

Communication with the Atchison County Health Department, local physicians, staff, students, and community members will continue to ensure the Rock Port R-II School District is able to provide quality educational opportunities for our students and families. The following mitigation strategies will be followed during the 2021-22 and 2022-23 school years. These strategies are based on current guidance with the most current Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance, but will be based on what is affecting our community and our county in determining protocols for our district. Parents are encouraged to continue monitoring for

symptoms utilizing the School Algorithm (Appendix A) in determining when their child should refrain from attending school.

### **Mitigation Measures**

**Universal and correct wearing of masks:** Masks will not be required to be worn in-building or at school events, unless deemed necessary and communicated by Rock Port R-II Administration and Board of Education. Masks are allowed and are expected to be worn correctly at any time, and disposable masks are available from the school offices. Posters throughout the building remind students and staff of correct mask wearing procedures. The school district will continue to consider current CDC guidelines in our decision making process.

Due to current federal regulations, masks are required on all school transportation, including buses and school vehicles.

**Physical distancing:** Our smaller class sizes, number of Elementary and JH/HS classrooms, and extra classrooms, allow for physical distance when necessary. Classrooms will be designed with as much physical distancing between desks as possible, especially when seated together for more than 15 minutes. Efforts will continue in ensuring large groups of students are not present in hallways together for more than 15 minutes. The school district will continue to consider current CDC guidelines in our decision making process.

Our buses will continue to operate as they did during the 2020-21 school year. There will be assigned seating, with efforts to only sit family members in the same seat. Seating will be assigned so that physical distancing is maintained for as long as possible. Due to our smaller bus routes, rarely is there more than 20 students on a route at one time, allowing for appropriate physical distancing.

Our cafeteria seating arrangements will continue to promote physical distancing. The self-serve fruit and vegetable bar will not be in operation, as those will be provided by the food service staff to students as they choose their food options. Food sharing between students will be prohibited.

**Handwashing and respiratory etiquette:** Hand sanitizer will continue to be available, both in the dispensers attached to the wall throughout the building, as well as in individual bottles available in classrooms and high traffic areas. Elementary classrooms will continue to introduce and reinforce proper handwashing techniques. On both ends of the building, multiple opportunities for students to wash their hands daily are provided. Posters in bathrooms remind students and staff of the importance of hand washing. In addition, tissues are provided in all classrooms and office areas for respiratory needs. The school district will continue to consider current CDC guidelines in our decision making process.

**Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities:** In efforts to keep our district healthy, we encourage limited outside visitors during the school day. Items can be dropped off in the foyer of each building without the need to enter the main building. Our school district will continue with increased cleaning strategies, including having staff and students wipe down desks, tables, and objects that are touched with a high-frequency (i.e. door knobs). Disinfectant wipes have been and will continue to be purchased and utilized, as well as disinfectant spray. Buses will continue to be disinfected after morning and afternoon routes. When possible, windows and other ventilation options will be opened. Students are encouraged to bring water bottles to fill during the school day and for events. There are two bottle filler stations on each end of the building. The school district will continue to consider current CDC guidelines in our decision making process.

**Contact tracing:** Students or staff deemed a close contact will not be required to test negative to remain at school. No matter their vaccination status, if a student or staff member is deemed a close contact, a notification letter will be sent home with the student to inform the parent/guardian. Please monitor for symptoms, and if any are present, please keep your student home from school. If no symptoms are present the student may attend, but we would strongly encourage wearing a mask. Those deemed a close contact should monitor symptoms for a period of ten days. The school district will continue to consider current CDC guidelines in our decision making process.

**Diagnostic and screening testing:** Families will be asked to continue to monitor student health symptoms at home, and are asked to not send kids to school if COVID symptoms are present. If no symptoms are present the student may attend, but we would strongly encourage wearing a mask. Should a child become sick at school and show signs of potential COVID symptoms, they will move to the transition room until they visit with the nurse and a family member can arrive. COVID testing in our building is currently on hold due to shortages in the Test to Stay program. Testing is available at specific locations such as the Atchison County Health Department and Fairfax Community Hospital. The school district will continue to consider current CDC guidelines in our decision making process.

**Test to Stay:** Rock Port R-II implemented the “Test to Stay” program on November 17, 2021. However, as of January 18, 2022, the Test to Stay program has been put on hiatus until further test kits can be obtained from the state.

**Efforts to provide vaccinations:** The Atchison County Health Department has provided a large amount of free vaccination events available to educators beginning in March 2021. At this point, eligible members of the school community are encouraged to get vaccinated if they feel it serves their best interest. The Rock Port R-II School District will not be a host, or partner with other

organizations, to host COVID vaccination events on campus. The school district will continue to consider current CDC guidelines in our decision making process.

**Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities:** Accommodations for children with disabilities are documented in an Individual Education Plan (IEP). The modifications or accommodations are legally required, and will be followed by the school district. The school district will continue to consider current CDC guidelines in our decision making process.

### **Continuity of Services**

**Interruptions of in-person learning:** If it is determined that our building needs to be closed, Rock Port R-II will continue to offer distance/virtual learning opportunities to our students through a wide variety of platforms. This may also be available to students in lengthy quarantine situations. Students and staff will utilize electronic devices to conduct class through a variety of methods, including Zoom, Google Classroom, and See Saw. Other online learning outlets may also be incorporated, including Study Island and IXL. In addition, packets, worksheets, textbooks, and library books may also be sent home and utilized to support learning. Elementary teachers will check-in with students through their online platforms (Google Classroom or See Saw) 2-3 times a week. Junior High and High School students will meet daily with their teacher through Zoom and utilize Google Classroom on their normal class period schedule. Attendance will be expected daily in these classes, and students will be required to adhere to the already set schedules.

We provide a questionnaire as part of our registration process to determine whether students have the appropriate devices, and internet access necessary, to access distanced/virtual learning from home. We have enough chromebooks in our district for every student to check-out a device if warranted. Those families without internet access should communicate with the Rock Port R-II School District to make arrangements. For those families who lack internet services, we have a local company who may be able to provide internet services. Hot spots may also be acquired and utilized to help in this endeavor. We also will allow students to utilize our building during times of closure, in specific areas of the building with appropriate physical distancing. It is also possible for students to access the internet from our outdoor wi-fi options available on both sides of our building, or obtain internet access from other locations in our town, including the Atchison County Library.

Packets will be available to be picked-up by a family member, scanned and emailed to the family, or provided through an online platform (Google Classroom/See Saw). In necessary circumstances, packets may also be delivered to a residence. Once students return to school, they are expected to bring back the finished work so that it can be graded and utilized for attendance purposes.

**Social, emotional, and mental health needs of students and staff:**

The disruption to the lives of staff and students during the COVID-19 pandemic has made education more challenging. Since we have provided in-building learning during the past school year, and will continue to during the 2021-22 and 2022-23 school years, students and staff are aware of opportunities to visit with counselors or other staff members to offer support and encouragement. Counseling sessions are always available for students in a one-on-one setting, both in our building, and also virtually if necessary.

We will continue to utilize our At-Risk procedures and protocols to determine if there are students and/or families who are experiencing difficult situations. While it is impossible to determine the need for the upcoming school years, we will continue to support all students and staff through a wide variety of situations.

**SRCSP Plan review:**

The SRCSP Plan stakeholders will meet again every six months to discuss any needed updates/revisions to the plan. As this plan is a working document, all stakeholders understand that this plan may need to be modified/revised more frequently depending on outside factors.

**Plan available in other formats:**

If you need or know someone who needs this plan translated or read to them, please contact Ethan Sickels at 660-744-6298 or [ethan.sickels@rpbluejays.com](mailto:ethan.sickels@rpbluejays.com)