# Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan ("Reopening Plan")

As Marcum-Illinois School returns to being fully open, protocols and information have been updated. These protocols, address CDC and California Department of Public Health (CDPH) recommendations and will be revisited every 6 months to address any changes.

# **Maintaining Health and Safety**

#### Masks

CDPH strongly recommends that all individuals wear masks in K-12 indoor settings, however masks are not required. MIUSD will provide a mask to any person requesting one. No person will be prevented from wearing a mask at school.

# **Physical Distancing**

Recent evidence indicates that in-person instruction can occur safely without minimum physical distancing requirements when other mitigation strategies (e.g., masking) are implemented.

#### **Healthy Hygiene Practices**

Staff and parents will teach and reinforce <u>washing hands</u>, avoiding <u>contact with one's eyes</u>, nose, and mouth, and <u>covering coughs and sneezes</u> following CDPH and CDC recommendations. Teachers will develop routines enabling students and staff to regularly wash their hands. All classrooms, offices, and meeting rooms are equipped with adequate hand washing facilities and hand sanitizer.

#### **Cleaning and Disinfection**

Marcum-Illinois School has established routine schedules and ensures there are adequate supplies to clean and disinfect common surfaces and objects in the workplace. The process of disinfecting includes providing disinfecting products that are EPA approved for use against the virus that causes COVID-19 and following the manufacturer's instructions for all cleaning and disinfection products (e.g., safety requirements, PPE, concentration, contact time). Each classroom, office, bathroom, and staff area shall be cleaned daily. Should there be a COVID-19 case in the workplace, the district will clean and disinfect all areas used by the sick person, such as offices, bathrooms, common areas, shared equipment.

# Ventilation

For indoor locations, the district has evaluated how to maximize the quantity of outdoor air and whether it is possible to increase filtration efficiency to the highest level compatible with the existing ventilation system. Marcum-Illinois School services the ventilation systems regularly replacing all filters and servicing any needed repairs.

## **Food Service**

The district will return to regular food service and will:

- Maximize physical distance as much as possible while eating (especially indoors) and arrange for eating outdoors as much as feasible.
- Clean frequently touched surfaces often. Surfaces that come in contact with food will be washed, rinsed, and sanitized before and after meals.

# **Campus Management & Access**

During the school day and when any district programs are in session (including Morning Den and Afterschool Den), campus access will be limited to staff, students, and those on official school business. Volunteers may be permitted indoors on campus and/or be permitted to attend field trips if they are symptom free and test negative for COVID-19 the day of volunteering with a district provided rapid test on campus. If parents/guardians are visiting outdoor only school events on campus or any school events taking place outside of normal school program hours (outside of 7:00am-6:00pm), they do not have to be Covid tested. All volunteers/visitors must check into the office before entering the campus and may have other requirements including, but not limited to, fingerprinting and background clearance as required by the district.

# **Transportation**

While riding the bus, it is strongly recommended by CDPH for all individuals to wear masks, however it is not required.

# **Staying Home When Sick**

Everyone entering the school are asked to perform daily wellness checks. Anyone who expresses symptoms related to Covid-19 are expected to stay home and follow CDC, CDPH and Sutter County Public Health Guidelines. Students will not be penalized for poor attendance due to health-related absences. Parents are asked to refrain from giving their child fever reducing medicine and then sending them to school. If they have symptoms, they should stay home, for their health and the health of others.

- Symptoms at School: The district has identified an isolation area to separate anyone who exhibits 1 or more symptoms of COVID-19 while at school.
- Return to School After Exclusion for Symptoms: Staff members and students with symptoms of COVID-19
  infection are advised not to return for in-person instruction until they have met the most current CDPH
  and Sutter County Public Health criteria to discontinue home isolation.

#### **Identification and Tracing of COVID-19 Cases**

Staff members and parents of students shall contact Mrs. Irby to report a confirmed positive and/or suspected case of Covid-19. Reporting of confirmed positive and suspected cases in students and staff will follow CDPH guidance. The school will contact the Sutter County Public Health Department if we are notified that a student or staff member has a positive COVID-19 test. Sutter County Public Health will work with the school on a case by case basis to determine the extent of exposure to other students and staff members and consider if classroom, office, or school closure is warranted, and the length of time based on the need to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and allow for additional cleaning. The school will communicate with staff/families in the case of a student or staff member with a positive test for COVID-19, in accordance with the privacy requirements of FERPA/HIPPA and the communication guidance as required from County Public Health.

#### Tracing

Marcum-Illinois has a designated COVD-19 liaison, Superintendent/Principal, Maggie Irby, to act as the communication point for all COVID-19 concerns. This individual's responsibility may include:

- Managing and supporting contact tracing
- Notifying exposed persons, as required
- Creating and maintaining a database of exposed students and staff, as required
- Communicating with, and submitting lists of exposed students and staff to the local health department, as required

# **Testing of Students and Staff**

Individuals who have symptoms of COVID-19 or have been exposed to someone with COVID-19 are recommended to stay home and isolate. They will be directed to contact their health care provider or local health department for medical guidance or to undergo testing. If testing supplies are available, MIUSD may provide testing to students with parent consent.

Staff members who are not fully vaccinated will participate in weekly COVID-19 testing provided by the district to ensure negative Covid status.

#### **Quarantine and Isolation**

The district will follow the most current California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and Sutter County Public Health guidance regarding quarantine due to exposure and isolation for people with COVID-19.

#### Efforts to Provide Vaccinations to the School Community and Vaccination Verification

Marcum-Illinois will direct those interested in getting a vaccination to the Sutter County Health Department and will adhere to the CDC vaccine verification recommendations.

## Appropriate Accommodations for Children with Disabilities (Health and Safety)

The recommended procedures will be applied to all classroom settings, including special education services locations when possible and appropriate. Individual student needs will be addressed on a case-by-case basis.

#### **Coordination with State and Local Health Officials**

The district will continue to follow recommendations from the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and the Sutter County Health Department.

# **Communication Plan**

Marcum-Illinois will maintain communication systems that allow staff and families to self-report COVID-19 symptoms and receive immediate notifications of exposures and closures. Communication will maintain confidentiality as required by FERPA and state law related to privacy of educational records and other privacy laws. The March 2020 Student Privacy Policy FERPA & Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) FAQs (Department of Education) will provide the staff with additional guidance on how to provide effective communication. Local Health Departments will notify the school administration if a case and contact investigation reveal exposure at the school site.

The administration and teachers will communicate clearly, consistently, and often with stakeholder groups (students, parents/guardians, staff and community) with the most up to date information available through a

variety of platforms (i.e. email, website posts, newsletter, text messages, phone calls). This Reopening Plan will be posted on the district's website and reviewed every six months for possible revisions.

# **Continuity of Services**

The LEA will ensure continuity of services, including but not limited to services to address students' academic needs and students' and staff social, emotional, mental health and other needs, which may include student health and food services. Describe how the LEA will ensure continuity of services in case isolation, quarantine, or future school closures are required, including how the LEA will meet the needs of students with disabilities and English learners.

Our goal is to provide in-person learning to all students, addressing their academic, social, emotional, and mental health via the many programs in place within our school. The 2021-22 school year will begin with a regular school year schedule that follows our normal curriculum and assessments with an added emphasis on providing academic and social-emotional intervention to struggling students. We have invested in professional development, student support systems, and technology to support the transition to independent study should that become necessary.

The Local Health Officer may determine that school closure is warranted. If school closure is deemed necessary, staff and students will revert to Independent Study for a temporary period. During this period, MIUSD will continue use of the same standards aligned, currently adopted curriculum as used during classroom-based instruction. This alignment supports expedient transition between independent study and classroom-based instruction. The district has invested in the technology and staff training to support independent study should it become necessary.

# **Stakeholder Engagement**

The LEA sought public comments in the development of its plan and took those comments into account in the development of its plan. Describe the LEA's policy or practice that provided the public with an opportunity to provide comments and feedback and the collection process. Describe how any feedback was incorporated into the development of the plan.

This Reopening Plan reflects current mandates and recommendations. Staff, parents, and community members were provided opportunities to provide input. The draft Reopening Plan was presented at the January 10, 2022, meeting of the Board of Trustees for discussion. The draft Reopening Plan was also presented at the February School Site Council meeting on February 1, 2022. The plan was posted on our website and stakeholders were informed of the opportunity to provide feedback. Feedback received was considered in development of the final draft. The plan was approved at the February 14, 2022 board meeting. Plan was revised to reflect recent CDPH updates and presented to the Board and re-approved at the March 14, 2022 board meeting.

Date of next review: August 2022