

Santa Fe Trail BOCES Safe In-Person School Plan

This plan to provide services to our 6 member districts of the Santa Fe Trail BOCES (SFTBOCES) and their students, was aligned with our member districts' mitigation strategies as we continue in-person learning with the commitment to create as normal of a school year as possible.

SFTBOCES is committed to providing a safe environment for staff and students as services are provided during the COVID-19 pandemic, to include ensuring the well-being of our staff and students. Since SFTBOCES does not operate a school, our Specialized Service Providers will follow all guidelines stated in our member SFTBOCES' Safe Return to School Plans and SFTBOCES employees working in our center-based program (SEAL Academy) will also follow all guidelines in this plan. SFTBOCES service providers will follow the guidelines of the district in which they are providing services at a minimum, with the option of adding more layers of barriers if they desire. SFTBOCES developed a matrix indicating the layers of barriers, to include facemasks, physical distancing, changing locations every 15 minutes, plexiglass between students and service providers, disinfectant spray, individual supplies and materials for students, and limiting the number of students in therapy groups. Updates to these plans are communicated to our staff via district/building as they occur.

SFTBOCES strongly believes that students benefit from face-to-face instruction and every effort has been made to ensure service is provided in such a manner.

Commitments:

- SFTBOCES is committed to the safety and well-being of its students, teachers, and staff.
- SFTBOCES is committed to providing as normal of a school year as possible.
- SFTBOCES recognizes the diversity of perspectives on the COVID-19 pandemic and will do our best to balance those perspectives while delivering high-quality educational services to our member districts' staff and students.
- SFTBOCES is committed to working and communicating with all of our partners regarding decisions that could be impacted by COVID-19.
- SFTBOCES understands that conditions are subject to change, thus our practices and safety measures are reviewed, updated, and communicated to our partners to ensure the safety and well-being of our students and staff.

Safety Measures:

Masks

- There is no longer a state mandate requiring masks. All SFTBOCES employees have been supplied with masks and are allowed to wear masks purchased with personal funds.
- Individuals who are not fully vaccinated are strongly encouraged to wear a mask.
- The SFTBOCES will honor the right of parents to have their child wear a mask at any time.
- The SFTBOCES will honor the right of teachers to wear a mask at any time.

Sanitation:

- SFTBOCES is committed to sanitation practices and believes cleanliness of the school is everyone's responsibility. SFTBOCES employees have been supplied with sanitizing supplies and are asked to clean their work spaces regularly.

Quarantine and Social Distancing:

- SFTBOCES employees will follow the guidelines in our member district Safe Return to School Plans as well as guidance from county health departments and personal medical providers.

Screening and Health Safety;

- SFTBOCES believes that the first point of screening staff is at home, and we will work with parents and staff to ensure that they are aware of the best screening practices.
- Hand washing will be encouraged.
- Symptoms of illness may include fever, chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea.

Instructional Time and Student Attendance:

- All services will be provided in person. Our districts were in person for the beginning 2021-2022 school year.
- In the event that the SFTBOCES must use remote learning or participate in other services via virtual means, SFTBOCES will utilize the same remote model as used in the 2020-2021 school year.

Protocol for remote learning (short-term only):

- Should SFTBOCES member districts/schools move to remote learning, our service providers will provide remote options to all students being served through and Individualized Education Plan.

Funding:

- All strategies described will be accomplished with funds to implement prevention and mitigation strategies; and are in line with the most recent CDC guidance in order to continuously and safely provide services for in-person learning.

Resources:

Colorado Department of Education COVID-19 toolkit. <http://www.cde.state.co.us/safeschools> (CDE).

Colorado State Government <https://covid19.colorado.gov/> Guide for COVID-19