

# READY FOR LEARNING/ CONTINUITY OF SERVICES PLAN UPDATED OCTOBER 13, 2023

SUPERINTENDENT, DR. TONY THURMAN CABOT PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT

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READY FOR LEARNING DISTRICT COMMITTEE

#### **SECTION ONE:**

# **Guaranteed and Viable Curriculum**

## K-12 Blended and Virtual Learning

- To ensure a guaranteed and viable curriculum whether students are learning onsite or at a remote location, the Cabot School District has worked with its curriculum teams, administrative teams, and classroom teachers to ensure that CPS curriculum is aligned and prepared to be utilized in a variety of instructional models.
- Blended learning will only be utilized for quarantine situations.
- Using teacher-created and online resources, the district will be able to effectively
  implement a curriculum that is based on essential standards. Instruction will take
  place both face to face and virtually when appropriate.
- Teachers on-site will model blending learning techniques and strategies from day 1 of the school year.
- Virtual instruction will be used on a periodic basis when school is in session on-site
  to help students better understand how to be digital learners. This will help students
  and staff make an easier transition to a full virtual learning environment if necessary.
- All students will be provided with a district-issued Chromebook to use both at school and at home.
- The district will use a variety of assessments to measure student academic progress.
- If on-site, students will work through the following curricula:
  - o K-6
    - Wit and Wisdom (literacy and social studies)
    - Illustrative Math (math)
    - Generation Genius (science)
    - Phonics First (phonics)
  - 7-12
    - CPS-created curriculum in all subject areas
- If enrolled in CPDA, students will work through the following curricula:
  - o 7-12
    - CPS-created curriculum
    - EdMentum
    - Virtual Arkansas



#### **Assessments**

All CPS students, whether in the CPDA or on-site, will participate in our district's assessment system so that student growth can be monitored and education tailored to meet their needs. Some of these tests will occur at a student's school; others may be taken virtually. The following assessments are required of Cabot's students:

- MAP Growth (K-2) Fall, Winter, Spring
- MAP Growth (3-10) Fall, Winter, Spring
- MAP Fluency Dyslexia Screener (K-5)
- ATLAS (3-10)
- ACT 11th
- PAST (K-6 as needed)
- DLM (3-10 as needed)
- ELPA (K-12 as needed)

#### **SECTION TWO:**

# **Addressing Unfinished Learning**

- Teams have worked to identify some of these elements, which will be covered at the beginning of the school year, and others that will be introduced at the appropriate time over the next few years to provide the necessary foundation and background information to support new material.
- Intervention programs, such as Lexia, Geodes, and others, will be utilized to help enrich and address any unfinished learning in regard to literacy.

#### **SECTION THREE:**

# **Learning Management System**

- The district will use Google Classroom as the learning management system (LMS) to support both the blended and virtual instructional model for students in grades K-12.
- This platform will allow students and parents to access the full curriculum and instructional resources online.
- EdMentum will be utilized along with Google Classroom for certain students on-site and for all CPDA students.



#### **SECTION FOUR:**

# **Teacher Training on Learning Management System**

- Teacher training on Google Classroom, as well as a number of other Google Applications for Education, have been in place for several years.
- District classes were held for K-12 staff this summer and 28 sessions were held with 263 staff members attending PD on Google Classroom, digital and blended learning, as well as a variety of other technology tools.
- In addition, our district has created a website and a virtual library of training videos on the LMS as well as other technology pieces to be used this school year.
- CPS Teachers are utilizing sample videos of their instruction and sharing them out with their colleagues around the district as needed.



#### **SECTION FIVE:**

# **Teacher Training on Blended Learning**

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# **SECTION SIX:**

# **Effective Use of Technology for Parents and Students**

- This <u>list of virtual tutorials</u> on Google applications, as well as a number of other digital products, has been shared out via social media and via teacher push-out.
- Classroom teachers will use the first two weeks of school to train students on the technology side of CPDA and blended-learning.



#### **SECTION SEVEN:**

#### **Written Communication Plan**

At the Cabot School District, "It's about KIDS." It is extremely important and necessary for us to effectively communicate with our students, staff, parents, patrons, and community members. Our district utilizes multiple platforms to share timely and pertinent information.

Methods of communication include our automated messaging system which consists of phone calls, emails, texts, app notifications, and social media postings. We also highly encourage parents to first check our district website, <a href="https://www.cabotschools.org">www.cabotschools.org</a>, for the latest school news.

The district welcomes and values feedback from our stakeholders and our Panther family staff members. In response to an influx of questions due to COVID-19, the district created a specific email, <a href="mailto:covid19questions@cabotschools.org">covid19questions@cabotschools.org</a>, for parents and students to ask questions concerning the reopening of schools and our brand new Cabot Panther Digital Academy. This prompted us to design a <a href="mailto:Frequently Asked Questions">Frequently Asked Questions</a> section that is constantly updated for our parents and shared publicly on the Cabot Public Schools website.

We also created a special email, <u>covid19staffquestions@cabotschools.org</u>, for staff members that is frequently updated and emailed to district employees by our superintendent. We strive to provide timely responses to any questions and concerns.

The district also produces numerous videos through our Cabot High School broadcasting studio that reaches thousands of patrons. These videos have featured our superintendent, executive director of curriculum and instruction, director of communications, principals, and students. The district also utilizes cable television to disseminate information. CSN or Cabot Schools Network can be seen on Suddenlink Channel 3.

Information is also displayed on school marquees. Buildings have new custom signage regarding hygiene, and health and safety reminders.





#### **SECTION SEVEN:**

## Written Communication Plan, Con't.

Administrators and teachers communicate via Remind, Google Meet, Google Classroom, Zoom, electronic surveys, emails, newsletters, postcards, etc. The Cabot Public Schools app also provides parents with the latest school news in the palm of their hands. It is free and more than 15,000 people have currently downloaded it.



Along with our district app, social media allows us to communicate critical information quickly. The district has more than 18,000 followers on <u>Facebook</u> and over 6,500 followers on <u>Twitter</u>. Superintendent Dr. Thurman is also very active on <u>Twitter</u> and has nearly 6,800 followers.

It is our goal to make sure every student, parent, staff, and community member stays up-to-date. Information is constantly changing and we are dedicated to providing all the communication tools necessary to support, guide, inform, and educate our Panther family.





#### **SECTION EIGHT:**

# Physical Distancing, Handwashing, Respiratory Etiquette

We will continue to make handwashing and good hygiene a priority. In addition, our hardworking custodial team will continue to sanitize our facilities on a daily basis.

However, the most important mitigation factor of all is ensuring that students who are symptomatic stay home.

If a student is showing any symptoms, do not send that student to school until you know for a fact that it's not COVID-related. Sending symptomatic kids to school that may eventually test positive for COVID can send many more students home to quarantine.





#### **SECTION NINE:**

# **Maintaining Healthy Facilities**

With the COVID-19 pandemic came many new challenges in cleaning and disinfection. The Cabot School District has taken and will continue to take steps to promote and maintain healthy facilities.

## These steps include:

- Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) was and is provided for every student and staff member.
- PPE included; adult and student facemasks, (disposable and cloth), gowns, gloves, and face shields.
- Hand sanitizer dispensers were placed in every classroom and school bus around the district, including common areas such as Cafeterias, lounges, offices, gyms, etc.
- A disinfectant with a 30 second kill time was provided for every teacher, custodian, and bus driver, to allow them to disinfect as frequently as needed throughout the day.
- The district purchased Clorox Total 360 Electrostatic sprayers for every campus. This
  allows for significantly increased rates of disinfection. These machines are used daily
  throughout the buildings.
- HEPA filter vacuums were purchased for daily use in classrooms and other carpeted areas around the building.

In addition to materials and equipment being provided, the Custodial Department was tasked with ramping up cleaning and disinfection efforts. Custodians were instructed to continually disinfect high-touch areas such as doorknobs, light switches, tables, and countertops throughout the day. Bathrooms were thoroughly cleaned and disinfected multiple times throughout the day. Custodians used electrostatic disinfectant sprayers daily to ensure that an entire campus had been disinfected.

The Cabot School District will continue to follow the practices mentioned above. PPE and disinfectants will continue to be provided to staff upon request. Custodians will closely monitor hand sanitizer levels, and dispensers will be replaced as needed. We will continue to disinfect high-touch surfaces throughout the day. Electrostatic sprayers will be used daily to disinfect classrooms and common areas. A future goal for the Custodial Department will be to install a color-coded microfiber mopping system. This will help to eliminate cross-contamination from one location to the next.

#### **SECTION TEN:**

#### **Vaccinations**

Cabot School District has been proactive in working with our local pharmacies to provide Covid-19 vaccination clinics for all eligible staff and students. Our local pharmacies have provided on-site clinics at several campuses as well as offering appointments at the pharmacies in an attempt to accommodate any and all schedules. We will continue to work closely with our local health department, our local health care providers, and our local pharmacies to offer Covid-19 vaccine clinics in the future. As the CDC (Centers for Disease Control) and the ADH (Arkansas Department of Health) receive revised guidance for administering the Covid-19 vaccine to younger age groups, we will implement their recommendations and provide vaccine clinics.

#### **SECTION ELEVEN:**

Health and Safety Accommodations for Children with Disabilities

PPE will be used when toileting and feeding students.

Staff will be disinfecting all contact surfaces (tables, chairs, desks, changing tables, equipment, manipulatives, etc.)

#### **SECTION TWELVE:**

#### Coordination with State and Local Health Officials

Cabot School District has relied heavily upon the local and state health units for guidance and direction as we navigated through the major challenges of a pandemic. Our school district followed all guidelines set forth by the state health department and our district POC communicated frequently and efficiently to make sure we were always in compliance with Covid -19 guidelines for public schools.

While positive cases of Covid-19 have diminished tremendously, we are aware that we will still see cases in the future and we will continue to communicate with the ADH/ADE and seek guidance for public school recommendations.

Our hope for the future is a continual decline in positive Covid-19 cases but we will be prepared to work closely with the ADH and seek guidance as needed to make sure we are providing the healthiest environment for our students and staff.

#### READY FOR LEARNING DISTRICT COMMITTEE

Chair: Michael Byrd, Deputy Superintendent
Co-chair: Dr. Melanie Duerkop, Director of Federal Programs

#### Members:

Henry Hawkins, Cabot High School Principal Haley Beavert, Director of Special Programs Pam Wilson. Director of Assessment **Emily Taylor, Director of Counseling** Nicole Gatewood, CTE/STEM Coordinator Aaron Randolph, Assistant Superintendent Tina Wiley, Executive Director of Finance Andy Martin, Director of Technology Brian Evans, State Representative Erin Wilkes. Director of Food Services Ann Randolph, Middle School North Parent/Nurse Ashley Hankins, ASU Beebe Julia Ray, Westside Elementary Teacher Morris Rothfeldt, Director of Student Support Services Karen Davis, Executive Director of Administrative Operations Liz Massey, Director of Communications Dr. Tony Thurman, Superintendent

