

## **Kress Independent School District**

### **Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services (RPICS) Plan**

#### **Introduction:**

Kress ISD will be utilizing funding from ESSER II and the ARP, ESSER III funding. The purpose of ESSER II is to prevent, prepare for or respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. The purpose of ESSER III is to help safely reopen and sustain the safe operation of schools and address the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on students. The plan that follows is a draft intended to outline Kress ISDs planned safety measures for the 2023-2024 school year while continuing to provide an excellent educational experience.

#### **Maintaining Health and Safety:**

The key to returning to successful, sustained on campus instruction will be our commitment to health and safety guidelines (below). On campus instruction will begin on August 16, 2023. All on campus students will receive instruction during the “first days of school” on appropriate hygiene practices and mitigation strategies that will be reinforced throughout the school year.

To reduce the risk of transmission Kress ISD plans the following mitigation strategies for the 2023-2024 school year (per current CDC guidelines):

<b>PROVIDE NOTICE: Requirements for Parental and Public Notices</b>	
<b>COVID-19 Response Team (CRT)</b>	KISD’s COVID-19 Response Team will be composed of the KISD District Leadership team. This team is responsible for planning for and responding to COVID-19 concerns. The CRT is committed to supporting our school community with open and honest communication that will allow parents, students, and staff to make the best decisions for their education during the school year. The campus principals will be the COVID-19 contact person on each campus. Our goal is to provide the safest experience for all students and staff whether in person or remotely.

<b>Attendance and Enrollment</b>	Per Texas Education Code (TEC), 25.092, students must attend 90% of the days a course is offered (with some exceptions) in order to be awarded credit for the course and/or to be promoted to the next grade.
<b>Notification of Confirmed Cases on Campus</b>	<p>1. If a positive case is identified for a school participant (student or employee), the District will identify and notify any individuals who had regular or <u><b>close contact</b></u> (as defined at the end of this document) with the affected participant. This may include the entire class (students, teachers, staff ).</p> <p>2. If a positive case is identified on a campus or in a district facility, all campus and/or facility participants will receive notification.</p> <p>3. The Superintendent or designee will notify the local health department of any positive case(s).</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>PREVENT:</b>  <b>Required practices to prevent the virus from entering the school</b></p>	
<b>Screening Protocols</b>	<p>1. Staff will be required to self-screen for COVID-19 symptoms, including temperature check prior to reporting to work each day.</p> <p>2. Parents/Guardians are expected to screen their students for COVID-19 symptoms each day prior to sending their student to school.</p> <p>3. Teachers and staff will monitor student health and refer students to the CRT if symptoms are present.</p>
<b>COVID-19 Symptoms include</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Feeling feverish or a measured temperature greater than or equal to 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit</li> <li>● Loss of taste or smell</li> <li>● Cough</li> <li>● Difficulty breathing</li> <li>● Shortness of breath</li> <li>● Headache</li> <li>● Chills</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sore throat</li> <li>• Shaking or exaggerated shivering</li> <li>• Significant muscle pain or ache</li> <li>• Diarrhea</li> </ul>
<b>Definition of Close Contact</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Individual who, while not wearing a mask, has had close contact (within 6 feet for 15 minutes or longer) or were sneezed or coughed on by a person who has tested positive for COVID-19 within 2 days prior to the person developing symptoms and/or testing positive.</li> <li>2. Individuals who provided care at home to someone who is sick with COVID-19 or COVID-19 symptoms.</li> </ol>
<b>Campus Visitation Protocols</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Parents will not be allowed to walk students to classrooms at the start of class daily.</li> <li>2. Lunch with students -Adults will be able to have lunch daily.</li> <li>3. Meet the teacher, assemblies, open house, parent conferences, etc. will be held in person.</li> <li>4. Students leaving during the day for appointments will need a doctor's note to return. High school students leaving to test for a driver's license will need to bring back documentation.</li> <li>5. Visitors will be required to undergo screening for COVID-19 by completing a symptom screening form.</li> </ol>
<b>Parent Meetings</b>	The format for all ARD meetings, 504 meetings, and parent conferences will be determined at the time of scheduling.

	Principals are in charge of ARD meetings.
<b>MITIGATE:</b> <b>Practices to Mitigate the Likelihood of COVID-19 Spread Inside the School</b>	
<b>Hand Sanitizing Protocols</b>	<p>1. Hand sanitizer will be available at entrances to campuses and district facilities, in common areas, and upon entry into the classroom.</p> <p>2. Students and staff will be expected to regularly wash or sanitize hands.</p> <p>3. Frequent reminders to wash or sanitize hands will be provided during the instructional day, including after using the restroom and before eating.</p>
<b>Campus Cleaning and Disinfecting Protocols</b>	<p>1. Staff will have access to supplies to clean high-touch and working surfaces and shared objects regularly. (shared supplies will be limited)</p> <p>2. Each classroom will be cleaned and disinfected daily.</p> <p>3. Restrooms and cafeterias will be sanitized throughout the day and will be disinfected daily.</p>
<b>Face Covering Protocols (per the executive order concerning face coverings)</b>	According to a proclamation by the Governor of Texas, masks are optional and no longer required. However, the wearing of a mask is allowed.
<b>Learning Environment Protocols</b>	<p>1. Classroom desks or tables will be socially distanced as much as instructionally possible.</p> <p>2. Teachers will develop, teach, and implement procedures that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Encourage the use of hand sanitizer and/or soap and water hand washing.</li> </ul>

<b>Transition Protocols</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. When transitioning between classes, students will be instructed to practice “social distance” as much as possible in the hallways.</li> </ol>
<b>Common Areas and Flexible Learning Protocols</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Visual and verbal reminders will be provided regarding maximum occupancy.</li> <li>2. Social distancing measures will be implemented according to the physical spaces in each facility.</li> <li>3. Students and staff will be required to wash hands before exiting restrooms.</li> </ol>
<b>Breakfast/Lunch Protocols</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Students will eat meals in the designated areas.</li> <li>2. All KISD child nutrition staff will use face coverings/masks and gloves while performing job responsibilities and will be trained to practice health and hygiene regulations.</li> </ol>
<b>Transportation Protocols</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Hand sanitizer will be available when boarding the bus.</li> <li>2. Buses will be cleaned/disinfected between each transportation run and at the end of the day.</li> <li>3. Transportation staff will be trained in proper cleaning/disinfecting procedures.</li> </ol>
<b>Water</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Students may bring clear water bottles from home.</li> <li>2. Water fountains will be available. Students will be able to fill water bottles from them.</li> </ol>
<b>Ventilation</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Classroom windows may be opened for fresh air.</li> <li>2. Each classroom has an individual HVAC for regulation of temperature.</li> <li>3. HVAC filters are changed regularly and often.</li> <li>4. Portable industrial rated air cleaners are used to sanitize rooms on a rotating bases.</li> </ol>
<b>Extracurricular: including, but not limited to: Cheer,</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. It is required that students who wish to participate in any extracurricular activity attend face-to-face/on-</li> </ol>

<b>CTE, Drama/Theatre Arts, UIL Athletics, UIL Academics, and any other Student Group Activities</b>	<p>campus instruction.</p> <p>2. All extracurricular teams/groups will adhere to CDC, TEA, and UIL guidelines.</p> <p>3. Any equipment, such as weight equipment, sports balls, props, as well as any other shared equipment/items should be regularly disinfected during workout and practice sessions. After a group has used such equipment, that equipment must be thoroughly disinfected with approved sanitizer before being used by a different group.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>RESPOND:</b> Required practices to respond to possible and lab-confirmed cases in the school</p>	
<b>Identifying Possible COVID-19 Cases on Campuses or District Facilities</b>	<p>1. Schools must immediately separate any student who shows COVID-19 symptoms while at school until the student can be picked up by a parent or guardian.</p> <p>2. Schools should clean the areas used by the individual who shows COVID-19 symptoms while at school (student, teacher, or staff) as soon as feasible.</p> <p>3. Students who report feeling feverish should be given an immediate temperature check to determine if they are symptomatic for COVID-19.</p> <p>4. Schools may close off areas that are heavily used by the individual with the lab-confirmed case (student, teacher, or staff) until the non-porous surfaces in those areas can be disinfected, unless more than 3 days have already passed since that person was on campus.</p>
<b>Individuals not allowed to enter District Facilities</b>	<p>COVID-19 is a disease requiring exclusion from school under 25 Tex. Admin. Code § 97.7.</p> <p>Exclusion shall continue until the readmission criteria for the conditions are met. The readmission criteria for COVID-19 is as follows:</p>

	<p>If symptomatic, exclude until at least 5 days have passed since symptom onset, and fever free*, and other symptoms have improved.</p> <p>Children who test positive for COVID-19 but do not have any symptoms must stay home until at least 5 days after the day they were tested.</p> <p>Fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever suppressing medications. Fever is a temperature of 100° Fahrenheit (37.8° Celsius) or higher.</p>
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### **Opportunity for Public Comment:**

During the development of the plan, student data informed input from staff throughout the district. Needs were prioritized based on wellness and instructional continuity. The draft plan will be presented to the public through the Board of Trustees Meeting held on Tuesday, August, 15, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. in the Kress Board Room. All feedback will be considered in the plan.

## **Periodic Review and Revision of the Plan:**

During the period in which ESSER III funds are available, Kress ISD will review and revise the plan at least every six months. These revisions will take into account parent and community feedback, as well as updated guidance from the Texas Education Agency. This plan was updated on August 15, 2023

### **For the Public:**

Kress ISD has taken the following steps to ensure availability of the plan to families and the community:

- This plan is posted on the KISD website (<http://www.kressonline.net>)
- This plan is available for electronic translation in up to 108 different languages through our current website provider.
- This plan may be translated orally by request. Please contact Nancy Bustos to request a translation at [nancy.bustos@region16.net](mailto:nancy.bustos@region16.net) or call 806.684.2652.
- A parent who is an individual with a disability as defined by the ADA may request the plan in an alternative format. Please contact Phil Zolman, High School at [phil.zolman@region16.net](mailto:phil.zolman@region16.net) or 806.684.2652 or Shawn Langston, Elementary School at [shawn.langston@region16.net](mailto:shawn.langston@region16.net) at 806.293.2326.