



Union Local School District

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As the new school year quickly approaches, the Union Local District has been closely monitoring our county's COVID statistics as well as staying up to date with the recommendations set forth by the CDC, Ohio Department of Health, Ohio Department of Education and Belmont County Health Department. Based upon the most current information and guidance provided, the Union Local School District has developed a plan to ensure that the social, emotional, and academic needs of our students are addressed.

Below is our district's plan for the 2021-2022 school year. PLEASE KEEP IN MIND THAT THIS PLAN IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT ANY TIME AS NEW INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FROM FEDERAL, STATE, COUNTY AND LOCAL AGENCIES BECOMES AVAILABLE.

- **Face Coverings:** *Based upon the recommendations from the Ohio Department of Health and the Center for Disease Control, the use of face masks by both staff and students is strongly recommended.* However, face masks are optional at this time with the exception of anyone riding on ULSD school buses.
- **Bus Transportation:** The CDC continues to require that masks be worn on all public transportation, including school buses. This requirement is regardless of vaccination status. Students and staff riding on ULSD school buses will be required to wear a face mask.
- **Health Screenings :** This is essential to keep COVID-19 infections out of schools and prevent spread to others. Before each school day, parents are asked to assess the health of their children . Anyone with any of the following symptoms should stay home:
 - Fever or chills
 - Cough
 - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - Fatigue
 - Muscle or body aches
 - Headache
 - Loss of taste or smell
 - Sore throat
 - Congestion or runny nose
 - Nausea or vomiting
 - Diarrhea
 - Repeated shaking with chills.
- **Physical Distancing:** Students will be physically distanced as much as possible.

- **Cleaning and Sanitizing:** Hand-washing and sanitizing continue to be important tools in preventing the spread of COVID-19. The Union Local School District will continue to work towards keeping our staff and students safe. ULSD will continue to provide adequate hand-washing supplies and hand-sanitizing stations throughout classrooms and high-traffic areas in school buildings. ULSD will continue to routinely disinfect high traffic areas and high contact surfaces.
- **Contact Tracing:** ULSD will continue to consult with the Belmont County Health Department as COVID-19 cases emerge. The Belmont County Health Department will be in consultation with the Policy Consulting Group to address instances when quarantine may be required. Union Local Schools will assist with contact tracing as necessary.
- **Learning Options:** Union Local School District will return to in-person instruction 5 days a week. ULSD will not be offering on-line learning as an option this school year for students grades 6-12.
 - **ULSD will be offering a blended learning option for those students grades K-5 who are not able to attend in-person learning 5 days a week due to health concerns.** Parents will need to contact the building principal. ALL ULSD students participating in our blended learning option will be required to attend in-person instruction at a minimum of two days a week.
- **Accommodations for Students with Disabilities with Respect to the Health and Safety Policies:** The district provided additional plexiglass screening when needed for students with disabilities who were either unable or had difficulty wearing face coverings. These students were also provided with individual learning centers that contained individual, assigned learning tools/ supplies. These learning tools and supplies were sanitized daily. Individual student needs were addressed through consultation with the student's IEP team to ensure that the student's academic, social, emotional and mental health needs were met.
- **Efforts to Provide Vaccinations to Educators, Other Staff and Students:** Union Local will continue to coordinate with the Belmont County Health Department to provide vaccination opportunities to our students and staff members.
- **Diagnostic and Screening Testing:** Based on the Third Grade Reading Guarantee, the Union Local School District will administer a reading diagnostic assessment to all students in kindergarten through grade three. Students in grades kindergarten through eighth grade will be required to complete both a reading and math diagnostic assessment through I*Ready. Data from these assessments will be used to determine the academic readiness and needs of our students.

Continuity of Services

The Union Local School District began providing a continuity of services to our students upon the return to in-person instruction in 2020. We extended these services beyond the regular school day to

include both after school programs in grades K-12 as well as summer school options for students K-12. Our district continues to take action to meet the academic, social, emotional and mental health needs of our students. Our administrative team along with our school board will continue to monitor and review these services and this plan throughout the 2021-2022 school year.

To ensure our students' academic needs are met this school year, our teachers will continue to progress- monitor students' academic performance through the district-wide implementation of both formative and summative assessments. Individual student data will be collected and reviewed at all building levels, across all grades and content areas through our TBT, BLT and DLT teams. This data will be used to inform classroom instruction and provide enrichment and remediation opportunities to our students.

All of our students K-12 will continue to be provided with individual, student chromebooks. In the event that in-person instruction is not feasible, students will have digital access to academic material/resources. The Union Local School District will continue to assist families who do not have access to internet services.

The social, emotional and mental health needs of our students are very important to the Union Local School District. Our district will continue with contracted services by both Belmont County Student Services and Village Network. These agencies will provide services to any of our students, student's family members and/or staff members who are in need of counseling and/or mental health services.

In regards to the health of our students, all of our Union Local students will have access to free breakfast and lunch. This will be provided through the Seamless Summer Options which is sponsored by the USDA. In addition to free breakfast and lunch, Union Local will continue our backpack program which provides extra support/help to our UL families. Each week our schools send home backpacks filled with food to students and their families who are in need.

LOCAL USE OF FUNDS

ARP ESSR FUND UTILIZATION PLAN

Instruction and Learning Loss- \$261,980- This will involve supporting our students with extra direct educational support throughout the school year. The plan is to provide extra tutors in each building. The district has transitioned staff to cover specifically, student data tracking and personalized options for students.

Mental Health- \$10,000- The district will utilize these funds to support the social emotional needs of students and staff within the district. Students being educated through a remote process did not give them access to the traditional services that are offered on a daily basis within the school district.

Ventilation System Upgrade- \$1,359,887.42- This was the expense the district encumbered updating its ventilation system to meet recommendation from engineers and contractors. This project will be completed by early September.

Public input invited- 23 members of the public present on the August 18th board meeting- No comments were received.