**Canon Elementary School District #50**

**Mitigation Plan 2020-2021**



**Canon ESD #50 Safety Measures**

Option 1:

All Students in Physical Buildings from the Start of the School Year – The school may opt to consider this if: 1) The school meets the CDC School Decision Tree guidelines; 2) there are none to minimal local/community cases of COVID-19; 3) the school has a governing board approved contingency plan; 4) the school has a comprehensive communication plan; 5) the school has clearly communicated screening expectations to staff and families; and 6) the school has a plan for medically fragile staff and students.

Option 2:

A Hybrid Model - Students will attend school two days on campus and two days at home learning per week. Fridays will be half days. Teachers will be available to conference with by video or phone as well as preparing lesson plans for the following week. This phase minimizes exposure to contagions as only half of each class will be present each day.

Option 3:

Remote Learning only – I do not want my child attending traditional brick and mortar school at this time.

Option 4:

Remote Learning with Phase In - beginning with complete remote learning and phasing in student populations to onsite with possibility of Hybrid Model/or Full Day (for instance K-2, then 3-5, then 6-8)

Canon ESD #50 Elementary School District is preparing a comprehensive plan to mitigate the risk of exposure to COVID-19 in our schools. This document contains detailed information about Canon ESD #50's safety protocols for the 2020-21 school year. For areas where the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has provided specific guidance for schools, that guidance is included as a reference, for your convenience, so that you may see how Canon ESD #50's plans are aligned with CDC recommendations.

**Before School Safety:**

**Parents and guardians are the first line of defense**

* Please check your child’s temperature every morning and look for sickness.
* Call you child in sick if needed

**Entering the school**

* All students will enter through the gym before school. NO students in the front office
* Parents will be greeted thought the outside communication window of the front office for general business to limit groups in the small areas

**A. Bus Safety**

**CDC Guidelines**

* + Clean and disinfect frequently
  + Maintain 6ft of physical distancing if possible

**Canon ESD #50's Plan**

* + Social distancing on a school bus greatly decreases the number of students who can ride a bus, and reduces the District’s ability to provide transportation services to students
  + In order to provide transportation without social distancing **masks or face shields will (subject to change with state action) be required of all students riding a school bus**
  + All bus drivers will be required to wear a mask or visor
  + Where possible load bus back to front and unload front to back
  + Require siblings to sit together
  + All buses will have clearly visible signage communicating to parents that students should not enter the school bus with any of the identified symptoms (Visible symptoms include runny nose, cough, shortness of breath, or vomiting.)
  + Students with special needs are strongly encouraged to wear cloth face coverings with limited exceptions:
    - Students with sensory challenges
    - Students with medical concerns that make wearing a face covering unsafe
  + Windows may be open for increased air circulation during seasonal times of year
  + Hand sanitizer will be available for use by staff and students
    - All transportation vehicles will be cleaned once per day
    - Additionally, a disinfection will occur twice daily on high touchpoint areas with a disinfectant: Bus seats, Handrails, Door handles, Windows, Driver area

Bus Stops

* + Communication will be sent to parents emphasizing expectations concerning 6’ social distancing while gathering at the bus stop
  + If possible students should wait in parent vehicle until bus arrival at the bus stop
  + Students are asked to have masks available and ready to wear prior to getting on the bus

**B. Containment**

**CDC Guidelines**

* + Ensure that student and staff groupings are as static as possible by having the same group of children stay with the same staff (all day for young children, and as much as possible for older children).
  + Limit mixing between groups if possible.

**Canon ESD #50's Plan**

Elementary

* + Students will report directly to the gym when they arrive at school
  + To limit exposure to other students and staff, classes will stay together throughout the day, including for breakfast, lunch (possible classroom cart service) and recess and dismissal
  + Staff will move at class change times, students stay at same desks

**C. Events/Field Trips**

**CDC Guidelines**

* + Pursue virtual group events, gatherings, or meetings, if possible, and promote social distancing of at least 6 feet between people if events are held. Limit group size to the extent possible.
  + Pursue virtual activities and events in lieu of field trips, student assemblies, special performances, school-wide parent meetings, and spirit nights, as possible.

**Canon ESD #50's Plan**

* + Field trips, events and large gatherings canceled through at least October 31.
  + Teachers will use virtual learning opportunities (such as virtual tours of museums) to enhance students’ educational experiences.
  + School-wide assemblies will not be held with students assembled in the same physical location. As an alternative, Canon ESD #50 schools will hold school-wide assemblies virtually, with student groups remaining in their classrooms.
  + Large-scale school events such as “Meet the Teacher Night” may be held virtually or reconfigured in order to maintain social distancing. Small-scale activities like parent-teacher conferences may take place over the phone or other electronic means. Other extracurricular activities will be cancelled unless the activity can be conducted in compliance with social distancing protocols.

**D. Face Coverings**

**CDC Guidelines**

* + Use of simple cloth face coverings are meant to protect other people in case the wearer is unknowingly infected but does not have symptoms.
  + Cloth face coverings are not surgical masks, respirators, or other medical personal protective equipment.
  + Teach and reinforce use of cloth face coverings.
  + Face coverings may be challenging for students (especially younger students) to wear.
  + Face coverings should be worn by staff and students (particularly older students) as feasible, and are most essential in times when physical distancing is difficult.

**Canon ESD #50's Plan**

* + Students will/may be required to wear cloth face coverings, subject to the health condition exception stated below,\* when physical space does not allow for maintenance of 6 feet of space between individuals.
  + Class sizes over 15 (or so) do not allow for physical distancing and therefore students and staff will be required to wear face coverings and may take mask breaks
  + Students will not be required to wear cloth face coverings during physical activities and when social distancing is maintainable, though they may voluntarily wear face coverings at any time
  + Employees will or may (depending of state or local action) be required to wear cloth face coverings during interactions with students or other employees when physical space does not allow for maintenance of 6 feet of space between individuals unless unable to do so for health reasons
  + Employees will not be required to wear cloth face coverings when social distancing is maintainable, though they may voluntarily wear face coverings at any time

*\*Any student who has difficulty breathing or who is incapable of physically removing the face covering on his/her own will not wear cloth face coverings, and alternate methods of protection will be discussed by parents and staff.*

**E. Food Services**

**CDC Guidelines**

* + Have children bring their own meals as feasible, or serve individually plated meals in classrooms instead of in a communal dining hall or cafeteria, while ensuring the safety of children with food allergies.

**Canon ESD #50's Plan**

* + Students will continue to receive meals through Nutrition Services or they may bring meals from home
  + Students will eat in their cafeteria or patio, physically distanced, depending on the weather and the school
  + We will follow the CDC's "No Sharing" guidelines with all food, drinks, devices, personal belongings, etc. until different guidance is issued

**F. Hand Washing**

**Canon ESD #50's Plan**

* + Require all students to wash their hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol at the following times:
    - upon arrival at school (use hand sanitizer if there is no sink in the classroom),
    - after being outside for physical activity,
    - before and after breakfast and lunch,
    - prior to leaving school for home, and
    - after sneezing, coughing, or blowing nose.

**G. School Health Screenings**

**CDC Guidelines**

* + Health checks should be conducted safely and respectfully, and in accordance with any applicable privacy laws and regulations.

**Canon ESD #50's Plan**

* + A staff member will visually check each student upon arrival
  + Students will have temperature checked when needed
  + Any student with visible symptoms of runny nose, cough, shortness of breath or vomiting will be taken to the health office, where parents may be contacted for pick up, with the following exceptions:
    - If the student has a runny nose and no other observable symptoms, the health aide will contact a parent to determine if other symptoms are present or if there is exposure to COVID-19 in the home. If not, the student will return to class
    - If the student has health information that confirms a diagnosis of asthma or other respiratory condition, the nurse/health aide will contact a parent to confirm that the student has no other symptoms or exposure to COVID-19 at home. If not, the student will return to class

**H. Intensify Cleaning & Disinfection**

**CDC Guidelines**

* + Coronaviruses on surfaces and objects naturally die within hours to days.  Warmer temperatures and exposure to sunlight will reduce the time the virus survives on surfaces and objects.
  + Normal routine cleaning with soap and water removes germs and dirt from surfaces.  It lowers the risk of spreading COVID-19 infection.
  + Disinfectants kill germs on surfaces. By killing germs on a surface after cleaning, you can further lower the risk of spreading infection. EPA-approved disinfectants are an important part of reducing the risk of exposure to COVID-19.

**Canon ESD #50's Plan**

* + As part of daily cleaning regimen, EPA approved Virucide used on all touchpoint surfaces
  + Classroom touchpoint areas will be disinfected daily
  + Bathroom touchpoint areas will be disinfected twice daily

1. **Playground Protocols**

**CDC Guidelines**

* + Outdoor areas generally require normal routine cleaning and do not require disinfection.  Spraying disinfectant on sidewalks and in parks is not an efficient use of disinfectant supplies and has not been proved to reduce the risk of COVID-19 to the public.  You should maintain existing cleaning and hygiene practices for outdoor areas.

**Canon ESD #50's Plan**

* + No more than two classes at a time will be allowed on playground equipment
  + Classes will be assigned a specific time slot, with time slots to be scheduled such that there is sufficient time between classroom use that playground equipment can be disinfected before the next group uses it
  + Disinfectant will be used on the playground equipment on a routine basis
    - High touchpoint areas include
    - Swings
    - Climbing structures
    - Sliding structures

**J. Reported Cases**

**CDC Guidelines**

* + Close off areas used by a sick person and do not use these areas until after cleaning and disinfecting
  + Wait at least 24 hours before cleaning and disinfecting. If 24 hours is not feasible, wait as long as possible. Ensure safe and correct use and storage of cleaning and disinfection products, including storing products securely away from children.
  + In accordance with state and local laws and regulations, school administrators should notify local health officials, staff, and families immediately of any case of COVID-19 while maintaining confidentiality in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
  + Inform those who have had close contac[t](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/public-health-recommendations.html) with a person diagnosed with COVID-19 to stay home and self-monitor for symptoms, and follow CDC guidance if symptoms develop.

**Canon ESD #50's Plan**

* + In addition to following CDC guidelines for protocols regarding reported cases, Canon ESD #50 School District is also awaiting specific guidance from County Health.
  + Back-Up rooms will be the library and annex room
  + for classes where this has happened.

**K. Shared Belongings**

**CDC Guidelines**

* + Discourage sharing of items that are difficult to clean or disinfect.
  + Keep each child’s belongings separated from others’ and in individually labeled containers, cubbies, or areas.
  + Ensure adequate supplies to minimize sharing of high touch materials to the extent possible (e.g., assigning each student their own art supplies, equipment) or limit use of supplies and equipment by one group of children at a time and clean and disinfect between use.
  + Avoid sharing electronic devices, toys, books, and other games or learning aids.

**Canon ESD #50's Plan**

* + For younger grades and where possible, student belongings to be kept in individual bins or cubbies labeled with each student’s name.
  + When feasible, sharing of school supplies among students will be restricted. If a school supply or piece of equipment must be shared by students (for instance, a pencil sharpener, blocks/toys, or chromebook –assigned to 2 students), staff should wipe down the item with disinfectant after each use.

**L. Signs and Messages**

**CDC Guidelines**

* + Post signs in highly visible locations (e.g., school entrances, restrooms) that promote everyday protective measures and describe how to stop the spread of germs (such as by properly washing hands and properly wearing a cloth face covering).
  + Broadcast regular announcements on reducing the spread of COVID-19 on PA systems.
  + Include messages about behaviors that prevent the spread of COVID-19 when communicating with staff and families (such as on school websites, in emails, and on school social media accounts.)

**Canon ESD #50's Plan**

* + Floor stickers or tape markings for school and office, to promote social distancing
  + Handwashing signs in all school bathrooms, to promote proper handwashing by students
  + Custom posters for every school and District Office, to promote health and safety protocols

**M. Social/Physical Distancing**

**CDC Guidelines**

* + The CDC “encourages” but does not mandate social/physical distancing.

**Canon ESD #50's Plan**

* + Have students remain static with the same groupings and the same staff throughout the day and limit mixing between groups as much as possible
  + Organize classroom layout to allow for social distancing as much as possible
  + Students will not be physically grouped together (small groups)
  + Social distancing protocols will be used outside of the classroom along with limited use of common areas, when feasible
  + For employees, social distancing protocols will be used outside of the classroom along with limited use of common areas, when feasible
  + If an emergency situation arises that requires a staff member to touch a student or another staff member, resume social distancing as soon as safely possible, wash hands, and disinfect any surfaces touched

**N. Training Employees**

**Canon ESD #50's Plan**

Develop online training modules regarding the health and safety protocols

* + Report to Work Checklist
  + Hand Washing
  + Social Distancing
  + Face Covering
  + Sanitizing

Locate some online training modules from TRUST or other.

**O. Ventilation Systems**

**CDC Guidelines**

* + Ensure ventilation systems operate properly and increase circulation of outdoor air as much as possible such as by opening windows and doors.
  + Do not open windows and doors if they pose a safety or health risk to children using the facility (e.g. allowing pollens in or exacerbating asthma symptoms).

**Canon ESD #50's Plan**

* + Change air filters on a regular schedule
  + Exploring where improved filtration can be used without damaging HVAC equipment.
  + Exploring options for additional supplemental air filtration including HEPA, ozonification, and UV light air sterilization.
  + Currently cleaning interval HVAC system components to reduce trapped dust which may harbor germs.

**P. Volunteers/Visitors**

**CDC Guidelines**

* + Limit any nonessential visitors, volunteers, and activities involving external groups or organizations as possible – especially with individuals who are not from the local geographic area (e.g., community, town, city, county).

**Canon ESD #50's Plan**

* + Limited visitors will be permitted on school campuses. New volunteers on campus will be postponed until further notice.

**Q. Dismissal**

**Students will be brought out the side gate.**

**Grades 3-4 will be dismissed at 1:55 pm**

**Grades k, 1 and 2 will be dismissed at 2:00 pm**

**Grades 7-8 will be dismissed at 2:55 pm**

**Grades 5-6 will be dismissed at 3:00 pm**

**This will ensure the students are not congregated at dismissal, please be on time to pick up your child😊**

**Free On-Site Learning beginning August 17, 2020-For online distance learners only**

Students who need a safe place to engage in distance learning away from home may attend school during regular hours of operation (Grades K-4 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Grades 5-8 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday). The students and staff will follow the mitigation safety measures for Canon School and transportation **will not** be provided. Students will be supervised by a paraprofessional (this is not regular in-classroom teaching).