

Central Cass School District Continuity of Learning Plan

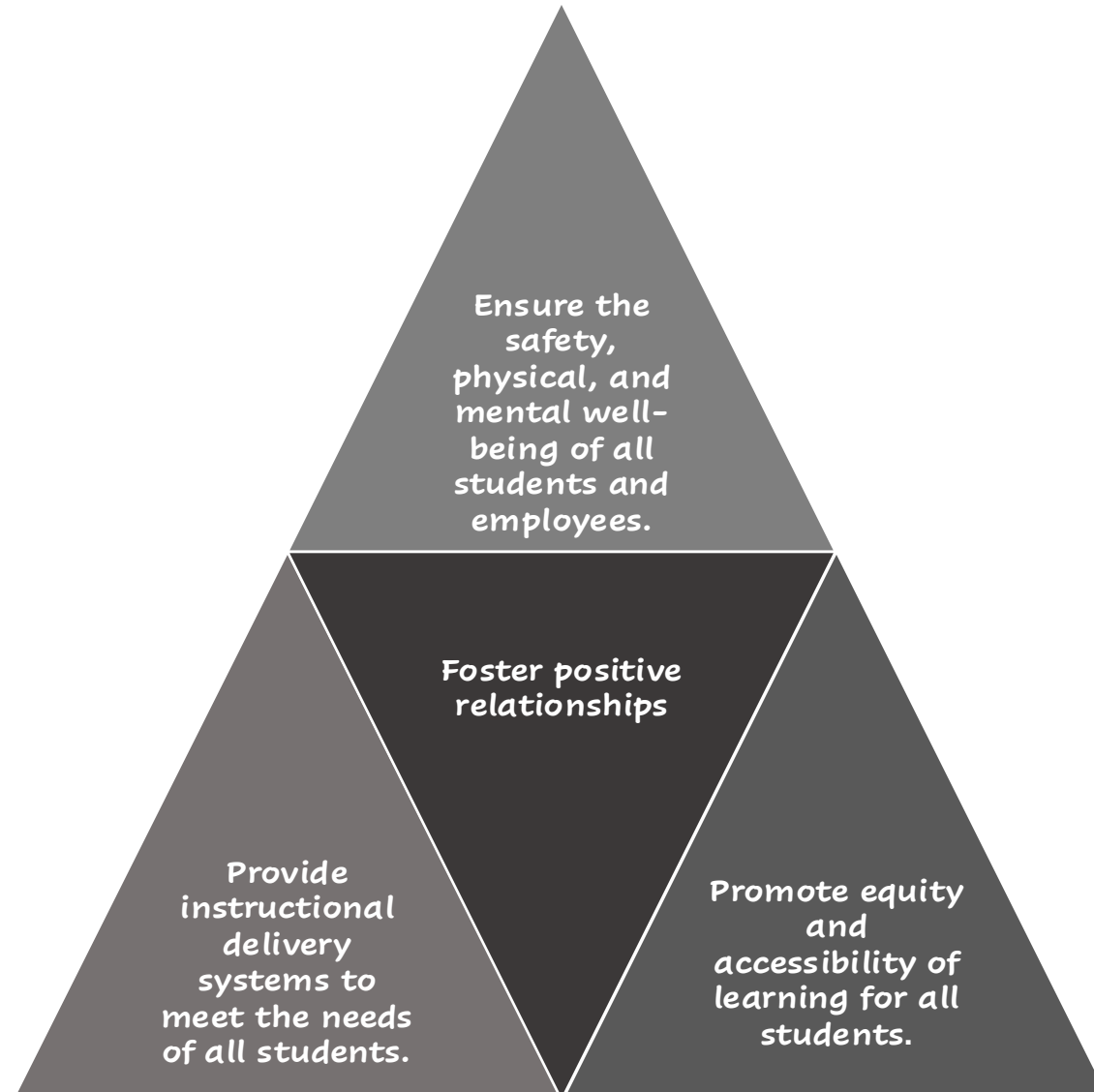
Approved July 2024



Guiding Principles



The Central Cass Continuity of Learning Plan was developed using the following guiding principles:





COVID-19 Response Team

The Central Cass COVID-19 Response Team will be responsible for the preparation, implementation, and review of our Continuity of Learning Plan. The superintendent of schools, Mr. Morgan Forness, has been identified as the coordinator of this team and will assign roles and responsibilities as necessary to the members of the COVID-19 Response Team.



Central Cass COVID-19 Response Team

Academics

- Nikki Wixo, Academic Dean & HS Principal
- Lisa Narum, Middle School Principal
- Lyndsy Lynch, Elementary Principal

Health and Safety

- Jason Scott, Deputy
- Michelle Lahren, School Nurse
- Brad Sinner, Facilities
- Taylor Hagness, Food Service

COVID-19 Coordinator

Morgan Forness, Superintendent

Student Services

- Travis Lemar, Student Ambassador
- Trista Ziegelmann, HS Counselor
- Candace Kornelsen, MS Counselor
- Mary Beth Pilon, Elem Counselor

Communications and Logistics

- Pam Utt, Business Manager
- Nancy Nelson, Office Manager
- Mistie Holland, Public Relations & Technology
- Alex Kingsley, Technology Coordinator

Overview, Review, and Availability of Plan

This plan has been developed to meet the requirements that have been established by the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction (NDDPI) following the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act. The purpose of the ARP is to help safely reopen and sustain the safe operation of schools and address the impacts of COVID-19 on the nation's students. The ARP Plan for Central Cass has been developed in collaboration with students, staff, parents, and community members. Central Cass will continue to review this plan and seek public input, as required, at least every six months.



Health & Safety

The health and safety of our students and staff is the top priority. The health and safety procedures in this plan have been developed in consultation with local health officials, North Dakota Department of Health, and the Center for Disease Control.

Response to COVID on Campus



Central Cass is committed to working with the North Dakota Department of Health (NDDOH) and Center for Disease Control (CDC) to ensure possible exposure to COVID is limited. To ensure we have the most accurate and up to date information on responding to COVID, please follow the link to the [North Dakota Department of Health - Covid Response Page](#) .

For information on COVID vaccines and boosters please follow the link to the [Center for Disease Control Vaccine page](#).

For community information on testing and screening sites please follow the link to the [Fargo Department of Health page](#).

Health & Safety Strategies



Wellness

- Students or staff who are sick should not attend school.
- Parents or caregivers will be asked to monitor children for signs of infectious illness.
- Any individual with a fever of 100 degrees or greater should not be present in school.

Cleaning & Disinfecting

- Staff will perform routine cleaning and disinfecting throughout the day.
- Nonirritating disinfectants will be used to avoid triggering breathing issues of students and staff.

Hand Hygiene

- Handwashing techniques will be taught and reinforced at all age levels.
- Handwashing with soap & water or hand sanitizer will be used when arriving at school, before and after eating, after using the bathroom and other times when it is the best interest of the students and staff.

Face Coverings

- Masks may be recommended on campus according to the mitigation continuum.

Protecting Vulnerable Populations of Students & Staff

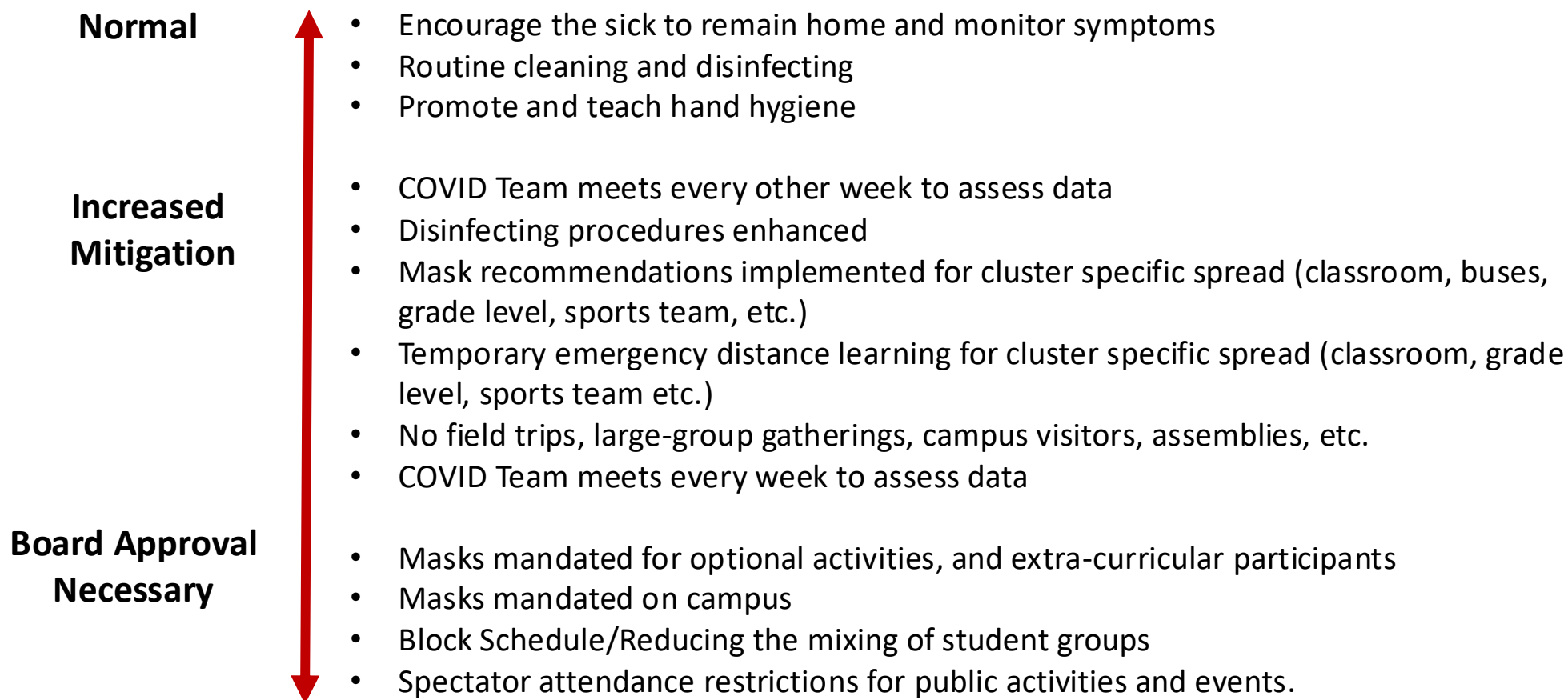
- We will consider the special health and education needs of students that are considered high-risk due to preexisting conditions that make them more vulnerable to severe illness due to COVID-19.
- These processes will be followed:
 - Students with current plans (IEP, 504, Health Plan, etc.) will be reviewed and updated to decrease the risk for exposure to COVID-19.
 - Empowering students/families and staff to self-identify high-risk for severe illness due to COVID-19 and consider requests for alternative learning plans or work re-assignments.

COVID Mitigation Continuum



Central Cass is committed to face-to-face instruction for the 2024-2025 school year. The Central Cass COVID Committee will utilize the following data points to move up and down the mitigation continuum to ensure we are doing our part to stop the spread of COVID-19:

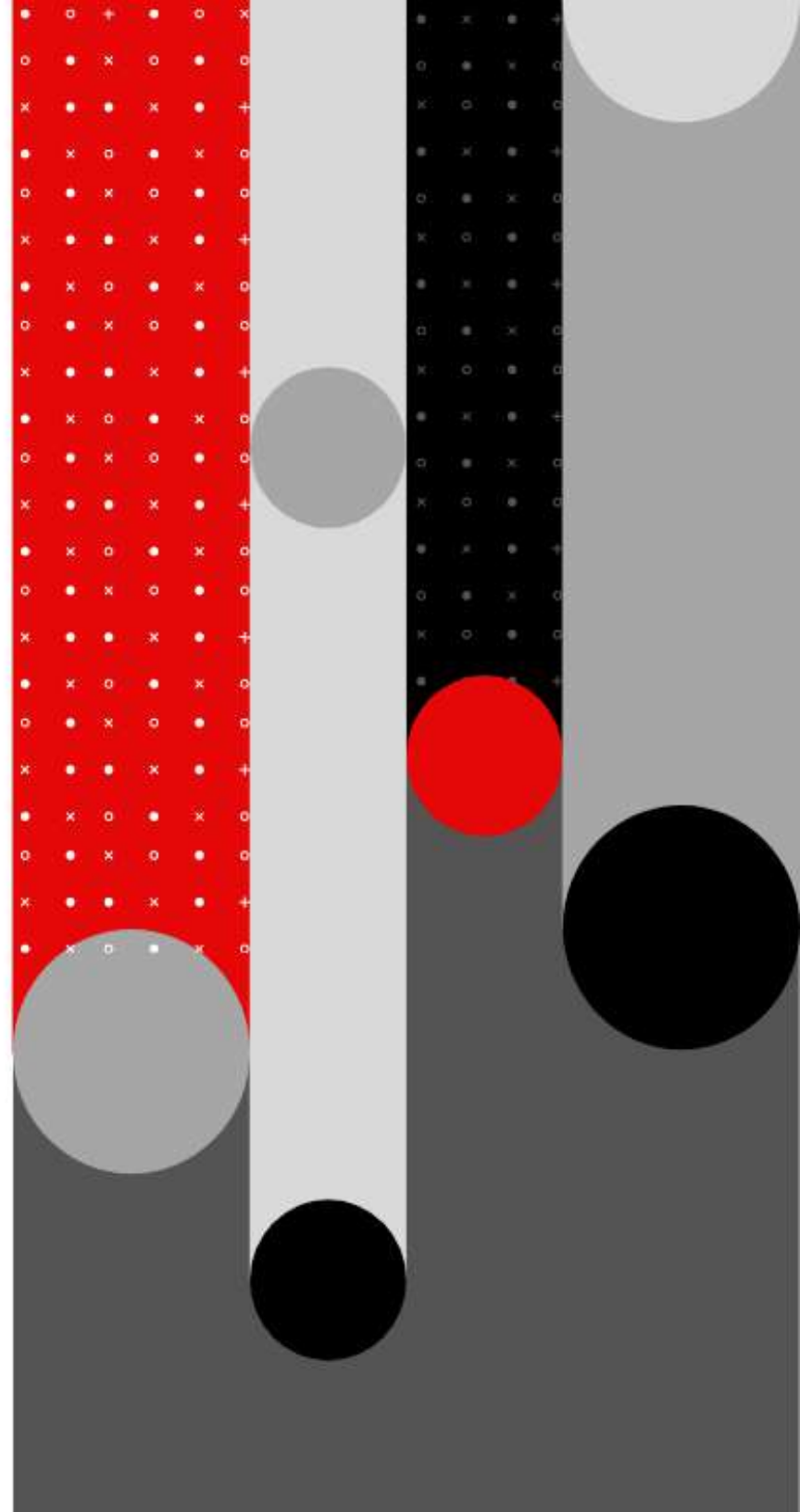
- Number of positive COVID cases in students and staff.
- Availability of staff and substitute teachers.
- Number of absences in the district due to sickness and quarantine.



Movement along the mitigation continuum will be announced through Swift and posted on the Central Cass website.

Educating Students in All Environments:

Central Cass has planned and prepared for the continued in person learning plan during the school year. A virtual learning option will **not** be available for the 2024-2025 school year.



A decorative graphic on the left side of the page. It features three vertical stripes: a red stripe on the left with a pattern of small white dots, a white stripe in the middle with a pattern of small black dots, and a black stripe on the right with a pattern of small white dots. Overlaid on these stripes are several large circles in red, white, and black.

Mental Health

Central Cass Public Schools will continue to prioritize the mental health needs of our students and staff during the 2024-2025 school year. Following the implementation of resources and services during the past school year, the Central Cass School Board will continue to ensure that school-based student behavioral health counseling will be available in each of our schools and all employees will have access to an Employee Assistance Program. These services are provided in partnership with The Village Family Service Center and School Based Counseling Services utilizing a wrap-around approach to meeting the needs of all students at Central Cass Schools.

School Counselor Contact Information:

Trista.Ziegelmann@k12.nd.us - High School

Candace.Kornelsen@k12.nd.us - Middle School

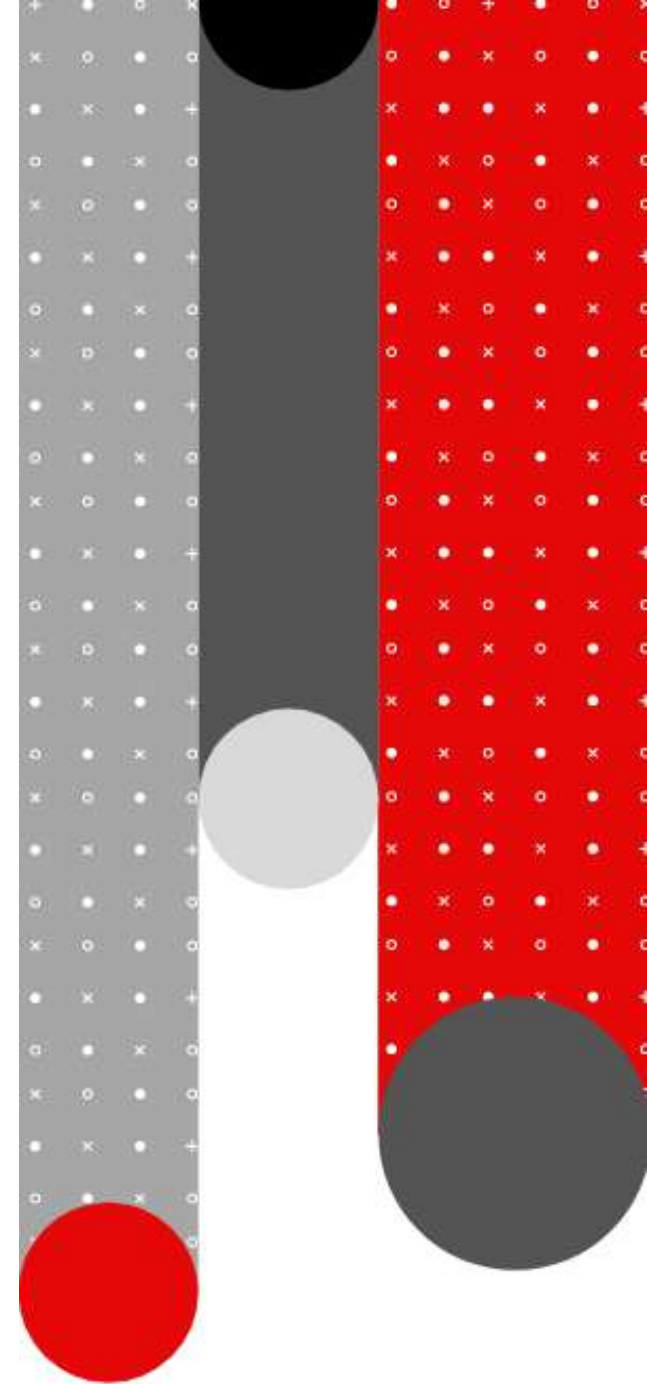
MaryBeth.Pilon@k12.nd.us - Elementary School

Communications

We believe that communication between students, staff, parents, families, and community members are essential to the overall success of our school district. The ongoing collaboration among stakeholders of our school district will help strengthen student educational opportunities, experiences, and outcomes. Please review the [Central Cass Communication Plan](#) to ensure you are getting all the necessary information throughout the school year.

Transportation

Central Cass School District will continue transportation services for students within our school district. As necessary, proper health and safety guidelines will be followed for any student riding a school bus.





Special Education

Central Cass School District will work in conjunction and collaboration with Rural Cass Special Education Unit to ensure that educational decisions for students with Individual Education Plans (IEPs) will be made on an individual basis and in compliance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and ND Department of Instruction Office of Special Education guidelines. The learning environment, services, and accommodations for students with disabilities will be determined through the student's IEP team, including student's parent or guardian, school administration, and staff. The team will work together to develop plans that will ensure equitable and effective access to provide FAPE for students with special needs in all learning environments. Special education case managers will be the contact people for communication between each IEP student's parents/guardians and required team members, and will monitor the continuation of services and accommodations, whether they are provided virtually, in-person, or a combination model. The school district's Return to Learn Plan will focus on procedures for delivering education within the district, which will also apply to holding IEP team meetings and completing required special education procedures, while maintaining student and staff health and safety, according to the North Dakota K-12 Smart Restart guidelines.



Resource Links

- [ND Department of Public Instruction](#)
 - [ND Department of Health](#)
 - [Center for Disease Control and Prevention](#)
 - [American Academy of Pediatrics](#)
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