

Southern Plains Education Cooperative
Health and Safety Measures for the 2021-2022 School Year

WHEREAS, the Southern Plains Education Cooperative joint powers agreement vests the care, management, and control of the cooperative in the cooperative board; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Director of Southern Plains Education Cooperative #0915 [hereinafter the “Director”] is responsible for the management of the schools, the administration of all Cooperative policies, and is directly accountable to the Cooperative Board; and

WHEREAS, when responsibilities are not specifically prescribed nor Cooperative policy applicable, the Director shall use personal and professional judgment, subject to review by the Cooperative Board, pursuant to Cooperative Policy 302, *Director*; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) and the Minnesota Department of Health (“MDH”) have determined that the COVID-19 pandemic is currently ongoing and may remain ongoing for an unknown time; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Department of Education (“MDE”) has issued and may continue to issue written guidance for Minnesota schools on educational issues related to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the MDH has issued and may continue to issue written guidance for Minnesota schools on public health issues related to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Director and the administration of the Cooperative have conferred with the Cooperative Board and staff regarding COVID-19 health and safety measures, the current CDC, MDE, and MDH requirements for each, and other relevant information; and

1. **WHEREAS**, based upon the collective consideration of these factors, the Director has recommended after consultation with the Cooperative Board and member districts that all staff, students, and visitors within Cooperative buildings, regardless of vaccination status, are recommended to follow the strategies of physical distancing, handwashing and respiratory etiquette, cleaning and disinfection, contact tracing, screening testing, and staying home when sick as defined in the [“CDC Guidance for COVID-19 Prevention in K-12 Schools.”](#)

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Cooperative Board of Southern Plains Education Cooperative #0914 as follows:

Section 1: The Director is hereby directed to implement the following health and safety measures to open the 2021-2022 school year: All staff, students, and visitors within Cooperative buildings, regardless of vaccination status, are recommended to follow the strategies of physical distancing, handwashing and respiratory etiquette, cleaning and disinfection, contact tracing, screening testing, and staying home when sick as defined in the [“CDC Guidance for COVID-19 Prevention in K-12 Schools.”](#)

Section 2: The Director is hereby authorized, after consultation with the Cooperative Board Chair and notification to the School Board, to select and implement different health and safety measures for

the Cooperative or any specific cooperative program without Board action if the Director reasonably believes that prompt implementation of different health and safety measures is necessary, and that constraints of time and public health considerations render it impractical to hold a Cooperative Board meeting to approve the implementation. The health and safety measures selected and implemented by the Director shall continue in effect unless and until the Cooperative Board, in consultation with the Director and appropriate cooperative staff and public health officials, deems it in the best interest of the Cooperative and its students to implement different health and safety measures.

Section 3: The Director will provide regular updates to the Cooperative Board regarding the Cooperative's efforts to implement COVID-19 related educational and public health guidance issued by the MDE and the MDH, respectively.

Adopted this _____ day of _____, 2021.

Roll Call Vote

Board Chair

Board Clerk