Revised: 03/30/2021 Board Approved: 04/06/2021



South Middleton School District Health and Safety Plan

The South Middleton School District's Health and Safety plan has been created using resources developed by Federal, State, and Local health agencies. The District acknowledges that there are no current strategies that will eliminate the risks associated with COVID-19. This plan aims to minimize risk, while allowing our students and staff to resume school activities in a safe manner.

It is recommended that the Board authorize the Administration to temporarily suspend or modify relevant Board polices as needed to align with the Health and Safety Plan. Administrative regulations written to complement this plan shall be used to guide decision making and execution of the plan.

This plan shall be monitored routinely and will be revised based on changing public health conditions.

Type of Reopening

Our current reopening plan would reflect a 'Scaffold Reopening. Scaffolded reopening: Some students are engaged in in-person learning, while others are distance learning (i.e., some grade levels in-person, other grade levels remote learning). Our anticipated start date for in-person learning is August 26, 2020. However, a fully-remote learning option may become a necessity if in-person learning becomes restricted by the Commonwealth, Department of Education, or in order to ensure the health and safety of the students and community.

Pandemic Team

The District assembled a Health and Safety Task Force to assist in the development of a Health and Safety Plan. This Task Force includes a variety of District staff and local health officials. The Pandemic Team will be responsible for facilitating the local planning process, monitoring implementation of the Health and Safety Plan, and continued monitoring of local health data to assess implications on school operations. The Task Force will propose potential adjustments to the Health and Safety Plan throughout the school year, as needed. The Pandemic Team is comprised of the following individuals:

Individual(s)	Stakeholder Group Represented	Pandemic Roles and Responsibilities
Matthew Strine, Ed.D.	Superintendent	Plan Development & Response Team
Melanie Shaver-Durham	Director of Curriculum	Plan Development & Response Team
Alex Smith	Director of Student Services	Plan Development & Response Team
Nicole Weber	Director of Business and Operations	Plan Development & Response Team
Zachary Gump	Supervisor of Facilities & Safety	Plan Development & Response Team
Karl Heimbach	Athletic Director	Plan Development & Response Team
Matthew Hurley	Supervisor of Human Resources	Plan Development & Response Team
Nick Milone	Food Services Director, Chartwells	Plan Development & Response Team
Joel Hain	High School Principal	Plan Development & Response Team

Mark Correll	Assistant High School Principal	Plan Development & Response Team
Jessica White	Supervisor of Special Education	Plan Development & Response Team
Jesse White, Ed.D.	Middle School Principal	Plan Development & Response Team
David Bitner	Assistant Middle School Principal	Plan Development & Response Team
Trisha Reed	Elementary School Principal	Plan Development & Response Team
David Boley	Elementary School Principal	Plan Development & Response Team
Dr. Chad Jumper	District Physician	Plan Development & Response Team
Gareth Pahowka, Esquire	District Solicitor, Stock and Leader	Plan Development
Paula Michalik	Professional Staff (Teacher), SMEA President	Plan Development
David Yinger	Professional Staff (Teacher), SMEA Representative	Plan Development

Cleaning, Sanitizing, Disinfecting, and Ventilation

The District's Facilities Department, comprised of maintenance and custodial staff, is responsible for cleaning and maintenance of all school owned facilities. The District maintains a regular cleaning schedule that is followed by each custodian. The Facilities Department takes great pride in the training protocols and cleaning methods utilized by the custodial staff.

The District will continue to utilize resources, including the Centers for Disease Control and PA Department of Health, for guidance on cleaning strategies and cleaning frequency. The frequency of cleaning and disinfecting will be determined by the severity of COVID-19 in the South Middleton School District community. The District has acquired additional equipment to aid in the process of disinfecting buildings and school vehicles.

Requirements	Action Steps under Green	Action Steps under Yellow	Lead Individual and Position	Material, Resources, and or Supports Needed	PD Required (Yes/No)
Cleaning, sanitizing, disinfecting, and ventilating learning spaces, surfaces, and any other areas used by students (i.e., restrooms, drinking fountains, hallways, and transportation)	The District has initiated steps to prevent and mitigate the spread of Covid-19 in our facilities. The custodial staff shall implement daily disinfection protocols based on CDC Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfecting Schools to reduce the risk of transmission. The custodial staff will pay particularly close attention to the following areas/items: • Student Desktops • Teacher Desktops • Doorknobs / Push Bars • Countertops • Computer hardware • Bathrooms: Sinks, Toilets/Urinals, and Paper Towel Dispensers (a daily cleaning schedule will be developed to include all bathrooms in the building) • Any additional high- volume touchpoints • Classrooms and other areas (such as the gymnasium, auditorium, and other large indoor spaces) utilized for instruction	Same as Green	Supervisor of Building and Grounds	Disinfecting/Sanitizing agents and equipment PPE for staff	Yes

The aforementioned areas shall be disinfected daily and on a routine schedule with Clorox Pro Quaternary Disinfectant, holding EPA REG. no. 1839-166-67619 or Spartan HALT, holding EPA REG. no. 10324-93-5741. Daytime custodial staff will promptly respond to requests for replenishment of depleted items such as handwashing and hand sanitizing products. Utilize a checklist of all disinfectants, cleaners, personal hygiene, and sanitization products needed to support student and staff health safety and maintain a three-week		
replenishment of depleted items		
sanitizing products.		
hygiene, and sanitization		
student and staff health safety		
and maintain a three-week surplus of all supplies.		
Additionally, we will continue to follow the recommendations as prescribed in the linked document: <u>CDC Guidelines</u>		
Other prevention actions: • Increase use of required PPE (masks, gloves, face-shields)		
 Shut off/disable use of communal drinking fountains and provide safe alternatives 		
when/where possible		

	• Prior to reopening, the				
	water system of each building will be flushed				
Other cleaning, sanitizing, disinfecting, and ventilation practices	The District will work with Rohrer Bus Services to develop a routine cleaning schedule for vans and school buses. Rohrer Bus Services will be responsible procurement of disinfection materials and labor. The District's Supervisor of Buildings & Grounds and Food Service Director will work collaboratively to implement additional cleaning protocols beyond standard operating procedures as needed. Standard Operating Procedures for Air circulation/filtration will be maintained as per ASHRAE Standard, American Society of Heating Refrigerating and Air- conditioning Engineers. The maintenance team will work to increase the rate of air exchange based upon daily outdoor atmospheric conditions.	Same as Green	Rohrer Bus Service Supervisor of Building and Grounds Food Services Director	Disinfecting agents and equipment PPE for Staff	Yes

Social Distancing and Other Safety Protocols

The District will utilize the following guiding principles to maximize social distancing:

- Limit the number of students and staff that occupy areas within the buildings, minimizing the contact between students and staff.
- Restrict large group gatherings in areas like auditoriums, cafeterias and gymnasiums.
- Restrict access to buildings, allowing only students, staff, and essential visitors.
- Provide hygiene education and best practices for both students and staff.
- Where physically possible, practice social distancing (at least 3' distance) between all students, staff, and visitors.

Requirements	Action Steps Under Green	Action Steps Under Yellow	Lead Individual and Position	Material, Resources, and or Supports Needed	PD Required (Yes/No)
Classroom/ learning space occupancy that allows for 3 feet of separation among students and staff throughout the day, to the maximum extent feasible	 Spread out student desks, aligned in one direction, to a minimum of 3 feet where feasible, in order to maintain proper social distancing within the classrooms in accordance to CDC recommendations. Eliminate flexible seating options (cushions, beanbags, couches, etc.), other than those required per 504 and IEP documents, to become uniformed throughout the district 	Same as Green	Building Principals	Removal or addition of furniture to support social distancing	No

	 Restrict and discourage interactions between groups of students Limit the number of individuals in a classroom or other spaces Limit gatherings, events, and extracurriculars to those who can adequately maintain social distancing Hold classes in gyms, auditoriums, other large spaces, or outdoors when possible 				
Restricting the use of cafeterias and other congregate settings, and serving meals in alternate settings such as classrooms	 Students shall be instructed to wash hands with soap and water or hand sanitizer, provided within the cafeteria, prior to eating lunch Meal condiments will be provided to students on the serving tray Students will not be permitted to serve themselves Cafeteria staff will serve all components of the meal while wearing appropriate PPE Dining areas and serving lines will be 	 Students will not be permitted to eat in the cafeteria or other congregate settings. All meals will be served in the classroom. Students shall be instructed to wash hands with soap and water or hand sanitizer, provided within the classroom, prior to eating lunch Parents/guardians and staff will be encouraged to 	Building Principals Buildings and Grounds department Food Service Director	None	No

Hygiene practices for students and staff including the manner and frequency of hand- washing and other best practices	 disinfected between lunch periods Parents/guardians and staff will be encouraged to deposit funds using the districts on-line portal to avoid the handling of cash in the cafeteria Staggered eating times will be developed to ensure proper social distancing within the cafeteria Staggered eating times will allow for proper disinfection of high touch-point areas. All students, staff and visitors shall wash hands or use hand sanitizer per CDC guidelines when entering the buildings Staff will be trained on proper hygiene techniques so they can teach students Students/staff shall wash hands with soap and water per CDC guidelines after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing one's nose, coughing, or sneezing, 	deposit funds using the districts on-line portal to avoid the handling of cash Same as Green	Building Principals Building Assistant Principals School Nursing Staff Teachers	•	Signage (CDC, English; CDC Spanish Hand Soap Hand Sanitizer Paper towels	Yes
	blowing one's nose, coughing, or sneezing. If soap and water are not available, use hand sanitizer					

Posting signs, in highly visible locations, that promote everyday protective measures, and how to stop the spread of germs	 Maintain adequate supply of soap, hand sanitizer, tissues, etc., to support proper hygiene practices for a three-week period Post CDC and PA Department of Health Posters in all cafeteria, restrooms and high traffic areas. 	Same as Green	Supervisor of Buildings & Grounds Student Services Department Building Principals	<u>Handwashing and</u> <u>Germs Posters</u>	No
Identifying and restricting non- essential visitors and volunteers	 At all buildings the practice of lunch visitation by parents, family, loved ones will no longer be permitted All visitors must have a pre-arranged meeting to enter the facility, as feasible All items being dropped off at any building for student and/or staff, will be left in the secure vestibule Create protocols for secretaries for allowing visitors into building Permitted visitors will have to abide by district hygiene protocols – to include wearing masks and socially distancing at all times Limit large group activities such as 	Same as Green	Building Principals	Additional signage that indicates restrictions of visitors Messaging to parent, staff, and community of change in practices	Νο

	 extracurriculars in accordance with PIAA and PA Department of Health Guidelines Ensure all permitted large group activities adhere to social distancing and mask guidelines 				
Handling sporting activities for recess and physical education classes consistent with the CDC Considerations for Youth Sports	 Our goal is to provide safe opportunities for exercise (i.e. recess, PE class) and sports activities for students in accordance with CDC Consideration for Youth Sports: CDC Consideration for Youth Sports. To do that we will: Train teaching staff on all safety protocols Hold classes outdoors when feasible. Provide appropriate CDC recommended cleaning materials for weight rooms, training facilities, locker rooms, and gyms Encourage staff to use open spaces as recreation areas Ensure adequate supply of equipment such as balls, jump ropes, etc. to limit sharing of items Limit group games and team sport activities to 	Same as Green	Building Principals Teachers	Additional recess equipment Disinfecting agents and equipment PPE for staff	Yes

Limiting the sharing of materials among students	 abide by social distancing guidelines Provide appropriate CDC recommended cleaning materials to disinfect equipment Clean and disinfect shared items between use with appropriate CDC recommended 	Same as Green	Building Principals Teachers	Sanitizing/Disinfecting Agents and Equipment	Yes
	 supplies Avoid using other employee's phones, desks, work tools and other equipment when possible; clean and disinfect after each use Keep each students' belongings separated in labeled containers, cubbies or lockers. 			Additional classroom supplies (i.e. crayons, scissors, glue sticks, pencils)	
Staggering the use of communal spaces and hallways	 Controlled foot traffic patterns in hallways and stairwells when feasible Stagger students coming in and out of the building and common areas during arrival, dismissal and lunches Stagger students arriving to and leaving classrooms and other spaces 	Same as Green	Building Principals Director of Business and Operations	Signage	No
Limiting the number of individuals in classrooms and other	 When feasible, students shall practice proper social distancing 	Same as Green	Building Principals Teachers	None	No

learning spaces, and interactions between groups of students	 per CDC guidelines; if three (3) feet is not achievable, students should be spaced to the maximum extent possible and will be required to wear a face mask or face shield. Ensure student and staff groupings are static where feasible Limit interactions between large groups if feasible 				
Adjusting transportation schedules and practices to create social distance between students	 Routes will be developed as to limit the number of students on the bus, sitting no more than 2 per seat, with space in between Students will be required to wear masks on the bus Drivers will disinfect high touch point areas after each run Rohrer Bus services will complete daily disinfection of bus fleet Roof hatches and windows will be opened to allow for increased ventilation when feasible Educate parents/guardians and students on the importance of social distancing at bus stops 	Same as Green	Director of Business and Operations	Signage on buses indicating social distancing expectations	Yes

	Provide sufficient drop- off space for parents/guardians who elect to transports their student to and from school				
Coordinating with local childcare regarding on site care, transportation protocol changes and, when possible, revised hours of operation or modified school-year calendars	 Updated SMSD website with any transportation changes Contact other venues (non-public schools) impacted by SMSD changes Contact YMCA regarding changes to daily operating schedule. 	Same as Green	Superintendent	Staffing Considerations	No
Other social distancing and safety practices	 Install protective barrier in main offices Other considerations provided by Federal, State, and Local agencies 	Same as Green	Buildings & Grounds Department	Protective barriers	Νο

Monitoring Student and Staff Health

Staff training will be provided to enhance the monitoring of student and staff health. Additionally, the District will implement protocols to provide appropriate safeguards for illness management. This will include procedures for the prompt dismissal of symptomatic individuals and a standard set of requirements for individuals to return to school.

Requirements	Action Steps Under Green	Action Steps Under	Lead Individual	Material,	PD Required
		Yellow	and Position	Resources, and	(Yes/No)

		symptoms of COVID-19 • Students, staff, and visitors will go/be sent directly to the designated isolation room if feeling symptomatic			
Isolating or quarantining students, staff, or visitors if they become sick or demonstrate a history of exposure	 Establish of triage room located away from the common treatment area of the nurse's suite, dedicated for COVID related issues Provide proper PPE with signage outlining protocol for healthcare workers Isolate any students, staff and/or visitors who the district has reasonable belief is exhibiting COVID related symptoms to the triage room, contact the building nurse for medical review and determine if person should be sent home Students, staff, and visitors must wear mask if triaged – regardless if the student/staff can socially distance. When student exits the building: Building nurse will contact student's parent/guardian 	Same as Green	Building Principals Building Nurse Student Services Department	Isolation/Triage room Disinfecting agents PPE for staff	No

	 and district administration Building secretary notifies building nurse of parent/guardian arrival Building nurse escorts student out of building on the pre-established exit route to curb side Building nurse will confirm identity of parents/guardians Areas used by person suspected of having COVID-19 will be disinfected per CDC guidelines. This includes closing the area off until cleaning and disinfecting takes place. Notify staff and families of confirmed case, while ensuring confidentiality Implement appropriate Department of Health protocols for employees that become exposed to s suspected or confirmed 				
	suspected or confirmed case – to include contact tracing.				
Returning isolated or quarantined staff, students, or visitors to school	 Doctor's note is required for student/staff to return to school if sent home If confirmed case, stay home for 10 days from onset of symptoms AND must be fever free for 72 	Same as Green	Administration Building Nurses	None	No

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	hours, without the use of
	fever reducing medication
	prior to returning to school
	grounds; follow these
	guidelines
	Students and staff that
	are suspected cases, but
	not confirmed, may
	return to school if one of
	the following has been
	met:
	provider
	provides a
	doctor's note
	indicating that
	the
	staff/student
	has tested
	negative for
	COVID-19; or
	• A health care
	provider
	provides a
	doctor's note
	indicating that
	the
	staff/student is
	safe to return to
	school and a
	minimum of 10-
	days have
	elapsed since
	symptom onset
	and at least 3-
	days have
	passed since
	resolution of a
	fever without
	the use of

		fovor roducing				
		fever-reducing				
		medications for				
		24 hours.				
Notifying staff,	٠	Post Health and Safety	Same as Green	Pandemic Team	School Messenger	No
families, and the		Plan on SMSD website				
public of school	•	Provide updated		Social Media	Social Media	
closures and within-		information to the SMSD		Coordinator (M.	Accounts	
school-year changes		community through various		Bond)		
in safety protocols		mediums		,		
	•	Prepare students and				
		families for fully remote				
		learning in the event of a				
		temporary or extended				
		school closure. The District				
		is fully equipped to provide				
		1:1 technology for all				
		students, K-12				
		The District has a reserve				
	•					
		of hotspots in the event				
		students/staff do not have				
		access to internet in their				
		homes				
	٠	The District will send a				
		technology survey to				
		families prior to the start of				
		the school year to				
		determine this need				
Other monitoring and	•	Create visitor questionnaire	Same as Green	Pandemic Team	None	No
screening practices		related to COVID-19				
		exposure and current				
		health status				
	•	Visitors will be unable to				
	•					
		enter District property if				
	1	they refuse or fail to abide				
		by the health and safety				
		plan				

Other Considerations for Students and Staff

The District will abide by all Federal, State, or Local requirements regarding the use of face coverings. In addition, it is imperative that the District remain aware of the social and emotional wellbeing of our students and staff. The District will provide all necessary supports and/or services to students and staff. These supports include in-school services, as well as resources for parents and community.

Requirements	Action Steps Under Green	Action Steps Under Yellow	Lead Individual and Position	Material, Resources, and or Supports Needed	PD Required (Yes/No)
Protecting students and staff at higher risk for severe illness	Staff Physical Health and Safety: In recognizing the need to protect employees at high risk for severe illness for those identified as vulnerable individuals ("Vulnerable individuals" are defined by CDC as people age 65 years and older and others with serious underlying health conditions, including high blood pressure, chronic lung disease, diabetes, obesity, asthma, and those whose immune systems are compromised such as by chemotherapy for cancer and other conditions requiring such therapy) and to mitigate the risk of exposure to COVID-19, the South Middleton School District will seek to identify	Same as Green	Student Services Department Human Resources Department	TBD	TBD

and support personnel in the
following manner:
A voluntary staff survey
will be administered to
identify school personnel
who are at higher risk for
severe illness per CDC
guidance and definition
Once self-identified as an
employee at high-risk,
the District will conduct
the interactive process
under the American's
with Disabilities Act, to
include gathering
appropriate medical
documentation, to help
guide the employee and
District in identifying and
implementing reasonable
accommodations
Flexible work conditions
may be negotiated for
those who self-report and
provide medical
documentation of
medically fragile status
The appropriate work
environment may consist
of full-time remote
employment, full-time
employment on school
grounds, or hybrid
Additional PPE may be
utilized to decrease risk

and increase ability to	
work on school grounds	
In accordance with CDC	
and PDE guidelines, the	
District will establish a	
liberal leave policy	
 All records that 	
contain personal	
health information will	
be kept strictly	
confidential and will	
align with record	
keeping procedures	
identified in Policy	
324	
guidelines set forth in	
the (FFCRA) Families	
First Coronavirus	
Response Act	
o A "liberal leave	
policy" does not	
include automatic	
paid leave options. If	
an employee does	
not have appropriate	
paid leave available,	
unpaid leave may be	
appropriate	
Student Physical Health and	
Safety:	
o Limit or cancel all	
non-essential travel	
such as field trips and	
community-based	
instruction	

	 Discontinue the use of perfect attendance awards and incentives Implement a liberal attendance policy Options for instructional models will be utilized as needed to meet students' unique health/safety needs which may consist of full-time remote instruction, full-time instruction on school grounds, or hybrid 				
Use of face coverings (masks or face shields) by all staff	 Face coverings will be required per Federal, State, or Local agency mandates Staff may remove their face covering when: Eating or drinking when spaced at least 6 feet apart 	Same as Green	Pandemic Team Building Principals	PPE	Yes
Use of face coverings (masks or face shields) by all students (as appropriate)	Face coverings will be required per Federal, State, or Local agency mandates and will only be able to remove face coverings consistent with updated Orders.	Same as Green	Pandemic Team Building Principals Teachers	PPE	Yes
Unique safety protocols for students with complex needs or other vulnerable individuals	The following extra precautions in low incidence programs (AS,	Same as Green	Building Principals	PPE	Yes

		1 1		
	, SFLS, LSS) will be		Student Services	
imple	mented		Department	
Servi	cing students in low			
	ence programs can		Teachers	
	oblematic due to,			
	ot limited to,			
	ents with medical			
	erns, students not			
	rstanding the			
	tance of wearing a			
	, students unable to			
	ain proper social			
	nce, students			
	ring hand-over-hand			
	iction and support,			
	ents requiring			
	tance with feeding			
	eting; for these			
	ons, extra			
	utions will be			
	mented:			
0	Staff must			
	thoroughly			
	sanitize hands			
	immediately			
	before and after			
	working with a			
	student			
0	Avoid the use of			
	communal			
	objects for			
	student			
	reinforcement; if			
	such objects are			
	used with multiple			
	students, each			

г				
	object should be			
	disinfected			
	immediately			
	before and after			
	student use			
0	Personal student			
Ŭ	iPads/AAC			
	devices must be			
	disinfected each			
	time a student			
	enters or exits the			
	classroom			
0	The district's			
	feeding protocol			
	will be followed			
	when feeding			
	students			
0	Staff must wear			
	gloves and face			
	covering when			
	feeding students			
0	Bathrooms and			
Ŭ	changing tables			
	must be			
	disinfected with			
	appropriate CDC			
	recommended			
	supplies before			
	and after student			
	use; limit students			
	to one at a time			
0	Students will be			
	assisted with			
	handwashing			
0	Students will be			
	required to wear			
• • •	· ·	ľ	1	

	masks while in common areas such as the hallway unless medically unable to do so o Students will be encouraged not to touch walls and fixtures				
Strategic deployment of staff	Cross-train staff to serve in critical job functions and positions	Same as Green	Building Principals Human Resources Department	TBD	Yes

Health and Safety Plan Professional Development

The following chart illustrates key areas of professional development that will support the implementation of the Health and Safety Plan.

Торіс	Audience	Lead Person and Position	Session Format	Materials, Resources, and or Supports Needed	Start Date	Completion Date
Cleaning, sanitizing and disinfection of areas used by students/staff	Custodial/Maintenance staff	Zachary Gump, Director of Building & Grounds	Staff Meeting w/ PP presentations	CDC Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfecting Schools	03/16/2020	3/16/2020
Healthy Hygiene Practices	All Staff	Matt Hurley, Supervisor of Human Resources	Online Training	Safe Schools Online	08/03/2020	Prior to start of 20/21 School Year
Proper use of Disinfectants	All Staff	Matt Hurley, Supervisor of Human Resources	Online Training	Safe Schools Online	08/03/2020	Prior to start of 20/21 School Year
Recognizing COVID-19 Symptoms	All Staff	Matt Hurley, Supervisor of Human Resources	Online Training	Safe Schools Online	08/03/2020	Prior to start of 20/21 School Year
Review the SMSD Health and Safety Plan	All Staff	Matt Strine, Superintendent	Online	PDF Document	08/03/2020	Prior to start of 20/21 School Year
Protocols for Building Nurses	Building Nurses	Alex Smith, Director of Student Services	In Person Training	TBD	08/03/2020	Prior to start of 20/21 School Year

Safety Protocols for Students with Complex NeedsSpecial Education StaffJessica White, Supervisor of Special EducationTB	BD TBS (08/03/2020	Prior to start of 20/21 School Year
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Health and Safety Plan Communications

The following chart illustrates key communication to and from stakeholder groups.

Торіс	Audience	Lead Person and Position	Session Format	Materials, Resources, and or Supports Needed	Start Date	Completion Date
Routine Updates for Families	Students & Families	Dr. Matthew Strine, Superintendent Building Principals	E-mail, phone call, website	Routine Updates for Families	Upon Plan Approval	
Routine Updates for Staff	District Staff	Dr. Matthew Strine, Superintendent Building Principals	Email or phone call	Routine Updates for Staff	Upon Plan Approval	
Health and Safety Communications	Pandemic Team	Pandemic Team	Various methods	Health and Safety Communications	Upon Plan Approval	

Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors/Trustees for **South Middleton School District** reviewed and approved the Phased School Reopening Health and Safety Plan on **07/13/2020**.

The plan was approved by a vote of:

<u>6</u> Yes <u>2</u> No

Affirmed on: 07/15/2020

By:

(Signature* of Board President)

(Print Name of Board President)

*Electronic signatures on this document are acceptable using one of the two methods detailed below.

Option A: The use of actual signatures is encouraged whenever possible. This method requires that the document be printed, signed, scanned, and then submitted.

Option B: If printing and scanning are not possible, add an electronic signature using the resident Microsoft Office product signature option, which is free to everyone, no installation or purchase needed.