



Fall 2020
Return to School Plan

Notice: Given the nature of the status of the COVID-19 virus, this plan is subject to change to accommodate the learning process and safety of our students, staff and community.

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HEALTH & SAFETY PROTOCOLS

Definition of COVID-19 Symptoms:

- Fever equal to or greater than 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit
- Significant Weakness, Fatigue
- Chills
- Shortness of breath
- Cough
- Sore Throat
- Headache
- Vomiting/Diarrhea
- Significant Body Aches
- Loss of taste/smell

Definition of close contact:

Close contact is defined by TEA as:

- Being directly exposed to infectious secretions. (i.e. being coughed on while not wearing a mask or face shield)
- Or being within 6 feet for a cumulative duration of 15 minutes, while not wearing a face mask or face shield; if either occurred at any time in the last 14 days at the same time the infected individual was infectious.
- Individuals presumed infectious at least 2 days prior to the onset of symptoms or, in the case of asymptomatic individuals who are lab-confirmed with COVID-19, 2 days prior to confirming lab test.

Tracking Community COVID-19 levels

Ector ISD will stay in close contact with local health officials to monitor the status of COVID-19 levels. At any point on-campus activities need to be adjusted, we will promptly communicate all information to parents, students and staff.

Health screenings

- Staff will be required to self-screen for COVID-19 symptoms.
- Parents/Guardians are expected to screen their children for COVID-19 symptoms each day prior to sending them to school.
- Staff will monitor students during school hours and refer to the nurse if symptoms are present.
- Visitors will be required to complete a health screening upon entering the building to determine if they have any symptoms of COVID-19 or have come in close contact with an

individual who is lab-confirmed with COVID-19. Visitors may be denied access to the building.

Infection control measures

- Hand sanitizer will be available in classrooms, at entrances, in the cafeteria, and the gym foyer.
- Staff will be required to regularly wash or sanitize hands.
- Elementary students will wash hands or sanitize before eating, after restroom breaks and after recess. Secondary students will be encouraged to wash hands or use sanitizer regularly.
- Social distancing of 6 feet will be encouraged as instructionally appropriate.
- Due to the concern of water fountains, parents should send their child with water for the day. Water fountains will not be accessible.

Sanitizing, cleaning and disinfecting

- All high-touch areas will be disinfected throughout the day.
- The use of shared supplies will be limited as appropriate.
- Each classroom will disinfect daily.
- The cafeteria will disinfect between groups.
- Restrooms will be disinfected throughout the day.

Isolation and notification procedures related to COVID-19

- If a student has displayed symptoms of COVID-19, the school nurse will determine if the student will be sent home.
- Students who are showing symptoms will be isolated until parent/guardian arrives to pick up the student.
- District communication will be provided to the parents/guardians of students who came in contact with a lab-confirmed COVID-19 positive student or staff.
- Staff members displaying COVID -19 symptoms will be sent home immediately.
- Any student or their parent/guardian who come into close contact with a COVID-19 positive individual will need to inform the school nurse and campus principal.
- Any individuals who either: (1) Are lab confirmed positive for COVID-19 or (2) experience the symptoms of COVID-19, must stay at home during the infection period and cannot return to campus until all campus re-entry conditions have been met.
 - **Return to School Criteria:**
 - An individual may return to school when all three of the following criteria is met:
 - At least 72 hours have passed since recovery.(Fever-free without use of fever-reducing medications.)
 - Improvement in symptoms; and
 - At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared.

- In the case of an individual who has symptoms that could be COVID-19 and who is not evaluated by a medical professional or tested for COVID-19, such individual is assumed to have COVID-19, and the individual may not return to the campus until the individual has completed the same three-step criteria as listed above.
- If the individual has symptoms that could be COVID-19 and wants to return to school before completing that above stay at home period, the individual must do one of the following:
 - (a) obtain a medical professional’s note clearing the individual for return based on an alternative diagnosis; or
 - (b) receive two separate confirmations at least 24 hours apart that they are free of COVID-19 via acute infection tests at an approved COVID-19 testing location found at <https://tdem.texas.gov/covid-19/#1584551997518-4d6bc131-2077>.
- Staff or students who come into close contact (see close contact section) with a lab-confirmed case of COVID-19 must self-quarantine for 14 days and must meet the return to school criteria.
- All staff and students will be removed from the classroom/area on campus that the symptomatic student was in and taken to an alternate location while the classroom/area is cleaned and disinfected. In the event this cannot be done before the start of the next school day, EISD may need to close for a day to complete this process effectively.
- Any student requiring quarantine will transition to Remote Learning for the period of isolation.
- EISD will notify all staff and families of all students in a school if a lab-confirmed COVID-19 case is identified among students or staff who participates in any on-campus activities.
- The following methods of communication will be used by EISD:
 - Ector ISD website
 - Social Media
 - Phone Call System

Face Coverings

Face coverings are defined as non-medical grade disposable face masks, cloth face coverings and/or full face shields. All face coverings should cover the nose and mouth.

- Face coverings are required for all staff working inside facilities with others.
- Students in Pre-K through 3rd grade are not required to wear a face covering unless they become ill at school until they can be picked up.
- Students in grades 4 and up will be required to wear a face covering at all times in common areas and classrooms unless otherwise approved by administrator.
- When it is impractical for staff or students to wear face coverings during certain activities, they are to maintain social distancing guidelines from other students and staff who are not wearing face coverings.
- Student’s individual needs will be addressed on a case-by-case basis. Accommodation requests should be submitted to the campus principal.
- Face coverings must follow the EISD student dress code and have no offensive or discriminating imagery or language present.

WORK AND LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

- Desks or tables will be socially distanced as much as feasible and instructionally appropriate.
- Small group instruction will be limited.
- The use of outdoor space for learning will be utilized when possible.
- All teachers must have seating chart documented each day in each class.

STUDENT NUTRITION: BREAKFAST AND LUNCH

- Cafeteria staff will wear face coverings and gloves. They will follow all health and safety protocols.
- Students will be expected to maintain social distancing (6ft) in the food line unless wearing a face covering.
- Self-serve counters will be removed.
- Student must not share food or drink.
- Meals will be in disposable packaging.
- Grab and go breakfast meals will be utilized.
- Hand sanitizer stations will be at entrances of cafeteria and food line.
- Student IDs will be entered by the staff.
- Microwaves will not be provided due to eliminating high-touch surfaces.
- All tables and frequently touched surfaces will be sanitized between lunches.

TRANSPORTATION

- Parents are encouraged to transport their child to and from school each day.
- Bus transportation will be available to students who live within the district.
- To support contact tracing, students will be assigned a seat. Members of the same household will be seated together.
- All buses will have hand sanitizer stations placed by the driver for use when loading and unloading.
- All buses will be thoroughly cleaned and sanitized daily.
- Bus drivers will wear a face covering when students enter or exit the school bus. The driver will not wear a mask while driving the school bus.
- Symptom-Free Transportation Agreement must be on file in the appropriate school office before student is allowed on bus.

VISITORS

- Visitors will be restricted to those essential to school operation. We highly discourage non-emergency drop-offs. (i.e. Snacks, lunchboxes, bags, etc.)
- Parents/Families will not be allowed to eat lunch with their child until further notice.
- No food deliveries will be allowed to be made during the school day. (i.e. breakfast, lunch or birthday foods.)

- All visitors entering a campus must wear a face covering.
- Campuses will utilize virtual meetings to limit campus visitors when possible. Social distancing guidelines will be followed for any on-campus meetings.
- A health screening will be done for anyone entering a building. If the screening is not passed by the individual, he/she will not be allowed access to the campus.

ARRIVAL/DISMISSAL

Arrival

- Early bird arrivals are strongly discouraged. All students dropped off before 7:15 will not be allowed in the building.
- Parents must remain in their vehicles during morning drop-off and will not be allowed to walk students to class.
- Bus riders will be held in the cafeteria until the building opens.

Dismissal

- Parents must remain in their vehicles during pick-up. Parents may not walk up to or into any building to pick up their child during dismissal time.
- Congregating with other parents/families in parking lots, pick-up lines, or near entrances will not be allowed.

CAMPUS EVENTS AND STUDENT ACTIVITIES

On-Campus Activities

- No in-person assemblies, pep rallies, or similar events will be held in the fall.
- Meet the teacher maybe held virtually at the discretion of the teacher.
- Parents groups and community groups will need to conduct their meetings/activities virtually or at a non-district facility.

Off-Campus Activities

- Student travel will be limited. Virtual field trips will be used in place of destination field trips when appropriate.
- After-school clubs and student organizations will be limited. Guidance will be communicated upon the need for the organization.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR PROGRAMS

- Practices, contests, and/or performances will be conducted following safety protocols provided by guidance from EISD, TEA and UIL.

- All EISD facilities will be capped at 50% capacity with appropriate social distancing guidelines followed.

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS

In-School Instruction

- Available to students Pre-K through 12th grade.
- Regular classroom instruction along with grading and attendance requirements will be expected.

Remote Instruction

Students must have access to the following to participate in Remote Instruction in the 20-21 school year:

- Broadband Internet Access
- Access to a Laptop, Chromebook or Desktop Computer for use a minimum of 4 hours a day each school day during regular school hours. Grades PK-3 can utilize an ipad instead of other devices listed.
- Available to students in Pre-K through 12th grade.
- Students will remain at home and will engage in learning activities that are primarily delivered through an online learning management system. (SeeSaw PK-2 and Contentbrix 3-12)
- Student participation is required the full 5 school days per week during school hours.
- Students will participate in both live, teacher-led instruction and learning activities (synchronous instruction) along with pre-recorded teacher-led instruction and independent learning activities (asynchronous instruction).
- Students will be required to complete and submit assignments and/or interact with their teacher every school day for all classes in which they are enrolled.
- A structured schedule will be provided to students indicating required times for student participation in each subject.
- Classes will follow district curriculum, unit sequencing and instructional pacing guidelines.
- Grading guidelines will be the same as in-school instruction expectations.
- Courses taken in Remote Instruction that earn high school credit will count in GPA and Class Ranking calculations.
- Teacher assistance will be provided to any student that requests the support during normal school hours of 7:30-4:00 each school day.
- Changing instructional models (In-School vs Remote) will only occur at the end of the grading period if a parent or guardian so chooses unless a health-related situation occurs.

DEFINITION OF SYNCHRONOUS AND ASYNCHRONOUS INSTRUCTION

Synchronous Instruction is two-way, real time/live, virtual instruction between teachers and students when students are not on campus. The student is required to be engaged in real-time and complete assigned work each day.

- Ector ISD expectations for students during Synchronous Instruction:
 - Students will attend classes on time.
 - Students will dress appropriately. All visible clothing in compliance with the EISD dress code.
 - Students are ready to learn.
 - Students must have a designated distraction-free workspace.
 - Students will show their face on the screen to engage with the teacher virtually.
 - Students will participate in class as directed by the teacher.
 - Students will maintain appropriate behavior conducive to learning.

Asynchronous Instruction is instruction that does not require having the teacher and student engaged at the same time. The student is required to be engaged in assigned learning activities and complete assigned work each day.

- Ector ISD expectations for students during Asynchronous Instruction:
 - Students are ready to learn.
 - Students must have a designated distraction-free workspace.
 - Students will show proof of participation in daily virtual learning by satisfactorily completing assignments which demonstrate evidence of student learning.

SPECIAL EDUCATION AND SECTION 504

All students in special education or with a Section504 plan will receive their specific instruction needs and accommodations regardless of In-school or Remote Learning methods as set in their IEP or 504 plan.

SOCIAL EMOTIONAL AND MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT

Ector ISD will address the mental health and social-emotional development of all students, staff and community by following best practices in the areas of:

- School-based mental health services
- Behavioral support systems
- Family engagement and support practices
- Staff supports
- Other key systems and supports

Social Emotional Learning lessons and activities to support students related to COVID-19 experiences, trauma and school closure will be developed for all campuses.

Counseling support will be accessible to both in-person and remote learners. Families will be provided information on how to access resources for mental health and wellness upon request.