

# Seagraves Independent School District



## Guide to Instruction

### Strong Start

2020-2021 School Year

Seagraves Schools (PK-12)

A great place to learn where leaders strive to develop skilled individuals that have the desire and knowledge to be life-long learners.

Published August 4, 2020  
*(revisions will be noted in header)*

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Superintendent Statement ..... 2

Texas Education Agency Guidance .....2

Communication/Contacts .....3

Learning Options.....3

Guidelines .....4

Instructional Efforts .....4

Technology .....4

Curricular and Extracurricular Considerations .....4

Health/Safety Considerations .....4

Frequently Asked Questions .....5

Links to State and Local Websites .....9

Standard Response Protocol .....10

### **Superintendent Statement: Friday, August 7, 2020**

Seagraves ISD looks forward to welcoming students back to school on August 19, 2020. Given health and safety concerns instructional delivery will be more diverse than ever before at Seagraves Schools. Our goal is to provide high quality educational experiences for students and families in a variety of ways in 2020-2021. Additional health and safety steps will be implemented as part of our plan for student success and wellness of every community member.

Seagraves ISD is planning to provide instruction and support for students at school or at home. The two forms of instruction will not and cannot be identical. Students who participate at school will have access to the full range of opportunities allowed while SISD observes recommendations of state and local health officials. The framework for protocols and instructional delivery is based on Texas Education Agency (TEA) guidelines.

The Texas Education Agency has provided information and guidance as school campuses provide instruction in 2020-2021. This information and guidance is updated routinely and SISD administration will continue to adjust our practices to best serve our students.

TEA Guidance used to develop the SISD plan can be found at these sites:

<https://tea.texas.gov/texas-schools/health-safety-discipline/covid/coronavirus-covid-19-support-and-guidance>

<https://tea.texas.gov/sites/default/files/covid/SY20-21-School-Reopening-Brief.pdf>

<https://tea.texas.gov/sites/default/files/covid/Covid-19-SY-20-21-Public-Health-Guidance.pdf>

Seagraves ISD leadership seek community support and feedback so that decisions driving student, staff, and family experiences are relevant and serve local needs. Plans will remain flexible to accommodate potential changes and these guidelines may be modified as needed. As adjustments may be necessary throughout the coming school year, it will be our priority to keep the community informed of those changes and updates. Seagraves ISD website and social media will continue to serve as frontline announcement platforms for district updates. All access can be found online at [www.seagravesisd.net](http://www.seagravesisd.net). Engaging with campus and classroom level communications is encouraged for families to be most up to date. Registration and student progress will be accessible during the 2020-2021 school year in the Ascender Parent Portal online at <https://txeis06.esc17.net:8443/ParentPortal/login?distid=083901>.

Please note, health guidance cannot anticipate every unique situation. As a result, Seagraves ISD will continue to consult available guidance through governmental agencies and other relevant information to monitor the situation. The district will comply with applicable federal and state employment and disability laws, workplace safety standards, and accessibility standards to address individual needs.

Seagraves ISD understands concerns and the truly scary nature of this pandemic. It is important to remember the virus that causes COVID-19 can be spread by infected persons who have little or no symptoms. Persons who are infected may become seriously ill. Current evidence shows the most vulnerable are persons 65 years of age or older with pre-existing health conditions, placing them at higher risk. Seagraves ISD expects all employees, students, and families to follow these practices carefully for the benefit of all.

NOTE: Revision dates may be noted in the header of this document and a history of all publications will be filed at the administration office and online at [www.seagravesisd.net](http://www.seagravesisd.net).

On behalf of the Seagraves ISD Board of Trustees and Seagraves ISD Staff, I thank you for your support, patience and understanding as we navigate these new circumstances.

Josh Goen, Superintendent

## COMMUNICATION

The designated communication team regarding all Health related issues at Seagraves ISD will consist of the following personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please direct those to one of our designated team members at the following digital mailboxes, @seagravesisd.com.

Josh Goen, Superintendent	josh.goen
Daylan Sellers, Principal (9-12)	daylan.sellers
Jamie Humphries, Principal (6-8)	jamie.humphries
Jeff Fleenor, Principal (PK-5)	jeff.fleenor
Junior Martinez, Principal (PK-12)	junior.martinez
Armando Minjarez, Athletic Director	armando.minjarez
Traci Garza, Business Manager	traci.garza
Jennifer Floyd, Lead District Nurse	jennifer.floyd

If you have any general questions, please email them to Tina Davis, District Office: tina.davis

***NOTE: Details are subject to change based on guidelines from local, state, and federal authorities.***

## LEARNING OPTIONS

Seagraves ISD will provide multiple options for learning in 2020-2021 credited for funding as follows:

1. On-Campus Instruction (all-level)
2. Remote Synchronous Instruction (3<sup>rd</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades)
3. Remote Asynchronous Instruction (all-level)

### **On-Campus Instruction:**

When schools are open and operating normally, students are scheduled to attend school on campus each day. Student schedules determine whether they will generate full- or half-day funding, and students generate funding when attendance is recorded for students who are physically present at school at a locally selected snapshot time. Traditional on-campus instruction will continue to be funded as it was before the COVID-19 pandemic.

Subject to certain exceptions applicable to SISD listed below, on-campus instruction must be offered for all grades served by the campus every day for every student whose parents want them to access on-campus instruction for each day a campus is providing instruction given its instructional calendar.

Exceptions applicable to SISD:

-Any day a campus is ordered closed by an entity authorized to issue an order under state law.

### **Remote Synchronous Instruction:**

Two-way, real-time/live, virtual instruction between teachers and students when students are not on campus. In this method, the required amount of instructional time is scheduled each day, and funding is generated when attendance is recorded daily at a locally selected snapshot time. Synchronous instruction is provided through a computer or other electronic device or over the phone. The instructional method must address the required curriculum, per TEC, §28.002.

### **Remote Asynchronous Instruction:**

Instruction that does not require having the instructor and student engaged at the same time. In this method, students learn from instruction that is not necessarily being delivered in-person or in real time. This type of

instruction may include various forms of digital and online learning, such as prerecorded video lessons or game-based learning tasks that students complete on their own, and pre-assigned work and formative assessments made available to students on paper. The instructional method must address the required curriculum, per TEC, §28.002.

### **Guidelines for 2020-2021 School Year**

All students will need to register for the 2020-2021 school year beginning the first week of August. All parents will be required to register their child for one of the learning options for the course of the first grading period (August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020 – September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020). Parents will have the opportunity to change instructional setting in a future grading period 10 days prior to next grading period. Table below demonstrates relevant dates.

Grading Period	Date Range	Instructional Selection Window
1 <sup>st</sup> Six Weeks	8/19/20 – 9/25/20	8/3/20 – 8/7/20
2 <sup>nd</sup> Six Weeks	9/29/20 – 10/30/20	9/14/20 - 9/18/20
3 <sup>rd</sup> Six Weeks	11/3/20 – 12/18/20	10/19/20 - 10/23/20
4 <sup>th</sup> Six Weeks	1/5/21 – 2/11/21	12/21/20 - 12/25/20
5 <sup>th</sup> Six Weeks	2/16/21 – 4/1/21	2/1/21 - 2/5/21
6 <sup>th</sup> Six Weeks	4/5/21 – 5/14/21	3/22/21 – 3/26/21
Flexible Year	5/17/21 – 5/28/21	5/3/21 – 5/7/21

\*Change requests outside of these dates must be recommended by principal and approved by superintendent.

### **Instructional Efforts Underway for the New School Year**

Staff Development to improve instructional deliveries to meet the individual needs of every SISD learner on campus or from home. SISD will continue to provide a method to receive and submit Remote Asynchronous Instructional Materials and provide for Remote Synchronous Instructional Materials online.

### **Technology:**

Seagraves ISD cannot provide internet access to homes but will continue to work with providers to connect families who choose remote instruction to internet access. Seagraves ISD will provide every student with necessary devices and materials to be successful when access is obtained. If internet access is unobtainable and parents choose Remote Asynchronous Instruction, Seagraves ISD will provide detailed instructions for student success and materials at no cost to families.

### **Curricular and Extracurricular Considerations:**

Students who wish to participate in school courses and/or activities that are not available remotely must select on-campus instruction to participate. UIL guidance allows students to participate in extracurricular activities in a virtual format when accessible. We will encourage all students to engage in a variety of activities and clubs but will not allow Remote learners to participate in activities that require On-Campus presence. For further clarification, please contact your campus principal.

### **Health/Safety Considerations:**

Particular attention to health and safety will be addressed by protocols including but not limited to:

- Sanitizing practices, such as frequent cleaning of high touch point areas, equipment, desks and chairs
- Expanded service response to breakouts in addition to our regular cleaning schedule
- No sharing of student supplies or resources
- Hand sanitizing stations throughout the buildings
- Adults and students older than age 10 will wear face masks according to state guidelines

- When appropriate younger students who wish to wear face masks will practice similar guidelines
- Social distancing, including development of schedules that limit large groups and modified transportation
- Screening protocols for staff, students, and visitors
- Limited face-to-face staff meetings and professional development
- Limited access to buildings while students and staff are present
- Monitoring (COVID-19) and follow guidance provided by state and local health organizations
- Handwashing and/or hand sanitizing frequently throughout the day
- Proper self-care habits will be taught and reinforced with kindness

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

### **1. When will Seagraves ISD reopen campuses for the 2020-2021 school year?**

Seagraves ISD plans to reopen and provide instruction beginning on August 19, 2020. Many extracurricular and summer school activities are already underway.

### **2. What precautions will be in place on campus?**

We will be practicing and promoting disease mitigation strategies, increased cleaning and sanitation practices, as well as frequent reminders of hand hygiene and social distancing. Seagraves ISD will comply with all health and safety mandates established by the health department and Texas Education Agency. Classrooms will be arranged to maximize space between students. We encourage students and staff to provide their own Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). Seagraves ISD will provide PPE to staff and students. Staff will be trained on protocols. SISD is adding an additional school nurse to the staff.

### **3. Will students and staff be required to wear masks?**

Yes, according to current guidelines non-exempt students and staff will wear a mask when they are unable to safely distance. Seagraves ISD will adhere to state and local mandates regarding masks. Individuals will be encouraged to take any additional precautions they deem appropriate as well in an effort to keep everyone safe and healthy. There will be many occasions where masks will not be required. SISD will provide PPE to staff and students.

### **4. Will CDC social distancing guidelines be observed?**

Campuses and campus activities will be monitored to encourage social distancing. Social distancing will be observed as much as possible. When social distancing requirements cannot be maintained, such as class change times, lunch, etc. students will be required to follow state and local mandates currently in effect. Signage and programs reminding students and staff about handwashing, social distancing, and infection prevention will be visible and routinely updated.

### **5. What happens if a student or a teacher tests positive for COVID-19? Will the entire classroom have to quarantine and enroll in virtual school? What if multiple classrooms and students/staff are impacted?**

When notification of a possible exposure occurs, Seagraves ISD, in coordination with local health authorities, will begin contact tracing and complete a thorough risk assessment. Based on this assessment, a determination as to whether an entire classroom or multiple classrooms are required to quarantine will be made. Students will have the opportunity to access remote learning during any required quarantine period or closure event. Communication with students and families will be initiated by campus principal.

**6. Will visitors be allowed on campuses?**

Visitors will be allowed on campuses on a very limited basis using the guidelines. Visits must be official school business only and have a scheduled appointment. All visitors are required to follow health related state and local mandates upon entry.

**7. Will students have access to breakfast and lunch?**

Students who choose On-Campus Instruction will continue to receive free breakfast and lunch at school. We are excited about a new menu for the 2020-2021 school year. Students can bring a lunch. We will be organizing feeding options for remote learners after registration. Details will come from your campus office. We will not allow guest to join students during meal times until all restrictions are lifted by state and local authorities. Students who wish to leave campus for lunch will follow campus procedures as in the past.

**8. What is considered Close Contact?**

This document refers to “close contact” with an individual who is lab-confirmed to have COVID-19. Close contact is determined by an appropriate public health agency. For clarity, close contact is defined as: a. being directly exposed to infectious secretions (e.g., being coughed on while not wearing a mask or face shield); or b. being within 6 feet for a cumulative duration of 15 minutes, while not wearing a 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 are presumed infectious at least two days prior to symptom onset or, in the case of asymptomatic individuals who are lab-confirmed with COVID-19, two days prior to the confirming lab test

**9. What if the parent, guardian or adult student chooses not to receive face-to-face instruction this year because of concerns regarding COVID-19?**

Seagraves ISD will provide instruction in the most appropriate of the three modes referenced in this document.

**10. What if most families choose the in-person option? Would there have to be changes to accommodate social distancing or will there be a limit of how many students can select the in-person option?**

We will continue to work closely with TEA and local health authorities to ensure the safety of our staff and students. Daily routines and practices will be adjusted in 2020-2021 with careful consideration of staff and student wellbeing. We will not limit access and have plans to safely provide instruction as SISD complies with all mandates regarding social/physical distancing as well as health and hygiene protocols.

**11. What additional safety measures will the district have in place in response to COVID-19?**

The district plans to:

- i. Increase cleaning regimen in all school areas
- ii. Regularly disinfect classrooms, buses, gyms, bathrooms, and other populated public areas
- iii. Provide face masks/shields, hand sanitizers, and gloves to staff and students
- iv. Hiring additional staff assigned to health and wellness implementation.
- v. Temperature checks daily for all school staff and students.
- vi. Continuous application of best practices among health officials and recommendations for schools

**12. How will you address social, emotional, or mental health concerns?**

Counselors are available to support students academically, socially, and emotionally and can provide mental health support or resources for families who may be struggling emotionally. Please contact campus principal to arrange an appointment with counselors.

**13. Will we still have parent night, open house, assemblies, sporting events or concerts?**

Seagraves ISD will be limiting such activities to those approved to be safely held with guidance from state and local authorities. Look for updates throughout the school year from campus announcements.

**14. Will we still have athletics, band, FFA, and other activities?**

Seagraves ISD will continue to provide and support all student activities to the best of our ability with support from state and local guidance. These activities are currently allowed and we will be making arrangements for students and spectators to participate safely.

**15. Will buses run?**

Yes, transportation will continue for eligible students; however, parents are strongly encouraged to bring and pick their children up from school. Bus routes will be finalized after registration.

**16. Will social distancing be observed on buses, and how will seating arrangements be determined?**

Students will be instructed with specific safety protocols. These protocols will include spaced seating among separate household riders. Cleaning of vehicles will continue daily.

**17. What precautions will be in place for extracurricular activities?**

Safety guidelines have been developed for conducting workouts, rehearsals, and practices. The district will continue to follow all mandated guidelines provided by TEA, UIL and the state.

**18. Will students have recess or the ability to play and socialize with other students?**

We will allow students to play and socialize according to guidance put forth by the state.

**19. Are immunizations required for remote learners?**

Yes. At this time the Texas Department of State Health Services has not waived the vaccine requirements for students.

**20. How will remote learning in 2020-2021 compare to the spring of 2020?**

Seagraves ISD tried to provide learning support with the unexpected school closures last spring. Student learning in the new year will be at a pace much faster than last spring. We recognize the need to fill gaps and aim to have your student on grade level by the end of each school year. Grading requirements will be traditional and will not differ for students receiving on-campus or remote instruction. The burden of time and effort on remote learners will be much greater than last spring. We are more prepared to provide quality remote instruction and will be working with each family to support student success. Mr. Martinez will be leading our team in student and family support with a focus on student and parent engagement.

**21. Can a student be counted absent from Remote Asynchronous Instruction?**

Yes. Student engagement is measured daily, and attendance is assigned based on the student's completion of that day's engagement measure. Students who do not complete the daily measure of engagement are to be counted absent for that day, and that absence cannot be changed to present if the student completes the engagement measure on a later date. Students will receive detailed expectations to meet attendance and performance measures.

**22. Can a student be credited for attendance if absent from school while enrolled for on-campus instruction?**

Yes. If a student will be unable to participate on-campus and has made arrangements with principal and teachers, the student will be able to complete course work remotely.

**23. Will an accelerated course program be available to high school students seeking credit recovery or early graduation opportunities?**

Yes. Seagraves High School students will be able to participate in the Choices Program in 2020-2021. Access to this program will continue to require High School Principal approval.

**24. Is dual credit, college course access, available in 2020-2021?**

Yes. Students who meet district criteria will be able to take dual credit classes at no cost. Remote and On-Campus offerings will differ.

**25. Are students able to transfer into Seagraves ISD in 2020-2021?**

Yes. All student transfer applications will be reviewed by campus principals and approved by superintendent. On-Campus and Remote Instruction settings will be available as well.

**26. Can my child remain at school with a temperature?**

No. Any child with a temperature above 100.4, according to policy, will be required to go home until temperature free for 24 hours.

**27. Will parents be notified if their child has other symptoms not believed to be related to COVID19?**

Yes. Our nurse staff will continue to practice caregiving and parent support for all students as before. We realize other illnesses will continue to be a part of students' lives.

**28. Can the school guarantee no students or staff are allowed on campus with COVID19?**

No. Seagraves ISD will monitor and assess all school members but realize this is not a guarantee we can offer. We look forward to working with families as a team effort to keep everyone safe.

**29. Can a student alternate between remote and on-campus instruction?**

Yes. All students will be able to select an instructional setting at each grading period according to the timelines identified in this document. Changes in setting at all other times will require administrative approval.

**30. Are mask requirements at the school based on science?**

Seagraves ISD understands there are conflicting reports on the effectiveness of masking. We will be providing masks and encouraging compliance with state guidelines, understanding that these guidelines do list exceptions including but not limited to; individual health issues that are

complicated by masking, settings where transmission is limited by spacing, and activities not safely performed with a mask.

**31. Will names be given of infected individuals and will cases be confirmed?**

Seagraves ISD will not make protected information public. Confidentiality and ethical practices will be observed. Cases will be confirmed by the district when verified by local health officials. Standard Response Protocol are based on confirmed cases.

**LINKS**

**TEA: Texas Education Agency**

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Support and Guidance

<https://tea.texas.gov/texas-schools/health-safety-discipline/covid/coronavirus-covid-19-support-and-guidance>

Public Health Guidance

<https://tea.texas.gov/sites/default/files/covid/Covid-19-SY-20-21-Public-Health-Guidance.pdf>

**UIL: University Interscholastic League**

COVID-19 Information

<https://www.uil texas.org/policy/covid-19>

**TDA: Texas Department of Agriculture**

<https://www.squaremeals.org/>

**CDC: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**

<https://www.cdc.gov/>

**TDSHS: Texas Department of State Health Services**

<https://dshs.texas.gov/>

**Worldometer:**

<https://www.worldometers.info/>

**SEAGRAVES ISD:**

<https://www.seagravesisd.net>



# Seagraves ISD COVID-19 Standard Protocol

## Strong Start 2020-2021

### **PREVENT: Practices to Prevent the Virus from Entering the School**

#### **Screening Questions for COVID-19 Before Campus Access**

1. School systems must require teachers and staff to self-screen for COVID-19 symptoms before coming onto campus each day. Symptoms are listed at the end of this document. The self-screening should include teachers and staff taking their own temperature. Teachers and staff must report to the school system if they themselves have COVID-19 symptoms or are lab confirmed with COVID-19, and, if so, they must remain off campus until they meet the criteria for re-entry as noted below. Additionally, they must report to the school system if they have had close contact with an individual who is lab-confirmed with COVID-19, as defined at the end of this document, and, if so, must remain off campus until the 14-day incubation period has passed.
2. Parents must ensure they do not send a child to school on campus if the child has COVID-19 symptoms (as listed in this document) or is lab-confirmed with COVID-19, and instead should opt to receive remote instruction until the below conditions for re-entry are met. Parents may also opt to have their students receive remote instruction if their child has had close contact with an individual who is lab-confirmed with COVID-19 until the 14-day incubation period has passed. School systems may consider screening students for COVID-19 as well. Screening is accomplished by asking questions by phone or other electronic methods and/or in person. The screening questions should also be asked of a student's parent if that parent will be dropping off or picking up their child from inside the school. Regularly performing a forehead temperature check of otherwise asymptomatic students in school is not recommended, but the practice is also not prohibited by this guidance.
3. Excluding parental drop-off and pick-up as discussed above, before visitors are allowed onto campuses, school systems must screen all visitors to determine if the visitors have COVID-19 symptoms (as listed in this document) or are lab-confirmed with COVID-19, and, if so, they must remain off campus until they meet the criteria for re-entry as noted below. Additionally, school systems must screen to determine if visitors have had close contact with an individual who is lab-confirmed with COVID-19, and, if so, they must remain off campus until the 14-day incubation period has passed. When practical, screening questions could be supplemented with temperature checks of adults.

#### **Individuals Confirmed or Suspected with COVID-19**

1. Any individuals who themselves either: (a) are lab-confirmed to have COVID-19; or (b) experience the symptoms of COVID-19 (listed below) must stay at home throughout the infection period, and cannot return to campus until the school system screens the individual to determine any of the below conditions for campus re-entry have been met:
  - In the case of an individual who was diagnosed with COVID-19, the individual may return to school when all three of the following criteria are met:
    - at least one day (24 hours) have passed since recovery (resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications);

- the individual has improvement in symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath); and
- at least ten 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 set of criteria listed above.
- If the individual has symptoms that could be COVID-19 and wants to return to school before completing the above stay at home period, the individual must either (a) obtain a medical professional's note clearing the individual for return based on an alternative diagnosis or (b) obtain an acute infection test at an approved testing location (<https://tdem.texas.gov/covid-19/>) that comes back negative for COVID-19.

### **Identifying Possible COVID-19 Cases on Campus**

1. Schools must immediately separate any student who shows COVID-19 symptoms while at school until the student can be picked up by a parent or guardian.
2. Schools should clean the areas used by the individual who shows COVID-19 symptoms while at school (student, teacher, or staff) as soon as is feasible.
3. Students who report feeling feverish should be given an immediate temperature check to determine if they are symptomatic for COVID-19.

## **RESPOND: Practices to Respond to a Lab-Confirmed Case in the School**

### **Required Actions if Individuals with Lab-Confirmed Cases Have Been in a School**

1. If an individual who has been in a school is lab-confirmed to have COVID-19, the school must notify its local health department, in accordance with applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations, including confidentiality requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).
2. Schools must close off areas that are heavily used by the individual with the lab-confirmed case (student, teacher, or staff) until the non-porous surfaces in those areas can be disinfected, unless more than 7 days have already passed since that person was on campus.
3. Consistent with school notification requirements for other communicable diseases, and consistent with legal confidentiality requirements, schools must notify all teachers, staff, and families of all students in a school if a lab-confirmed COVID-19 case is identified among students, teachers or staff who participate in any on campus activities.

## **MITIGATE: Practices to Mitigate the Likelihood of COVID-19 Spread Inside the School: (Operational Considerations)**

### **Health and Hygiene Practices: General**

1. Schools should attempt to have hand sanitizer and/or hand washing stations with soap and water at each entrance. They should also attempt to provide hand sanitizer and/or hand washing stations with soap and water in every classroom.

2. Students, teachers, staff, and campus visitors should be encouraged to sanitize and/or wash hands frequently.

- School systems are encouraged to have students engage in supervised handwashing for at least 20 seconds at least two times each day, in addition to being encouraged to wash hands after using the restroom and before eating.
- School systems are encouraged to teach students good handwashing techniques.
- Students, teachers, staff, and campus visitors should be encouraged to cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue, and if not available, covered in their elbows. Used tissues should be thrown in the trash, hands should be washed immediately with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or hand sanitizer should be used.

3. Campuses should institute more frequent cleaning practices, including additional cleaning by janitorial staff, as well as provide the opportunity for children to clean their own spaces before and after they are used, in ways that are safe and developmentally appropriate.

- Schools should arrange for additional cleaning and disinfecting of surfaces that are touched in common throughout the day. This would include objects such as door handles, common tables/desks, shared supplies such as art supplies, and high touch devices such as shared laptops or tablets.
- Schools should arrange for cleaning of commonly-touched surfaces in classrooms between different class groups, if the same room will be used by multiple class groups.
- The CDC has provided guidance on cleaning community buildings to prevent COVID-19 spread.
- Schools should ensure these products are stored safely, including storing harmful products where children cannot access them, and ensuring that harmful cleaning products are not used near children.

4. Whenever possible, schools should open windows or otherwise work to improve air flow by allowing outside air to circulate in the building.

5. If a building has remained dormant for an extended period, we recommend you review CDC guidance on maintaining water system safety when buildings are unused for extended periods of time, and apply this guidance as appropriate.

6. The CDC provides a range of printed resources such as posters that promote protective measures and can serve as helpful reminders of best practices. Schools may use these or may create their own reminders.

7. On the first day a student attends school on campus, school systems must provide instruction to students on appropriate hygiene practices and other mitigation practices adopted in the local school system.

### **Health and Hygiene Practices: Masks**

1. For the purposes of this document, masks include non-medical grade disposable face masks, cloth face coverings (over the nose and mouth), Full-face shields may be used in place of a mask to protect eyes, nose, and mouth whenever a mask is not feasible or whenever the education context may benefit from the ability to see an individual's full face.

2. Schools are required to comply with the governor’s executive order regarding the wearing of masks.
3. In addition to the executive order, school systems may require the use of masks or face shields for adults or students for whom it is developmentally appropriate.
4. It may be impractical for students to wear masks or face shields while participating in some non-UIL athletic or other extracurricular activities. When it is impractical for students to wear masks or face shields during those activities, schools must require students, teachers, staff, and visitors to wear masks or face shields when entering and exiting facilities and practice areas and when not actively engaging in those activities. Schools may, for example, allow students who are actively exercising to remove masks or face shields, as long as they maintain at least six feet of distance from other students, teachers, and staff who are not wearing masks or face shields. However, schools must require students, teachers, and staff to wear masks or face shields as they arrange themselves in positions that will allow them to maintain safe distancing.

### **Student-Teacher Groupings**

Where feasible without disrupting the educational experience, encourage students to practice social distancing.

1. In classroom spaces that allow it, consider placing student desks a minimum of six feet apart when possible.
2. In classrooms where students are regularly within six feet of one another, schools should plan for more frequent hand washing and/or hand sanitizing and should consider whether increased airflow from the outdoors is possible.

### **Use of Non-Classroom Spaces**

1. When feasible and appropriate (for example, in physical education classes as weather permits), it is preferable for students to gather outside, rather than inside, because of likely reduced risk of virus spread outdoors.
2. Schools may continue to offer extracurricular activities, at their discretion and consistent with the guidance in this document, for non-UIL extracurricular activities and with the guidance found on the UIL website for all UIL activities.
3. As is the case in typical years, school systems with policies that allow it may open facilities to the public. Operation of the facilities should be done consistent with the governor’s executive orders for similar activities.
4. Campuses must plan for entry, exit, and transition procedures that reduce large group gatherings (of students and/or adults) in close proximity. Consider staggering school start and end times, assigning students to entries to ensure even distribution of students entering/exiting at each door, providing guidance to students to enter one at a time and wait six feet apart outside the entrance, and, where appropriate, encouraging parents to remain outside during drop-off and pick-up.
5. Depending upon local conditions, school systems should consider eliminating assemblies and other activities that bring large groupings of students and/or teachers and staff together.

6. Consider adding dividers between bathroom sinks, especially when students cannot be at least six feet apart while using the sinks.
7. School systems should consider practices that reduce the likelihood that students meet the close contact definition (defined below) at lunch. This could include having students eat lunch at their desks. It could include the use of seats that are spaced at least 6 feet apart. It could include the use of dividers on cafeteria tables if they can serve the purpose of shielding the students from respiratory droplets with which they might otherwise come into contact. For meal service itself, consider individually plated meals with disposable food service items for students who do not bring their own lunch.

### **Transportation Recommendations**

1. School systems should consider requiring students and staff to use hand sanitizer upon boarding the bus.
2. When possible, schools should open windows to allow outside air to circulate in the bus.
3. School systems should encourage families to drop students off, carpool, or walk with their student to school to reduce possible virus exposure on buses.
4. Buses should be thoroughly cleaned after each bus trip, focusing on high-touch surfaces such as bus seats, steering wheels, knobs, and door handles. During cleaning, open windows to allow for additional ventilation and air flow.

### **Visits to Schools**

1. Parents and other adults can visit schools, as permitted by local school system policies. During these visits, parents and other visitors must follow virus prevention and mitigation requirements of the school.
2. Schools systems should restrict visits in schools to only those essential to school operations.

### **Staffing**

1. Employees of school systems, like employees of any organization, must continue to meet the work expectations set by their employers, subject to any applicable employment contract terms or legal requirements. However, school systems should work with teachers and other staff to ensure the safety of students, teachers, and staff. This could include allowing those staff, including teachers, who may fulfill their work duties remotely to do so. It could include modification of schedules to ensure, where feasible, that staff members, including teachers, interact with smaller and/or more consistent cohorts of individuals to further mitigate risk. In addition, teachers and staff who are in high risk categories may be entitled to paid leave under the federal Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) in addition to leave already accrued.
2. School teachers and staff should be trained specifically on the protocols outlined in this document and the practices adopted by their school system. Additionally, while not developed with this exact guidance in mind, Texas Agri-Life Extension offers a free online course on Special Considerations for Infection Control During COVID-19 (2hrs). This course is intended for frontline childcare workers, but the principles of the course apply equally to those working in school settings.
3. School systems should attempt to reduce in-person staff meetings or other opportunities for adults to congregate in close settings. When those meetings are necessary and cannot be done via electronic means,

everyone must follow the mask protocols in this guidance, remain at least 6 feet apart where feasible, consider the use of dividers, and consider whether increased airflow from the outdoors is possible in those settings.

## **COVID-19 Symptoms**

In evaluating whether an individual has symptoms consistent with COVID-19, consider the following questions:

Have they recently begun experiencing any of the following in a way that is not normal for them?

- Feeling feverish or a measured temperature greater than or equal to 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit
- Loss of taste or smell
- Cough
- Difficulty breathing
- Shortness of breath
- Fatigue
- Headache
- Chills
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Shaking or exaggerated shivering
- Significant muscle pain or ache
- Diarrhea
- Nausea or vomiting

## **Close Contact**

This document refers to “close contact” with an individual who is lab-confirmed to have COVID-19. Close contact is determined by an appropriate public health agency. For clarity, close contact is defined as:

- a) being directly exposed to infectious secretions (e.g., being coughed on); or
- b) being within 6 feet for a cumulative duration of 15 minutes with either party not wearing appropriate mask / shield, while in an area without appropriate ventilation, presence of dividers or separation by barrier

Either a) or b) defines close contact if it occurred during the infectious period of the case, defined as two days prior to symptom onset to 10 days after symptom onset. IN the case of asymptomatic individuals who are lab-confirmed with COVID-19, the infectious period is defined as two days prior to the confirming lab test and continuing for 10 days following the confirming lab test.

## **Screening Questionnaire Information**

1. When asking individuals if they have symptoms for COVID-19, school systems must only require the individual to provide a “Yes” or “No” to the overall statement that they are symptomatic for COVID-19,

as opposed to asking the individual for specific symptom confirmation. School systems are not entitled to collect information during screening on the specific health information of an individual beyond that they are symptomatic.

2. Once it is determined that individuals who responded “Yes” to either of these questions have met the criteria for re-entry, school systems must destroy those individuals’ responses.

\*Seagraves ISD will attempt to follow every guideline including the phrase “should” as they are recommended guidelines, but may not be capable of realizing every recommendation.

\*Seagraves ISD will ensure all requirements of the TEA health guidance are met as part of this plan.