

# North Hopkins ISD

1994 FM 71 West, Sulphur Springs, TX 75482  
Phone: 903-945-2192 Fax: 903-945-2531

## North Hopkins ISD 2021-2022 Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan

North Hopkins ISD looks forward to welcoming students back to school on August 18, 2021. Despite the challenges with COVID-19, our district will continue to provide an excellent education to our students. As the public health crisis continues, we have been planning for the opening of the 2021-2022 school year with a focus on the health, safety and well-being of our staff, students and community.

The North Hopkins ISD plan follows recommendations for a safe school opening and safety measures provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Texas Education Agency, and state and local health officials.

The prevention and mitigation practices outlined in this document are designed to reduce the likelihood that a coronavirus outbreak occurs on campus. Some practices are required for all schools, some are required in areas with high levels of community spread, and some are recommendations. Consistently implementing recommendations to the extent feasible is the best way to reduce the potentially negative impact of infection on students' educational experiences. Additionally, the district will apply recommended practices to adults on campus, even when it might not be feasible to do so for students, to more fully protect adult teachers and staff who are generally at greater risk from COVID-19 than students.

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

1. If an individual who has been in a school is test-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).
  - A. From the DSHS website: “A school administrator shall exclude from attendance any child having or suspected of having COVID-19. Exclusion shall continue until the readmission criteria for the conditions are met. The readmission criteria for COVID-19 is as follows:

If symptomatic, exclude until at least 10 days have passed since symptom onset, and fever free\*, and other symptoms have improved. Children who test positive for COVID-19 but do not have any symptoms must stay home until at least 10 days after the day they were tested. \*Fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever suppressing medications. Fever is a temperature of 100° Fahrenheit (37.8° Celsius) or higher.
  - B. These same requirements will be followed for adults in the school setting as well.
2. Upon receipt of information that any teacher, staff member, student, or visitor at a school is test-confirmed to have COVID-19, the school must submit a report to the Texas Department of State Health Services via an online form. The report must be submitted each Monday for the prior seven days(Monday-Sunday). The school will also follow updated guidance from the CDC, TEA, and TDSHS as it is available.

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

1. Per GA-36, school systems cannot require students or staff to wear a mask. GA-36 addresses government-mandated face coverings in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. No masks required as of the date at the end of this document.
2. School systems must allow individuals to wear a mask if they choose to do so. North Hopkins ISD will encourage and support students, faculty, and staff that choose to wear a face covering on their own.

## **Protocols for Screening Students**

Parents must ensure they do not send a child to a school campus if the child has COVID-19 symptoms or has a lab-confirmed positive case of COVID-19. Teachers will perform a visual screen of their students each morning. Any student with severe coughing or respiratory issues will be sent to the school Registered Nurse for further evaluation.

## **Students Who Are Close Contacts**

As a reference, close contact determinations are generally based on guidance outlined by the CDC, which notes that individuals who are vaccinated are not considered close contacts. Given the data from 2020-21 showing very low COVID-19 transmission rates in a classroom setting and data demonstrating lower transmission rates among children than adults, school systems are not required to conduct COVID-19 contact tracing. If school systems are made aware that a student is a close contact, the school system should notify the student's parents. Parents of students who are determined to be close contacts of an individual with COVID-19 may opt to keep their students at home during the recommended stay-at-home period of which that period can end for students experiencing no symptoms

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on Day 10 after close contact exposure, if no subsequent COVID-19 testing is performed. The school will also follow updated guidance from the CDC, TEA, and TDSHS as it is available.

## **Initial Evaluation**

In evaluating whether an individual has symptoms consistent with COVID19, students will be asked if they have 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 degrees Fahrenheit
- A sore throat
- Fatigue
- New uncontrolled cough that causes difficulty in breathing
- New onset of severe headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Diarrhea, vomiting, and abdominal pain
- Congestion or runny nose
- Muscle or body aches

\*Symptom lists are in accordance with the most current CDC guidelines.\*

Students who are ill will be sent home.

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## **Morning Student Arrival Locations and Time**

1. School Arrival 7:20-7:45 A.M.
  - a. Pre-K – go to the classroom, eat breakfast after school begins
  - b. K-6<sup>th</sup> - 7:20-7:45 A.M. Report to cafeteria for breakfast
  - c. 7<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> Drop off on the West-side of the Secondary building, bus riders drop off behind the cafeteria. Report to outdoor holding locations or inside the building during inclement weather.
2. The school day will be from 7:50 A.M. – 3:35 P.M.
3. Safety Precautions
  - a. Bus Riders will have initial temperature checks before loading the bus to school.
  - b. Car Riders and Drivers will have initial temperature checks upon arrival to school, prior to entrance into the school facility.
  - c. Wash hands or use hand sanitizer upon arrival.
4. Hand sanitizing stations will be placed throughout all buildings. Students and staff are encouraged to sanitize hands prior to entrance and exit.

## **Fall 2021: Instructional Information for Families**

### **FACE-TO-FACE LEARNING**

Students and teachers will attend class in-person, five days a week, with safety measures in alignment with state and federal guidelines and recommendations.

### **Remote Conferencing for Students Excluded from school due to Covid**

4 hours per day of remote conferencing may be made available to students that are excluded from school due to Covid for any of the reasons listed in the previous sections.

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## Breakfast and Lunch Times

Breakfast	Lunch
K- 6 <sup>th</sup> 7:20 - 7:45	K - 10:55 - 11:25
Pre-K 8:00	1 <sup>st</sup> - 2 <sup>nd</sup> 11:00 – 11:30
7 <sup>th</sup> - 12 <sup>th</sup> 8:40-9:10	3 <sup>rd</sup> - 4 <sup>th</sup> 11:05 – 11:35
	Pre-K 11:25-11:55
	5 <sup>th</sup> – 6 <sup>th</sup> 11:55 - 12:25
	7 <sup>th</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup> 11:42-12:17
	9 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> 12:33-1:08

The following procedures apply to the meal times in the cafeteria:

- Staff will monitor students during breakfast and lunch.
- Cafeteria tables will be cleaned and disinfected between use of each lunch block above.
- Hand sanitizer will be available, and its use is encouraged.

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## **Disinfecting and Hand Sanitizing**

Frequent disinfection and hand sanitization will ensure health and wellness of students and staff. These practices will continue to be modeled and reinforced throughout the school year. Additionally, visual reminders will be posted throughout the campus.

- Hand sanitizer will be available at the main entry to the campus, in classrooms, in the cafeteria, and in all common areas throughout the campus.
- Sanitizing wipes will be provided in every classroom. Sanitizing wipes will be available in other areas as needed.
- Staff and students will be expected to regularly wash or sanitize their hands. Hand washing will be built into the schedule for all students in PK-6 including after recess, before eating and following restroom breaks.
- Staff will have access to disinfectant solutions to sanitize high-touch and working surfaces and shared objects frequently.
- Staff will limit the use of shared supplies when possible.

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## **Cleaning Protocols**

- Medical-grade, CDC-approved disinfectants will be used for deep cleaning campuses on a regular and ongoing basis.
- If a classroom or facility is closed, in addition to deep cleaning the identified classroom, custodial staff will disinfect classrooms, restrooms, athletics and fine arts areas as well as all additional areas throughout the school facility.
- Cleaning and disinfecting will occur nightly in every classroom, restroom, common areas, and on high-touch surfaces and will systematically be cleaned utilizing electrostatic disinfectant sprayers as well.
- Every classroom and office area will have disinfectant in a spray bottle with appropriate cleaning cloths and sanitizing wipes provided for employees and students to use on high-touch areas throughout the school day.
- Restrooms and cafeterias will undergo extensive cleaning each day and will systematically be cleaned utilizing electrostatic disinfectant sprayers as well.

## **Visitors**

- Visitors to classrooms will be very limited in scope. Any visitors to classrooms will be screened prior to entering the buildings and will follow safety protocols as presented for that day/time.
- Due to limited space availability in the cafeteria, visitors will not be allowed to the cafeteria.
- After school events will follow guidelines as allowable for extracurricular activities at the time of occurrence.

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## Protocols for Common Areas and Meetings

Common areas include spaces that are used for meetings and collaboration. This includes computer labs, flexible spaces, conference rooms and other meeting rooms.

- All students and staff are recommended to use hand sanitizer when entering and exiting common areas.
- There will be procedures for students to sanitize their spaces before and after usage.
- Limiting the sharing of materials/supplies
- Clear shields/partitions will be utilized as necessary and available upon request.

## Bus Transportation

- North Hopkins ISD will provide bus transportation for all students who register for transportation services and meet the eligibility requirements for transportation.
- Students should NOT share food, drinks or personal devices.
- Upon arrival to the bus for morning pick-up, students will have their temperature checked as an initial preventative measure.
- Hand sanitizer will be provided on all buses and should be utilized by students when entering and exiting the bus.

\*\*\*\*\*This document is current as of August 27, 2021. North Hopkins ISD will stay informed of new information as it is released from Local and State Health Officials, The Texas Education Agency, and CDC, and any new/different information and guidance will be changed in this document in a timely manner as needed or required.\*\*\*\*\*