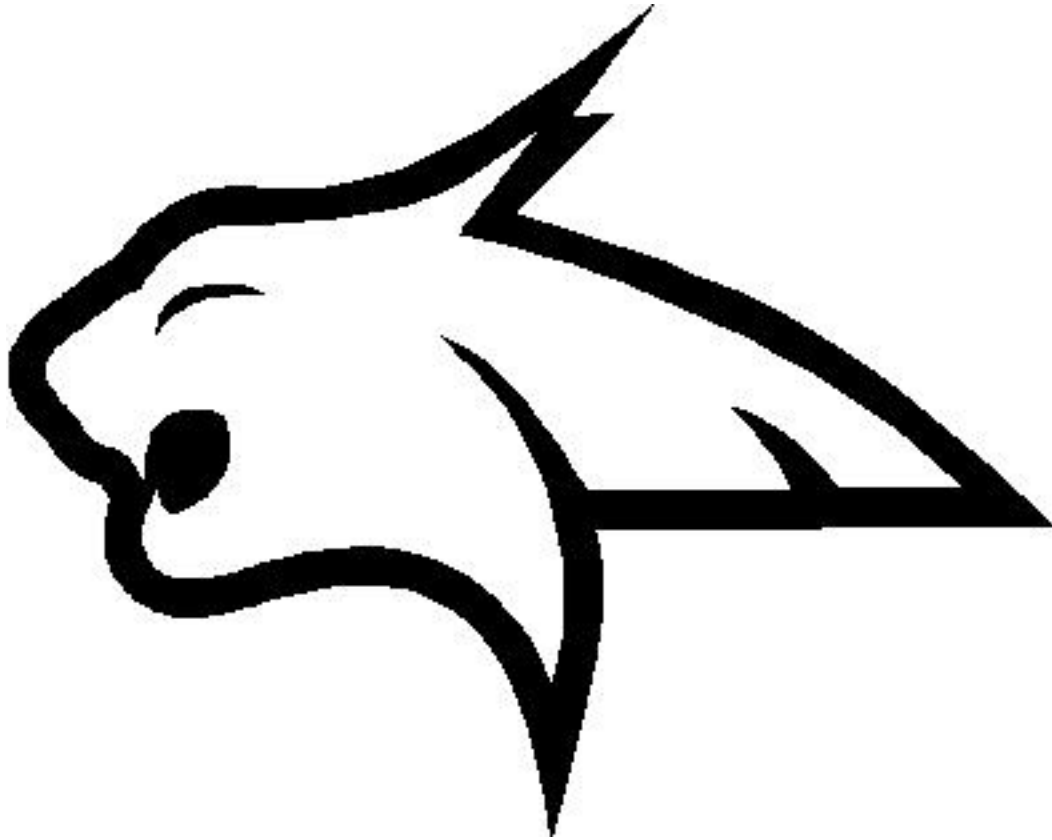


# **Bluff Dale Independent School District**



**2022/2023**

(updated November 15, 2022)

## **Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan**

**BDISD School Board Approved: November 16, 2022**

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# Introduction and District Priorities

As a school district, Bluff Dale ISD looks forward to welcoming students back to school on August 16, 2022. Despite the challenges with COVID-19, our district will continue to provide excellent education to our students with an in-person learning environment.

Bluff Dale ISD is planning for face-to-face instruction for the 2022/23 school year. Our plan follows recommendations for school opening and operations provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Texas Education Agency, and state and local health officials.

The situation with COVID-19 and its variants is continuously changing, as are the protocols and measures needed to keep students and staff safe. 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. The Bluff Dale ISD website will provide you with the most up-to-date information.

Our planning process has continuously evolved around new information and guidance that we receive from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Texas Education Agency (TEA), and state and local health officials. We have planned with the following key priorities and focus areas in mind:

## KEY PRIORITIES AND FOCUS AREAS

- Public Health and Safety
- Instructional Continuity
- Maintaining Workforce
- Equity
- Innovation
- Communication

## Fall 2022: Instructional Information for Families

This fall, Bluff Dale ISD will be implementing instructional practices to provide consistency across learning environments and ensure the safety of students and staff. We are committed to ensuring that students have an equitable experience and access to high quality instruction:

- Students will interact with instruction in a face-to-face learning environment, making it necessary for teachers to plan instruction that is content-consistent and ensures equitable learning opportunities for all students.
- Learning experiences are designed to meet the needs of the learner where they are.
- Students will engage in high quality learning experiences aligned to Bluff Dale ISD curriculum and Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills.

# Face-to-Face Learning

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

- In this setting, teachers will provide face-to-face instruction, learning resources, and support utilizing Google Classroom.
- Teachers will plan instruction that is quickly easily transferable from face-to-face to remote in the event of a temporary school closure due to COVID-19.
- District directed and designed safety procedures will be implemented.

## Learning & Teaching Expectations

### Student

- Attend classes according to the school schedule and give your best efforts in your assignments.
- Participate in class activities as instructed by teachers.
- Be organized in your work and complete all projects and assignments as assigned.
- Ask questions and communicate with your teacher.
- Be aware of what you should be learning each day.
- Become familiar with the structure of Google Classroom and how your teacher organizes information.

### Parent

- Access Parent Portal to view student grades.
- Parents of elementary students are expected to help students manage their tech accounts.
- Check in with student(s) to monitor completion of homework and assignments.
- Discuss your child's favorite part of their day and what they learned in school.
- Facilitate academic support and encouragement as a learning partner to motivate and guide your child throughout the school year in your role as a learning coach.
- Maintain communication with your child's teacher by phone, email and/or meetings to create a learning partnership.
- Monitor and ask for evidence that your child is on track with assignments and coursework.

### Teacher

- Provide instruction and facilitate learning throughout the day.
- Manage online and offline resources to provide consistency and routines.
- Provide clear learning goals for students.
- Check student assignments in a timely manner and give feedback in verbal or written form to provide next steps or necessary academic intervention/extension.
- Post grades in a timely manner according to district grading guidelines.

# Support and Intervention

## Student

- Attend intervention/tutorial sessions as established by your teacher or school.

## Parent

- Allow your child to attend intervention/tutorial sessions as needed.
- Help your child own their learning.
- Provide support and encouragement and expect your children to do their part.

## Teacher

- Provide Intervention or tutorial sessions as needed,
- Follow student IEPs or 504 accommodations,
- Use data to pinpoint students' specific needs for enrichment and intervention,
- Monitor student progress with fidelity according to recommendations,
- Provide and communicate conference periods for student/parent support,
- Attend and participate in professional learning.

# Return to School Protocols

Follow current CDC Guidelines.

<https://tea.texas.gov/sites/default/files/covid/sy-22-23-public-health-guidance.pdf>

# Preparation for the Opening of School

Bluff Dale ISD will ensure all staff, resources, and supplies are prepared for opening school, including but not limited to assigning sufficient staff to carry out re-opening, ensuring proper training and stocking inventory of necessary supplies, such as personal protective equipment (PPE).

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention provides guidance, recommendations, and resources to assist with plans and protocols for health and safety. Bluff Dale ISD will implement health and safety plans that include:

- Ensuring adequate supply inventory (e.g., PPE, cleaning supplies, hand sanitizer, etc.)
- Cleaning with products approved by governing authorities and per guidelines from the EPA.
- Ensuring compliance with CDC, the Texas Education Agency and other state and local policies
- Providing communication of procedures and expectations upon entering facilities and throughout buildings

# Protocols for Screening and Isolation

Follow current CDC Guidelines.

<https://tea.texas.gov/sites/default/files/covid/sy-22-23-public-health-guidance.pdf>

## Protocols for Campus Visitors

### Visitor Screening/PPE Requirements

- All visitors will self-screen before entering any Bluff Dale ISD facility.
- If visitors have COVID-19 symptoms, or are lab confirmed with COVID-19, they must remain off campus until they meet the criteria for re-entry.
- Any Individuals permitted to proceed beyond the reception area must follow all safety and campus protocols.

### Protocols for Disinfecting and Hand Sanitizing

- Frequent disinfection and hand sanitization will help ensure the health and wellness of students and staff.

### Hand Washing/Sanitizing Expectations

- Hand sanitizer will be available at the main entry to the campus, in classrooms, in the cafeteria, and in common areas throughout the campus.
- Staff and students will be expected to regularly wash and/or sanitize their hands.

### Disinfecting Expectations

- Staff will have access to disinfectant solutions to sanitize high-touch and working surfaces and frequently shared objects.
- Staff will limit the use of shared supplies when possible.

### Protocols for Campus Cleaning and Disinfecting

- Frequent cleaning and disinfection will support a healthy learning and work environment for students and staff.

### Daily Campus Cleaning

- Each classroom and restroom will be cleaned and disinfected.
- All high-touch areas will be disinfected throughout the day.
- Cafeterias will be disinfected between lunch periods.
- Staff and students will have access to disinfecting items to sanitize working surfaces, shared objects, and high-touch areas after use and during breaks in instruction.

### Restrooms

- Staff should supervise and limit the number of students that enter the bathroom at one

time to comply with health agency recommendations and social distancing.

- Increased disinfecting will occur throughout the school day. Staff and students must wash hands with soap and water prior to exiting the bathroom. Proper handwashing techniques will be taught to all students and consistently reinforced.

#### **Protocols for Positive COVID-19 Cases on Campus**

- If a classroom or facility is closed due to COVID-19 spread, the area will be disinfected prior to re-entry.
- Custodial staff will disinfect classrooms, restrooms, athletic/PE areas, fine arts areas, and all additional areas throughout the school facility.

## **Campus Health & Safety Protocols**

### **Training**

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 by the local school system. This includes the practice of covering coughs and sneezes with a tissue, and if not available, to cover coughs and sneezes with elbows. Used tissues should be thrown in the trash, hands should be washed immediately with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, and/or hand sanitizer should be used.

### **Safety Training for Protocols & Procedures**

#### **Student**

- Students will participate in training specific to newly adopted health and safety protocols.
- All students will be trained on information about COVID-19 screening, identification of symptoms, prevention of spread, and sanitation of work areas.
- If a student is experiencing symptoms, he or she needs to immediately notify a teacher.

#### **Parent**

- Parents are asked to talk to their students about COVID-19 symptoms and prevention strategies.

#### **Teachers/Staff**

- Teachers will attend training and develop classroom procedures consistent with TEA, District and CDC guidance.
- All staff will be trained on COVID screening, identification of symptoms, prevention of spread, and sanitation of work areas.
- All staff will monitor students that exhibit symptoms and will be required to notify both the office and the nurse if a student is showing any symptoms.

# School Arrival & Dismissal

**Arrival:** When possible, separate entrances will be utilized for car riders, bus riders, and walkers. All staff will be utilized for duty to maintain a line of sight in hallways and distancing of hallway cohorts. Students will go straight to the designated areas set by each campus. Parents will not be allowed to walk students to classrooms.

**Dismissal:** Campus will designate staggered dismissal groups for grades pre-k through 8. Staggering the groups of walkers, car riders, bus riders or grade levels will help manage student movement in the building and decrease the risk of potential crowding outside at dismissal time. When possible, separate exits will be utilized for car riders, bus riders, and walkers. Parents picking up students during the day will call ahead.

## General Building Arrival

### Student

- Wash hands or use hand sanitizer.
- Campuses must plan for entry, exit, and transition procedures that reduce large group gatherings (of students and/or adults) in close proximity.
- Students will be assigned to report to a specific area and will be expected to adhere to schedules for morning arrival.
- Students are expected to stay seated until they are dismissed by a staff member.

### Parent

- Parents are encouraged to talk with their child about the health benefits of social distancing at school, as well as the health benefits of washing their hands, and/or using hand sanitizer.
- Parents are expected to screen their child at home prior to coming to school.

### Teachers/Staff

- Campus staff are required to self-screen prior to entering the building.
- Staff members will be assigned to supervise students who report to multiple areas for morning arrival.

## Bus Transportation

Students using school bus transportation services will follow revised protocols. Starting at the time when students arrive at their designated bus stop and board the school bus, the new safety and sanitizing protocols will need to be followed.

### Transportation COVID-19 Protocol: Parent Information

The Bluff Dale ISD Transportation Department offers the following guidance to parents and caregivers regarding school bus transportation for daily bus routes as well as field trips. Although the district is implementing the safety protocols and disinfecting efforts described below, families are encouraged to drop students off or walk with their student(s) to school to reduce possible exposure on buses.



## **General Education/Special Needs/Shuttle Loading and Unloading Procedures**

- **Bus Stop Expectations**
  - Students should practice social distancing, whenever possible (if there is adequate space and it is safe to do so) while waiting for and approaching the school bus.
  - Students should NOT share drinks or personal devices.
- **Morning Boarding Bus Procedures**
  - Students should practice social distancing as they approach and board the bus.
  - Use hand sanitizer (provided near the bus stairwell).
  - Bus in motion rules: Standard Bluff Dale ISD bus rules apply.
  - Students should NOT share drinks or personal devices.
- **Unloading at Campus**
  - Students should practice social distancing and follow campus guidelines.
- **Afternoon Campus Boarding Bus Procedures**
  - Students should practice social distancing as they approach and board the bus.
  - Bus in motion rules: Standard Bluff Dale ISD bus rules apply.
  - Students should NOT share food, drinks or personal devices.
- **Unloading at Bus Stop**
  - Students should practice Social Distancing and avoid gathering in groups of 10 or more.
  - Students should NOT share drinks or personal devices.
- **Disinfecting Protocol Between Each AM & PM Campus drop-off**
  - School bus drivers, bus assistants, and/or staff will be spraying and wiping down seats and high-touch items with disinfecting spray.
  - Bus seating areas will be disinfected after each bus route, particularly high-touch surfaces such as bus seats, steering wheels, knobs, and stairway handrail.
  - When possible, bus windows will be open to allow outside air to circulate in the bus.