
Dimmitt Independent
School District



Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan (RIPICS)

**Dimmitt I.S.D.
2021-2023**

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KEY PRIORITIES AND FOCUS AREAS



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



Introduction and District Priorities

Despite the challenges with COVID-19, our district will continue to provide an excellent education to our students.

The situation with COVID-19 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 Dimmitt ISD website will provide you with the most up-to-date information.

This plan will be reviewed and potentially updated at school board meetings at least every six months. Additionally, stakeholder input will be solicited the month prior to the updates.

Our planning process has continuously evolved around new information and guidance that we receive from the state. Participants in this planning include, but are not limited to, school personnel, parents, students, community, those with interests in students of special populations (special education, EL, etc.), mental health professionals. Input was gathered in the following ways:

- Stakeholder surveys (emailed and posted to DISD.net)
- Stakeholder meetings (DEIC, SBDM, DLT, ILT, SHAC)



Dimmitt ISD's Continuity of Services Instructional Roles & Learning Tools

Preparation for Learning

Student

- Be prepared for learning each day and have work and assignments completed and ready.
- Complete coursework by the deadline set by teachers.

Parent

- Access parent resources to learn how students will navigate Google Classroom.
- Encourage your child to have their things in their backpack/device and ready for school the night before.
- Create a designated place in your home for academics. Assist students with time management and goal setting.

Teacher

- Meet weekly with a collaborative team to plan instruction for all students.
- Utilize the district curriculum documents and follow the scope and sequence provided by the academic services department.
- Upload instructional materials into Google Classroom.

Learning & Teaching Expectations

Student

- Attend classes and give your best efforts in your school assignments.
- Be organized in your work and in getting projects completed.
- 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.
- Practice digital citizenship.
- Attend intervention/tutorial sessions as assigned. This will be established by your teacher or school.

Parent

- Access Parent Portal (grades K-12) to view student grades.
- 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.
- Maintain communication with your child's teacher by phone, email and/or online meetings to create a learning partnership.
- Help your child own their learning. Provide support and encouragement and expect your children to do their part.

Teacher

- Teach students how to access learning materials through Google Classroom.
- Manage online and offline resources to provide consistency and routines for students.
- Provide clear learning goals for students.
- Follow the expectations established across the district for Google Classroom.
- Check student assignments in a timely manner and give feedback in verbal or written form regularly to provide next steps or necessary academic intervention/extension.
- Post grades in a timely manner according to district grading guidelines.
- Classroom teachers - provide intervention or tutorial sessions as needed.
- Intervention teachers - provide intervention to align with campus schedules and/or individual education plans.
- Follow student IEPs / 504 accommodations.
- Provide services for ESL and Gifted learners.
- Use data to pinpoint students' specific needs for enrichment and intervention.
- Monitor student progress with fidelity according to DISD policy.

Mental Health, Social Emotional Learning

Student

- Seek guidance from a trusted adult when feeling anxious or struggling with feelings of depression

Parent

- Maintain open lines of communication and listen without judgement.
- Communicate with school personnel if you need help. School counselors are great

resources.

Staff

- Provide engaging Social Emotional lessons at the campus level
- Watch for warning signs for mental health struggles.
- Report all concerns to campus counselors or administration so that a proper plan can be made with parents
- Attend and participate in professional learning.

Supports for Staff and Students

SEL Mental Health

- Safe, inclusive environment for learning
- Lessons on bullying prevention, suicide prevention, child abuse prevention, teen dating/violence prevention, sexual harrassment
- prevention
- Certified school counselors at each campus
- Multi Tiered System of Support for students in need
- Kindness initiatives
- For students - Substance abuse awareness campaigns - Red Ribbon Week, Catch My Breath anti-vaping lessons, DARE, etc.

Academic Acceleration

- Accelerated learning in place and compliant with HB 4545

Support for Special Populations

Special Education

- ARD Committees will determine the unique needs of students who receive special education services and will make service recommendations for students. Progress will be carefully monitored and ARD Committees will convene as needed to make appropriate recommendations to meet individual student needs. This will ensure continued growth in the general education curriculum and on IEP goals and objectives.

English Learners

- LPAC Committees will determine the unique needs of students who receive
- English Learner services and will make service recommendations for students.
- Progress will be carefully monitored through TELPAS results, STAAR results, local assessments, and intervention progress monitoring.

504

- 504 Committees will determine the unique needs of students who receive services and will make service recommendations for students.
- Progress will be carefully monitored through STAAR results, local assessments, universal screeners, and intervention progress monitoring.

Dyslexia & Related Services

- Students will receive support as outlined in the Texas Dyslexia Handbook.
- Progress will be carefully monitored through STAAR results, local assessments, universal screeners, and intervention progress monitoring.

Gifted and Talented

- Students will receive support as outlined in the DISD Gifted & Talented handbook.

Dimmitt ISD's Health & Safety Protocols

Mitigation of Communicable Disease

Screening for Communicable Diseases, including Covid-19

- ☐ All stakeholders should **self-screen** for communicable disease symptoms, including COVID-19 symptoms before coming onto campus each day.
 - Stakeholders should not be on campus if they have symptoms of a communicable disease, including COVID-19.
- ☐ Stakeholders should not be on campus if they, or an immediate family member, is lab-confirmed with COVID-19 until a physician releases them to return.
- ☐ Staff will monitor students and refer them to the nurse if symptoms are present.

Vaccinations

- ☐ Search [vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov), text your zip code to 438829, or call 1-800-232-0233 to find COVID-19 vaccine locations near you

Disinfecting and Hand Sanitizing

Frequent disinfection and hand sanitization will ensure 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 or sanitize their hands.

Disinfecting Expectations

- ☐ Staff will have access to disinfectant solutions to sanitize high-touch and working surfaces and shared objects between uses.

Training

- ☐ Students and Staff will participate in training specific to newly adopted health and safety protocols.
- ☐ Students and Staff will be trained on information about COVID-19 screening, identification of symptoms, prevention of spread, and sanitation of work areas.

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/Water Fill Stations

- ☐ 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.
- ☐ Students are expected to bring their own reusable water bottle for use throughout the day and will be expected to take water bottles home to be cleaned on a daily basis.

Common Areas

- ☐ Campuses will develop schedules and follow protocols for the use of common areas, including how to sanitize the space between use.
- ☐ There will be procedures for students to sanitize their spaces before and after usage.

Transportation

- ☐ 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 food, drinks or personal devices.
- ☐ Use hand sanitizer (provided near the bus stairwell).
- ☐ Bus in motion rules: Standard Dimmitt ISD bus rules apply.
- ☐ Bus seating areas will be disinfected
- ☐ When possible, bus windows will be open to allow outside air to circulate in the bus.

Cleaning-Sanitizing-Disinfecting Agents used by Dimmitt ISD Custodial Services

- ☐ Clorox 4 in One Disinfectant, Clorox Hydrogen Peroxide Disinfectant

Physical Distancing

General Expectations

- ☐ Whenever possible, students and staff will maintain consistent groupings of people to minimize the spread of the virus.
- ☐ DISD will plan for more frequent hand washing and/or hand sanitizing.

Campus Visitors

- ☐ 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.
- ☐ Visitors will have access to hand washing and/or sanitizing stations and should utilize upon entering.
- ☐ Visitors are not allowed beyond the reception area until authorized. Please stand behind the shield guard installed at reception desks.
- ☐ Virtual tools may be used to conduct meetings such as PTA meetings, ARDs, LPAC, etc.

Response to Covid-19

The details in this document are subject to change as directives are provided by governing authorities and/or health officials or as environmental conditions change.

Symptomatic Individuals

- ☐ Should stay home and seek medical guidance from a physician.
- ☐ Students with symptoms will be sent to the campus nurse. The nurse will determine if the student should be sent home. Students will isolate until picked up. Parents should pick up ASAP.
 - ☐ Obtain a medical professional's note clearing you for return based on an alternative diagnosis or 24 hours symptom free.

Individuals that are Positive

- ☐ DISD will follow current CDC guidance regarding length of isolation
- ☐ In addition to the length of isolation, the following criteria must be met:
 - ☐ at least one day (24 hours) has 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)

Household Member is Positive

- ☐ Well individuals should not have contact with sick individuals during the isolation period.
- ☐ See "additional options for return"

Additional Options for Return (must be documented)

- ☐ Individuals that have positive antibodies may return if no symptoms are present
- ☐ Individuals that are fully vaccinated may return if no symptoms are present
- ☐ Individuals that are lab-confirmed positive within 90 days may return if no symptoms are present

Notification for Positive COVID-19 Cases on Campus

- ☐ District communication will be provided to the students who came in contact with a student or staff member displaying COVID-19 symptoms.

Close Contact

- ☐ DISD will use the current definition of close contact/exposure
- ☐ Those exhibiting symptoms will stay off campus and seek medical advice



DISD COVID-19 STANDARD RESPONSE PROTOCOL

*DISD will monitor and adjust this plan as necessary. In the event of a campus or district closure DISD will utilize school holidays or extend the school year to make up the missed days.

STAGE 1

Prevention

No confirmed cases of COVID-19 among staff or students.

- Health prevention measures are in place.
- Daily intensive cleaning and frequent cleaning of common areas.
- Monitoring virus trends in the community via health departments.

STAGE 2

Mitigation

One or more confirmed case(s) of COVID-19 at one facility.

- Confirmed cases will follow CDC guidelines for isolation & quarantine.
- Persons who came within close contact of an individual with a confirmed case of COVID-19 should monitor for symptoms.
- Affected area is deep cleaned
- District-wide communication to staff/parents with health monitoring guidance via website posting.

STAGE 3

Modified Operations

Five or more confirmed COVID-19 cases in one specific area ie: classroom

- Persons who came within close contact of an individual with a confirmed case of COVID-19 will be advised to monitor for symptoms.
- Affected area is deep cleaned.
- District-wide communication to staff/parents with health monitoring guidance via website posting.
- Extracurricular activities are cancelled if applicable.

STAGE 4

Facility Closure

COVID-19 cases exceed 10% of campus occupancy

- Campus will be closed for a minimum of two days.
- All students and staff at this campus may return if symptom free upon determination by the school district and health authorities.
- Those in close contact of the confirmed COVID-19 positive persons will be asked to monitor for symptoms.
- District-wide communication to staff/parents with health monitoring guidance via website posting.
- Extracurricular activities are cancelled.

STAGE 5

District Closure

COVID-19 cases exceed 10% of occupancy across the district

- All DISD facilities close for a minimum of two days.
- Disinfection of all facilities and school buses.
- District-wide communication to staff/parents with health monitoring guidance via website posting.
- All auxiliary areas such as playgrounds and athletic fields are closed.
- Extracurricular activities are cancelled.