

Student and Staff Safety Protocols

PLEASE NOTE: The details in this document are subject to change as directives are provided by Texas Education Agency (TEA), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and other governing authorities and/or health officials as environmental conditions change. Please check the campus/department websites for specific protocols which pertain to the campus.

On July 29, 2021, Governor Greg Abbott issued Executive Order GA-38 which states: *“No governmental entity, including a county, city, school district, and public health authority, and no governmental official may require any person to wear a face covering or to mandate that another person wear a face covering.”*

Protocols for Screening

- Staff will be required to self-screen for COVID-19 symptoms before reporting to work each day. The self-screen should include taking their temperature.
- Parents/guardians are expected to screen their child/children for COVID-19 symptoms each day before sending their student to school. The self-screen should include taking the student’s temperature.
- It is critical for staff or students who have symptoms of COVID-19, stay home to avoid spreading illness to others. When evaluating whether you have symptoms consistent with COVID-19 consider the following questions: Have you recently begun experiencing any of the following in a way **that is not normal for you?**
 - ✓ Fever (equal or greater than 100.0 degrees) or chills
 - ✓ Loss of taste or smell
 - ✓ Cough, Difficulty breathing, shortness of breath
 - ✓ Fatigue,
 - ✓ Headache
 - ✓ Sore throat, Congestion, or runny nose
 - ✓ Significant muscle pain or ache
 - ✓ Diarrhea
 - ✓ Nausea or vomiting
 - ✓

When you arrive at school you are being encouraged to:

- ✓ Wear a mask or face covering (when social distancing is not possible if you have not been fully vaccinated)
- ✓ Sanitize your hands
- Teachers will monitor students and refer them to the nurse if symptoms are present.
- District staff will maintain documentation logs concerning pertinent COVID-19 tracking data with guidance from local health authorities and/or governing agencies.
- The campus understands normal illnesses do occur. Contact your campus administrator for further instructions.

Procedures for Parents, Students and Staff

Individuals who have been confirmed to have COVID-19

- An individual who was diagnosed with COVID-19 may return to work/school when all three of the following criteria are 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); and
 - ✓ At least ten days have passed since symptoms first appeared

Please contact your supervisor/campus nurse for further information.

Individuals who are suspected of having COVID-19

- Will follow all the above criteria before they can return to work or school
- If an individual wants to return to work/school and has **not** been fully vaccinated for COVID-19, the individual must:
 - ✓ Obtain a medical professional's note clearing the individual for the return based on an alternative diagnosis or
 - ✓ Obtain a COVID-19 test at an approved testing location that comes back negative for COVID-19
 - ✓ Until we have the FBISD Covid Clinic open full time an over-the-counter Rapid Test will be accepted if parents provide documentation (e.g., picture of the results) to the school nurse

Please contact your supervisor/campus nurse for further information.

Individuals who have had close contact with an individual with lab-confirmed COVID-19

Should stay home for the appropriate quarantine period after their last exposure to that person. However, anyone who has had close contact with someone with COVID-19 and who meets the following criteria does **not** need to stay home.

- ✓ Had COVID-19 illness within the previous 3 months **and**
- ✓ Has recovered **and**
- ✓ Remains without COVID-19 symptoms (i.e., cough, shortness of breath)
- ✓ Obtain a COVID-19 test at an approved testing location that comes back negative for COVID-19 **or**
- ✓ Has been fully vaccinated against COVID-19

Please contact your supervisor/campus nurse for further information.

The definition of close contact is evolving with our understanding of COVID-19. In general, close contact is defined as:

- ✓ Being directly exposed to infectious secretions (i.e., being coughed on) or
- ✓ Being within 3 feet for a cumulative duration of 15 minutes; however, additional factors like case/contact masking (i.e., both the infectious individual and the

potential close contact have been consistently and properly masked), ventilation, presence of dividers, and case symptomology may affect this determination

- If an individual is determined to be in close contact with someone with Covid-19 the parent has the option to quarantine their student at home. Students who are unable to attend school because of temporary medical conditions that are documented by a physician may qualify for Remote Conferencing as an instructional option and should contact the building principal.
- Flour Bluff ISD has chosen to require household-based close contact students to stay at home during the stay-at-home period if they are in an area with high or rising COVID case rates. This applies specifically to students who are close contacts because an individual who lives in the same household is COVID-19 positive.
- For staff who meet the close contact threshold with a COVID-19 positive individual, if the staff continues to work on campus, rapid testing must be performed periodically for 10 days post-exposure.

Please contact your supervisor/campus nurse for further information.

COVID -19 Vaccines and Quarantine

According to the CDC, a vaccinated person with exposure to someone with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 is not required to quarantine if they meet all the following two criteria:

- Are fully vaccinated (ex. more than 2 weeks following receipt of the second dose in a 2-dose series or more than 2 weeks following receipt of one dose of single-dose vaccine)
- Have remained asymptomatic since the current COVID -19 exposure

Persons who do not meet all the above criteria should continue to follow current quarantine guidance after exposure to someone with suspected or confirmed COVID-19.

International Travel

Any staff member or student must report international travel when they return. Students must report to the student's campus nurse. Staff members must report to their direct supervisor and the Executive Director of Human Resources. Upon returning from international travel students and staff members must quarantine for 7 days unless fully vaccinated.

- International travelers arriving in the United States are still recommended to get a COVID-19 test 3-5 days after travel regardless of vaccination status.
 - ✓ Self-monitor for COVID-19 symptoms; isolate and get tested if you develop symptoms
 - ✓ If your test is positive isolate yourself to protect others from getting infected
 - ✓ Follow all state and local recommendations or requirements after travel

Procedures for District and Campuses

For the district

- When individuals have been confirmed with a lab-positive case the district must notify the local health department in accordance with federal, state, and local laws and regulations.

For campuses

- When a student has displayed symptoms of COVID-19, the school nurse will provide a clinical assessment to determine when a student needs to be sent home.
- Students who are ill will be separated from their peers and should be picked up within 30 minutes and no later than 1 hour from the time the campus contacted the student's parent/guardian.
- The campus/building will close off areas that are heavily used by the individual with the lab-confirmed case until the surfaces in the areas can be disinfected.
- The school will clean the areas used by the individual who shows COVID-19 symptoms while at school (student, teacher, or staff) as soon as it is feasible.
- Campus communication will be provided to parents if a COVID-19 positive case has been identified in the student's classroom or extracurricular or after-school program cohort.

Disinfecting and Hand Sanitizing

- Alcohol-based hand sanitizer will be available at the main entrance to the campus, in classrooms, in the cafeteria, and common areas throughout the campus.
- Staff and students will be expected to regularly wash or sanitize their hands.
- Hand sanitizer will be provided and utilized upon entry to the school, and teachers will remind students during the instructional day to wash/sanitize their hands after recess, before eating, and following restroom breaks.
- Staff may sanitize high-touch and working surfaces and shared objects regularly.
- Staff will limit the use of shared supplies when possible.
- Each classroom will have appropriate disinfecting supplies.

Face Coverings

- Wearing a mask will be optional but strongly recommended for the 2021-2022 school year at campuses and school facilities.
- Staff, students, and parents who are not fully vaccinated are encouraged to wear a mask/face covering.
- It may be impractical for students to wear masks/face coverings while participating in some UIL, non-UIL, or other extracurricular activities. (exerting higher levels of oxygen) Please see UIL guidelines for further information.

Campus Visitors

Campuses will continue to limit campus visitors during the school day and appointments are encouraged. All visitors who enter the building will be encouraged to wear a face covering. All visitors who proceed beyond the reception area will follow specific guidelines for visitors.

- Individuals proceeding beyond the reception area will be subject to the following guidelines:
 - Symptom screening
 - Sanitizing of hands

- Virtual meetings will be available when possible.

Medications at School

- Prescription medication should be scheduled to be given at home by the parent/guardian to relieve the congestion in the nurses' office.
- Parents/guardians needing to drop off emergency medications, care plans and/or medical supplies are encouraged to call the campus nurse for appointments.

Campus Cleaning and Disinfecting

- Each classroom and restroom will be disinfected daily.
- All high-touch areas will be disinfected daily.
- Cleaning cloths will be changed frequently for each classroom and common area to maximize room-to-room cleanliness.
- Some campuses/departments may allow students to assist with sanitizing individual workspace areas.
- Custodians will be encouraged to wear a mask/face covering and gloves during work hours.
- The cafeteria will be disinfected between lunch periods.
- Staff will have access to sanitizer to disinfect working surfaces and shared objects after each use and during breaks in instruction.
- Custodial staff will clean/mist each classroom and high-touch area each night after the campus is vacated.

Working and Learning Environments

- In classroom spaces that allow it, student desks will be placed a minimum of 3 feet apart.
- When feasible, group or pair work may be implemented while maintaining physical distancing.
- Teachers may consider assigning students individual manipulatives.
- The use of outdoor space for learning will be considered when possible.
- The recommended procedures will be applied to all classroom settings, including special education services locations when possible and appropriate. Students' individual needs will be addressed on a case-by-case basis.

Common Areas

- Common areas include spaces that are used for meetings and collaboration. This includes hallways, computer labs, flexible spaces, campus libraries, conference rooms, and other meeting rooms.
- Campuses will develop schedules and protocols for the use of common areas. When needed, students will bring personal supplies from the classroom. All students and staff will be encouraged to use hand sanitizer when entering and exiting common areas.
- Water fountain availability will be limited, and students are encouraged to bring their own water bottle.
- The use of virtual meetings will be considered when possible.
- In-person meetings will maintain social distancing when possible. Facial coverings will be optional when social distancing is not feasible.

Training Sessions

- Teachers and students will participate in training specific to newly adopted health and safety protocols.

- Parents are asked to talk to their students about COVID-19 symptoms and prevention strategies.
- All staff will monitor students and will be required to notify the nurse if a student is showing any symptoms.

Restrooms

- Proper handwashing techniques will be taught to all students and consistently reinforced.
- The scheduling of whole class restroom breaks may be recommended to eliminate co-mingling of students across various classes and to ensure teacher monitoring of social distancing guidelines.
- After a restroom break, students will be encouraged to use hand sanitizer before reentering the classroom.

Arrival

- Arriving before the campus opens is strongly discouraged. Any students dropped off before the building is open will not be allowed inside the building.
- Students are encouraged to maintain social distancing in courtyards and outside campuses and district facilities.
- Staff will be utilized for duty to maintain safety.
- PreK-4 campuses will allow parents to walk their students to the classroom door on the first day of school. The administration strongly encourages parents to minimize their stay. All other times, parents should remain in their vehicles for drop-off.

Dismissal

- Siblings are encouraged to meet outside the building to minimize the number of visitors at each respective campus.
- Multiple exits will be utilized for car riders, bus riders, and walkers when entering and exiting the building.
- Students will be encouraged to maintain social distancing while outside of campuses and district facilities.
- Parents must remain in their vehicles for pick up.

Breakfast

- Depending on the number of students enrolled in grades PK-12, plans for breakfast to be eaten in the cafeteria, as well as the classroom, will be developed accordingly.
- Staff members will monitor the cafeteria and hallways to encourage social distancing.

Lunch

- Social distance (as space allows) around all occupiable assigned seats will be encouraged.
- Lunchtimes will be staggered with sanitation blocks between classroom/ hallway cohorts.
- Lunch visitors will not be permitted.
- Meal drop-off will not be permitted.

Recess

- Campuses will consider limiting the number of students per recess group. Staggered schedules may be utilized when needed.
- All students and staff will use alcohol-based hand sanitizer or wash hands upon exiting the recess area.

Specials/Electives

- PE classes will be conducted outdoors whenever possible. Appropriate social distancing will be encouraged.
- Materials used in elective classes (e.g., music, band, PE, CTE) will be sanitized and wiped down after use.

Campus Student Activities

- Virtual field trips will be considered as often as possible.
- PTO events and fundraising information are pending.
- Before and after school club information is pending.

Campus Events

- Meet the teacher, open house, parent conferences, etc. will be campus-specific.
- Class parties, performances, and programs are pending.

Bus

- Parents are encouraged to drop students off or walk with their students to school to reduce possible COVID-19 exposure.
- Students will use hand sanitizer upon boarding the bus.
- Buses will be cleaned, focusing on high-touch surfaces such as bus seats, knobs, and handles.