



SIDNEY ISD's

RETURN TO IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION AND CONTINUITY OF SERVICES (RIPICS) PLAN

In this plan, you will find the most up to date information at this time for SISD. The details in this document are subject to change as directives are provided by governing authorities and/or healthy officials or as environmental conditions change. Please visit www.sidney.esc14.net for any future revisions or updates. As always, the safety and security of SISD students, families, teachers, and staff is our top priority. We cannot wait to see our students and look forward to a successful school year.

James Rucker
Sidney ISD Superintendent

Deanna Drummond
Sidney ISD Principal

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

RIPICS Committee Committee participates in surveys and committee meetings scheduled every six months.

Sigrid Huddleston	Spec Ed teacher (survey and attends meeting)
Lu Vineyard	Elem teacher (survey and attends meeting)
Candice Rust	Secondary teacher (survey and attends meeting)
Amanda Redden	Parent (survey and attends meeting)
James Rucker	Administrator (survey and attends meeting)
Deanna Drummond	Administrator (survey and attends meeting)
Makenzee Willis	SISD Student (survey and attends meeting when possible)

Continuity of Educational Services/Instructional Information

- **Face-to-Face Instruction and Remote/Virtual Learning –**

SISD will no longer offer parents the option for either face-to-face or remote/virtual learning. All students will be required to attend school Face-to-Face and attend school according to compulsory attendance laws. All COVID protocol will still be followed if a student is tested positive or is a close contact to another positive COVID case.

- Face-to-Face Instruction – Students attend school daily, as with the regular school year, and follow safety, sanitation, and social distancing expectations.
- Remote/Virtual Learning (only will be used if designated by school administration) – Students participate in classroom instruction via remote/virtual learning and are expected to complete and submit assignments as communicated by the remote/virtual learning teacher(s).

- **Daily attendance**

District funding and resources are linked to attendance. Attendance will be taken each day for both face-to-face and remote/virtual learning to ensure that students are actively engaged. In addition, per Texas Education Code (TEC), §25.092, students must attend 90% of the days a course is offered to be awarded credit for the course and/or to be promoted to the next grade.

- **Daily Schedule**

SISD school day 7:50—3:40

- Students will be counted tardy if fail to arrive in the classroom within 5 minutes after the bell for each class. Students will be counted absent if arrive later than 10 minutes after the bell for each class.

Bell Schedule:

1st 7:50-8:47 2nd 8:52-9:42 3rd 9:46-10:36 4th 10:40-11:30 5th (HS) 11:34-12:24
5th(JH) 12:08-12:58 6th 1:02-1:52 7th 1:56-2:46 8th 2:50-3:40

- A student who is absent for any portion of the day, including at the official attendance-taking time for attendance reporting (9:15 daily), should follow the procedures to provide documentation of the absence. A daily absent notification will be sent to parents at the END of day.

- **Transportation and Arrival/Departure Procedures**

- Parents/guardians are expected to screen their students for COVID-19 symptoms each day **prior** to sending their student to board the bus or drop off in the morning.
- A student should not board the bus or attend school if they have a measured temperature greater than or equal to 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit and guidelines must be followed before he/she is allowed to return to school.
- Buses will be thoroughly cleaned after each bus trip, focusing on the high-touch surfaces such as bus seats, steering wheels, knobs, and door handles.
- In order to make both the arrival and departure routines as safe and orderly as possible, morning-drop-off and after-school pick-up is located at the gym.

In accordance with TEA's Public Health Planning Guidance

Prevention:

- All teachers and staff will be required to complete a self-screening process for COVID-19 symptoms before coming onto campus each day. 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 below, and, if so, must remain off campus until the 7-10-day incubation period has passed.
- Parents must ensure they do not send a child to school on campus if the child has COVID-19 symptoms, as listed below, or is lab-confirmed with COVID-19, and instead can opt to receive remote instruction until the below conditions for re-entry are met. Remote/virtual instruction is an option if child has had close contact with an individual who is lab-confirmed with COVID-19 until the 7-10 day incubation period has passed.

Response:

Practices to respond to individuals confirmed or suspected with COVID-19-----

- Any individuals who themselves either:
 - are lab-confirmed to have COVID-19; or
 - experience the symptoms of COVID-19, see below, must stay at home throughout the infection period, and cannot return to campus until the individual meets the three-step set of criteria for re-entry:

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.

Mitigation Practices

- Provide each classroom with hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes.
- Hand sanitizing stations located at every entrance, hallway locations, cafeteria, fieldhouse and gymnasium
- All employees will be trained to specifically follow health safety protocols
- Social and Emotional Supports:
SISD will provide students' academic, social and emotional support. Counselors (ESC14) are prepared and ready to provide mental health support and resources for families who may be struggling. In addition, SISD has partnered with the county and surrounding counties to provide additional staff to assist students and families.
The local public health authority, Comanche County Medical Center at 10201 TX 16, Comanche, TX 76442 **(254) 879 4900**
The local mental health authority, Center for Life Resources at 408 Mulberry St, Brownwood, TX 76801 **(325) 646 9574**
Comanche Special Services Co-Op ([254\) 893-2130](tel:254-893-2130) offers an LSSP for the district
SISD will provide all staff and faculty with social, emotional, and mental health needs by providing training and workshops throughout the school year. Training and workshops will be conducted primarily through ESC 14 (Education Service Center in Abilene, TX) school safety/mental health support.
- Provide all teachers with no-touch thermometers
- Modify daily cleaning schedules to ensure each space is sanitized and disinfected multiple times a day; and deep cleaning of campuses once a week
- Each classroom and restroom will be cleaned and disinfected regularly throughout the day.
- Classroom furniture will be rearranged to ensure maximum physical distancing and improve traffic flow.
- Work areas will be sanitized after each class. Students will be taught and encouraged to clean their own work areas, as feasible, custodians will workstations on a scheduled basis.

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- ❑ Students are to bring their own refillable water bottles, clear bottles only, as waterfountains will not be accessible.
 - ❑ Staff will monitor the classrooms, hallways, playground, and cafeteria to promote social distancing practices.
 - ❑ As of June 5, 2021, since Governor Greg Abbott's Executive Order No. GA-36 relating to the prohibition of governmental entities and officials from mandatory face covering or restricting activities in response to the COVID-19 disaster, no one required to wear a mask (masks are optional), but all staff and students are still encouraged to wear masks when in the building, classroom, and/or office with others and when not able to social distance.
 - ❑ Athletics and extracurricular activities will be conducted in alignment with UIL guidelines.
 - ❑ Staggered lunch schedule will be implemented for elementary, junior high, and high school students to limit cafeteria capacity.

Definition of COVID-19 Symptoms

In evaluating whether an individual has symptoms consistent with COVID-19, consider the following question: 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 degrees F
- Loss of taste or smell
- Cough
- Difficulty breathing
- Shortness of breath
- Fatigue
- Headache
- Chills
- Sore throat
- Congestion
- Runny nose
- Shaking or exaggerated shivering
- Significant muscle pain or ache
- Diarrhea
- Nausea and vomiting

CDC Guidelines and Recommendations (including Campus Re-entry Criteria)

- Continuing to promote the importance of being [up to date with vaccination](#) to protect people against serious illness, hospitalization, and death. Protection provided by the current vaccine against symptomatic infection and transmission is less than that against severe disease and diminishes over time, especially against the currently circulating variants. For this reason, it is important to stay up to date, especially as new vaccines become available.
- Updating its guidance for people who are not up to date on COVID-19 vaccines on what to do if exposed to someone with COVID-19. This is consistent with the existing guidance for people who are up to date on COVID-19 vaccines.
- Recommending that instead of quarantining if you were exposed to COVID-19, you wear a high-quality mask for 10 days and get tested on day 5.
- Reiterating that regardless of vaccination status, you should isolate from others when you have COVID-19.
 - You should also isolate if you are sick and suspect that you have COVID-19 but do not yet have test results.
 - If your results are positive, follow CDC's full isolation recommendations.
 - If your results are negative, you can end your isolation.
- Recommending that if you test positive for COVID-19, you stay home for at least 5 days and isolate from others in your home. You are likely most infectious during these first 5 days. Wear a high-quality mask when you must be around others at home and in public.
 - If after 5 days you are fever-free for 24 hours without the use of medication, and your symptoms are improving, or you never had symptoms, you may end isolation after day 5.
 - Regardless of when you end isolation, avoid being around people who are more likely to get very sick from COVID-19 until at least day 11.
 - You should wear a high-quality mask through day 10.
- Recommending that if you had [moderate illness](#) (if you experienced shortness of breath or had difficulty breathing) or [severe illness](#) (you were hospitalized) due to COVID-19 or you have a weakened immune system, you need to isolate through day 10.
- Recommending that if you had [severe illness](#) or have a weakened immune system, consult your doctor before ending isolation. Ending isolation without

a viral test may not be an option for you. If you are unsure if your symptoms are moderate or severe or if you have a weakened immune system, talk to a healthcare provider for further guidance.

- Clarifying that after you have ended isolation, if your COVID-19 symptoms worsen, restart your isolation at day 0. Talk to a healthcare provider if you have questions about your symptoms or when to end isolation.
- Recommending screening testing of asymptomatic people without known exposures will no longer be recommended in most community settings.
- Emphasizing that physical distance is just one component of how to protect yourself and others. It is important to consider the risk in a particular setting, including local COVID-19 Community Levels and the important role of ventilation, when assessing the need to maintain physical distance.

Notice:

SISD's Communication Plan for Parents and the Public

- Sidney ISD website (<http://www.sidney.esc14.net>)
- Sidney ISD School Messenger Notification System
- Sidney ISD Mobile App
- Sidney Eagle Facebook page

Contacts for concerns or questions 254 842 5500

- SISD administrators—James Rucker Superintendent ext 116 or Deanna Drummond Principal ext 122
- Front office secretary—Ashley Kinnard ext 113

* Sidney ISD's Reopening Task Force, staff, students, and community members will be continuously reviewing this document and other possible structures for students safely returning to in-person instruction and the continuity of services no less frequently than every six months.

