

Ezell Independent School District

Safe Return to In Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan

2021-2022

The following Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of services Plan protocols, addressing CDC recommendations, and requirements at a minimum will be revisited every 6 months to address any changes. Our goal is to ensure a continuity of services for all our students in the areas of academics, social emotional, health and food services.

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SECTION I – District Procedures

As the information from the CDC continues to change, these procedures will change as well. EISD will update any changes throughout the year. A six week evaluation will be required at the end of the first nine weeks of the 2021-2022 school year.

- Social distancing will be encouraged.
- Lunch in cafeteria will only be available to EISD students and staff. Parents/ visitors will not be able to have lunch with students. This procedure will be reevaluated every six weeks. Changes to cafeteria procedures will be shared with parents.
- Meet the teacher, assemblies, open house, parent conferences, etc. will be held in person. Social distancing will be encouraged. Virtual/ telephone parent conferences will still be allowed upon parent request.
- Visitors to the EISD campus must sign in at the front office and will not be allowed past the main office area without escort or notification to specific areas occupied by students and/or staff.
- Parents will not be allowed to walk students to classrooms.
- Students leaving during the day for appointments will need a doctor's note to return.

CDC Safety Recommendations

According to a proclamation by the Governor of Texas, masks are optional and no longer required. EISD will continue to support staff and students who wish to continue wearing personal protective equipment.

Section II - Academic Services

EISD academic offerings will be on-sight, virtual learning will not be an option unless the situation with COVID-19 changes and requires re-evaluation. Procedures will be in place to facilitate transition to on-sight/remote instruction within a three day window.

- EISD will designate Mandatory Intervention and Enrichment time in the campus schedule.
- Staff schedules will facilitate small group and individual support instruction opportunities.
- Before and/or after school tutoring will be offered.
- Summer school remediation will be available.

Counseling and Support

- EISD will continue to develop and support a counseling program that address the social emotional needs of students and families.
- EISD's Safe and Supportive Schools Program Committee will continue to monitor the safety and emotional well-being of students.
- Staff development will be offered to staff related to student concern identification and available support.
- All students in EISD will receive free breakfast and lunch for the 2021-2022 school year.

Instructional Setting

- The district will practice social distancing when possible.
- Students will be encouraged to remain 3 feet apart in the classrooms.
- Student and staff desks or tables will be socially distanced to the extent facility limitations allow.
- Academic support items to include technology devices, student manipulatives, and shared equipment in rotating classrooms will be cleaned and disinfected during transition periods.
- The use of outdoor space for learning will be available and afforded to teachers for planning purposes.
- Whenever possible, students and staff will maintain consistent groupings of people to minimize exposure opportunity.
- All meals will be served in the cafeteria with assigned grade level seating for students.

Children with Disabilities

- Recommended procedures will be applied to all classroom settings, including special education services locations when possible and appropriate. Individual student needs will be addressed on a case-by-case basis.
- Ezzell has added an extra paraprofessional position beginning the 21-22 school year in order to better support all of our children in need of assistance to include special education, 504, dyslexia, RtI, and STAAR failure.

Handwashing, Physical Education, and Restroom Designations

- Alcohol-based hand sanitizer will be available at all entry and exit sites to common areas, in classrooms, in the cafeteria, at restroom doors, and in common areas throughout the campus.
- Hand washing/ sanitizing will continue at transitions, upon return from outdoors, before eating, and restroom breaks.
- Proper handwashing technique will be taught to students in pre-kindergarten through first grades, and consistently reinforced at all grade levels.
- Student supplies will not be shared and individual student identified when possible.
- Students will wash/ sanitize hands before using PE equipment.
- In order to limit occupancy, facility access during whole group restroom breaks will be monitored by staff.

Cleaning and Maintaining Healthy Facilities

- Classrooms and restrooms will be disinfected daily. Restrooms will be cleaned by custodial staff every morning prior to student arrival on campus.
- High touch areas will be disinfected daily.
- Staff will have access to disinfectant wipes to sanitize working surfaces and shared objects after each use and during breaks in instruction.
- Cafeteria tables will be sanitized between breakfast and lunch
- An electrostatic sprayer will be used to “fog” the classrooms and all common areas for an additional level of disinfection to surfaces often missed by the use of rags or wipes

Contact Tracing / Quarantine

- EISD will follow Center for Disease Control, Texas Education Agency and the Lavaca County Health Department concerning positive tests and close contact for students and staff at EISD.
- Contact tracing will continue for any person who tests positive for COVID.

Vaccination Support

- Ezzell ISD will continue support the coordination of information publications of State and local health officials.

- Ezzell ISD will continue to follow recommendations from the Lavaca County Health Department, the Texas Education Agency and the State of Texas.

SECTION III – Public Comment and Stakeholder Input

This plan was developed in consultation with stakeholders after soliciting public comment via electronic survey, public board meeting and various other groups. EISD will continue to seek public input on the Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services (RIPICS) Plan.

Section IV – Consulted Stakeholder Group

Stakeholders consulted include but are not limited to the following groups.

- Students
- Families
- District Administrators
- Teachers
- School Staff
- School Board
- Stakeholders representing the interests of children with disabilities, English language learners, children experiencing homelessness, children in foster care, and other underserved students

Section V – Stakeholder Evidence

The following is a link to the survey.

<https://forms.gle/CgJLEjNzotnYsKv9A>

Based on responses from stakeholder input, EISD identified the following areas of high priority.

- Academic learning loss
- Social skills (student interaction with the ability to establish meaningful relationships)
- Emotional skills (ability to manage emotions and express correctly)
- Mental health

Section VI – Continuity of Services

Academic

For the 2021-2022 school year, EISD will be face-to-face, five days a week, for all students grades PK-8. In addition to the high-quality, rigorous Tier I instruction provided to all students in EISD, we are committed to bridging the learning gap created by the COVID-19 learning loss. EISD will address learning loss among students and implement evidence based activities to meet the comprehensive needs of students to include Accelerated Instruction that meets the HB 4545 requirements.

Social and Emotional Needs of Students, Staff and Families

EISD will be responsive to Social and Emotional needs of students, staff and families by providing increased access to personnel such as school counselor and TCHAT services to respond to high risk needs.

Questions

Questions regarding this plan may be directed to your school administration.

Section VII - 6 Month Review

Ezell ISD sought public comment and input regarding plan review and/or revisions. Stakeholder input was sought from a variety of stakeholders including:

- Students
- Families
- District Administrators
- Teachers
- School Staff

Public comment was sought via public meeting held on Tuesday, May 24, 2022. Invitations to attend this meeting were sent home with students.

The agenda for the Stakeholder meeting is located on the district's website at www.ezellisd.org

CDC Safety Recommendations

- Universal and correct wearing of masks
- Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing
- Handwashing and respiratory etiquette
- Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation
- Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State and local health department
- Diagnostic and screening testing

- Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities
- Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety and policies
- Coordination with state and local health officials

The input from the local stakeholders identified there is NO CHANGE OR REVISIONS necessary for the Ezzell ISD RIPICS plan.