



2021-2022
Safe Return & Continuity
of Instruction

North Zulch Independent School District

General Information

- North Zulch ISD has developed a plan to reopen our district for the 2021-2022 school year. Our decisions have been guided by staff and community input along with direction from the State of Texas, Texas Education Agency, and local health authorities.
- North Zulch ISD will safely reopen school and activities for the 2021-2022 academic year on Wednesday, August 18, 2021
- All North Zulch students will receive face-to face instruction on campus for the 2021-2022 school year.

Academic Plan

- North Zulch ISD will not offer asynchronous learning unless there is a mandatory school closure or the student has a positive COVID-19 result.
- Students will receive blended instruction on campus (both direct instruction by the teacher and online instruction using our learning platforms-Google Classroom, SeeSaw, iCEV). This blended model will be implemented in case there is a break in in-person school, students will already be equipped with the online learning platform, and there will not be a break with their learning regardless of what the year holds.
- Social, emotional, and mental health supports will be made available to students throughout the year.

Emergency Virtual Learning

(ONLY if schools are closed temporarily)

- Online learning opportunity with state aligned curriculum through Google Classroom and SeeSaw.
- Online instruction and support will be provided.
- Daily attendance and participation required at scheduled times.
- All students will have access to technology.
- Internet Hotspots will be provided to those in need.
- Extracurricular activities will be canceled.
- Meals will be made available when possible to students due to an emergency closure.

Screening Protocols

- Teachers and staff will be required to self-screen for COVID-19 symptoms prior to reporting to work each day. Employees must notify designated school personnel if they have symptoms or are lab confirmed positive. If so, they must remain off campus until they meet re-entry criteria.
- Families are encouraged to self-screen for COVID-19 symptoms prior to sending students to school each day. Students are encouraged to remain at home if they are ill.

Isolation Protocols

- When a student has displayed symptoms of COVID-19, the school nurse will provide a clinical assessment to determine if and 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.
- District communication will be provided to the parents of students who came in close contact with a COVID-19 positive student or staff member.
- Staff members displaying COVID-19 symptoms will follow district protocols including isolation from students and other staff members.

Individuals Confirmed with COVID-19

There are steps NZISD will take when a student or staff member has been identified as having COVID-19:

- NZISD will notify all individuals in close contact and the local health department, in accordance with applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations, including confidentiality.
- NZISD will close off areas used by a sick individual until they can be disinfected using deep cleaning protocols.
- NZISD will ensure continuity of education for students/staff who are quarantined or isolated.

Use of Masks

- Effective June 4, 2021, by order of Governor Abbott, masks will be optional for all staff and students but welcomed for those who choose to wear them. This requirement is subject to change per Governor orders.

Campus Visitors

- Visitors will be allowed on the NZISD campus. Please remain mindful of social distancing when possible.
- Visitors must follow the visitor sign in procedure through the High School or Elementary front office.

Safety/Cleaning

- Hand sanitizer stations will be available at the entrances of each facility and in all classrooms.
- Teachers will maintain social distancing in the classroom when possible.
- Campuses will be cleaned throughout the instructional day.
- Custodial staffing will provide ongoing cleaning of touch surfaces during the instructional day.
- Classrooms, gymnasiums, restrooms, and cafeteria will be sanitized using disinfectant fogger machines routinely.
- Cleaning products will be properly stored when not in use.
- Students and staff will be trained in proper cleaning and disease transmission prevention measures.

Transportation

- NZISD will continue to encourage social distancing on the bus when possible.
- Students and drivers have the option to wear face masks/coverings.
- Hand sanitizer will be available to students as they enter the bus.
- Members of the same household are encouraged to sit in the same or adjacent seats
- Bus drivers will sanitize the bus on a routine basis.

Meals

- Students are permitted to bring a lunch from home.
 - REMINDER-ALL NZISD students are eligible for a free breakfast and lunch
 - Microwave use will be allowed.
- Hand sanitizer will be available for student use
- Parents/Guardians may bring food to their student(s) only.
- Cafeteria, serving and eating areas will be cleaned between uses.
- Students will remain in their designated grade-level area throughout the entire breakfast/lunch period.

Restrooms & Water Fountains

- Social distancing and hand washing will remain the priorities during restroom breaks.
- Proper hand-washing techniques will be taught to all students and consistently enforced.
- All water fountains have been converted to touch-free water bottle filling stations. Students and staff are encouraged to bring clear, plastic water bottles to school for their personal use.

Extra-Curricular

- All extracurricular activities will follow safety protocols provided by North Zulch ISD, University Interscholastic League (UIL), and the Texas Education Agency (TEA).

Registration

- All new and returning students must register online.
- Visit the school website at nzisd.org or contact the school at 936-241-7100 for more information.

Instructional Settings and Continuity of Services

North Zulch ISD will continue to move forward in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and address student learning loss. NZISD has created a flexible plan that is subject to changes and updates per CDC guidance and state updates.

Assess and Address the Impact of Learning Loss

- Use screeners and assessments to identify student strengths, learning gaps, and disabilities.
- Provide learning interventions that lead toward student progress and growth.

Increased Instructional Time to Address the Impact of Learning Loss

North Zulch ISD will offer additional learning opportunities that may include:

- Time scheduled during the learning day to recapture the learning loss
- Before, during, or after school tutorials to help with students not passing STAAR and EOC's.
- Summer School
- Credit Recovery

Rigorous Instructional Materials and Teacher Supports

- Implementation of additional Career Tech Courses at the Secondary Level
- Implementation of STEM classes in grades K-8
- Professional Learning Communities
- Increased use of technology in the classrooms

Social, Emotional, Mental Health and Other Needs for Students and Staff

- Campus counselor is available for students who need support and provides guidance lessons to assist in the healthy development of social and emotional health.
- Arrangements have been made for an outside counseling source to provide counseling services to students for additional social and emotional support.
- Employees are encouraged to visit with their campus administration and/or contact the district Human Resource department for assistance and support during this time.
- Employees are given the option to attend workdays in person or in a stress-free virtual format.

HB4545 Requirements

- Provide a minimum of 30 hours of accelerated instruction in any subject area in which students Did Not Meet passing standards for STAAR or EOC.
- Establish Accelerated Learning Committees that will develop and implement individual learning plans for students that did not pass reading and/or math in grades 3, 5, and 8.

Questions

If you have any questions related to the 2021-2022 Safe Return and Continuity of Instruction Plan, please contact the school at 936-241-7100.