



FORT WORTH ISD **FORWARD** 

Return to Learning

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# Fort Worth ISD Forward: Fall 2020 Education Plan

Fort Worth ISD looks forward to welcoming students, teachers and staff back to learning for the 2020-21 school year. As you will see in this plan, the new school year will be unlike any other year in FWISD history and will differ significantly from this past spring when District educators rapidly responded to the COVID-19 pandemic.

We believe the best place for a child to learn is in the classroom with a teacher. We also know our current public health crisis is making that a challenge. As of now, we plan to offer both inperson and virtual learning to our students.

Online instruction for 2020-21 will be robust, organized, and a-consistent experience for all students choosing this model of learning. And, for those learning on campus, our overarching priority will be the health and safety of students, teachers, staff, and the community.



Fort Worth ISD drew from surveys and other input in formulating a plan for fall. Almost 35,000 people responded to the Reshaping 2020-21 Survey in May, voicing their opinions about online learning and other strategies for the new school year. In a July survey, teachers and principals were asked for more specific suggestions for helping to ensure a successful reopening of classes. Respondents considered their spring 2020 online learning experiences and offered advice for improving processes.

Unfortunately, COVID-19 will still be with us when we return September 8, and with it, uncertainty. We may experience an outbreak that results in the temporary closure of the District or one or more schools. We may need to pivot from in-person to virtual instruction multiple times during the school year. And, between now and September 8, our community may be hit with an increase in COVID cases that forces new decisions and actions. Plans will remain flexible to accommodate potential changes.

Our responses will be guided by local and state health and safety guidelines, best practices, and what is fair and equitable for all students.

Sincerely,

Dr. Kent P. Scribner Superintendent

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# Fort Worth ISD Commitment to Equity

The District shall provide every student with equitable access to high quality, culturally and personally relevant instruction, curricula, support, facilities, and other educational resources, even when this means differentiating resources to accomplish this goal.

# Stakeholder Feedback and Input

Fort Worth ISD will continue to seek feedback and input from our families and teaching staff regarding their experiences during school closure in the spring and on concerns and needs as we plan for the fall through a lens of continuous improvement.

#### Reshaping 2020-2021: The FWISD School Calendar and Online Learning Survey

Fort Worth ISD surveyed parents, students, employees, and community members in May about a variety of issues, including instructional quality and meals to go services during COVID-19 shutdown, as well as the academic calendar for the coming year.

34874 Total Responses								
8,172	16,122	5,540	1,789	479	<b>454</b> Central	2,318		
	Parent or	Teacher	School	School	Office Staff	Community		
	Guardian		Support Staff	Leader		Member		

#### **Teacher and Principal Survey**

The Fort Worth ISD is currently asking teachers and campus principals to provide their input on exactly what will help ensure a successful reopening of classes for the new school year.

Teachers will be asked a series of questions to collect their thoughts about spring online learning and what they feel will improve the process going forward. They will be asked their personal assessments on how they feel about returning to teaching, if they are ready for in-class, virtual, or both types of instruction and what support they need to make the 2020-2021 a successful school year.

#### Let's Talk

The Let's Talk online platform also gives stakeholders the opportunity to provide feedback and ask questions at any time throughout the process. Stakeholders are able to submit a question or comment from any device and receive a response.

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# Fall 2020 Instructional Options

\*At the start of the 2020-2021 school year, all students will participate in virtual instruction starting September 8.

#### Virtual Instruction

Online instruction for the 2020-21 school year will be robust, organized, and a consistent experience for all students.

Here are some standards the Fort Worth ISD will follow regarding virtual learning:



- Teachers will have planned availability for students including scheduled office hours.
- Direct instruction will be delivered by teachers students will be able to get teacher support when needed.
- Students will receive clear, understandable directions on a daily basis on how to use academic materials.

#### In-person

In-person instruction for the 2020-21 school year will be safe, organized, and an engaging experience for all students.

Here are some standards the Fort Worth ISD will follow regarding in-person learning:

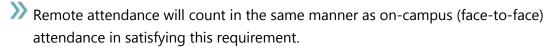
- Staff and students will follow current face mask guidance. Effective June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021, by order of Governor Abbott, masks will be optional for all staff and students but welcomed and available for those who choose to wear them.
- >>> FWISD will continue to promote reasonable social distancing when possible, particularly in large indoor events.

District will continue daily and weekly cleaning and disinfecting protocols.

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# **Attendance Requirements**

Per Texas Education Code (TEC), §25.092, students must attend 90% of the days a course is offered (with some exceptions) in order to be awarded credit for the course and/or to be promoted to the next grade. This requirement remains in force during the 2020-21 school year.



It is important that students understand that virtual learning attendance is based on daily engagement, not solely the completion of assignments.

# Learning at Home (Virtual Instruction)

#### What course options will my child have if virtual instruction is selected?

Since Fort Worth ISD is starting school in a fully virtual environment, all courses will be offered during these first four weeks.

Elementary Schools: Teachers will design on-line lessons with the guidance and support of our Teaching and Learning Department, Curriculum Frameworks, and the use of District resources. Elementary School courses will be taught directly by a teacher in a common virtual learning platform. Classroom teachers will be responsible for extensions, grading, and student interaction. FWISD Teaching and Learning staff and campus Instructional Coaches will support teachers with instructional delivery during the first six weeks. Schedules will be determined by each individual campus.

Middle Schools: Teachers will design on-line lessons with the guidance and support of our Teaching and Learning Department, Curriculum Frameworks, and the use of District resources. Middle School courses will be taught directly by a teacher in a common virtual learning platform. Classroom teachers will be responsible for extensions, grading, and student interaction. FWISD Teaching and Learning staff and campus Instructional Coaches will support teachers with instructional delivery during the first six weeks. Schedules will be determined by each individual campus.

**High Schools:** Teachers will design on-line lessons with the guidance and support of our Teaching and Learning Department, Curriculum Frameworks, and the use of District resources. STAAR EOC courses will be taught directly by a teacher in a common virtual learning platform with daily teacher interaction in order to ensure student support is provided. Other core courses and graduation requirements will be taught directly by a

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teacher in a common virtual learning platform with daily teacher interaction as well. Higher Education partners have already announced that they will be offering most Dual Credit Courses virtually. Schedules will be determined by each individual campus.

#### Who will lead online learning?

Fort Worth ISD teachers will provide virtual instruction.

#### What will the work schedule be for teachers who teach virtually?

Virtual instruction teachers will follow a traditional teacher work schedule. Students will be required to engage in instruction for a minimum of 4 hours daily. Teachers will engage with students during the required instructional time, as well as maintain identified "office hours" to support student and parent communication. Office hours are designed as additional support and resource for the student and families, not to replace the instructional hours required.

#### Will teachers be trained to instruct in the new format?

Yes. During the spring and this past summer, teachers were provided the opportunity to engage in multiple professional learning experiences during our ConnectEd professional learning experiences. In addition, all teachers have received information about required virtual instruction modules that need to be completed by September 4.

# Will teachers and students be provided technology to be able to effectively teach and participate in the Virtual School?

Yes. Teachers will use the existing technology in their classrooms. Chromebooks and hot spots are available for students.

#### Will students enrolled in virtual instruction be assigned to a counselor?

Yes, students enrolled in virtual instruction will work with their home campus counselors.

# Can students transfer from in-person instruction to virtual or from virtual to in-person, during the year?

Yes, an opportunity to transfer from instructional platforms will be available.

#### Will students in the virtual school have lessons in Social Emotional Learning?

Yes, Social Emotional Learning will be a part of virtual instruction. There will be lessons embedded into core curriculum through culturally relevant pedagogy and practice.

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#### Will virtual instruction have set instructional times or self-paced learning?

Virtual instruction will be an asynchronous, or self-paced, model of instruction. To support student learning, there will be direct instruction requirements that will require a student to engage with teachers at specific times. Schedules for instructional time will be established at each individual campus and by grade levels to ensure we are differentiating to meet the needs of all of our learners.

#### How will my student be graded if they participate in virtual instruction?

Grades for virtual instruction will follow all District grading policies. Numeric grades will be assigned for each 6-weeks and semester basis. There may be situations where courses selected by the student cannot be delivered in a virtual environment. In those situations, school counselors will work with the student to select an appropriate course that will be delivered virtually.

#### How will attendance be taken if my student participates in virtual instruction?

Attendance will be taken, daily, by the classroom teacher in one of three ways:

- 1. Students engage in online learning and demonstrate progress with lessons, assignments, and teacher instruction.
- 2. Students directly interact with their classroom teacher and teacher confirms student engagement for a particular day. Student/teacher interaction can be through multiple methods, including telephone or digital means.
- 3. Students submit an assignment through the learning management system on a particular day.

Students will be counted present on days in which they engage in one of these three methods.

#### How will I communicate with my child's/children's teacher in a virtual setting?

Teachers will be required to use a common learning platform. Teachers will use Google Classroom, Google Meet, and will also be required to set up a Google site in order to provide more direct communication to parents and families. More details on these sites will be shared with families from the Campus Leadership in the weeks to come.

# Will PreK be taught virtually?

In-person learning options will resume when available. PreK will follow the same instructional delivery format as other grades. FWISD will offer a variety of models and instructional supports to PreK teachers and campuses. Schedules will be determined by individual campuses.

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# In-person Learning

# **Health and Safety Preparation**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) continues to provide guidance, recommendations and resources to assist with plans and protocols for health and safety. Fort Worth ISD will implement health and safety plans that include:

- Ensuring adequate supply inventory (e.g., PPE, cleaning supplies, hand sanitizer, etc.)
- Cleaning with products approved by governing authorities and per guidelines from the Environmental Protection Agency
- Ensuring compliance with CDC, Health and Human Services, the Texas Education Agency (TEA) and other jurisdictional policies
- >>> Providing communication of procedures and expectations upon entering facilities and throughout buildings

# **Health and Safety Training**

- >>> Fort Worth ISD will provide information to students on appropriate hygiene practices.
- >>> Parents are asked to talk to their students about COVID-19 symptoms and prevention strategies.
- >> Teachers will attend training and develop classroom procedures consistent with TEA, District and CDC guidance.
- All staff will be trained on COVID screening, identification of symptoms, prevention of spread, and sanitation of work areas.

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# Student and Staff Pre-Screening

All students and staff will pre-screen for COVID-19 symptoms daily prior to arrival. A QR Code will be provided for daily pre-screening.

- >>> Staff will be required to complete a self-screening process prior to entering a Fort Worth ISD building, and the District may require further screening of employees at any time based on current state and federal guidelines.
- A parent or guardian will be required to pre-screen their children for COVID-19 symptoms each day prior to sending them to school. Parents will need to take their child's temperature daily.
- Parents must ensure they do not send a child to school on campus if the child has COVID-19 symptoms (as listed in this document).
- Parents must ensure they do not send a child to school on campus if the child has **lab-confirmed COVID-19**, until all of the following conditions for re-entry are met.

Students and staff will be permitted to return to school when the following three conditions are met:

- √ They are 1-day (24 hours) fever-free without using fever-reducing medication;
- ✓ They have improved symptoms (cough, difficulty breathing, etc.);
- ✓ 10 days have passed since symptoms began.

Staff and students should not enter campuses or District buildings if any of the following apply.

- They are sick or have been sick in the past 2 days. Symptoms to watch for include fever (100°F or higher), cough, shortness of breath/difficulty breathing, chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, shaking or exaggerated shivering, diarrhea.
- They have confirmed cases of COVID-19 or have been in close contact with people with confirmed cases of COVID-19. These individuals must contact their supervisor/campus principal and follow all isolation and quarantine instructions from FWISD in accordance with local health authorities.
- Those who have travelled internationally in the past 14 days may return to school /work and must follow current CDC recommendations.

Additional screening may be conducted upon arrival to school and during the school day. Teachers will monitor students and refer them to the nurse if symptoms are present.

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# Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)/Face Mask

One of the most effective measures to prevent the spread of the virus is using face masks. Effective June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021, by order of Governor Abbott, masks will be optional for all staff and students but welcomed and available for those who choose to wear them. This requirement is subject to change.

- Masks include non-medical grade disposable face masks or cloth face coverings over the nose and mouth.
- The District will provide students with cloth and disposable masks as needed. Students may also choose to wear their own, washable, reusable masks from home.
- Masks must adhere to the District dress code policy on clothing and accessories, FNCA (Local), no lewd, vulgar or offensive clothing or pictures/symbols that promote hate, gang violence, drugs, etc.
- >>> Students unable to wear face masks for documented health reasons may be provided with a reusable face shield as an alternative.
- Individual needs regarding face masks will be addressed on a case-by-case basis.

  Requests for accommodations should be submitted to campus administration.

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# **Campus Principals**

# **Return to Workplace Protocols & Expectations**

#### **Site Preparation**

Appropriate signage that can be seen before entering the campus is posted at key points throughout the campus. Each campus has a sign-in process to receive staff and guests. Required signage reminds staff, students and visitors to practice reasonable social distancing when possible and continue to wash and/or sanitize hands.

#### <u>District Operations Personal Protective Equipment</u>

District Operations will continue to provide PPE for every campus. The PPE-includes the following:

- Cloth mask and disposable masks for staff and students requesting them
- Hand sanitizer
- Disinfectant wipes
- Disinfectant spray

For additional PPE, campus administrators will contact their area maintenance director and may also request PPE by via email <a href="mailto:FWISD.PPEREQUESTS@fwisd.org">FWISD.PPEREQUESTS@fwisd.org</a>.

## **COVID-19 Safe Schools Training**

Principal leaders will confirm that all staff members have completed the COVID-19 Safe Schools training video prior to reporting to the campus.

# Staff In-Person Expectations

Principals will hold group sessions, promoting reasonable social distancing to the best of their ability, to share campus specific plans, protocols, and expectations with all returning staff members. Staff meetings will include self-screening requirements and workplace precautions. The District has instituted the following protocols and expectations. Campus Administrators will ensure that the following health and safety precautions are constantly communicated:

- Employees promote reasonable social distance from others when possible.
- Employees will use the hand sanitizer station upon entry, wash hands with soap and water throughout the day, and practice covering sneezing or coughing when in communal spaces.
- Employees will sanitize their workstations throughout the day and upon leaving for the day with the supplies that have been provided.
- Employees are required to report to their immediate supervisor any concerns that

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arise regarding possible exposure to someone who has tested positive to COVID-19.

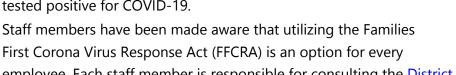
Individuals will inform their direct supervisor or campus administrator and follow FWISD COVID-19 Reporting Protocols if they, or someone they have been in close contact with, has tested positive for COVID-19.

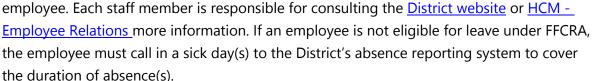
#### **Expectation of Daily Self-Screening at Home**

All employees have been directed to complete the daily COVID-19 Self-Check prior to reporting to work each day. Each campus has created an individual COVID-19 plan which will include mitigation, preparedness, disinfecting guidelines and directions on how to respond to a positive COVID-19 report.

The Self-Check Tool can be completed via this link or QR code: www.fwisd.org/selfcheck

Individuals will inform their direct supervisor or campus administrator and follow FWISD COVID-19 Reporting Protocols if they, or someone they have been in close contact with, has tested positive for COVID-19.







All employees will sign in daily and indicate they have completed the self-screening with a "Yes" or "No" on the sign-in document. Employees are encouraged to use their own pen to sign in, and sanitizer will be available at the check-in station.

#### **On-Site Assistance for Parents**

Encouraging and supporting student registration is imperative. Principals will ensure that designated staff are readily available to answer parent calls, provide Snapcodes or link to the lookup tool, and support families in returning to Fort Worth ISD.



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# **Hand Washing and Disinfecting Expectations**

Frequent hand sanitization and disinfection will be required to ensure the health and safety of students and staff.

- Hand sanitizer will be available at the main entry to the campus, in classrooms, in the cafeteria, and in common areas throughout the campus.
  - o Staff and students will be expected to regularly wash or sanitize their hands.
- >>> Staff and students will practice habitual and thorough hand washing after recess, before eating, and following restroom breaks.
- >>> Staff will have access to disinfectant solutions to sanitize high-touch and working surfaces and shared objects frequently.
  - Staff will limit the use of shared supplies when possible.

# **Daily Campus Cleaning**

The District will utilize safe practices for the cleaning, sanitizing, and disinfecting of our school campuses while allowing students to engage in classroom activities. To ensure a sanitary environment for students and staff, the District will provide:

Routine cleaning of schools and facilities, with special attention to specific high-use areas



- o such as door handles, knobs, and buttons.
- Increased disinfecting throughout the school day for restrooms and any other high-use common areas. Restrooms will be frequently stocked with soap and paper towels.
- Daily application of disinfectants registered with the EPA and approved for contact services.
- Daily spraying of our facilities, buses, and classrooms including items such as computer keyboards, math manipulatives, books, etc.
- Cleaning supplies for each classroom, such as EPA certified disinfectant spray and disinfectant wipes to clean desks and surfaces periodically.
- >>> Professional development for campus custodians on the disinfecting of a facility or a specific site within a facility, should a confirmed case of COVID-19 be identified on a specific campus or site and need to be closed for a designated amount of time, as recommended by the CDC.

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# **Classroom Safety**

Classroom protocols and procedures will include expectations about school supplies, social distancing, limiting group work, hand washing and sanitizing:

- Reasonable social distancing, particularly in large indoor events, will be promoted, when possible.
- >>> Proper handwashing procedures will be taught in every classroom. Additional preventative information shared with students will include covering your cough or sneeze, avoid touching your face, maintain physical distance, and use of face masks.
- Campus staff will ensure high-touch areas in the classroom are wiped in between classes.
- Whenever possible, students and staff will maintain consistent groupings of people to minimize the spread of the virus.
- Technology should be utilized when students are involved in collaborative work.

Each classroom will be outfitted with the following:

- Refillable alcohol-based hand sanitizer stations.
- Access to disinfectant to sanitize working surfaces.
- Elementary: Containers for students to store single-user items such as pencils, crayons, scissors, ear buds, etc.

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# Isolation Procedures and COVID-19 Cases

For students displaying symptoms of COVID- 19 or who are feeling feverish, the school nurse will provide clinical assessments to determine if and when students need to be sent home.

- >>> Students who are ill will be separated from their peers and should be picked up as soon as possible.
- Staff members displaying COVID-19 symptoms will follow District protocols, including isolation from students and other staff members.



- If an individual who has been in a school is lab-confirmed to have COVID-19, the school must notify the Fort Worth ISD Health Services Department.
- Schools will identify any areas impacted by COVID-19 positive individuals for proper cleaning and disinfection.
- District communication will be provided to the students who came in close contact with a student or staff member displaying COVID-19 symptoms. Communication will be provided without disclosing the name of the infected individual.
- Individuals will be required to follow advice from the medical professionals including the possible imposition of a 10-day quarantine.

Campuses and/or classrooms will be closed for cleaning in accordance with current quidelines.

Updated 6/4/2021

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# **COVID-19 Reporting Protocol**

In the event of confirmed positive instances of COVID-19 at a District site, campus staff have specific reporting obligations.

All the following personnel must be notified in the event of a confirmed positive:

- 1. Campus Administrator
- 2. Campus Nurse

The COVID-19 Positive Case Communication Protocol will be initiated by the Campus Administrator addressing:

- ✓ Who has tested positive
- ✓ Date(s) and location(s) impacting the facility
- ✓ Potential close contacts
- ✓ Areas to be cleaned and disinfected

#### **FWISD Health Services will:**

- ✓ Respond to impacted individual(s) to provide quarantine instructions.
- ✓ Notify the Tarrant County Public Health Department of the reported positive case.
- ✓ Share relevant, non-personally identifiable information, as appropriate, with Deputy Superintendent and designated District Chiefs. Deputy Superintendent will inform the Superintendent and the Board of Trustees, as necessary or appropriate.
- ✓ Communicate with campus administrator to send notification to those with known exposure to the affected individual.\*
- ✓ Provide public notification letters to direct supervisor or campus administrator for distribution as appropriate. \*

Students and staff who have tested positive for COVID-19 will be permitted to return to school when the following three conditions are met:

- ✓ They are 1-day (24 hours) fever-free without using fever-reducing medication;
- ✓ They have improved symptoms (cough, difficulty breathing, etc.);
- √ 10 days have passed since symptoms began.

<sup>\*</sup> Communication will be provided without disclosing the name of the affected individual.

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# **Bus Transportation**

As schools reopen, students using District transportation services will follow revised protocols. The new safety and disinfection protocols will need to be followed starting at the time when students arrive at their designated bus stop and board the school bus.

#### Student Safety

All students' families complete a daily wellness self-check from home (including a temperature check) prior to sending their students to the bus stop. If a student has a temperature of 100 degrees Fahrenheit or higher, they are to remain at home.



Hand sanitizer will be available to all passengers.

#### **Staff Safety**

All drivers will check in with dispatch and have their temperature checked upon arrival prior to receiving their keys and route.



Masks will be optional for all staff but welcomed and available for those who choose to wear them.

#### Ventilation on the Bus

Efforts will be made to increase the ventilation on the bus to reduce the spread of COVID-19.



A/C filters will be replaced with greater frequency.

#### **Environmental Hygiene**

Proper cleaning schedule will be followed to ensure debris is removed.



Each bus will be sprayed with a disinfectant upon completion of each day.

#### **COVID-19 Impact Notification**

Campuses will communicate with the Fort Worth ISD Transportation Department regarding cases in which a student has been impacted by COVID-19.

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# School Arrival and Dismissal

## **Campus Arrival Protocol**

Given the many unique designs of Fort Worth ISD campuses, each principal will be responsible for designing an entry plan specific to their building. These individual campus plans will be shared with campus staff, parents, and students before returning to campus after receiving District approval.

#### What are the required components of a campus entry plan?

- School exterior doors will open at least 10 minutes before school begins each day. No students are allowed on campus prior to this time to ensure health and safety procedures are followed.
- Staff is assigned to monitor in front of the campus as students enter the building.
- Staff is assigned to monitor in the hallways and classrooms.
- Breakfast will be served at the start of the school day.

# How will staff health checks be completed each day?

Staff will be required to self-screen prior to arrival; however, the District may require further screening of employees at any time based on current state and federal guidelines.



#### **Campus Dismissal Protocol**

Given the many unique designs of Fort Worth ISD campuses, each principal will be responsible for designing a dismissal plan specific to their building. These individual campus plans will be shared with campus staff, parents, and students before returning to campus after receiving District approval.

#### What are the required components of a campus dismissal plan?

- >>> Students who ride the bus or are picked up by after-school day care vans will be dismissed as soon as buses arrive at the end of the school day, but no more than 10 minutes before the scheduled dismissal time.
- Assign staff members to monitor during dismissal.
- >>> Students with special needs will be assigned priority dismissal times.

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Dismissal times will be staggered with exits identified.

# What unique procedures will be in place for our students at elementary campuses?

Students who have younger siblings will go to their youngest sibling's location outside the school building and remain in that group until they are picked up by their parent or guardian.

#### What if I need to pick up my child for an early dismissal?

Parents are to call ahead so that students can be accompanied to parent vehicles upon arrival.

# **Hallways**

Students are encouraged to observe and follow school hall traffic flow directions while maintaining social distancing guidelines.

- Where possible, one-way traffic throughout campus corridors will be established.
- ightarrow In two-way halls, students are expected to stay to the far right of the hall when walking.
- When possible, it is recommended that students make transitions outside of the building.
- Staggered releases from each class will be organized to limit the number of students in the hallway during transitions.
- >>> Visual markers will be developed to help students adhere to established campus traffic flow.
- >>> Traffic patterns will be established throughout the campus that separate individuals to the greatest extent possible.

#### Breakfast and Lunch

Based on building capacity and student enrollment, campus administration will determine areas that may be utilized for lunch. These areas could include classrooms, the library or other large areas within the school building.

- At this time, due to COVID-19, mealtime visitors will not be permitted in the school cafeterias.
- Students will be expected to follow campus guidelines for cafeteria procedures.
- All students are expected to wash hands or use hand sanitizer prior to entering the cafeteria.
- >> Signs will be posted on the walls and floor to promote reasonable social distancing when possible.
- Assigned staff supervises students in cafeteria lines, direct students to open seats, and promote reasonable social distancing when possible.

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Campuses will develop breakfast and lunch plans aligned to safety and health guidelines and specific to the needs of the campus in coordination with Food Services Department.

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# Common Areas, Meetings and School Events

To the extent possible, meetings and school events will be conducted in large spaces where reasonable social distancing can be promoted.

School community partners, PTA, Boosters, etc. will collaborate with and seek approval from campus/District administration prior to planning any in-person event.

What procedures will be required when attending meetings or using common areas such as computer labs, conference rooms, and libraries?

- >>> Students and staff will hand sanitize when entering and exiting common areas.
- Campuses will develop a schedule for the use of common areas, which is to include sanitization procedures between uses.
- Staff will sign up to reserve time in common areas.
- When needed, personal supplies will be brought to the common areas.
- Reasonable social distancing will be promoted when possible.

#### **Physical Distancing**

The CDC continues to encourage social (physical) distancing as a key strategy in the containment of the COVID-19 virus. Fort Worth ISD campuses will promote reasonable social distancing when possible.

### How will Fort Worth ISD ensure physical distancing?

- Each campus will establish various entry doors for specific grades, students, etc.
- Each campus will identify assigned seating in classrooms and buses; we will promote reasonable social distancing when possible in auditoriums, cafeterias, and other areas.



# **Emergencies and Drills**

Fort Worth ISD will continue to follow the Standard Response Protocol (SRP) and its emergency actions of Secure, Lockdown, Evacuate and Shelter. Campuses will develop a plan in conjunction with their area advisor to modify procedures to accommodate social distancing.

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# **Recess and Playground Structures**

Campus Administrators provide training for staff on guidelines and procedures associated with outdoor play and student activities.

- Campus Administrators will develop an appropriate plan for recess time.
- Playground structures will be utilized when allowed in accordance with current guidelines.
- >>> Campus staff will monitor students to ensure safety guidelines are followed.
- >>> Students should maintain social distancing to the best of their ability while lining up to return to class and sanitize or wash hands before re-entering from outdoor activity.

# **Physical Education**

Whenever possible, physical education classes will be held in a space that will allow for maximum physical distance between students.

- Procedures will be implemented in the locker rooms to maximize social distancing.
- Equipment will be disinfected regularly.
- Activities requiring multiple students to touch or handle the same equipment will be avoided.
- >>> Hand sanitizer and/or access to handwashing will be provided.

## **Water Fountains**

- Campuses will mitigate the use of water fountains.
- >> Students are expected to bring their own reusable water bottle for use throughout the day and expected to take water bottles home to be cleaned on a daily basis.
- Campus staff will monitor and instruct students to fill water bottles instead of drinking directly from the water fountains to the extent possible.

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# **COVID-19 Discipline Protocol**

**Intentional Infection Spread:** Any student intentionally coughing, sneezing, or spitting on another student or staff member with the intention of infecting the other student with COVID- 19 while on the bus, campus, or at a school-related event is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct:

Assault (Board Policy FO): Assault with bodily injury is defined by Texas Penal Code 22.1 (a)(1). A person commits an assault if the person intentionally, knowingly or recklessly causes bodily injury to another.

The following steps will be taken should this occur:

- Notify the campus administrator.
- The administrator shall remove the students quickly to investigate the incident.
- >>> Students should be taken to the school nurse or appropriate medical personnel if at a school sponsored event for an evaluation.
- The school nurse or appropriate medical personnel should notify the campus administrator about the findings of the evaluation. Based on the nurse's evaluation, proceed with caution and follow protocol for potentially highly contagious individuals.
- Notify parents/guardians of each student involved in the alleged incident.
- The campus administrator may investigate the allegation to determine intentionality.
- If the alleged behavior is determined to be intentional, the sequence of disciplinary interventions begin with the minimum disciplinary action and may progress to the more serious disciplinary consequences established in the Student Code of Conduct.
- The appropriate offense/consequence is entered in the Student Information System.
- Contact the Office of Student Discipline and Placement at 817.814.2961 if additional assistance is required.

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# **Visitor Requirements**

All individuals entering the building will be required to proceed directly to the office to check in and receive specific directions.

# What policies will be in place for campus visitors?

- >>> Parents are asked to report directly to the front office area.
- In-person volunteers (including mentors, college representatives, guest speakers, etc.) are asked to report directly to the front office area.
- >>> Virtual tools may still be used to conduct meetings such as PTA meetings, ARDs, LPAC, etc.
- Individuals with COVID-19 symptoms or lab confirmed COVID-19 are not eligible to enter a campus under any circumstance.
- Individuals should maintain social distancing to the best of their ability.



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# Social Emotional Support for Virtual and In-Person Instruction

Fort Worth ISD is committed to supporting the social emotional needs of all students as they prepare for college, career and community leadership. Stakeholders will be trained to be aware and understand the impacts of trauma induced by COVID-19. Through this training and collaboration model, students' social emotional needs will be addressed by:

- Collaborating across child-serving systems to assess impacts of trauma and provide necessary intervention.
- >>> Providing students with the competencies to practice a healthy lifestyle.
- Engaging in professional development so that staff will be able to facilitate an emotionally safe and physically safe learning environment.
- Actively monitoring the progress of students to identify necessary supports for student engagement in learning connected to the school and the broader community.
- Collaborating with parents and staff to ensure student access to personalized learning during this crisis.
- >>> Providing access to tools and resources to support social skills and social emotional learning for both in-person and virtual learning students.
- Providing access to Counseling and Intervention, Family and Community Resource Referrals, Telehealth Services, MTSS, and Restorative Practice.

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# **Athletics and Extracurriculars**

The health and safety of our student athletes is the number one priority. Based on current information about COVID-19, a back-to-school athletic plan is designed to help prevent exposures to COVID-19 for all student athletes, coaches, and staff. The plan will be continuously updated as additional information becomes available.

Athletics will continue to work closely with the Fort Worth ISD administration and the University Interscholastic League (UIL), so timely and accurate information can guide appropriate responses. Local conditions will influence the decisions that public health officials make regarding community-level strategies. Campuses will implement the following safeguards:

- Staff and students will follow current face mask guidance. Effective June 4th, 2021, by order of Governor Abbott, masks will be optional for all staff and students but welcomed and available for those who choose to wear them.
- >> Parents will provide transportation for their students for summer activities.
- Limiting personal interaction FWISD will continue to promote reasonable social distancing and limited group sizes when possible.
- >> Hygiene hand washing will be emphasized before, during, and after team activities when practicable.
- Cleaning and sanitation Routine and enhanced cleaning and sanitation measures will be implemented.
- Safe access to facilities Facility entry and exit points will be coordinated to minimize personal interaction and promote reasonable social distancing social distancing.

# **Technology**

Fort Worth ISD has purchased additional Chromebooks and hotspots to support virtual learning throughout the school year.