

Safe Return to School

This plan was developed with the intent to provide a continuity of services in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. Bynum ISD ensures that the interventions to be implemented will respond to the academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs of all students, and particularly those students disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, including students from low-income families, students of color, English language learners, children with disabilities, students experiencing homelessness, children in foster care, and migratory students.

1. Follow the Center for Disease and Control and the Texas Education Agency guidelines to keep our students and staff safe.
2. Assess academic gaps and provide accelerated closing-the-gap growth opportunities.
3. Evaluate the social and emotional needs of our students and staff.
4. Make every attempt to keep schools open all year without experiencing school closure.

All plans are subject to change based on regulations by the Texas Education Agency and the Office of the Governor of Texas. Parents will be notified if changes are necessary.

Instruction

- Face-to-Face/ in-person – All instruction will be in Person

District Mitigation

- Students will receive daily temperature screenings when multiple positive covid cases are present in the district or at the discretion of administration.
- All student areas including classrooms will be disinfected daily.
- All classrooms and restrooms will have sanitizing stations.
- Students will need to bring a bottle of water, which can be refilled at refilling stations during the day. Fountains will be off.
- All staff members will self-screen for COVID-19 symptoms daily.

Extra-curricular/UII

- Activities are tentatively scheduled to start at normal times; however, these activities will be modified as needed including limiting seating capacity should the need arise.

Bus Procedures:

- Hand sanitizer will be available on the bus and must be used upon entry onto the bus
- Masks will be available
- Bus Procedures are subject to modification with positive case. I.e. required social distancing, temperature screening, Etc.

Required Actions if Individuals with Test-Confirmed Cases Have Been in a School

- If an individual who has been in a school is test-confirmed to have COVID-19, the school must notify its local health department, in accordance with applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations, including confidentiality requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).
- Upon receipt of information that any teacher, staff member, student, or visitor at a school is test-confirmed to have COVID-19, the school must submit a report to the Texas Department of State Health Services via an online form. The report must be submitted each Monday for the prior seven days (Monday-Sunday).

Masks

- Per GA-38, school systems cannot require students or staff to wear a mask. GA-38 addresses government-mandated face coverings in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Other authority to require protective equipment, including masks, in an employment setting is not necessarily affected by GA-38.
- School systems must allow individuals to wear a mask if they choose to do so.

Students Who Have COVID-19

- As provided in this Department of State Health Services (DSHS) Rule, school systems must exclude students from attending school in person who are actively sick with COVID-19 or who have received a positive test result for COVID-19. Parents must ensure they do not send a child to school on campus if the child has COVID-19 symptoms or is test-confirmed with COVID-19, until the conditions for re-entry are met. See the DSHS rule for more details, including the conditions for ending the exclusion period and returning to school.

Students Who Are Close Contacts

- While contact tracing will no longer be done at school, students who have been exposed to someone that test positive from within the family or home will need to observe TEA's

recommended stay-at-home period.

- Parents of students who are determined to be close contacts of an individual with COVID may opt to keep their students at home during the recommended stay-at-home period.
- For individuals who are determined to be close contacts, a 14-day stay-at-home period was previously advised by the CDC based on the incubation period of the virus. CDC has since updated their guidance, and the stay-at-home period can end for students experiencing no symptoms on Day 10 after close contact exposure, if no subsequent COVID-19 testing is performed. Alternately, students can end the stay-at-home period if they receive a negative test result 5 days after the close contact exposure ends.

Updated July 22, 2022: Stay at home period reduced to 5 days in accordance with CDC Guidelines.

The Bynum ISD spending plan was developed in conjunction with Bynum ISD stakeholders. The information in this plan was gathered from an online survey, public hearing, held on June 22, 2021, and BISD Leadership meetings. The survey was made available to staff, students, parents as well as community members.