

## Overview of 2020-2021 On-Campus Instruction

Sulphur Springs ISD is excited to offer in person, on-campus instruction for the 2020-2021 school year, and we are ready to do so in a manner that addresses the health and safety of all students and staff at this time. On-campus students will attend school on a regular instructional schedule and will engage in face-to face learning during regular school hours, Monday through Friday. Elementary students will participate in specials such as music, PE, and recess as normal. Secondary students in grades 6-12 will follow their class schedules as normal and transition to different classrooms for instruction. In order to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 in our schools, a number of enhanced health and safety protocols will be in place. Highlights include:

- All students and staff will be screened for COVID-19 symptoms regularly and individuals who present with symptoms will be separated and sent home.
  - Staff will be required to self-screen for COVID-19 symptoms prior to reporting to work each day.
  - Parents/guardians are expected to screen their students for COVID-19 symptoms each day prior to sending their student to school. Student temperatures will not be taken as they enter the school building each day.
  - Teachers will monitor students and refer to the nurse if symptoms are present.
- SSISD will follow the governor's executive orders for requiring face masks when it is not feasible to maintain six feet of social distancing from others.
  - There are exceptions within the order including one that exempts children under 10 from having to wear a mask.
  - Outside of an executive order from the governor or a requirement from the Texas Education Agency, SSISD will not require face masks.
  - Students and staff will be permitted to wear face masks if they choose, even if not required.
- Desks or tables will be socially distanced as much as instructionally possible. Class size will adhere to state guidelines and will be determined by the number of students who choose to participate in on-campus learning.
- Hand sanitizer will be readily available and thorough hand washing will be practiced.
- Per public health guidance from the Texas Education Agency, in the case of an individual who is diagnosed with COVID-19, the individual may return to school when all three of the following criteria are met:
  - At least three days have passed since recovery (resolution of fever without medication);
  - The individual has improvement in symptoms;
  - At least ten days have passed since symptoms first appeared.
- Schools will identify, clear, and thoroughly clean any areas used by an individual who is discovered to be COVID-19 positive.
- Students who experience short term absences from school may participate in virtual instruction for the duration of their absence.

Many questions remain regarding the safe return to in person instruction, and we will continue to develop and update our on-campus student and staff safety guidelines as more guidance is provided by the Texas Education Agency. Complete and detailed health and safety plans will be communicated publicly at least one week prior to the start of on-campus instruction.