

PTISD Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan

2021-2022

Preventative Safety Protocols

1. Parents and students should pre-screen for COVID-19 symptoms every day before leaving for the bus stop or the campus. Before coming to school or boarding the school bus, ensure that your child is free from the following common COVID symptoms:

- Fever, without medication
- Cough
- Sore throat
- Fast breathing
- Chills
- Shaking with chills
- Muscle pain
- Headache
- Loss of taste or smell



2. Teaching staff and students have the option to wear a mask or face shield when social distancing in the school setting.
3. Students are expected and are encouraged to socially distance when changing classes or walking through a common area and maintain four feet of distance from individuals.
4. Students and staff will utilize the available hand sanitizer throughout the day.
5. Students at recess or PE will have the option to wear masks while at play. Physical play will be designed and monitored to encourage proper social distancing.
6. Students will be trained and reminded frequently about proper handwashing, social distancing, and avoiding the unnecessary touching of surfaces and their faces.
7. Water fountains have been modified to fill personal containers to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Students are encouraged to bring their own container for fresh water.
8. Child nutrition services will utilize the same safety precautions as the school setting, including the summer feeding program.
9. PTISD will continue to work with local health authorities to promote vaccination clinics and diagnostic and screening testing for COVID-19. The community will be informed of these activities through the District's website and social media outlets as they are scheduled.

In the event of an exposure

PTISD will continue to follow the guidance from the CDC and the Texas Education Agency (TEA). If an individual who has been in a school is lab-confirmed to have COVID-19, the following actions will be taken:

- A. The school will 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)
- B. The school will sanitize and disinfect areas frequently utilizing approved materials for non-porous surfaces.
- C. Consistent with school notification requirements for other communicable diseases, and consistent with legal confidentiality requirements, the school will notify all teachers, staff, and families of all students in a school if a lab-confirmed COVID-19 case is identified among students, teachers or staff who participate in any on campus activities.
- D. Follow the current CDC and TEA regarding length of isolation with confirmed positive COVID-19 individuals, which at the time of this publication:

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- i. Positive staff members, if symptomatic, at least 5-days have passed since symptom onset, and fever free, without the use of medication, and other symptoms have improved. For those without symptoms, at least 5-days after the day tested positive.
- ii. Positive students if symptomatic, must be out of school for at least 10-days since symptom onset, fever free, without the use of medication, and other symptoms have improved. Students who tested positive for COVID-19 but do not have any symptoms must stay home until at least 10-days after being tested.

Continuity of Educational Services

To ensure the continuity of educational services, students with a confirmed exposure or positive diagnosis of COVID-19 will receive instruction through different modalities. Students are expected to engage with their classroom peers during instructional time that coincides with the regular schedule of the academic day, also known as synchronous instruction. This arrangement is only permitted with the direct approval of the Superintendent. Virtual learning is a last resort as it is the District's position that learning is best achieved through the classroom environment.

Students with disabilities will receive appropriate individualized instruction and accommodations with respect to health and safety policies as their needs require.

Cleaning Protocols

- Teachers/students will have disinfectant/cleaning materials available for use.
- Custodial staff will disinfect hallways, high touch areas, and bathrooms multiple times a day.
- District-wide evaluations have been conducted to ensure adequate fresh air return in all buildings. Additionally, the maintenance staff maintains a routine of replacing high quality air filters throughout the District.



Social and Emotional

- Staff is afforded the opportunity to speak with a counselor free of charge for a limited number of sessions through the District health plan. Interested staff should call the HR department for more information.
- Resources are available through the Counselor's page of the District website for students and parents to support the social, emotional, mental health, and other needs of students during these unprecedented times. This information is open and available at <http://www.ptisd.org/page/Counselors.Home>.
- In collaboration with Wellness Pointe, parents, staff, and the community at large are encouraged to seek out supports for any social or emotional issues related to COVID-19.

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Be advised...

Please understand that these guidelines are based on the current status of the pandemic. As conditions on the ground, guidelines from the County Health Department, or requirements from TEA and the Governor's office change, these requirements will be adjusted accordingly. Our goal is to provide as close to normal, in-person educational experience as possible while ensuring the safety of our students and staff.