



2020-2021

**School Reopening
Plan**

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Introduction and District Priorities

As a school district, Bellevue ISD looks forward to welcoming students back to school on **August 20th**. Despite the challenges with COVID-19, our district will continue to provide an excellent education to our students, including both in-person and remote learning environments. As the public health crisis continues, we plan to open the 2020-21 school year with a focus on the health, safety, and well-being of our staff, students, and community. The school plan follows recommendations for school opening and operations provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Texas Education Agency, and state and local health officials.

Bellevue ISD is planning for two different instructional environments, an in-person / face to face model and an online / remote learning model. The school will be providing an Instructional Plan separate of this document that provides a thorough description and procedures associated with both the In-person and the Remote Learning options available to students to begin the 2020-21 School Year.

The situation with COVID-19 is continuously changing, as are the protocols and measures needed to keep students and staff safe. Plans will remain flexible to accommodate potential changes and these guidelines may be modified as needed. As adjustments may be necessary throughout the coming school year, it will be our priority to keep the community informed of those changes and updates. The website will provide you with the most up-to-date information.

Please note, health guidance cannot anticipate every unique situation. As a result, the school will continue to consult available guidance through governmental agencies and other relevant information to monitor the situation. The district will comply with applicable federal and state employment and disability laws, workplace safety standards, and accessibility standards to address individual needs.

It is important to remember the virus that causes COVID-19 can be spread by infected persons who have little or no symptoms but are still contagious. The person they infect may become seriously or fatally ill. Especially vulnerable are persons 65 years of age or older with pre-existing health conditions, placing them at higher risk. Because of the hidden nature of this threat, the school expects all employees, students, and families to follow these practices rigorously.

Parents are also encouraged to read their public education enrollment and attendance rights and responsibilities published by TEA. You can access that document by clicking [here](#).

Communication

Bellevue ISD will continue to communicate with surrounding school districts, local and state health authorities, and TEA to monitor the spread of COVID-19. The school will relay all pertinent information to parents via school messenger, email, the school website, or Facebook page to keep you advised of the current situation. The

designated communication team regarding all COVID19 related issues at Bellevue ISD will consist of the following personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please direct those to our designated team.

- Superintendent Wade Wesley
- Principal Terry Dunlap
- Counselor Johney Chandler
- Athletic Director Colby Broussard

Notification of Positive Test Result

- **Teacher or Student: If your child has received a positive test result of COVID-19 from an approved testing site, please notify the school office at 940.928.2104 as soon as possible.**

Closures / Quarantine Periods

Bellevue ISD will strive to remain open to the maximum extent possible. Should a need arise for school closure, the school will close for a period of not more than 5 days in order to sanitize and disinfect the school. During school closures, all students will continue instruction via virtual methods to ensure seamless and effective delivery of instruction.

Parents will be notified of the length of a school closure by administration.

Preparation for Opening of School

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) provides guidance, recommendations, and resources to assist with plans and protocols for health and safety. Before schools re-open, the school will implement health and safety procedures 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, and other jurisdictional policies.
- Providing communication of procedures and expectations upon entering facilities and throughout buildings.

Guidelines for Screening and Quarantine

Screening Requirements

- Staff will be required to complete a self-screening process before entering a district facility. The district may require further screening of employees, at any time, based on the current state and federal guidelines.
- A Parent or Guardian will be required to screen their children for COVID-19 symptoms each day before sending them to school utilizing the screening process listed below. Additional screening may be conducted during the school day.
 - Parents must not send a child to school if they are sick or have been sick and are displaying COVID-19 symptoms listed below.
 - Parents must not send a child to school if they have a confirmed case of COVID-19 or a household member with a confirmed case of COVID-19.
 - Parents must not send a child to school if they have a household member awaiting COVID-19 test results or are awaiting their own test results.
 - Parents must not send a child to school if they have been in close contact with a person with a confirmed case of COVID-19.
 - Parents must not send a child to school that has traveled to and from a hot spot area or on a cruise in the past 14 days.
 - In all cases above, these individuals must follow all isolation and quarantine guidelines from the CDC, local health authority, or their physician.
 - All students are required to begin the remote learning option until the below conditions for returning or reentry to school are met.

COVID19 Symptoms and Close Contact Definition

In evaluating whether an individual has symptoms consistent with COVID19, consider the following:

- Difficulty Breathing/Shortness of breath
- Chest pain or pressure
- Loss of Speech or movement
- Fever (100°F or higher)
- Dry Cough
- Tiredness
- Loss of taste or smell
- Headache
- Chills
- Sore Throat

- Shaking or exaggerated shivering
- Significant muscle pain or ache
- Diarrhea

Close contact is defined as being directly exposed to infectious secretions by:

- Being coughed on while not wearing a mask or face shield.
- Being within 6 feet for a cumulative duration of 15 minutes while not wearing a mask or face shield.

Quarantine Requirements

- Staff members displaying COVID-19 symptoms will follow district protocols, including isolation from students and other staff members and will be sent home.
- For students displaying symptoms of COVID-19 or are feeling feverish, the campus office personnel will provide a clinical assessment to determine if a student needs to be sent home.
 - Students who are ill will be separated from their peers. The school will contact parent/guardian to pick up student.
- If an individual who has been in a school is lab-confirmed to have COVID-19, the school will notify county health authorities, employees and parents, 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).
 - NOTE: No teacher nor student name as receiving a positive test will be released by the school district.
 - The school will close off areas heavily used by an individual with a lab-confirmed case (student, teacher, or staff) until the non-porous surfaces in those areas can be disinfected.

Returning or Reentry to school.

Students and staff who have tested positive for COVID-19 will be permitted to return to school when:

- They are 3 days (72 hours) fever-free without using fever-reducing medication.
- Improved symptoms (cough, difficulty breathing, etc.).
- 10 days have passed since symptoms began.

Personal Protective Equipment / Face Masks

Counties with 20 or more active COVID-19 cases must adhere to the Governor's Executive Order regarding the wearing of face coverings during school hours. Clay County currently has LESS THAN 20 active COVID-19 Cases

At this time, Bellevue ISD students and staff will have the freedom to wear protective equipment if desired, but it is not required. The district plans to promptly adhere to the following requirements regarding the wearing of face masks IF Clay County active COVID-19 cases exceed 20 or more.

- Masks include non-medical grade disposable face masks, cloth face coverings (over the nose and mouth), or full-face shields to protect eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Students over the age of 10 will wear face coverings in hallways, common areas, and upon arrival and dismissal.
- It may be impractical for students to wear masks or face shields while participating in some extracurricular and co-curricular activities.
- Students will not be required to wear face coverings while eating and drinking.
- Students and staff will be provided a standard Texas Education Agency issued reusable face covering. Families are requested to supply a student face covering should the one provided by the school become unusable or lost.
- Face Coverings are not allowed to have inappropriate pictures, emblems or writing that is offensive, vulgar, or obscene.
- Face Coverings may not advertise or depict tobacco products, alcoholic beverages, drugs, or any other substance prohibited under school policy.
- Individual needs regarding face coverings will be addressed on a case-by-case basis. Requests for accommodations should be submitted to the campus principal.

Visitors to Campus

Visitors will be screened with questions regarding symptoms and be denied access if any symptoms are reported or witnessed.

- Only essential visits will be allowed.
- UIL and school-sponsored activities will be considered essential, and all government required social distancing measures will be strictly enforced. UIL guidelines will be enforced and can change at any given time, just as all governmental requirements.
- If activities can be staggered, every effort will be made to decrease crowd sizes.
- Parents are discouraged from entering the campus and will not be allowed beyond the front office area.
- Virtual tools will be used to conduct meetings such as PTA meetings, Booster Club Meetings, FFA Meetings, Foundation Meetings, Alumni Meetings, ARDs, LPAC, etc.

Hand Sanitizing and Washing

Hand washing guidelines indicate that students should wash hands for at least 20 seconds after blowing their nose, coughing, sneezing, before eating, and entering classrooms. Breaks will be provided for hand washing.

- Supervised handwashing will be monitored and taught for our youngest of students, with every opportunity to encourage proper techniques to all our students.
- Multiple hand sanitizing opportunities will be available for Bellevue ISD employees and students throughout the campus in locations such as the office, classroom, lunchroom, etc.

District Cleaning and Disinfecting

Frequent cleaning and disinfection will support healthy learning and work environment for students and staff.

Daily Campus Cleaning

- Each classroom and restroom will be cleaned and disinfected
- All high-touch areas will be disinfected throughout the day.
- Cafeterias will be disinfected between lunch periods.

Restrooms

- Staff should supervise and limit the number of students that enter the bathroom at one time to comply with Texas Education Agency recommendations and social distancing.
- Increased disinfecting will occur throughout the school day. Staff and students must wash hands with soap and water prior to exiting the bathroom. Proper handwashing techniques will be taught to all students and consistently reinforced.

School Arrival and Dismissal

Arrival at School

- The school doors will open at 7:30 am. Please do not drop your child off at school before 7:30 am.

- Upon arrival, students will go to their Designated Entrance. A school employee will be at each door to greet students upon arrival.
 - Bus students, PreK, and Kindergarten students will enter the Northeast side door.
 - Parents of PreK and Kindergarten students will be allowed to walk students their child's classrooms until the 3rd week of school.
 - Students in 1st through 5th grade will enter the east door on the south side of the district.
 - Students driving to school will enter the west side door.
 - All other students should be dropped off and enter the west door on the South side of the district.

Dismissal from School

In an effort to manage student movement in the building and decrease the risk of potential crowding outside at dismissal time, staggering the groups of walkers, car riders, bus riders, or grade levels will be utilized. The school will also use separate exits for car riders, bus riders, walkers. Bellevue ISD employees will monitor all designated exits.

Bus Transportation

Although the district is implementing the safety protocols and disinfecting, families are encouraged to drop students off, carpool, or walk with their students to school to reduce possible exposure on buses.

- Due to the inability to social distance on the school bus, students who ride the school bus will wear a face mask according to the governor's order. Students may bring their mask from home or the district will provide students with a mask.
- Students will be required to use hand sanitizer upon boarding the bus.
- Bus windows will be open, as permitted by weather, to allow outside air to circulate.
- Buses will be thoroughly cleaned after each trip, focusing on high-touch surfaces such as seats, steering wheels, knobs, and door handles.

Cafeteria Breakfast and Lunch

- Based on social distancing guidelines, the Principal will determine areas that may be utilized for breakfast and lunch. These areas could include classrooms, the library, or other large areas within the school district.
- Bellevue ISD teachers and staff will monitor the cafeteria and hallways to promote social distancing practices.
- Microwaves will not be provided in the cafeteria due to the opportunity for cross-contamination with a high-touch device.

- Hand sanitizing will be available in the cafeteria.

Standard Classroom Procedures

Classroom protocols and procedures will include expectations regarding social distancing applicable to the classroom square footage.

Teachers and staff will ensure high-touch areas in the classroom are wiped down between classes. Each classroom will be outfitted with the following:

- Refillable alcohol-based hand sanitizer stations.
- Access to disinfectant to sanitize working surfaces.
- Whenever possible, students and staff will maintain consistent groupings of people to minimize the spread of the virus.
- The use of outdoor space for learning will be considered when possible.

District Health and Safety Training

On the first day, a student attends school on campus; the school must provide instruction to students on appropriate hygiene and other mitigation practices adopted by the school district. These practices include covering coughs and sneezes with a tissue, and if not available, to cover a cough or sneeze with their elbows. Used tissues should be thrown in the trash. Then, hands washed immediately with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or hand sanitizer should be used.

Safety Training for Protocols and Procedures

Teacher/Staff

- Teachers attend training and develop classroom procedures consistent with TEA, District, and CDC guidance.
- All staff will be trained on COVID screening, identifying symptoms, preventing spread, and sanitation of work areas.
- All staff will monitor students that exhibit symptoms and will be required to notify the campus office if a student is showing any symptoms.

Students

- Students will participate in training specific to newly adopted health and safety protocols.
- All students will be trained on information about COVID-19 screening, identification of symptoms, prevention of spread, and sanitation of work areas.
- If a student is experiencing symptoms, they need to notify a teacher immediately.

Parents:

- Parents are asked to talk to their students about COVID-19 symptoms and prevention strategies.

Extra-Curricular Activities

Athletics and extracurricular activities support the goal of providing a well-rounded educational experience for students within the reopening process. The district will follow UIL guidance for physical and social distancing, restricting the size of gatherings for indoor and outdoor spaces, disinfecting equipment, and other health and safety precautions.

Students who choose the Online Learning Model will **NOT** be allowed to participate in extracurricular activities. The online learning model is being offered to allow students and parents that are afraid of being exposed to the COVID virus a solution to avoid close contact and large crowds. Being involved in extracurricular activities does not offer this protection.