



# 2021-2022 School Year

The conditions surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic and In-Person Instruction are continually evolving. With the assistance of public input, Jasper ISD's In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan will be evaluated every six months to adapt to needs and trends of educating all students. Please know that Jasper ISD will follow recommendations for school operations from the local health department, [Texas Education Agency](#), and the [Centers for Disease Control \(CDC\)](#).

## **JISD Health Team**

Campus Principal, Assistant Principal, Counselor, and nurse along with Mr. Seybold (Superintendent), Mr. Guthrie (Healthcare Supervisor), Mrs. Coleman (Human Resources), and Mrs. Phillips (Director of Operations) make up the JISD Health Team.

## **Safety Protocols**

### **Personal Preventative Steps**

#### **Completing Daily Self- Screening**

Students, staff, and visitors are encouraged to perform a daily self-screening for COVID-19 symptoms and fever before arriving to school or boarding school transportation. Per TEA, "in evaluating whether an individual has symptoms consistent with COVID-19, consider the following question: Have they recently begun experiencing any of the following in a way that is not normal for them?"

- Feeling feverish or a measured temperature greater than or equal to 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit
- Loss of taste or smell
- Cough
- Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
- Headache
- Chills
- Sore Throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Exaggerated shivering
- Significant muscle pain or ache
- Diarrhea
- Nausea or Vomiting

### **Stay Home When Sick**

- Conduct a medical self-screen before arriving at school. Do not attend if you have a temperature of 100 degrees or greater, new or worsening cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, loss of taste or smell
- If you become ill while at school, notify the nurse immediately.
- Follow guidelines listed in this document for returning to work/school

### **Stay home if you test positive for COVID-19**

- Follow guidelines listed in this document on returning to work/school

### **Facial Coverings**

- Facial Coverings will be optional for all staff and students (grades PK-12) to wear at their personal discretion and preference. CDC recommends those who are not vaccinated to wear facial coverings.

**Social Distance** from others at a minimum distance of 3 feet when possible.

### **Practice Proper Hygiene**

- Students and staff are highly encouraged to wash their hands as often as possible or after handling items that others may have recently touched.
- Wash hands for 20 seconds with soap and water frequently
- If soap and water are not readily available, use hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol
- Students and staff are highly encouraged to utilize hand sanitizer often especially during situations where immediate hand washing is unavailable.
- The District will provide supplies in the schools to include soap, hand sanitizer, and paper towels
- Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or sneeze or cough into your shoulder/elbow; wash hands immediately afterwards
- Avoid touching face, eyes, and nose area

### **Immunizations and medications**

- All students enrolled in Jasper ISD must be in compliance with state required immunizations. Immunization requirements can be found at <https://www.dshs.texas.gov/immunize/school/pdf/6-14-2021-2022-Minimum-Requirement-K-12.pdf>
- Parents are encouraged to call the campus nurse and schedule an appointment for dropping-off items for the clinic, such as documentation, medication and clinic supplies to be stored in the clinic area for your child.
- CDC recommends all those twelve years of age and older to be vaccinated against COVID-19. Check with family physician.

### **Providing Healthy Environments**

- Cleaning and Disinfection
- Custodial teams will maintain a regular cleaning schedule to disinfect high traffic and commonly used spaces throughout the instructional day, including door

- handles, restrooms, large group transition areas, and cafeteria between meals
- Hand sanitizer stations will be located in multiple areas throughout the campus.

## COVID-19 Mitigation Protocols

### Alerts & Notifications

Jasper ISD has a standard response in place in the event of a confirmed COVID-19 among students and staff at a specific campus.

### Isolation Protocols

Isolation or quarantine may be required based on guidance from the local health department and CDC guidelines.

### Screening for Symptoms

- Parents and caregivers should monitor their children for signs of infectious illness every day
- Staff should monitor themselves for signs of infectious illness every day
- Students and staff who are sick should not attend school in-person

## If Someone Gets Sick

### COVID-19 Reporting System

Jasper ISD has developed and implemented a staff and student reporting system to report a lab confirmed positive case of COVID-19. The reporting system is available on the Jasper ISD webpage. The report provides essential information such as last date on campus and locations visited. This confidential information is forwarded to the Jasper County Health Department. This report will facilitate the local health department's ability to contact trace and investigate cases of COVID-19 and provide notification to anyone exposed. This also allows personnel to quickly begin the disinfectant procedures for the school and areas exposed.

- Students and staff with a lab confirmed positive case should fill out the COVID-19 self-report available at [COVID-19 Health Reporting Form](#).
- Report will include test date, district facilities visited within the last 2 days, and any known individuals living at home in close contact
- This information, including the name of the staff or student, will be kept confidential.
- Jasper ISD is required to report all reports of positive COVID-19 tests to local health officials and will cooperate with them for the purpose of contact tracing. The local health departments have the legal authority to collect information on reportable communicable disease cases in order to conduct and complete community investigations / contact tracing.
- Staff and Students with a lab confirmed positive should not return until they have met the guidelines established in this document to return or otherwise been advised by a medical professional
- In conjunction with Jasper County Health Officials, Jasper ISD will assist in notifying individuals who may have been potentially exposed.
- In general, close contact is defined as:
  - (a) being directly exposed to infectious secretions (e.g., being coughed on); or (b) being

within 3 feet for a largely uninterrupted or sustained extended contact period throughout the course of a day of approximately 15 minutes; however, additional factors like case/contact masking (i.e., both the infectious individual and the potential close contact have been consistently and properly masked), ventilation, presence of dividers, and case symptomology may affect this determination.

- Either (a) or (b) defines close contact if it occurred during the infectious period of the case, defined as two days prior to symptom onset to 10 days after symptom onset. In the case of asymptomatic individuals who are test-confirmed with COVID-19, the infectious period is defined as two days prior to the confirming test and continuing for 10 days following the confirming test.
- Custodial staff will ensure all exposed areas are thoroughly cleaned and disinfected.
- Required actions by JISD if individuals with test-confirmed cases have been on campus, the district 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).

**Guidelines for student/staff returning to school:**

- If student/staff tested positive for COVID-19 – With or Without Symptoms:
  - Recommend parent/guardian to consult with their primary care physician for guidance of care and testing
  - Notify campus nurse
  - Complete the reporting form, [COVID-19 Health Reporting Form](#).
  - Scenarios for the return of a COVID-19 positive student/staff:
    - Student/staff that has tested positive, may return to campus
      - ✓ After symptoms have improved
      - ✓ At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared **AND**
      - ✓ At least 24 hours have passed since recovery (resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medication)
  - Student/staff must report to the campus nurse for school re-entry

Student/staff develops one major or two minor symptoms that could be COVID-19 and who is not evaluated by a medical professional or tested for COVID-19, such individual is assumed to have COVID-19.

Major Symptoms:    New Cough  
                          New Loss of Taste or Smell  
                          Shortness of Breath or Difficulty Breathing

Minor Symptoms:    Fever or Chills                                    Muscle or Body Aches  
                          Headache    Sore Throat  
                          Congestion or Runny Nose                    Nausea or Vomiting  
                          Diarrhea     Fatigue

It is recommended that the parent/guardian consult with their primary care physician for guidance of care and testing. If the student/staff is presumed to have COVID-19 he/she may **NOT** return to the campus until the individual has completed the return to campus criteria above.

### **Who needs to quarantine?**

Those who are guided to do so by the local health department and/or an individual's personal physician.

### **Recommended steps to take if quarantine is needed.**

- Stay home and monitor your health. Watch for fever (100.4°F), cough, shortness of breath, or other symptoms of COVID-19.
- If possible, stay away from others, especially people who are at [higher risk](#) for getting very sick from COVID-19.
- Local public health authorities make the final decisions about how long quarantine should last based on local conditions and needs.
- After stopping quarantine, it is recommended:
  - Watch for symptoms until 14 days after exposure.
  - If you have symptoms, immediately self-isolate and contact your local public health authority or healthcare provider.
  - Wear a mask, stay at least 3 feet from others, wash your hands, avoid crowds, and take other steps to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

### **Individuals who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19.**

- Proof of vaccination may be volunteered to the campus nurse or supervisor. No individual will be required to identify his or her vaccination status by Jasper ISD.
- Individuals, who have received the completed vaccine series against COVID-19 and develop symptoms of COVID-19, will need to stay-at-home, contact a medical healthcare provider for guidance, care and date of return to school.

### **Return to Participation**

Any student participating in athletics, cheerleading, dance, or marching band that tests positive for COVID-19 will need a doctor's note clearing them to return to their activity.

## **On Campus Mitigating Measures**

### **Health and Safety Measures**

Ensuring all students, staff and community members remain healthy and safe by following best practices in the areas of:

- Guidance, directives and recommendations from health authorities.
- Health & safety information, social distancing and infection control practices.
- Health office practices, personal protective equipment (PPE), management and isolation of students showing signs of illness.
- Mask are optional due to governor's orders effective June 4, 2021.
- The education community will be made aware of vaccination availability in the area.
- Seating Charts will be created and maintained in all educational settings.

### **Infection Control Measures**

- Social distancing will be encouraged whenever possible.
- Water fountains will be monitored and limited to filling of water containers only. Students and staff are encouraged to bring containers filled from home.
- Restroom capacity will be examined and measures will be in place for social distancing
- Students and staff who desire to where a face covering may do so.
- Nurses will have training to recognize symptoms and precautionary protection measures.
- Students will have instruction on effective hand washing. Elementary students will wash hands or use hand sanitizer before eating, following restroom breaks and after recess. All secondary students will be encouraged to wash their hands or use hand sanitizer regularly.
- Students will have training on the correct wearing of masks, if they choose to wear a mask. Mask are optional due to Governor's orders effective June 5, 2021.

### **Health Screenings**

- Staff will be encouraged to complete daily health screening
- Parent or guardian will be encouraged to complete daily student health screening
- Visitors will be encouraged to complete health screening prior to entry into the building

### **Learning Environments**

- Wiping of high hand-touch areas will be done throughout the day.
- Hand sanitizer will be available in each classroom, entrances, and throughout common spaces.
- Use of Electro Static E-Mist Systems to sanitize daily all classrooms, common areas and buses.
- Campuses will open multiple entrance/exit points during arrival/dismissal to promote social distancing.
- School playgrounds will be closed to the general public.
- Visual aids will be posted to illustrate appropriate spacing and traffic flow throughout the building.
- Nonessential visitors and activities, involving external groups or organizations, may be restricted.
- Students will be encouraged against sharing of personal items and supplies.
- Limit mixing between cohort groups as much as possible.
- Desks and tables will be arranged to maximize space between students.
- Teachers will limit the number of students participating in small group instruction at one time.

### **Breakfast / Lunch**

- Sanitizing and hand washing practices in all areas of the kitchen and serving area will continue.
- Self-serve counters will be eliminated and replaced with traditional serving lines.
- Condiments and pre-wrapped silverware to be included with all meals.
- "Grab and go" meals for breakfast.
- Meals will be in disposable packaging to eat in cafeteria.
- Plexiglas shields are installed at cashier counters and full-length serving counters.
- Procedural changes will be made for receiving payment.

- While in line and during eating, social distancing guidelines will be in place.
- All tables will be sanitized between lunches.

### **Transportation**

- Bus ridership will remain at typical district capacity.
- All buses will have hand sanitizer
- All buses will be sanitized and wiped down daily.
- Bus windows will be partially open (at minimum) during routes to provide for additional ventilation.
- Students will be assigned seats, and a seating chart will be maintained by the bus driver. Sitting with siblings will be used when possible.
- Students will only be allowed to ride their primary route bus.

### **Visitors**

- In the 2021-2022 school year, visitors will be permitted in schools for planned events only. Only visitors who are essential to school operations will be allowed.
- Each campus will maintain a log of visitors.
- Campuses may utilize virtual meeting options to limit campus visitors when possible.
- Social distancing is encouraged for all meetings that are not able to be virtual.
- Any visitor, essential to school operations, who has COVID-19 or COVID-19 symptoms or have come into close contact with an individual who is lab-confirmed with COVID-19 must remain off campus until the 14-day incubation period has passed.

### **Campus Procedures Related to COVID-19**

- If a campus is notified that a student or staff member has a lab confirmed case of COVID-19 the student or staff member will be required to stay home until the return to school criteria is met per CDC guidelines.
- If a student or staff member is assessed and exhibits symptoms of COVID-19 during the school day, the cohort will be located to an alternate area while the room is being disinfected.

### **Clinic Procedures Related to COVID-19**

- Students or staff who present with symptoms will be evaluated and assessed by the school nurse. If COVID-19 symptoms are present: staff member and/or student will be sent home,
- Nurse will notify the campus administrator to move the student's class so that the space can be disinfected.
- Nurse will provide parent/staff with return to school criteria
- For lab-confirmed cases of COVID-19, local health department will be notified.