



# **Bay City Independent School District**

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## **Blackcat Blueprint 5.0**

**Revised January 5, 2022**

The health and safety of our students, staff, families and community is our top priority, and we will work tirelessly to ensure that we follow safety protocols. Every decision made will be based on the latest guidance and direction from local, state, and federal authorities on operational considerations.

### **Student Health Protocols**

- Daily COVID-19 Screening Checklist - Parents will be responsible for ensuring their students are screened at home daily.
- Parents must ensure that they do not send a child to school on campus or board school transportation if the child has COVID-19 symptoms or is lab-confirmed with COVID-19.
- All students will be instructed on methods to protect themselves and others from COVID-19 at school.
- All students should practice appropriate social distancing, hand hygiene, and respiratory etiquette.
- Students will be trained in proper health hygiene and disease transmission prevention measures.
- All students should maintain 3 feet of social distancing from others whenever possible.

## **Health, Hygiene & Mitigation Practices**

- Hand sanitizer stations will be at the entrances of each facility.
- Hand sanitizers and disinfecting wipes will be provided in every classroom and library.
- Hand sanitizers will be placed in entrances to large gathering areas (e.g. cafeterias, gyms, libraries, etc.).
- Signage for proper hygiene practices will be posted throughout the buildings, in the restrooms, and at the entrances.
- Minimum door touching procedures will be implemented where possible.
- COVID-19 Testing is available to all students, school personnel and Bay City ISD School Board Members at the Live Oak Campus by appointment Monday through Friday while school is in session.

## **Identifying Possible COVID-19 Cases on Campus**

- Schools must immediately separate any student who shows COVID-19 symptoms while at school until the student can be picked up by a parent or guardian.
- Schools will clean the areas used by the individual who shows COVID-19 symptoms while at school (student, teacher, or staff) as soon as it is feasible.
- Students who report feeling feverish should be given an immediate temperature check to determine if they may be symptomatic for COVID-19.

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

1. If an individual is test-confirmed to have COVID-19, the school will notify the 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).
2. Upon receipt of information that any teacher, staff member, student, or visitor at a school is test-confirmed to have COVID-19, the school will submit a report to the Texas Department of State Health Services via an online form.
3. Consistent with school notification requirements for other communicable diseases, and consistent with legal confidentiality requirements, the district will notify all teachers, staff, and families of all students in a classroom, extracurricular

or after-school program cohort when a test-confirmed COVID-19 case is identified among students, teachers or staff who participated in those classrooms or cohorts.

Additionally, the district will also notify entire campuses and or departments when a positive COVID-19 case is identified on campuses or in their department. The notification will be via Blackboard.

### **Students Who Have COVID-19**

The district will exclude students from attending school that are actively sick with COVID-19, who are suspected of having COVID-19, or have received a positive COVID-19 test result. The district will immediately notify parents, if this is determined while on campus.

#### **For Symptomatic students to return back to school the following must all be met:**

- 10 days since symptoms first appeared
- 24 hours with no fever without the use of fever-reducing medications (Fever is a temperature of 100 degrees and higher)
- Other symptoms of COVID-19 are improving

#### **For Asymptomatic students to return back to school the following must all be met:**

- At least 10 days have passed after they tested positive
- 24 hours with no fever without the use of fever-reducing medications (Fever is a temperature of 100 degrees and higher)
- Other symptoms of COVID-19 are improving

The district will provide testing for students 13 and over to help mitigate the risk of asymptomatic individuals being on campuses. The district will conduct recurring COVID-19 testing using rapid tests provided by the state or other sources. Parents must provide prior written permission and be present when testing is conducted on students.

### **Students Who Are A Close Contact With A Test Confirmed Case**

If the district is notified of a positive COVID-19 individual, the district will notify the parents of students identified as close contacts via Blackboard.

Parents of close contact students may opt to:

- Send their students to school following exposure and are encouraged to closely monitor their children for 10 calendar days for symptoms. If symptoms occur, keep students home and follow-up with your doctor or school nurse for testing.
- Keep their students home during the recommended 10 calendar day period following the exposure and return them to school symptom free. Parents must immediately notify the school nurse on their child's campus if choosing this option.

### **Campus Cleaning / Sanitizing Plan**

- Campuses will be cleaned/sanitized throughout the instructional day.
- Custodial staffing will be realigned to allow for ongoing cleaning of touch surfaces during the instructional day. The district custodial staff will also utilize disinfection foggers on a regular basis for classrooms and common areas.
- Additional disinfection will be provided on all campuses by a contracted company on a regular basis.
- Classrooms will be equipped for cleaning between changing classes of student groups.
- Cleaning products will be properly stored when not in use.

### **Social/Emotional Needs**

Along with the implementation of several health and safety protocols to address student and employee needs, Bay City ISD will also address the social and emotional needs of students and staff. The Texas Department of Health has provided a toll-free COVID-19 Mental Health Support Line at (833) 986-1919.

Plans include:

- Providing professional learning for staff on social/emotional learning (SEL) and trauma-informed classrooms.
- Developing/implementing mental health supports for students and employees.
- Case-managing individual student/family needs with BCISD district counselors, school social worker, Communities in Schools support and local mental health providers.
- If you or someone you know is feeling overwhelmed by the COVID-19 pandemic, help is available. Speak with a mental health professional for help dealing with anxiety, depression, stress, grief or worry 24/7.

## **Transportation**

As a response to COVID-19, Bay City ISD encourages all families, if they have the ability to do so, to transport children to and from school themselves. Bus transportation will be offered; however, the standard number of transported students compromises the ability to socially distance.

- Students were required to pre-register for bus transportation before the beginning of the school year.
- Bus seating will be assigned and will operate at the lowest capacity possible according to pre-registration numbers.
- All students will use hand sanitizer upon boarding the bus.
- Bus windows will be lowered when weather permits to increase air flow.
- Each bus will be sanitized between routes. Transportation staff will be trained in proper sanitation procedures.
- All Bay City ISD vehicles will be equipped with sanitation and cleaning supplies.

## **Employee Health Protocols**

- All BCISD employees will self-screen daily at home before coming to work. If you have symptoms, do not report to work.
- All employees shall know, understand and practice methods to protect themselves and others from COVID-19 at work.
- All employees must practice appropriate cleaning and disinfection, hand hygiene, and respiratory etiquette.
- All employees shall regularly wash their hands when reporting to work and after using the restroom.
- It is recommended that all employees maintain 3 feet of distance from others.
- All employees will be required to report health/exposure concerns to their COVID Coordinator.

## **Staff Who Have COVID-19**

The district will exclude staff from attending work that are actively sick with COVID-19, who are suspected of having COVID-19, or have received a positive COVID-19 test result.

**Staff may return to work when the following re-entry conditions have been met:**

**For Symptomatic staff to return back to work:**

- 5 days since symptoms first appeared, and:
- 24 hours with no fever without the use of fever-reducing medications (fever is a temperature of 100 degrees and higher)
- Other symptoms of COVID-19 are improving
- Recommended to wear a well-fitted mask on Days 6-10 upon return to work
- Daily Self COVID-19 Checks prior to returning

**For Asymptomatic staff to return back to work:**

- At least 5 days have passed after a positive test, and:
- 24 hours with no fever without the use of fever-reducing medications (fever is a temperature of 100 degrees and higher)
- Other symptoms of COVID-19 are improving
- Recommended to wear a well-fitted mask on Days 6-10 upon returning to work
- Daily Self COVID-19 Checks prior to returning.

**Staff who are a close contact with a test confirmed case**

If the district is notified of a positive COVID-19 individual, the district will notify staff identified as close contacts.

**Staff who are close contacts may opt to:**

- Continue to work on campus with rapid testing being performed at the start of the day, every third day following exposure until the end of Day 10
- Take leave and stay home during the recommended 5 calendar day period following the exposure and return to work symptom-free. If taking leave, enter days into AESOP.

**Extra-Curricular/Non-Academic Activities**

Athletics and Extracurricular Activities will be conducted in alignment with the Texas Education Agency and University Interscholastic League (UIL) guidelines.

BCISD will provide a rigorous and relevant learning experience to ensure that every student will be Future-Ready.

### **In-Person at School Instruction**

All students in BCISD will have the opportunity to attend schools and receive instruction via an In-Person format for the 2021-22 school year. This scenario will include a blended instructional platform that involves the use of Google Classroom (district-wide). This model will provide students access to all TEKS while also building their technology skills, digital citizenship, and supporting District Strategic Goal #4: “We will integrate the most up-to-date technology district-wide to enhance student development, growth, and learning.”

### **TEA PUBLIC HEALTH GUIDANCES**

[tea.texas.gov](http://tea.texas.gov)

### **CDC HEALTH GUIDANCES**

[www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

**Texas Department of State Health Services (ADD per TEA PHG 8-19-2021)**

<https://www.dshs.state.tx.us>