

Hale Center
Independent School District
2021-2022
Safe School Re-entry Plan



September 8, 2021

2021-22 School Calendar

Hale Center ISD 2021-2022

Full Day = 469 mins
Akin - 7:45-3:34
CMS/HS - 7:55-3:44

Early Release:
Akin - 7:45-12:10 = 265 min
Carr - 7:55-12:20 = 265 min
HS - 7:55-12:30 = 275 min

August						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	SA
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

First Semester
8/17-10/14 42
10/18-12/17 38.5

February						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	SA
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

September						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	SA
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

Total 80.5
Second Semester
1/5-3/10 45
3/21-5/19 41.5

March						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	SA
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Total 86.5
Yearly Total 167

October						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	SA
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24/31	25	26	27	28	29	30

Holidays and Other Days
Labor Day Sept. 6
Fall Day Oct. 18
Thanksgiving Nov. 22-26
Christmas Dec. 20-Jan 4
MLK Day Jan. 17
President's Day Feb. 21
Spring Break March 14-18
Good Friday Apr. 15
Easter Monday Apr. 18
Memorial Day May 30
Bad Weather 930 minutes added
Early Release Dec. 17;
Mar. 11

April						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	SA
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

November						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	SA
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

May						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	SA
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19*	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

December						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	SA
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17*	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Graduation
High School May 20
Promotion Jr. High May 19
Comp Days
Staff Dev. Aug 9-16
Jan. 3
Work Days Oct 15; Jan 7
Mar 11
New Teacher

June						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	SA
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

January						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	SA
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

July						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	SA
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Minutes:
Akin 78,384 5+
Carr 78,384 5+
High School 78,404 5+
Total Required: 76,530

SYMBOL KEY:

Staff Develop	SD	Workday	WD
Waiver (Comp)	X	Bad Weather	BW
Holiday	H	Early Release	*
6 Wk Period	()	Summer School	
Graduation		STAAR	

In Class 167
Prof Dev 7
Work Days 3
Comp Days 0
Total Staff 177

July 28, 2021

Staff and Student Safety Protocols

Because COVID-19 can be contracted by people of all ages, it is crucial that Hale Center ISD take appropriate action to keep its employees and students safe. The following protocols shall be followed by each staff member and student at Hale Center ISD during the 2021-22 school year. The ongoing emergency pandemic is continuously evolving, and these protocols will be periodically reviewed and revised as appropriate to reflect orders and/or recommendations from local, state, and national government officials and/or health authorities.

Screening

- All staff members will self-screen for the COVID-19 symptoms listed below prior to reporting to campus each day.
- Staff members who experience COVID-19 symptoms or receive a positive, lab-confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19 must report such symptoms or diagnosis to the District and must remain off campus until completing the Isolation Procedures below.
- "Close contact" tracing is determined by either the Health Department or Medical Professional.
- As a reference, close contact determinations are generally based on guidance outlined by the CDC, which notes that individuals who are vaccinated are **not** considered close contacts.
- Students will be screened and monitored throughout the day by the staff.
- The following is the recognized list of COVID-19 symptoms:

COVID-19 Symptoms for Screening

Have they recently begun experiencing any of the following in a way that is not normal for them?

- o Feeling feverish or a measured temperature greater than or equal to 100.0 degrees
- o Loss of taste or smell
- o Cough
- o Difficulty breathing
- o Shortness of breath
- o Fatigue
- o Headache
- o Chills
- o Sore throat
- o Congestion or runny nose
- o Shaking or exaggerated shivering
- o Significant muscle pain or ache
- o Diarrhea
- o Nausea or vomiting

- Parents must not send a student to District campuses if the student is exhibiting any of the above COVID-19 symptoms or test positive for the virus. Throughout the school day, teachers will monitor students and notify the campus nurse if a student begins exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms.
- Any student who exhibits symptoms while at school will be **immediately** separated from other students until they can be picked up by a parent or guardian. Students must follow the Isolation Procedures listed below to return to school.
- If a student or staff member begin showing COVID-19 symptoms while at school, appropriate personnel will promptly clean all areas used or occupied by that individual.
- If a student reports feeling feverish during the school day, they shall immediately receive a temperature check to determine if they are symptomatic for COVID-19.
- Prior to entering a District campus, visitors will be screened to determine if they exhibit COVID-19 symptoms, tested positive for COVID-19, or came within “close contact” with an individual who tested positive for COVID-19, as defined herein. Screening will include temperature checks when practical.

Isolation Procedures

- The following procedures must be followed by staff members and students before they may return to campus following exposure to the virus and recovery.
- Students must not attend school if actively sick with COVID-19 or who have received a positive test for COVID-19. If a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19:
 - At least ten days have passed since symptoms first appeared; **AND**
 - At least one day (24 hours) have passed since recovery (resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications); **AND**
 - The individual has improvement in symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath, etc.) **OR**
 - Staff and students with COVID-19 related absences must provide the school a medical professional’s note or Health Department Return to School Order for re-entry and for staff to be paid for days absent without using paid time off.
- If a student or staff member exhibits symptoms of COVID-19 without obtaining a positive, lab-confirmed result, that individual may return back to campus upon satisfaction of the following criteria:
 - At least ten days have passed since symptoms first appeared; **AND**
 - At least one day (24 hours) have passed since recovery (resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications); **AND**

- The individual has improvement in symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath, etc.) **OR**
- Staff must provide the school a medical professional's note or Health Department Return to School Order for re-entry and to be paid for days absent without using paid time off.
- As a reference, close contact determinations are generally based on guidance outlined by the CDC, which notes that individuals who are vaccinated are **not** considered close contacts.
- If a school campus is made aware that a student is a close contact, the school should notify the student's parents.
- If a student or staff member comes into "close contact" with an individual that receives a positive lab-tested diagnosis for COVID-19:
 - Parents of students who are determined to be close contacts of an individual with COVID-19 may opt to keep their students at home during the recommended stay-at-home period.
 - New CDC guidance states that in absence of specific orders issued by the local health authority, the stay-at-home period can end for individuals experiencing no symptoms:
 - The stay-at-home period can end for students experiencing no symptoms on Day 10 after close contact exposure, if no subsequent COVID-19 testing is performed.
 - Students can end the stay-at-home period if they receive a negative result from a PCR acute infection test after the close contact exposure ends.
 - If the student or staff receives a return to school note from a physician or the health department, they may do so.
 - For staff who are not fully vaccinated who meet the close contact threshold with COVID-19 positive individual, it is recommended that the staff remain off campus during the stay-at-home period.
 - For staff who meet the close contact threshold with COVID-19 positive individual, if these staff continue to work on campus, rapid testing must be performed at the start of the day, at least once every other day until the end of day 10.
 - Staff must provide the school a medical professional's note or Health Department Return to School Order for re-entry and to be paid for days absent without using paid time off.
- A vaccinated individual does not need to stay at home following close contact exposure to a test-confirmed individual if the following conditions are true:
 - The exposed individual is fully vaccinated (at least two weeks have passed since receiving the second dose of a two-dose vaccine or the first dose of a single-dose vaccine)
 - Have not experienced any COVID-19 symptoms following close contact exposure to a test-confirmed individual.

- Individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19 within the past 3 months and have recovered do not have to stay at home or get test again, as long as they do not develop new symptoms.
 - Individuals who develop symptoms again within 3 months of their first bout of COVID-19 may need to be tested again if there is no other cause identified for their symptoms.
- Each campus will close off areas that are heavily used by any individual who tests positive for COVID-19 until surfaces in those areas can be disinfected.

Reporting

- In the event that a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19, the District shall notify its local health department, in observance of applicable federal, state, and local laws.
- Consistent with local policies and legal confidentiality requirements, the District shall notify all staff members and families of all students within that campus if a lab-confirmed COVID-19 case is identified among students or staff members who participate in any on-campus activities.

Health and Hygiene Protocols

- Masks, full-face shields, or face coverings are optional.

Safe Instruction

- Hand sanitizer are available at each campus entrance, each classroom, cafeterias, common areas, gyms, restrooms, and offices.
- Staff members, students, and visitors will be encouraged to sanitize and/or wash hands frequently throughout the day.
- Staff members and students will be encouraged to practice good hygiene relating to virus transmission, including coughing and sneezing into tissues or elbows as well as immediate handwashing or sanitizing.
- District janitorial staff will regularly sanitize all areas occupied by students and staff members according to cleaning schedules.
- District janitorial staff will sanitize cafeteria between uses.
- Students will clean personal space and items with provided cleaning
- Items that are dropped off for students will be left in the office or designated place.
- Water fountains will not be used, students are encouraged to bring a filled water bottle from home or fill their water bottle at water bottle refill stations.
- When feasible and appropriate, outdoor spaces may be utilized for certain classes in an effort to reduce risk of virus transmission.

- Returned library books will be sanitized before being recirculated to other students.

Safe Transportation

- Parents are encouraged to drop off students at the school in order to limit potential transmission of COVID-19 while riding the bus.
- When feasible and appropriate, bus windows will be opened to allow outside air to circulate in the bus.
- Buses will be thoroughly sanitized after each bus trip, with special focus on “high-touch” areas.

Safe Visits

- All guests shall enter through the main doors of the District campuses.
- Guests will push the call button located at the main doors.
- Guests must be screened before entering the building by answering a series of questions.
- When the guest is cleared, the front door will unlock, and the guest should go to the appropriate place as requested by the secretary.

SEL Concerns

Counselors are available to support students academically, socially, and emotionally; and can provide mental health support or resources for families who may be struggling emotionally. If a student needs to schedule a counseling session, please contact the campus counselor at the email listed below. To ensure staff are equipped to address social and mental health concerns, HCISD will continue to host training opportunities including trauma informed care, Mental Health First Aid, and social emotional learning.

- Hale Center High School – jesmith@hcisdowls.net
- Carr Middle School – mlawson@hcisdowls.net
- Akin Elementary School – rjimenez@hcisdowls.net

Virtual Instruction

- Even during the emergency pandemic, students are required by state law to attend 90% of the days a course is offered in order to be awarded credit for the course and/or to be promoted to the next grade.

Extracurricular Activities

- Athletic practices, performances, and contests will be conducted according to safety protocols provided by the District, UIL, TEA, and other state authorities. This includes staff member and student screening, sanitation, locker room usage, travel, spectator attendance, etc.
- Hand washing and/or handwashing stations will be made available in extracurricular facilities and all equipment will be sanitized on a regular basis.
- Locker room use will be determined by TEA and UIL. If locker room use is permitted by the relevant authorities, rules regarding face coverings and social distancing will be enforced.
- For those clubs or organizations that typically meet after regular school hours, such activities may occur in accordance with the health protocols contained in this Plan.