



Sam Rayburn ISD

Back to School 2021-22

Safe Return to In-Person Instruction

Please note that the details in this document are subject to change as directives are provided by governing authorities and/or health officials or as environmental conditions change.

As Sam Rayburn ISD joins school districts across the state to return to school for the 2021-2022 school year, we are excited about a much more normal feel to our school days. Many of the restrictions in place through most of last school year will be lifted; however, we do plan to maintain several safety protocols put into place last year that helped prevent the spread of COVID-19, as well as many other common illnesses we have seen run through the student body in years past. We adapted to many cleanliness and hygiene practices that will likely stay in place for the foreseeable future. Sam Rayburn ISD will continue to do everything possible to keep students, teachers, staff, and our community safe.

Unfortunately, as we move forward, the negative impact this pandemic has had on our students is something that must be addressed. The faculty and staff of Sam Rayburn ISD is committed to working together with our students and families to address learning loss, as well as social-emotional issues, created by lost instructional time, high absenteeism, and other factors that made learning more challenging for our students.

Our Safe Return to In-Person Instruction Plan ensures that each of our students has access to a high-quality education. Additionally, it outlines safety protocols for the upcoming year and outlines our vision for meeting the educational and social-emotional needs of our students.

We are excited about the upcoming school year and encourage all of our families to partner with us as we continue to provide a high quality educational experience for the students in our school district.

Safety Protocols

Protocols for Face Coverings

For the 2021-2022 school year, face coverings are optional at Sam Rayburn ISD. Students, staff, and visitors may wear face coverings if they choose, but they are not required while on campus or at school activities. Governor Abbot has issued several Executive Orders this summer and has prohibited government entities (including school districts) from mandating face coverings.

Protocols for Screening

- Staff will self-screen for COVID-19 symptoms prior to reporting to work each day. Staff must ensure they do not come to campus if they have symptoms causing suspicion that they are infected with COVID-19.
- Parents/guardians are expected to screen their students for COVID-19 symptoms each day prior to sending their student to school. Parents must ensure they do not send a child to school if they suspect the student is infected with COVID-19.
- Students, teachers, and staff SHOULD stay home when they have signs of any infectious illness and be referred to their healthcare provider for testing and care.
- The list below details possible symptoms of COVID-19:
 - Feeling feverish or a measured temperature greater than or equal to 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit
 - Loss of taste or smell
 - Cough
 - Difficulty breathing
 - Shortness of breath
 - Headache
 - Chills
 - Sore throat
 - Shaking or exaggerated shivering
 - Significant muscle pain or ache
 - Diarrhea
- Teachers will monitor students and refer to the nurse if symptoms are present.

Protocols for Isolation

Students or Staff Displaying COVID-19 Symptoms

- When a student has displayed symptoms of COVID-19, the school nurse will provide a clinical assessment. As with all illnesses, students will be sent home if they have a fever of 100.4 or higher, are vomiting, or have diarrhea. Students will also be sent home if the nurse determines they have COVID-like symptoms.
- Students who are ill will be separated from their peers and should be picked up within 30 minutes and no later than one hour from the time the campus contacted

the student's parents/guardian.

- Staff members suspected of being infected with COVID-19 will follow district protocols including isolation from students and other staff members.
- Any individuals who themselves either: (a) are test-confirmed to have COVID-19; or (b) are determined to have the symptoms of COVID-19 (listed above) must provide documentation of positive test results to the nurse, stay at home throughout the infection period, and cannot return to campus until the school system screens the individual to determine if the conditions for campus re-entry have been met:
 - In the case of an individual who is symptomatic and is diagnosed with COVID-19, the individual may return to school when **all three** of the following criteria are met:
 - at least 24 hours have passed since recovery (resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications);
 - the individual has improvement in symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath); and
 - at least ten days have passed since symptoms first appeared.
 - In the case of an individual that is asymptomatic but has received a positive COVID-19 test result, the individual may not return to the campus until ten days have passed since a positive test result.
 - In the case of an individual who has 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, and the individual may not return to the campus until the individual has completed the same three-step set of criteria listed above.
 - If the individual has symptoms that could be COVID-19 and wants to return to school before completing the above stay at home period, the individual must either (a) obtain a medical professional's note clearing the individual for return based on an alternative diagnosis, though for health privacy reasons the note does not need to indicate what the alternative diagnosis is, or (b) obtain an acute infection test (at a physician's office, approved testing location (<https://tdem.texas.gov/covid-19/>), or other site that comes back negative for COVID-19.
 - If the individual has tested positive for COVID-19 and believes the test was a false positive, and wants to return to school before completing the above stay at home period, the individual must either (a) obtain a medical professional's note clearing the individual for return based on an alternative diagnosis,

though for health privacy reasons the note does not need to indicate what the alternative diagnosis is, or (b) obtain two PCR acute infection tests (at a physician's office, approved testing location, or other site) at least 24 hours apart that come back negative for COVID-19.

Determining Close Contact

This document refers to "close contact" with an individual who is lab-confirmed to have COVID-19. For clarity, close contact in this document is defined as:

- Being directly exposed to infectious secretions (e.g...sharing a drink); or
- Being within six feet of someone for a cumulative period of 15 minutes or more in a 24-hour period; or
- Residing in the same household as a lab-confirmed positive individual;
- Either scenario above 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 lab-confirmed with COVID-19, the infectious period is defined as two days prior to the confirming lab test and continuing for 10 days following the confirmed lab test.

Note: Per TEA's most recent Public Health Guidance document (8/5/2021), "Given the data from 2020-21 showing very low COVID-19 transmission rates in a classroom setting and data demonstrating lower transmission rates among children than adults, school systems are not required to conduct COVID-19 contact tracing."

Stay-at-Home Period for Close Contacts

Close Contacts for Students

Sam Rayburn students will be required to close-contact quarantine if they have a household member who receives a positive COVID-19 test. For students who are determined to be in close contact, the stay-at-home period can end for individuals experiencing no symptoms:

- On Day 10 after close contact exposure without testing,
- On Day 7 after close contact exposure with a negative test result and with no symptoms.

Close Contacts for Staff

- For unmasked and unvaccinated SRISD staff members determined to be a close contact (see definition above under Determining Close Contact) with a person who tested positive for COVID-19, the following options are available:

- Quarantine for 10 days without a negative COVID test; or
 - Quarantine for 7 days and return with a negative COVID test performed on day 7 or after; or
 - Stay at work by wearing a mask and be tested every other day until the end of day 10.
- For unmasked and **vaccinated** SRISD staff members (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) determined to be a close contact with a person who tested positive for COVID-19, they will be required to wear a mask on campus for 10 days following the close-contact exposure.

Additionally:

- Individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19 within the past 3 months and recovered do not have to stay at home or get tested again, as long as they do not develop new symptoms.
- Individuals who develop symptoms again within 3 months of their first diagnosis of COVID19 need to be tested again if there is not another diagnosis identified.

Community Transmission Levels

Although Sam Rayburn ISD hopes the worst of COVID-19 is behind us, the district wants to be prepared in case that is not the case and there are outbreaks. Our Sam Rayburn ISD District Nurse will monitor the local/county transmission levels to determine the risk level for students and staff. Measures and precautions may vary throughout the year depending on the transmission level.

Protocols for Campus Visitors

- As long as our local/community transmission levels are low, Sam Rayburn ISD will allow parents and visitors for school-scheduled meetings and events. Parents and visitors should self-screen before entering the campus.
- Parents will not be allowed to walk their students into the building during the daily arrival schedule.
- Parents or visitors will not be allowed during mealtimes. Food drop-off for students is not allowed.

Protocols for Hand Washing

- Alcohol-based hand sanitizer will be available throughout the district.
- Staff and students will be expected to regularly wash or sanitize their hands.

Protocols for Daily Campus Cleaning

- Each classroom and restroom will be cleaned daily.
- All high-touch areas will be disinfected throughout the day.
- When possible, staff will limit the use of shared supplies within the classroom.
- Staff will have access to disinfectant supplies to sanitize working surfaces and shared objects after each use and during breaks in instruction.
- Staff will encourage students to help clean their own spaces after they are used, in ways that are safe and developmentally appropriate.
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Additional Cleaning Measures

- Sam Rayburn ISD is contracted with GermBlast to provide periodic deep cleaning services. GermBlast is an on-site disinfection service that kills 99.99% of microorganisms in the environment that cause illness and infection.

Protocols for Cleaning after Covid-19 Positive Cases on Campus

- Custodial staff will perform additional cleaning in areas of heavy use (classroom, restroom, workroom, etc...) for any individual who is lab-confirmed to have COVID-19 while at school.
- Campuses will close off areas that are heavily used by individuals who are lab-confirmed to have COVID-19 until the non-porous surfaces in those areas can be disinfected, unless more than 3 days have already passed since that person was on campus.

Work and Learning Environments

Arrival

- Students may not be dropped off until the building is open. The buildings will be open at 7:20 a.m.
- Parents will not be allowed to walk students into the building each day.
- Designated entry doors will be continuously monitored by staff to stop unauthorized access.

General Classroom Supplies

- Multiple locations of hand sanitizer, tissues, and trash cans will be available in

several locations to limit student and staff movement.

- When possible, students will use their own supplies and the use of “community” supplies will be avoided when at all possible.

Water

- Students are encouraged to bring refillable water bottles. Bottled water will not be provided, but students will have access to refilling stations throughout the campus.

Off-Campus Student Activities

- During low local/community transmission levels, student participation in extracurricular contests (Athletics, FFA, BETA, OAP, UIL, etc...) will be allowed. Fans will also be permitted to attend these events with no limitations unless District, UIL, or TEA guidelines state otherwise.
- During moderate or high transmission levels, activities may be altered, and attendance by fans may be limited.
- All field trips require approval of the campus principal. The transmission levels and social distancing capabilities will be considered before a field trip is approved.

On-Campus Activities

- During low local/community transmission levels, all school wide events (pep rallies, student assemblies, informational meetings, etc...) will be allowed. Parents and community members will also be permitted to attend these events with no limitations unless District, UIL, or TEA guidelines state otherwise.
- During moderate or high transmission levels, on-campus activities may be altered and attendance by parents and community members may be limited.

Teaching and Learning 2021-2022

Face-to-face learning will be the only mode of instruction offered in Sam Rayburn ISD for the 2021-2022 school year. Sam Rayburn ISD ended the 2020-2021 school year with over 90% of our students participating in in-person instruction on campus. It is in the best interest of our students to be in school. The primary instructional goals for this school year will be to:

- Create rigorous, engaging learning environments.
- Create a culture of high expectations-every class, every day for all students.
- Adhere to our guaranteed and viable district curriculum.
- Provide high-impact tutoring for our most at-risk students.
- Implement a high-quality social-emotional learning curriculum on both campuses

Potential Questions

(Will be updated as needed)

- *Will an on-line option be available for students at Sam Rayburn ISD?* Only in-person instruction will be available for students attending Sam Rayburn ISD. We believe it is important for our students and teachers to connect to achieve the highest level of education possible.
- *Will masks be required for in person attendance?* No. On June 5, 2021, Governor Abbott announced through an executive order that masks were no longer required in school districts.
- *Will parents be allowed to visit their children at lunch?* No visitors will be allowed during mealtimes.

- *Will visitors be allowed on campus?* At this time, visitors will only be allowed for scheduled meetings and events. Our goal is to keep all students and staff as safe as possible.
- *Will social distancing be required?* Appropriate social distancing will be encouraged along with frequent hand washing and campus disinfection.
- *Will SRISD continue to require parents and employees to report positive COVID cases to the district nurse?* Yes. In order to prevent the spread of the virus, we respectfully request reporting to our nurse.
- *Will SRISD conduct close contact tracing?* No contact tracing will occur. Students and staff with obvious close contact exposure will be notified. Students will not be required to quarantine unless a member of the household is COVID positive, or the student is symptomatic.
- *If diagnosed with COVID, how long must a staff member or student quarantine?* The infected person must quarantine for 10 days from the onset of symptoms or date of positive result.
- *My mother has tested positive for COVID, and I am a student. How long must I quarantine?* You will quarantine 10 days from the last day of close contact with your mother, as long as you remain symptom-free.
- *What if I stay in a different place after I realized someone in my house was COVID positive?* You still need to quarantine for the full 10 days due to the possibility that people can transmit COVID before symptoms develop.
- *If I have been fully vaccinated, will I still be required to quarantine if I contract COVID?* Yes, if you receive a positive COVID test, you will be required to quarantine.
- *My child tested positive for COVID two months ago and has been a close contact to someone in our household. Will they be required to quarantine?* If your child was COVID positive in the last 90 days, and you have provided proper documentation to the nurse, they will not be required to quarantine, unless they are showing COVID symptoms.