

Hudson ISD

2021-2022 Return to School Plan

(Updated: September 2, 2021)

***(En un esfuerzo por adaptarnos a otros idiomas, además del inglés, el siguiente Plan de Regreso a la Escuela, puede ser traducido con una solicitud por escrito. Como siempre y con gusto estamos dispuestos a traducir verbalmente en cualquier momento. Por favor contáctenos para cualquier traducción necesaria.)**

As Hudson ISD continues to remain 100% open, protocols and information for parents have been updated. The Return to School Plan may also be referred to as the Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services (RIPICS) Plan for the purposes of federal and state requirements. This document and implementation of protocol will be revisited every six months, or earlier if necessary, to address any changes.

Our goal is to ensure a continuity of services for all our students in the areas of academics, social & emotional health, general health, and food services.

- The district will provide on-campus, face-to-face instruction as normal to pre-pandemic conditions as possible.
- Students targeted for accelerated instruction due to learning gaps and academic deficiencies will be provided necessary opportunities for remediation as part of HB 4545.
- Each campus has a counseling program to address social and emotional needs of students.
- Each campus has a school nurse to help address health concerns of students/staff.
- All students will be provided one free breakfast and one free lunch daily for the 2021-2022 school year.

State and Texas Education Agency (TEA) Imposed Regulations:

- Health and Hygiene Practices: Masks
 - Per GA-36, school systems **cannot** require students or staff to wear a mask. GA-36 addresses government-mandated face coverings in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Other authority to require protective equipment, including masks, in and employment setting is not necessarily affected by GA-36.
 - School systems **must** allow individuals to wear a mask if they choose to do so.
- Required Actions if Individuals with Test-Confirmed Cases Have Been in a School:
 - If an individual who has been in a school is test-confirmed to have COVID-19, the school 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 the 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).

- Students who have COVID-19:
 - As provided in this Department of State Health Services (DSHS) Rule, school systems **must** exclude students from attending school in person who are actively sick with COVID-19 or who have received a positive test result for COVID-19. Parents must ensure they do not send a child to school on campus if the child has COVID-19 symptoms or is test-confirmed with COVID-19, until the conditions for re-entry are met. See the DSHS rule for more details, including the conditions for ending the exclusion period and returning to school.

Local District Regulations:

Hudson ISD will operate under a 5-Stage Health Mitigation Protocol. Stage levels will be dependent on current conditions as described in the Health Mitigation Protocol document.

- School Times:
 - Arrival and dismissal times will remain unchanged from the previous year. Daily schedules (lunch time, etc.) may fluctuate if additional mitigation measures become necessary.
- Wearing of masks/face coverings:
 - As stated previously, there will be no mandate to wear face coverings. Likewise, we will not prohibit the wearing of masks by persons that choose to do so.
- Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing:
 - Under Normal Operations in our Health Mitigation Protocol, physical distancing will be not be required.
 - Mitigation measures, including physical distancing, table barriers, additional lunch periods, etc. may be initiated as conditions change.
 - The use of outdoor space for learning will be considered when possible and appropriate.
- Cleaning and maintaining Healthy Facilities:
 - Classrooms and restrooms will be disinfected and cleaned daily.
 - All high-touch areas will be disinfected and cleaned daily.
 - Cafeteria tables will be disinfected and cleaned between lunch periods.
 - Hand sanitizer is available in all facilities.
 - Additional cleaning measures will be used when necessary.
- Handwashing and Respiratory Etiquette:
 - Students/Staff will be reminded of the importance of washing hands properly. Students in lower grade levels will be taught how to properly wash hands.
 - Students/Staff will be reminded of the importance of covering mouth/nose when coughing or sneezing. Students in lower grade levels will be taught how to properly cover mouth/nose when coughing or sneezing.
- Contact Tracing:
 - The district will communicate with parents if their child has been found to be in close contact with an individual test-confirmed as COVID-19 Positive during specific stages of the Health Mitigation Protocol.

- Diagnostic and Screening Testing:
 - Hudson ISD will not conduct COVID-19 testing. Persons that are symptomatic may be referred to their medical provider for such services.
 - Parents may request assistance to locate any testing site in the area.
- Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities:
 - Hudson ISD will not administer COVID-19 vaccinations.
 - Upon request, parents may seek assistance to locate vaccination clinics in the area.
- Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities (health and safety):
 - The recommended procedures will be applied to all classroom settings, including special education service locations when possible and appropriate. Individual student needs will be addressed on a case-by-case basis.
- Coordination with State and local health officials:
 - Hudson ISD will communicate with and report required findings to authorized agencies.
 - Information from local agencies will be shared with parents/staff/community as necessary.
- Positive COVID-19 Cases:
 - Individuals that are test-confirmed COVID-19 Positive will not be allowed on campus or any district function until the following are met:
 - 24 hours with no fever (100.0 degrees); **and**
 - 10 days since symptoms first appeared (or tested positive for asymptomatic cases)
- Quarantine:
 - Individuals who are determined to have been in close contact with a person who does not reside in the home and where that person is test-confirmed COVID-19 POSITIVE should quarantine and seek medical advice if symptoms begin to arise.
 - If a student resides in a home with a person who is COVID-19 positive, he/she must quarantine for a period of 10 days if symptoms do not develop. If symptoms do develop, he/she must be tested for confirmation or remain at home as a presumptive positive case. If the student returns to school after 10 days of quarantine and then begins to exhibit symptoms, he/she will be sent home until receiving negative confirmation of COVID-19 testing or an alternate diagnosis.
 - Eligible students who have been fully vaccinated or have recently recovered from COVID-19 illness should contact the school nurse for further guidance before returning to school.
 - If a student is sent home from school with a fever and/or COVID-like symptoms, he/she should not return to school until receiving a negative COVID test or an alternate diagnosis.
 - For staff who meet the close contact threshold with a COVID-19 positive in the household, it is recommended that the staff remain off campus during the stay-at-home period of 10 days. For staff that do return to work prior to this 10-day period, he/she must wear a mask when around others and participate in a rapid testing program (self-test) administered/monitored by campus nursing staff at least twice per week (Monday/Wednesday) until the end of day 10. Staff who have been fully vaccinated or

have recently recovered from COVID-19 illness should contact the school nurse for further guidance before returning to work.

- Attendance:
 - Persons should not attend school if ill.
 - Perfect attendance awards will not be presented for students or staff.
 - Students will be allowed to make up assignments according to the Grading Guidelines of the district.
 - Remote instruction *may* be used in the event of a student absence for a lengthy period of time or when appropriate as deemed necessary by orders of the Governor or the Texas Education Agency.