



# BOLES ISD

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## Return to In-Person Instruction & Continuity of Services Plan

The conditions surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic are continually evolving, and Boles ISD's Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan will be constantly evaluated to adapt to the continuing trends of the COVID-19 virus, especially in Hunt County. Boles ISD will follow recommendations for school opening and operation from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the Texas Education Agency, as well as state and local health officials. Circumstances related to COVID-19 may change throughout the coming school year, and this document will be updated as conditions change.

The three drivers leading the Boles ISD Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan are current Texas Governor orders, the multi-stage approach for managing COVID-19, and funding provided by the Texas Legislature for remote learning.

Boles ISD will abide by all current Texas Governor Orders. It is BISD's expectation that students, staff, and community will comply with all public health procedures described in this document while engaged in school district activities as per Boles ISD's current policies, rules, and regulations.

**\*\*Texas is currently under Executive Order GA-36 issued on 5/18/21 which prohibits governmental entities and officials from mandating face coverings.**

Depending upon the severity of transmission within the district, the BISD school board may take action to pursue local mandates.





# BOLES ISD

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## Protocols for Face Coverings

For the 2021-2022 school year, face coverings are recommended at Boles ISD, but they are not required while on campus or at school activities. The district highly encourages all members of our community to be mindful of the situations of staff members and students while on campus. Our goal is to lower the transmission of all communicable diseases. The Boles ISD Board of Trustees determined on May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021, in a regular meeting of the Board that wearing masks would be optional if the superintendent and administrative team determined that transmission levels were low in our school community.

The district maintains the ability to require face coverings if the situation changes, such as a higher transmission level or governor's order. Boles ISD will continue to work with the Hunt County Health Department and follow recommendations from this entity should health conditions change in our area.

## Protocols for Screening and Isolation

### Screening Protocols

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.

The list below details possible symptoms of COVID-19:

- Loss of taste or smell
- Feeling feverish or a measured temperature greater than or equal to 100 degrees Fahrenheit
- Cough
- Difficulty breathing





# BOLES ISD

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- 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.

## Isolation Protocols

### Students or Staff Displaying COVID-19 Symptoms

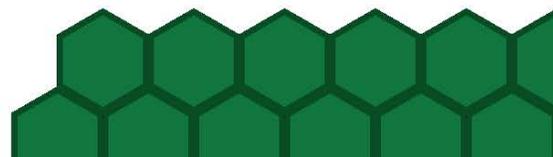
When a student has displayed symptoms of COVID-19, the school nurse will provide a clinical assessment. As with all illnesses, students will be sent home if they have a fever of 100 degrees or higher, are vomiting, or have diarrhea. Students will also be sent home if the nurse determines the symptoms may be from COVID-19.

Students who are ill will be separated from their peers and should be picked up within 30 minutes and no later than 1 hour from the time the campus contacted the student's parent/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 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:

- 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.





# BOLES ISD

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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.

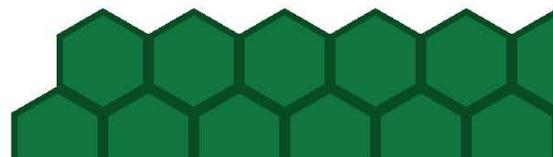
In the case of an individual that is asymptomatic but has received a positive COVID-19 test result, the individual may not return to the campus until ten days have passed since a positive test result.

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.

Students/parents see 'Remote Conferencing' at the end of this plan for instructional options during isolation/quarantine.





# BOLES ISD

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Employees will have seven days COVID leave to assist with the required 10 day isolation period due to a confirmed positive test. This resolution was approved by the BISD School Board and will expire 12-31-2021. Contact HR for application and further information.

## Determining Close Contact

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

- being directly exposed to infectious secretions (e.g., being coughed on, sharing a drink); or
- Having significant and sustained contact with an individual who is lab-confirmed to have COVID-19.
- Factors like social distancing, masks, ventilation, presence of dividers, and case symptomology may affect this determination. See CDC current definition of close contact.

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.

If a student, staff member, or visitor are test confirmed with Covid-19, the district will send notification to all district staff and students/parents.





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## Community Transmission Levels

The district wants to be prepared in the event there are outbreaks. The Transmission Level table and Prevention Practices table will remain in this guidance document for the 2021-2022 school year.

Boles ISD will monitor the local / county transmission levels and seek input from the Hunt County Health Department to determine the risk level for students and staff. The district has identified three different transmission levels.

<b>Substantial</b>	High number of active cases relative to population
	Cases increasing rapidly
	Strain on hospital beds/staff/equipment
<b>Moderate</b>	Moderate number of active cases relative to population
	Cases are increasing slightly or staying steady
	Hospital/ICU beds and equipment are still available
<b>Low</b>	Small number of active cases relative to population
	Cases are decreasing; more cases are attributed to travel or close contact than to unknown community sources
	Hospital/ICU beds and equipment are widely available





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## Prevention Practices in the School Setting

Measures and precautions taken to protect students and staff may vary throughout the year depending on the transmission level. The table below will help explain this practice.

Level	Source Control Measures	Transmission Precautions
<b>Substantial</b>	<p>Above 5% of population with positive diagnosis</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>*Face coverings must be worn by all staff and students. This is required during a substantial transmission level even if the governor's order is lifted. Mask breaks will be scheduled when social distancing can be maintained.</li><li>*Maximum social distancing measures will be taken, including possible changes to the school's daily schedule. Breakfast / lunch locations may be altered.</li><li>*No visitors will be permitted past the front desk.</li><li>*No outside field trips or in-person assemblies.</li><li>*Boles ISD will follow standard infection control, protocols, such as handwashing and frequent disinfecting procedures.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>*Use of face mask/n95, eye protection, gown, gloves, by school nurse when in close contact with suspected case of COVID-19 (fever plus symptoms).</li><li>*Use of face masks, eye protection, gloves by staff at high risk for coming into contact with blood, body fluids, secretions, and excretions.</li><li>*Placement of face mask on student or staff with fever and/or symptoms of COVID-19.</li></ul>





# BOLES ISD

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Level	Source Control Measures	Transmission Precautions
<b>Moderate</b>	<p>5% of population with positive diagnosis</p> <p>*The school will implement social distancing measures, such as desk in rows, no close contact grouping without face coverings, and altered eating during lunch / breakfast.</p> <p>*Only visitors essential to school operations will be allowed on campus. Screening will be required, and face coverings will be required when social distancing cannot be maintained.</p> <p>*Outside field trips and in-person assemblies will require approval from campus principal.</p> <p>*Boles ISD will follow standard infection protocols, such as handwashing and frequent disinfecting procedures.</p>	<p>*Use of facemask/n95, eye protection, gown, gloves by school nurse when in close contact with suspected case of COVID-19 (fever plus symptoms).</p> <p>*Use of face masks, eye protection, gloves by staff at high risk for coming into contact with blood, body fluid, secretions, and excretions.</p> <p>*Placement of face mask on student or staff with fever plus symptoms of COVID-19.</p> <p>*Boles ISD will implement quarantine for close contacts.</p>
<b>Low</b>	<p>*Face coverings are optional.</p> <p>*Visitors will be allowed on campus with principal approval. Self-screening will be required.</p> <p>*Outside field trips and in-person assemblies are allowed with principal approval.</p> <p>*Boles ISD will continue to promote and encourage standard infection control protocols, such as handwashing and frequent disinfecting procedures.</p>	<p>*Practice standard universal precautions when coming into contact with blood, body fluids, secretions, and excretions.</p>





# BOLES ISD

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## Protocols for Campus Visitors

As long as transmission levels are low, Boles ISD will allow visitors with principal approval and consistent with campus procedures. If transmission levels change, the Prevention Practices table above details procedures for campus visitors.

Food and other deliveries from outside vendors are prohibited. Parents may drop off food and/or needed items for their child at the respective campus office. Parents and other visitors may not attend breakfasts/lunches with students. Depending upon the current state of the area and transmission levels throughout the school year, this procedure may be revisited. Volunteers and requested visitors will be Health Screened and limited access to meet the social distancing requirements. These individuals will not be able to bring their non-school age children with them.

## Protocols for Disinfecting and Hand Sanitizing

### Hand Washing/Sanitizing Expectations

- Alcohol-based hand sanitizer will be available at the main entry to the campus, in all classrooms, in the cafeteria and in common areas throughout the campus.
- Staff and students will be expected to regularly wash or sanitize their hands. Training will be conducted for all employees and students on effective hand-washing techniques.
- Posters will be hung beside all sinks to demonstrate appropriate hand-washing measures.
- Requirements for hand washing and/or use of BISD-provided hand sanitizer:
  - Provide hand sanitizer upon entry to classroom and periodic teacher reminders during instructional day.
  - Thorough hand washing upon return from outdoors, before eating, following restroom breaks.

### Disinfecting Expectations

- Staff will have access to disinfectant supplies to sanitize high-touch and working surfaces and shared objects regularly.
- Staff will limit the use of shared supplies when possible.





# BOLES ISD

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## Protocols for Campus Cleaning and Disinfecting

### Daily Campus Cleaning

- Each classroom and restroom will be cleaned daily.
- The cafeteria will be disinfected between lunch periods.
- Staff will have access to disinfectant supplies to sanitize working surfaces and shared objects after each use and during breaks in instruction.

### Additional Cleaning Measure for Covid-19 Positive Cases on Campus

- Custodial staff will defog and disinfect classrooms, restrooms, the athletic facilities, weight room and all additional areas in the building when needed. 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

### Transportation

- Parents will symptom screen before sending children on the bus.
- Parents are encouraged to bring their children to school.
- Masks are encouraged.
- Hand sanitizer dispensers will be on each bus.
- Socially distance when space is available.
- Weather permitting windows will be open to provide for circulation of fresh air.
- After each bus trip/route buses will be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected, focusing on high-touch surfaces such as bus seats, steering wheels, knobs and door handles.
- Drivers are provided with disinfectant spray, disinfectant cleaner, and hard, surface disinfecting wipes





# BOLES ISD

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- One or two seats will be reserved and used for students who become ill and or have symptoms but cannot be removed from the bus.
- If a child becomes ill or communicates that they have symptoms of COVID, bus drivers and bus aides will use the same process for cleaning other biological waste. They will communicate to base and follow the process outlined for them to clean and sanitize.
- If a student is symptomatic or has fever of 100.0, they will be sent to the triage station where they can be evaluated by the nurse or nurse aide.

## Exposure/Positive

- Bus will be quarantined for 3 days upon notification of exposure/positive immediately be thoroughly disinfected and placed in direct sunlight.
- Bus will be sprayed with disinfectant on the day it returns to service.

## Classroom Configuration

See the Prevention Practices table for more information on classroom configuration during moderate and substantial transmission levels.

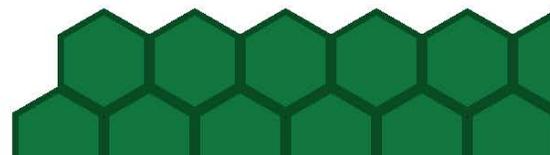
Recommended procedures will be applied to all classroom settings, including special education service locations when possible and appropriate. Students' individual needs will be addressed on a case-by-case basis.

## General Classroom

- Multiple locations of hand sanitizer, tissues, and trash cans will be available in several locations to limit student and staff movement. Water fountains will be inaccessible. Water bottles will be required and filling stations are available throughout the district.

## Specialized Classrooms

- There will be adequate supplies to minimize the sharing of high touch materials or limit use of supplies of equipment to one group of students at a time.
- Career and Technical Education classes will follow industry-based safety guidelines as appropriate to the equipment and course content.





# BOLES ISD

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## Physical Education Classroom Protocols

- Sanitizing areas and access to handwashing will be provided.

## Meeting Spaces

- During low transmission levels, face-to-face meetings will be allowed.
- During moderate transmission levels, only meetings essential to school operations will be allowed.
- During substantial transmission levels, no visitors are allowed. All meetings involving individuals outside the school district will be conducted virtually.

## Transitions

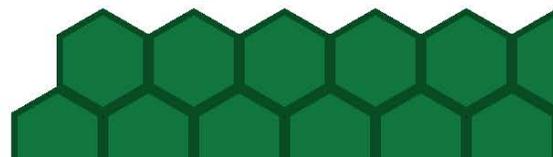
- During low transmission levels, transitions and traffic patterns are determined by campus procedures. There are no requirements of social distancing during this time.
- During substantial and moderate transmission levels, traffic patterns will be established throughout the campus that separate individuals to the greatest extent possible. When transitioning between classes, students shall travel corridors as far to the right as possible.

## Arrival

- Students may be dropped off at their respective campus at the following times: Elementary, 7:35 am; Middle School, 7:40 am; High School, 7:45. The cafeteria will be open at 7:10 a.m for early arrivers.
- There will be designated doors for entry at each campus. These may be based on arrival methods: bus riders, drop-off, student drivers, students with unique needs. Campus principals will communicate entry procedures.
- Designated entry doors will be continuously monitored by staff to stop unauthorized access and to monitor for threats.
- Parents may not accompany students into the building.

## Dismissal

- Sanitizer stations will be placed at each exit and students will be encouraged to sanitize hands prior to exit.





# BOLES ISD

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## Breakfast/Lunch

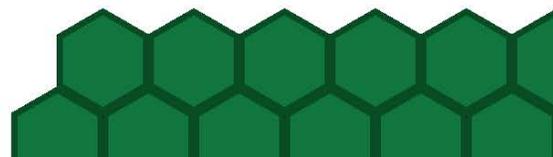
- During low transmission levels, cafeteria capacity and seating arrangements will be determined by campus policies.
- During moderate or substantial transmission levels, as much physical distance as possible will be provided around each occupiable seat.
- During moderate or substantial transmission levels, signage and staff will reinforce physical distance and traffic patterns in the cafeteria.
- Hand sanitizer stations will be available at entrances and exits of the cafeteria. Regardless of the transmission level, no outside food may be dropped off at the campus. Students must bring their lunch each day or eat in the cafeteria.
- Water refill stations will be available at every campus.

## Off-Campus Student Activities

- During low transmission levels, student participation in extracurricular contests (Athletics, BETA, Robotics, 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 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.





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## Remote Conferencing

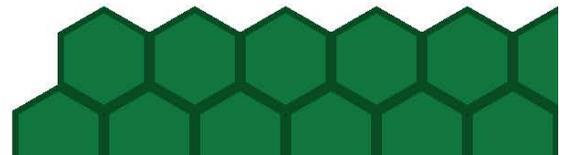
If a student must isolate after testing positive for COVID-19, the school/teacher will provide make-up work in a similar manner as for students absent for other reasons.

Remote conferencing will be available on a case by case basis depending upon the district capability, adequate staffing, and levels of transmission. Lesson plans will be provided by the classroom teacher, but conferencing will be facilitated by an instructor that is not the teacher of record. After reporting a positive case, student/parent will be contacted by the campus principal with further guidance. **To qualify for remote conferencing, the following requirements must be met:**

- The student is unable to attend school because of a temporary medical condition.
- The total amount of remote conferencing instruction does not exceed more than 20 instructional days over the entirety of the school year.

**In addition, one of the following requirements also must be met:**

- The student's temporary medical condition is documented by a physician licensed to practice in the United States. The documentation must include a statement from the physician that the student is to remain confined to their home or to a hospital.
- The student has a positive test result for a communicable condition listed in [25 TAC §97.7](#).
- The student has been identified as having been in close contact with COVID-19 and the parent opts to keep their child home for the quarantine period.





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**Texas Education Agency  
Update August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

## **Staff Who Have COVID-19 or Who are Close Contacts**

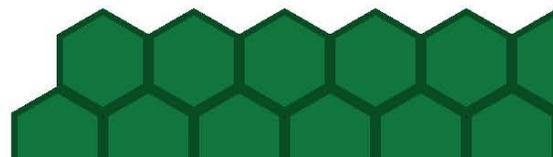
Similar to students, school systems must exclude staff from attending school in person who are actively sick with COVID-19, who are suspected of being actively sick with COVID-19, or who have received a positive test result for COVID-19. Staff may return when the re-entry conditions have been met, as described in the DSHS rule used for students.

- 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.

For those staff members who meet the close contact threshold with a COVID-19 positive individual, it is **recommended** that the staff remain off campus during the stay-at-home period. This applies to each occurrence of close contact with an individual that has tested positive for Covid-19.

### **Exception to above recommendation in order to report to work:**

For staff who meet the close contact threshold with a COVID-19 positive individual, if these staff continue to work on campus, rapid testing **MUST** be performed periodically for 10 days post exposure. The testing requirement refers to both VACCINATED and UNVACCINATED employees (per TEA guidance updated August 23<sup>rd</sup>). If an individual believes they received a false positive, please refer to page 4 for further guidance.





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## CDC Close Contact:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/contact-tracing/contact-tracing-plan/appendix.html#contact>

**Close Contact through Proximity and Duration of Exposure:** Someone who was within 6 feet of an infected person (laboratory-confirmed or a clinically compatible illness) for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period (for example, *three individual 5-minute exposures for a total of 15 minutes*). An infected person can spread SARS-CoV-2 starting from 2 days before they have any symptoms (or, for asymptomatic patients, 2 days before the positive specimen collection date), until they meet criteria for discontinuing home isolation.

- **Exception:** In the **K–12 indoor classroom** setting, the close contact definition excludes **students** who were within 3 to 6 feet of an infected student (laboratory-confirmed or a clinically compatible illness) if both the infected student and the exposed student(s) correctly and consistently wore well-fitting masks the entire time.

**This exception does not apply to teachers, staff, or other adults in the indoor classroom setting.**

## BISD Staff plan for Testing upon Close Contact Confirmation

- Staff member alerts their immediate supervisor if it is determined they are a close contact of a Covid-19 infected individual (home and other environments). If campus or department supervisors are notified of a positive case, staff members will be contacted and required to test.
- Supervisor and central office coordinate time & date of rapid test along with Kendra Anderson who will test in Boyd Foyer beginning at 7 am when warranted.
- Staff supervisor will notify employee of date and time to report to the clinic. Close contact staff will test on Day 3 & Day 6.
- Texas Department of Emergency Management has provided the district with rapid tests. These will be administered in the Boyd Foyer beginning at 7am in accordance with TEA guidelines (in order to work on campus, rapid testing must be performed at the start of the day, periodically until the end of day 10).





# BOLES ISD

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## **No Close Contact, but I don't feel well!**

If you are at home, stay home and complete online screener. If you have fever, please do not report to campus. If you have multiple symptoms not typical for you, please do not report to campus. Locate rapid test location or contact your physician. Stay in contact with your supervisor.

If you are on campus and have a minor symptom and wish to test, please contact your supervisor. They will contact M. Goss, I. Hearn, and K. Anderson to arrange a time and location to rapid test. The district will do our best to accommodate, but it is not guaranteed. Have a back-up plan.

All staff members are eligible for Covid leave (see revised employee leave document attached). Please contact Amanda Scoggins for further details.

