

SOMERVILLE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

CONTINUITY OF SERVICES

IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19

Para traducción en español, llame a Molly Perez o Theresa Perez al (979) 596-1502.

Updated 3/31/2023

Information in this document is subject to change based on new information provided by the Texas Education Agency.

Mission, Vision, and Strategic Goals

Mission

Somerville Independent School District will cultivate a safe, engaging learning environment that provides positive social, emotional, and academic support for each student to ensure resilient life-long learners.

<u>Vision</u>

Cultivating Resilience the Yegua Way.

Strategic Goals

Student Performance

Provide high-quality instruction for all through academic and post-secondary success through
proficiency in reading and math, and implement programs aimed to support college and career
readiness in a safe and secure environment.

Human Resources

2. Recruit, retain, and develop high-quality teaching staff, who engage in continuous professional development focused on providing viable and relevant student instruction, and who share the responsibility for providing a positive and successful learning environment.

Partnerships

3. Cultivate partnerships by engaging students, parents, staff, and the community through positive, transparent communication and open collaboration.

Equity

4. Effectively personalize learning for each child through individualized, accelerated learning plans and differentiated instruction.

Fiscal Responsibility

5. Maintain a transparent and balanced budget while supporting academic excellence and expanding resources for students and staff.

Superintendent

Eric Holton

Board of Trustees

Jason Urbanosky, President

Melissa Tharp, Vice-President

Linda Pinkerton, Secretary

Joe Gonzales, Treasurer

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Keith Howe, Member

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ESSER III Goals

Our goals ensure a continuity of services for all our students in the areas of academics, social and emotional health, and food services.

- Accelerated instruction will be provided to students who have learning loss.
- Each campus has a counseling program to address social and emotional needs through a viable social and emotional learning curriculum.
- Parent outreach personnel will be available as a liaison to offer support to students.
- High school students will engage in learning using interactive panels in the classroom.
- Intentional instructional support through the addition of two assistant principals, focused on instruction and special programs.
- Professional development for the elementary school focused on reading.
- Classroom instructional coaching for each campus to help close student learning gaps by implementing targeted instructional support for teachers.
- Improve communication with students and parents through one portal using Apptegy.
- Increase sanitation efforts through additional custodial staff.

Somerville ISD 2022-2023 ACADEMIC CALENDAR

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4m New to SISD Teacher
Orientation

5m – 22nd Staff Development
23rd First Day of School

1st 6 Weeks: Aug. 23rd to Sept. 30th

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17th Early Release 12 pm

20th Presidents' Day Holiday

5th 6 Weeks: Feb. 21 – April 6th

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5th Labor Day Holiday 30th Early Release at 12 pm

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13th - 17th Spring Break

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10th Teacher/Parent Conf. Student Holiday

2nd 6 Weeks: Oct. 3rd-Nov. 4th

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7th - 10th Easter Holiday

6th 6 Weeks: April 11th – May 25th

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4th Early Release 12 pm 21st-25th Thanksgiving Day

3rd 6 Weeks: Nov. 7th – Dec. 16th

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25th & 26th Early Release 12 pm 26th Last Day of School 30th – 31th Bad Weather Days 27th Staff Workday 27th Graduation 29th Memorial Day Holiday

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15th & 16th Early Release 12 pm

19th-30th Winter Break

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Total Student Minutes= 77,060

Total Staff Days = 187

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2nd & 3rd Staff Dev./Student Holiday

4th Students Return

16th M.L. King Day Holiday

4th 6 Weeks:

Jan. 4th – Feb. 17th

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4th Independence Day Holiday

Board Approved 3-9-2022

General Information

Registration

Somerville ISD is registering students **online**. This registration process must be completed **annually**. Because it is online, you may complete the registration process from any location with internet access. Click on the following links for registration forms.

Returning Student Registration

New Student Registration

Instructional Models

On campus instruction provides a traditional face-to-face instructional experience. Somerville ISD students will have 100% on campus instruction for enrolled students. Daily attendance will be taken. There will be no virtual instruction provided.

Technology

- Pre-K to Grade 1: Samsung tablets for classroom use only
- Grade 2: One-to-one touch screen Chromebooks for classroom use only
- Grades 3 to 7: One-to-one Chromebooks for classroom use only
- Grades 8 to 12: District provided one-to-one Chromebooks for student use

Chromebooks for high school students will be issued through your child's campus. The Chromebook agreement will be issued with devices.

Devices issued to students by Somerville ISD will include internet filtering in compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act.

District Provided Wi-Fi for Students

Every campus facility has enhanced Wi-Fi, allowing families to access the internet outside the building so that students can connect and complete assignments.

Grading

Students will receive gradebook grades in the <u>Somerville ISD Parent Portal</u> in accordance with the Somerville ISD grading guidelines. Per Texas Education Agency, grading guidelines for all instructional models are the same.

Safety & Prevention

Personal Protective Equipment and Safety Protocols

- Students self-evaluate daily prior to arrival to campus or boarding transportation.
- All students instructed on methods to protect themselves and others from COVID-19.
- All students practice appropriate hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette.
- All students regularly wash hands when reporting to campus or boarding transportation and after using the restroom.
- All students will be trained on proper handwashing techniques.

Employee Health Protocols

- All employees self-screen daily.
- All employees practice methods to protect themselves and others from COVID-19 at work.
- All employees must practice appropriate hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette.
- All employees must regularly wash their hands when reporting to work and after using the restroom.

Use of Masks

Per GA-38, the <u>Governor of Texas' Executive Order</u> states that masks are optional at all Somerville ISD facilities and events.

Health and Hygiene Practices

Hand sanitizer stations will be located at the entrances and throughout each facility, as well as in every classroom. Hand sanitizer will be provided to students, as well as sanitizing supplies to clean desks.

Custodial Services

Frequent cleaning and disinfecting will promote a healthy learning and work environment for students and staff.

- Campuses will use electrostatic sprayers to sanitize high traffic surface areas.
- Campuses will have access to sanitizing materials throughout the day in all high traffic areas and every classroom.

COVID-19 Prevention & Response

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 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 the <u>Department of State Health Services (DSHS) Rule</u>, 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.

During the exclusion period, the school system may deliver makeup instruction consistent with the practice of remote conferencing outlined in the proposed Student Attendance Accounting Handbook (SAAH) rules, as described here.

Students Who Are Close Contacts

If school systems are made aware that a student is a close contact, the school system should notify the student's parents.

Reporting COVID Information to a Campus

If your child tests positive for COVID-19, had close contact with someone who tested positive, or if your child has symptoms of COVID-19, please call your child's campus.

Somerville Elementary Intermediate: 979.596.1502

Somerville High School: 979.596.1534 Somerville Administration: 979.596.2153

Transportation

Somerville ISD transportation will ensure that buses are sanitized daily.

- Students and staff will use hand sanitizer upon boarding and exiting a bus.
- Buses will be thoroughly sanitized after each bus trip, focusing on high-touch surfaces such as bus seats, steering wheels, knobs, and door handles.
- All buses will use electrostatic sprayers to sanitize buses daily on a regular schedule of cleaning.

Instruction

Instructional materials are aligned to the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills. High-quality instructional materials are a priority in Somerville ISD. Due to COVID-19 in the 2020-2021 school year, some students have experienced learning loss and the district will provide <u>accelerated instruction</u> to these students using high-quality instructional materials.

- Accelerated instruction will provide additional, supplemental instruction to accelerate learning. Individualized instructional decisions by administrators and teachers will be made to determine how each student will receive accelerated instruction. Students could receive instruction in the school day and/or after school.
- Accelerated Instruction will place students in tiered supports. Tiered supports
 ensure that students are in small groups and receive individualized instruction as
 much as possible.
- For any student who does not pass the STAAR test in grade 3, 5, or 8 in math or reading, a new LEA requirement to establish an accelerated learning committee to develop an individual educational plan for the student and monitor progress.

Updated Public Health Guidance from TEA can be found here.

Updated Remote Conferencing FAQ can be found here.

The Texas Education Agency will be proposing changes to the Student Attendance Accounting Handbook to add certain flexibility to rules for Remote Conferencing. Remote Conferencing is a mechanism by which remote instruction can be provided; however, it was previously available only upon issuance of a waiver requested for each individual student. In order to allow school systems to begin implementing changes in practice to align with the new rule (which, when adopted, would apply to the entirety of the 2021-22 school year), the relevant portion of the proposed rule language is provided in the FAQ. In addition, this document describes answers to questions districts may have when attempting to implement changes aligned to the new flexibilities. See also Senate Bill 15 FAQ document.

Social Emotional Learning

Social Emotional Learning (SEL) is the process in which students and adults acquire and apply the skills necessary to understand and manage their emotions, which then affects all parts of life. SEL components include Self-Awareness, Self-Management, Social Awareness, Relationship Skills, and Responsible Decision-Making. The social skills will be taught through Suite 360. Certified School Counselors are available at each campus to facilitate these lessons and support individual students' academic, social, and emotional needs. School Counselors will partner with community resources to provide specific students who need additional support to have the necessary resources for success.

Students

- Lessons will be divided by campus levels, with similar topics but with ageappropriate discussions and activities.
- The SEL Components will be taught over the course of the school year.

Faculty & Staff

• Somerville ISD staff will participate throughout the school year in various trainings that focus on students' social and emotional needs.

Contact Us

For assistance regarding a course, assignment, or resource:

The relevant teacher

For assistance regarding a technology-related problem or issue: Principals

Elementary and Intermediate- Justin Lindsey, 979.596.1502 High School-Steven Toliver, 979.596.1534

Social emotional concerns:

Counselor/Assistant Principal

Elementary and Intermediate-Amber Idlebird, 979.596.1502 High School-Steven Toliver, 979.596.1534

For other issues related to distance learning: Principals

Elementary and Intermediate-Justin Lindsey, 979.596.1502 High School-Steven Toliver, 979.596.1534

Director of Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessment

Dr. Kristi Thaemlitz, 979-596-2153

Superintendent of Schools

Eric Holton, 979.596.2153