



Victoria Independent School District

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August 4, 2020

Dear Staff,

As we plan for returning to school, we recognize that this will be an unusual school year, and it is more important than ever that we come together as a community to support our students' learning. We, as educators, play a critical role during this pandemic, and we must ensure that our students do not lose a year of instruction. At the same time, we will be keeping student and staff safety top of mind in our planning.

This document outlines the procedures our campuses will have in place to prevent or mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and to respond if a positive case is identified. We hope that this transparency helps you to feel comfortable returning to work and knowing what to expect when you do. While it is not possible to eliminate all risk of furthering the spread of COVID-19, the current science suggests there are many steps schools can take to substantially reduce the risks to students, teachers, staff, and their families.

Prevention

To prevent COVID-positive individuals from entering our campuses, our school will have the following COVID-19 symptom screening procedures in place:

- All staff will be required to self-screen daily
- All visitors will be required to screen upon arrival
- Parents are asked to proactively identify when their student exhibits COVID-19 symptoms or has been exposed and to keep them home.

Information collected in these screens will not be retained if the screening is passed. If a parent indicates that a student is demonstrating COVID-19 symptoms, the school will retain that information until the student meets the criteria for return to school.

Criteria for Return to School

Conditions for return to school after an individual shows symptoms or gets a positive test result:

Either:

- 24 hours with no fever; and
- Symptoms improved; and
- 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared

Or:

- An acute infection test at an approved testing location (<https://tdem.texas.gov/covid-19/>) that comes back negative for COVID-19

Or:

- A doctor's note indicating an alternate diagnosis

Mitigation

Our district will be taking the following steps across each of our campuses to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

- All adults in the building will wear masks.
- All students will be required to wear masks, particularly when they are within six feet of one another, except when participating in activities that cannot be conducted with a mask on, such as eating, or unless it is not developmentally appropriate for the student to wear a mask.

Response

In the event of a COVID-positive case on campus, the campus will take the following steps:

- All areas that are heavily used by the individual with the lab-confirmed case will be closed off until disinfected
- All teachers, staff, and families of all students in that school will be notified
- The local health department will be notified

We hope that this information gives you confidence in our systems and our ability to stop the spread of COVID-19 on our campuses. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to 361-576-3131 or visit our website at visd.net.

Sincerely,


Dr. Quintin Shepherd
Superintendent

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Superintendent

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