



CHILTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

BRANDON HUBBARD, SUPERINTENDENT
JENNIFER SHARP, SECONDARY PRINCIPAL
CANDICE ROSS, ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL
AMBER LIPSEY, DISTRICT COUNSELOR
CHRIS JAMES, ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

August 26, 2021

Pirate Nation,

Our Wednesday morning mindset states by Audre Lorde “when times are hard, do something. If it works, do it some more. If it does not work, do something else. But keep going.” There is no question that our students need to be in school. More importantly, we must take every measure to ensure the safety of our students, while allowing them to participate and experience all that public education has to offer.

As the Superintendent of Schools in Chilton ISD, it is my duty to be prudent as it relates to this pandemic and making sure that Chilton ISD can offer the safest environment for students and staff members, alike. Unfortunately, current trends, as it relates to this pandemic, demonstrate that we must take all necessary measures to slow the spread of the COVID-19 infection within our community. After consultation with the McLennan County Health District, discussions with other Region 12 superintendents, consultation with the Chilton ISD stakeholders, reviewing guidance from district counsel, recommendations from the Texas Association of School Boards, and updated guidance from the Texas Education Agency, the Chilton ISD will implement a mask mandate for all in-door activities for Chilton ISD students, staff, and visitors beginning Monday, August 30, 2021. Though some of you may not agree with this decision, it is my hope that you understand the heart behind this decision. Chilton ISD administration will continue to receive daily updates from McLennan County Public Health personnel to ensure that we are taking the necessary steps to ensure staff and student safety in the least restrictive manner possible. In addition, the Chilton ISD will continue other methods to ensure staff and student safety. These will include:

- Use of student desk shields
- Routine sanitation by Chilton ISD maintenance personnel
- Use of Alen air purification systems in all classrooms
- Use of hypochlorous acid foggers during transitions
- Morning temperature scans
- Social distancing, as much as possible

This is challenging situation. And, unfortunately, according to state and local health authorities, we will continue to see these types of spikes with variants until our population reaches herd immunity. At present the Chilton ISD has three confirmed cases (prior to first day of school) with nine individuals under quarantine due to close contact exposure. As a practice, the district will personally notify the parents of students who have been deemed to be in close contact. For up-to-date information, please visit the Chilton ISD COVID-19 Dashboard at <https://www.chiltonisd.org/page/covid-19-dashboard>.

On behalf of the Chilton ISD Board of Trustees and Administration, we appreciate your patience and grace as we navigate these challenging times while continuing to provide a first-class education to our Chilton ISD students. If you have any questions or need answers, please contact Dr. Brandon Hubbard at 254-546-1227.

Respectfully,

Brandon K. Hubbard, Ed.D.

CHILTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

P.O. Box 488 • Chilton, Texas 76632 • Phone (254) 546-1200 • Fax (254) 546-1201 • www.chilton.org
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