**Rochelle Independent School District** 

Dave Lewis**,** Superintendent

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Mike Wolfe, President PO Box 167 TJ Penn, Secretary

Steve Jones Rochelle, Texas 76872 Les Brooks

Alvin Bolton 325-243-5224 Tommy Howell

**Return to In-Person Instruction**

**& Continuity of Services (RIPICS) Plan**

**Introduction**

American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act statute requires that LEAs develop and make publicly available their plans for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services. A summary of Rochelle ISD’s plans is below.

**Effective Date of Plan**

This plan is effective as of July 14, 2021.

**Public Comment & Stakeholder Input**

This plan was developed in consultation with stakeholders after soliciting public comment via public board meeting, community-wide town hall meeting, focus groups, and small group meetings.

**Ongoing Review & Publication of Plan**

The plan was drafted on July 15, 2021 and posted to the LEA website <https://www.rochelleisd.net/page/covid-19> . Every six months, the Rochelle ISD will review the plan in accordance with the latest guidance from the CDC, state and local governments. If revisions are needed to the plan, public input will be solicited and stakeholders will be meaningfully consulted. The revised version of the plan will then be posted on the website. The chart below provides information on this ongoing process.

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| **Return to In-Person Instruction & Continuity of Services Plan Review** | | |
| **2021-2022**  **Year 1** | Date of Initial Plan:  July 14 2021 | Six Month Review Date:  November 5, 2021  ☐No revision needed  ☐Revisions were made |
| **2022-2023**  **Year 2** | Six Month Review Date:   May 6, 2022  ☐No revision needed  ☐Revisions were made | End of Grant Period Review Date:  November 4, 2022  ☐No revision needed  ☐Revisions were made |
| **2023-2024**  **(Carryover Year)** | **Last required review is 9/30/2023**  **~Grant ends 9/30/24~** | |

**General Instructional Settings**

Students will attend class in-person and must abide by the expectations set forth in the Rochelle ISD Student Handbook.

**Provisions to Reduce Risk of Exposure to Health Hazards**

**Classroom Social Distancing** **and Mask**

Teachers will separate desks to allow for social distancing protocols (3 feet).

Masks are optional for students and staff.

**Cleaning**

Custodial staff will clean heavy use surfaces during the day at multiple times. Teachers are also equipped with disinfectant to allow for regular cleaning of classroom surfaces as needed.

**Hand Cleaning**

Pre-k through 3rd teachers will coordinate with the nurse to provide demonstrations for proper hand washing, mouth covering, and sanitizer use.

Motion censored hand sanitizer will be provided for each classroom, bathroom and office.

**Cleaning of Building**

Contracted sanitization will be continued to provide disinfecting services for the 2021-2022 school year. They use chemicals to kill both COVID and flu viruses with an electromagnetic spray system. This is done every 7 to 10 days starting July 20, 2021.

**Ventilation**

Teachers will be asked to open window to help provide better air circulation during class times when possible.

**Positive Testing**

Tracing will be conducted through protocols set by the CDC and local health officials to help to provide screenings when needed (including individuals in close contact with positive cases).

* Answering questions about the disease
* Monitoring symptoms
* Sharing effective preventions steps
* Recommending and determining a date range for quarantine
* Providing resources for testing, medical care, mental health support, food, and shelter

**Screening and Testing**

**Teachers**- teachers and staff are to self-screen for COVID-19 symptoms before coming onto campus each day. Teachers and staff must report to the school system if they themselves have COVID-19 symptoms or are test-confirmed with COVID-19. If so, they must remain off campus until they meet the criteria for re-entry as established by CDC and local health guidelines and will work remotely.

**Student**- 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, and instead should opt to receive remote instruction until the CDC or local health guideline conditions for re-entry are met. Parents may also opt to have their students receive remote instruction if their child has had close contact with an individual who is test-confirmed with COVID-19 until the end of the school system’s stay-at-home period, if no symptoms have been reported.

**Local and state health authorities**- Data regarding positive COVID19 cases, along with tracing information, will be made available to the local health authority to inform decision-making for quarantine practices.

Testing will be provided by individual health providers. The district will not be conducting rapid tests. Temperatures will not be taken in order to enter facilities.

**Vaccinations for Communities**

RISD has secured vaccines for all faculty with the help of local health providers. Informational literature for vaccination is provided to all students, parents and faculty of the district.

**Visitors**

Visitors will not be allowed to bring food or drinks at lunch times. The number of spectators will be determined by UIL rule.

**Class Passing Periods**

An attempt will be made to loosen the master schedule in a way that provides two passing periods between classes - one for junior high students and one for high school students. Teachers will need to actively monitor the hallways to ensure that students are moving to their next class as quickly as possible. During the passing periods, students should not loiter and are to make their way to the next class quickly. Sanitizer will be placed in each classroom; students should use sanitizer upon entering a classroom and leaving a classroom.

Elementary teachers that have students going from one classroom to another (such as to music or art) will wait for secondary traffic to pass before leaving with their students.

**Playground**

Faculty will monitor activities and spray following each recess. All playground equipment will be sterilized after each class use. This is to include all PE activities and games as well.

**Restrooms**

The custodial staff will work to clean all restrooms with an increased frequency; the district has invested significant time and resources in acquiring special chemicals known to target viral particles and how to properly use those chemicals in a safe and effective manner. Students are not to congregate in the restrooms for any reason.

**The RISD Cafeteria Plan**

Lunch periods will be staggered to reduce the number of students in the cafeteria at one time. Each grade will be assigned a seating area that allows for social distancing. Students must remain with their grade level.

**RISD Transportation Plan**

**Buses**

Students will be seated to allow for staggering. Every other seat will be filled to provide 3 feet of social distancing. Larger families with multiple siblings will be allowed to sit in pods or grouped seats on the bus.

Buses will be cleaned and disinfected daily.

During arrival and dismissal, the entry and exit locations will vary for students according to their grade level. For more information, contact 325-243-5224

**Students’ Academic Needs**

The district plans to use funds to support learning loss through summer school, after school tutorials, Friday/Saturday school. This will allow the district to focus funds to the needs of learners. The Campus

Improvement Committee along with the RtI teachers, administrators and counselor will collect data from the CBAs (Curriculum Based Assessment) in Eduphoria and the State STAAR and EOC assessments from 2021. The committees will then determine the academic needs for all grade levels and plan and implement an RtI pullout program, summer school attendees and needs and a fall and spring tutorials for any learner that is in need of interventions.

**Students’ Social, Emotional, Mental Health Needs**

The district will also fund part of the salary of the school counselor through ESSER III Funds. The counselor is an integral part of ensuring the social, emotional and mental health needs of students and teachers by providing counseling services and guidance lessons in the classrooms.

**Staff’s Social, Emotional, Mental Health Needs**

LEA Name will promote self-care with all staff members. Morale-boosting activities such as staff celebrations, provided meals and staff “spotlight” will be used to increase the staff social and emotional needs. Periodic surveys will be used to determine staff needs throughout the year.

**Questions**

Questions regarding this plan may be directed to:

Dave Lewis

Superintendent

dlewis@rochelleisd.net

325-243-5224