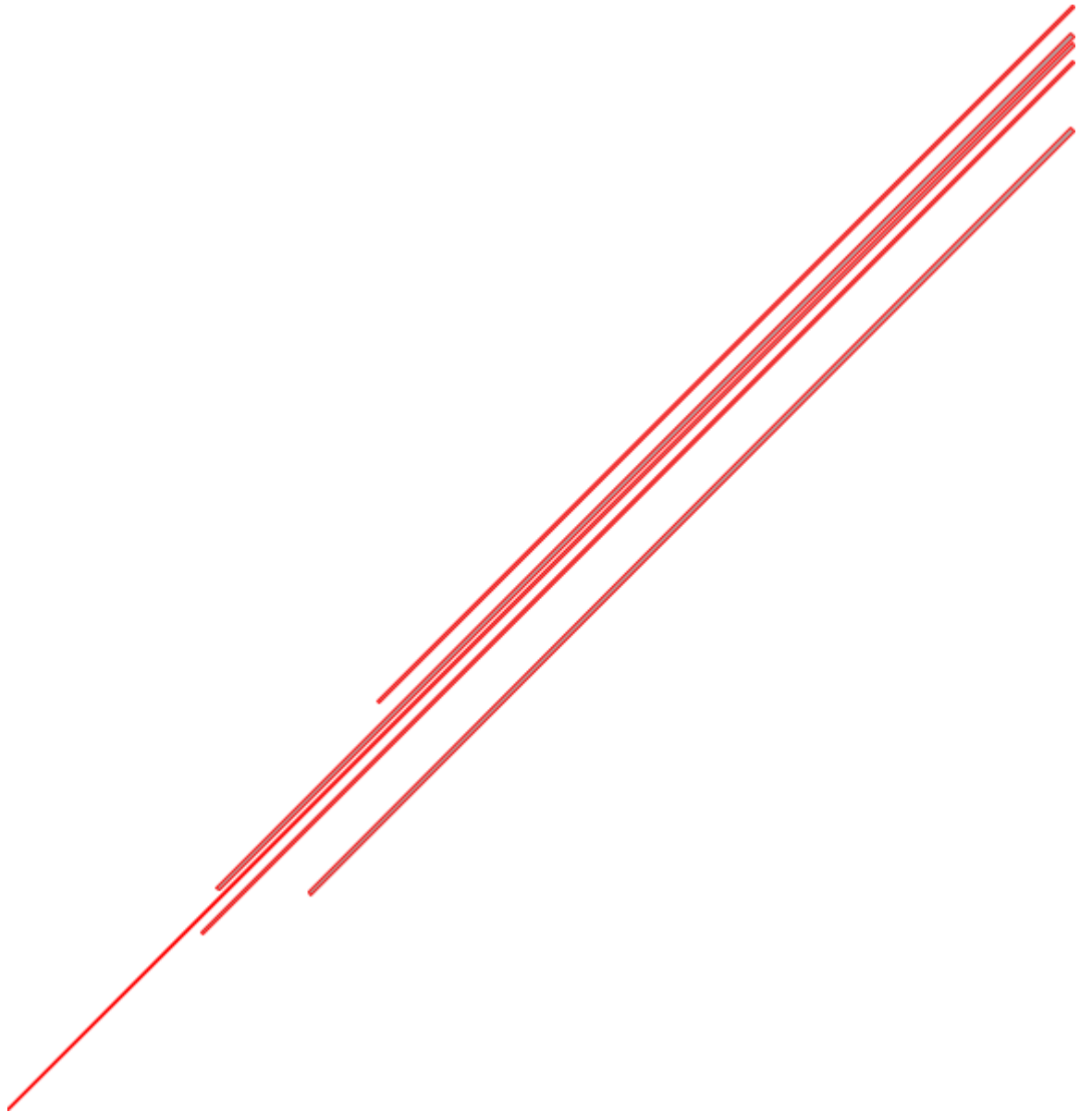


STANTON ISD

2021-2022 Safe Return to School Plan

Revised April 2022

This plan is subject to periodic updates as they become available.



Stanton ISD
The best is yet to come.

Stanton ISD

2021-2022 Safe Return to School Plan

In Stanton ISD the health, safety and well-being of our students, faculty and staff are our first priority. Return to in person instruction for the 2021-22 school year is an anticipated “return to normal” in most areas. This means that masks are optional in all areas of the school and on buses. If allowed, virtual learning will be used as an option in only very limited situations and those situations will require special permissions. Examples may include but not be limited to COVID-19 positive tests or exposure, documented medical need and Homebound services. Stanton ISD believes that in-person teaching and learning is best in almost all cases.

While Stanton ISD is planning for our instructional environment, our plan follows recommendations for school opening and operations provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) <https://www.cdc.gov/> , the Texas Education Agency (TEA) <https://tea.texas.gov/> , and state and local health officials.

Enhanced Sanitization

- SISD custodial staff will use a team cleaning process and use CDC recommended disinfectants that are proven to kill viruses like COVID-19, as well as others, and are certified as safe for schools and public spaces
- Custodial staff will frequently wipe high traffic surfaces including handrails, door handles, counter tops and other horizontal surfaces over the course of the day
- Custodial staff will increase the frequency of cleaning and disinfecting restrooms and common areas throughout the day
- Custodial staff will also use a disinfectant fogger to complement the regular cleaning process in areas where positive cases have been identified.
- Additional hand sanitizer dispensers will be placed throughout campuses in easily accessible and high traffic areas and maintained throughout the day

Daily Health Screenings for All Staff and Student Monitoring of COVID-19 Symptoms

When screening whether an individual has symptoms consistent with COVID-19, we will consider the following questions: Have they recently begun experiencing any of the following in a way that is not normal for them?

- Feeling feverish or a measured temperature greater than or equal to 100.0 degrees
- Loss of taste or smell
- Cough
- Difficulty Breathing
- Shortness of Breath
- Headache
- Chills
- Shaking or exaggerated Shivering
- Sore throat
- Significant Muscle pain or ache
- Diarrhea

Staff Screening

- Each staff member will self-monitor for symptoms daily

- Any staff member displaying COVID-19 symptoms will be asked to immediately notify their supervisor and stay home

Staff Vaccinations

- Stanton ISD is partnering with Martin County Hospital to provide COVID vaccinations for staff
- Although Stanton ISD does not require staff to be vaccinated, vaccinations are highly encouraged for any staff member with an underlying health condition.

COVID Rapid Testing for Staff

- Stanton ISD will provide rapid testing on campus for all staff members

Student Screening

Parents must ensure they do not send a child to school on campus if the child has COVID-19 symptoms, which is lab-confirmed with COVID-19.

- Students or Staff testing positive for COVID-19 must remain home and notify immediately the campus administrator or school nurse
- Students will be monitored throughout the day for COVID-19 symptoms
- Any student displaying COVID-19 symptoms will immediately be separated, see the campus nurse for additional screening and parents will be contacted to take the student home
- If a campus staff member or any student begins to display symptoms during the school day they will immediately report to the campus nurse for a COVID-19 health screening

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.
- 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 on each Monday.
- Schools must notify all teachers, staff, and families of all students in a classroom or extracurricular or after-school program cohort if a test-confirmed COVID-19 case is identified among students, teachers or staff who participated in those classrooms or cohorts.

Personal Protective Equipment and Attention to Personal Hygiene

- Staff will have access to PPE including cloth masks and clear face guards
- Masks may be made available for students, but parents are encouraged to obtain personal face masks for their student that fit comfortably and are convenient to put on and take off
- Safety and Hygiene reminders will be posted throughout campuses
- Teachers will lead age appropriate discussions in attention to personal hygiene, frequent, proper hand washing techniques, and campus safety practices

Masks

All campuses and the transportation system will be open to optional mask wearing. There may be times that masks are encouraged for students and staff. Please be aware that mask rules as well as other pandemic related rules are subject to change based on the current rate of infection and other indicators.

Classroom Instruction

Students will be directed to:

- Use hand sanitizer stations before entering their school
- Increase airflow from the outdoors as weather permits and where feasible
- Students will not be required to wear masks
- Increase hygiene awareness and hand washing during the school day
- Limit sharing (when feasible)

Special Education

SISD ensures that students with disabilities have equal access to educational opportunities during in-person learning or on-line learning.

- Special Education personnel will make every effort to ensure all Stanton ISD special education students are provided the necessary supports to be successful during any campus or district closure
- Other mitigations may occur in life skills classrooms based on student needs
- Students with significant physical health/cognitive needs will not be required to wear facial coverings
- School personnel will work closely with families of students who are immunocompromised regarding specific needs when returning to school
- During temporary closures ARD committee meetings will occur via conference call or virtual meetings

University Interscholastic League (UIL) / Extra-Curricular Activities

- UIL is not currently limiting capacity for spectators at UIL events
- Masks are not currently required for any UIL events
- If a test-confirmed COVID-19 case is identified among students, teachers, or staff who participated in a UIL competition against another school, the school must notify the opposing school and the officials/contest judges who also participated in the competition.

Breakfast and Lunch

The SISD food service department is equipped to follow all of the safety protocols of food service for our students. The Texas Department of Agriculture has issued specific guidelines to ensure safe food services delivery in our schools. Some safety protocols include:

- All Food service staff will wear required protective equipment when preparing and serving food
- Food will continue to be individually packaged or be individually plated meals with disposable plates and utensils for students who do not bring their own lunch.

Transportation For students riding SISD buses

Strict compliance to the following guidelines is required to maintain bus riding privileges:

- All bus riders will use hand sanitizer as they enter the bus
- Sit in their assigned seat
- Face masks will be optional; if a student does not have a facemask available and wishes to wear one, a disposable mask can be provided

Family Engagement

- Parents are valued partners! SISD welcomes parents, but the partnership will still continue to look different during the 2021-2022 school year

- Campuses will create opportunities to continue to connect parents and community members to their schools in person
- Modified on campus parent events will be offered throughout the year
- Pre-Registration on a first come, first served basis may be required for on campus events

Mental Health

As a result of school closures and remote learning due to the COVID-19 pandemic, students have been at higher risk of exposure due to adverse childhood experiences and first-hand exposure to the effects of COVID-19. We also know that many educators have themselves experienced a prolonged state of stress over the course of the pandemic and share many of the concerns regarding loss of safety, health, and predictability as students upon the return to school. Stanton ISD is currently offering the following mental health programs and/or services to support students and staff.

For grades 6-8, we have Navigate360 available as a Social & Emotional Curriculum. This provides evidence-based, professionally developed solutions for districts designing and implementing SEL programs that fully align with the CASEL framework. Navigate360 offers the largest SEL library with over 1,800 lessons. The counselor can assign lessons individually, to groups, or even entire grade levels. These lessons can be completed individually or as a class.

For grades PK-5th, we have a program called Move This World. Each day our teachers spend the first 10 minutes of the day interacting with their students in this program. This program provides a research-based SEL curriculum that teaches individuals social and emotional skills that are necessary for life and academic success. Social competency skills include responsible decision-making, resiliency, self-awareness, and self-regulation. The lessons are interactive including movement, hand motions, and discussion.

Stanton ISD also partners with Texas Tech University to provide a counseling service program titled Campus Alliance for Telehealth Resources (CATR). This service is supported by the Texas Child Health Access Through Telemedicine (TCHAT) to assist in directing counseling and telepsychiatry to students in grades 4-12, and provides educational materials for school personnel through a community learning collaborative. Students who are in need of urgent behavioral or emotional assessment and care may be referred for a mental health screening. Once parent permission is obtained, students may receive four tele psychiatry sessions free of charge. From there follow-up care is discussed. For more information on any of our mental health services or programs please call:

Jaclyn Denson- RN
Direction of Health Services
432-607-3705

Megan Shafer- MS, CSC
PK-8 Counselor
432-607-3704

School Based Health Care

As an added measure to help mitigate COVID-19, Stanton ISD will partner with the Martin County Hospital to provide school based health care services. Through telehealth services, students and staff will be able to see a provider at Martin County Family Clinic during school hours without leaving campus. Students and staff who enroll in the school based program will have access to evaluations and certain rapid lab testing such as flu, strep, and COVID. Providers are able to perform exams facilitated by the school nurse to diagnose and treat symptoms or illness by using state of the art telehealth equipment. We are hopeful that this service will help our parents not miss work and help our students and staff not miss valuable instruction time.

Translation Procedure

In an effort to increase parental and family engagement and support two-way communication, Stanton ISD will provide, to the extent practicable, the Campus Improvement Plan, the Parent and Family Engagement Policy, and any other pertinent information in a language and format understood by parents and the public.

These documents may be accessed in English:

- On the Stanton ISD website: www.stanton.esc18.net
- In the Stanton ISD campus offices
- Hardcopy available upon request

Should there be families who speak languages other than English, as evidenced by the Home Language Survey, Parent Surveys, or other Parent Communications, Stanton ISD will provide translations orally upon request. Parents may request translated documents by contacting the Stanton ISD Administrative Offices.

Who to contact:

Bonnie Chavez, Administrative Assistant, 432-607-3700

Procedimiento de Traducción

En un esfuerzo por aumentar la participación de los padres y la familia y apoyar la comunicación bidireccional de la escuela al hogar, Stanton ISD, proporcionará en la medida de lo posible, el Campus Improvement Plan, la Parent and Family Engagement Policy, y otra información pertinente en un idioma y formato comprendido por los padres y el público .

Se puede acceder a estos documentos en inglés:

- En el sitio del web: www.stanton.esc18.net
- En la oficina de campus del Distrito, Stanton ISD
- Copia en papel disponible a pedido

Si hay familias que hablan otros idiomas además del inglés, como lo demuestra la Encuesta sobre el idioma del hogar, Encuestas de los Padres y Comentarios de los padres, Stanton ISD proporcionará las traducciones oralmente o en formato escrito, cuando nuevos idiomas alcanzar un umbral significativo. Los padres pueden solicitar documentos traducidos contactando la oficina de administración de Stanton ISD.

El contacto:

Bonnie Chavez, Asistente Administrativa, 432-607-3700