

# Eden CISD COVID-19 Instructional Plan, 2020-21 FAQ Document

## **1. Have you considered using plexiglass in the classrooms?**

Students in Kindergarten through grade 3 will have plexiglass separators for their tables and/or desks. Because face masks/face shields are optional for these grade levels, the district is using other protective means to keep students safe. Also, plexiglass dividers will be in place in other high-traffic areas of campus, like school offices and the cafeteria line.

## **2. What do I as a parent need to do to ensure my child passes in the online learning format?**

The state has required that students interact with their teacher in some fashion each day. This is how students will be counted “engaged” or present for attendance purposes. Engagement could include showing progress on work within the online class, interacting with the teacher by answering questions via email or messenger, or by turning in an assignment for the day.

## **3. Will items such as laptops be issued for families who choose online learning?**

Yes, students who are enrolled in online learning can be issued a laptop. Just like textbooks, students are responsible for maintaining school district property in good condition. Check our social media and district website for checkout times.

## **4. Will you be monitoring the children making sure they wear their mask at all times?**

Yes, masks will be required for students in grade 4 and up and for staff members when entering/exiting facilities and in common areas (classrooms, hallways, reception areas, restrooms). Masks are not required in outdoor areas when social distancing can be practiced and when eating or drinking. Masks can be brought from home, and the school will provide masks for those who need them. Students in Kindergarten through grade 3 have the option of wearing a mask or face shield, although it is not required. We encourage parents to have their children practice wearing a mask before school starts so that students can become accustomed to it.

Students who are exempt from the Governor’s mask order must present a doctor’s note showing the medical exemption.

## **5. Will there be more absences allowed than normal?**

No, state law for compulsory attendance will be back in effect for the 2020-21 school year. Students are required to attend school for at least 90% of the time in order to receive credit for coursework. If a student must miss in-person classes due to quarantine or illness, the student should begin receiving online instruction so that they do not miss their instructional time.

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### **6. If I (working as a nurse with PPE) have to work with COVID positive patients, will my kids still be allowed to attend school on campus?**

Parents must ensure that they do not send a child to school on campus if the child has COVID-19 symptoms (as listed in our instructional planning document) or is lab-confirmed with COVID-19. A student who is showing symptoms must stay home until all three criteria below are met:

- a. At least three days have passed since recovery (no fever without the use of fever-reducing medication)
- b. The individual has improvement of symptoms (no cough, shortness of breath)
- c. At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared

### **7. What will online learning look like?**

Students who are in the online learning plan will take regular coursework that meets the state curriculum requirements through Edgenuity, an online learning format that Eden HS has used for many years. Teachers will be able to see that students log in each day, monitor their progress, and evaluate assignments.

### **8. What will the school do if a student or staff member came into contact with Covid or has tested positive for COVID-19?**

Any individuals who: (a) are lab-confirmed to have COVID-19; or (b) experience the symptoms of COVID-19 must stay at home throughout the infection period, and cannot return to campus until the school system screens the individual to determine any of the below conditions for campus re-entry have been met.

In the case of an individual who was diagnosed with COVID-19, the individual may return to school when all three of the following criteria are met:

- i. at least three days (72 hours) have passed since recovery (resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications);
- ii. the individual has improvement in symptoms (ex- cough, shortness of breath); and
- iii. at least ten days have passed since symptoms first appeared.

In the case of an individual who has symptoms that could be COVID-19 and who is not evaluated by a medical professional or tested for COVID-19, such individual is assumed to have COVID-19, and the individual may not return to the campus until the individual has completed the same three-step set of criteria listed above.

If the individual has symptoms that could be COVID-19 and wants to return to school before completing the above stay at home period, the individual must either (a) obtain a medical professional's note clearing the individual for return based on an alternative diagnosis or (b) receive a confirmation that they are free of COVID via acute infection tests at an approved COVID-19 testing location found at <https://tdem.texas.gov/covid-19/>.

### **9. After the first six weeks, do we have the option of in class learning if we feel safe or to keep it virtually if things remain the same? How long will online learning last?**

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Parents can switch learning formats (online or in-person) at the end of each six-week grading period.

We are currently planning for online learning to last the duration of the school year.

### **10. Will there be occasions when a remote learning student can meet one-on-one with his or her teacher in person? Will she be able to get help in person for any assignments she might not understand?**

Yes, for parents opting for online learning, there may still be occasions where the teacher needs to meet with the student in a safe, one-on-one format to assess their reading and math level or for tutorials. Online tutorial sessions will be the first option. If the student needs additional help, then an in-person tutorial may be scheduled. Students will have access to help during the school day as the in-person teacher is available.

### **11. Will Eden CISD screen staff and students before entering campus?**

Teachers and staff members must self-screen for COVID-19 symptoms before coming onto campus each day and take their own temperature.

Parents must ensure they do not send a child to school if the child has COVID-19 symptoms or is lab-confirmed with COVID-19, but instead should opt to receive remote instruction until the conditions for re-entry are met. Symptoms of COVID-19 include:

- Temperature of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher when taken by mouth
- Sore throat
- New uncontrolled cough that causes difficulty breathing (or, for students with a chronic allergic/asthmatic cough, a change in their cough from baseline)
- Diarrhea, vomiting, or abdominal pain
- New onset of severe headache, especially with a fever.

While it is unlikely that the nurse will be able to screen every student every day, campus nurses will conduct periodic temperature screenings of students.

### **12. Does 6th grade get to participate in middle school sports?**

As in previous years, junior high students will be counted on the first day of practice for each team sport. Those students who have a medical physical completed and want to participate will be counted. If the numbers are below UIL guidelines, then sixth grade student participation will be considered.

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### **13. Will my child be able to interact with other children in school? What about lunchtime? Will she be able to go sit with friends etc?**

Our goal is to make the school environment as close to a normal experience as possible. Student will be able to interact and participate within the classroom setting. Their desks may be spread out or have plexiglass desk dividers, but students will still be able to interact with their teachers and classmates. Lunch time will be a time for social interaction, although spacing will be increased between students and the other grade level to keep them safe. Students in elementary will still have outdoor recess time following lunch. We understand that our students have missed their friends and the important social interaction that is a big part of their lives.