

Como-Pickton CISD

2020-2021 Instructional Plan Summary

Please note: Updates made within the previous two weeks are indicated in bold, red text.

Como-Pickton CISD has worked collaboratively to establish guidelines that provide a safe learning environment for staff and students as we enter the 2020-2021 school year amid the COVID-19 pandemic. As we move forward, please know that we will remain flexible as we empathize with families and their concerns regarding their child's education. We realize that what may be appropriate for one family may be unacceptable for another family. Our main concern is the health and safety of our students and staff.

Face-to-face instruction is the most academically effective option for students. However, due to COVID-19, we completely understand why some students/parents are not comfortable with this option and may select online learning to ensure the physical and emotional wellbeing of their family. We have provided a commitment survey so that parents may choose face-to-face or online instruction.

If questions or concerns arise, please contact your child's principal at (903)488-3671 or email:

Linda Rankin, Elementary Principal rankinl@cpcisd.net

Cassie Bland, Junior High Principal blandca@cpcisd.net

Kelly Baird, High School Principal bairdk@cpcisd.net

This is new territory for all of us. Thank you for your patience and cooperation as we work together to support the needs of our students and staff.

This plan is subject to change, dependent upon state and TEA recommendations and guidelines.

Significant changes relating to Student and Staff Safety Protocols were made September 1, 2020 based on guidelines from the Texas State Department of Health Services and the Local Health Authority.

Face-to-Face Instruction

All students will return to school as normal and participate in on-campus instruction 100% of the time.

Students may participate in extracurricular activities.

15 minutes have been added to the school day.

- Start time will be 8:00 AM
- End time will be 3:35 PM

Buses will run as usual - the following precautions will be implemented:

- Hand sanitizer will be provided as students enter the bus
- Buses will be disinfected after each trip
- Masks are encouraged for all students when riding the school bus

****WE STRONGLY ENCOURAGE PARENTS TO TRANSPORT THEIR CHILD TO AND FROM SCHOOL TO MAXIMIZE SOCIAL DISTANCING AS THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS ON BUS ROUTES MAY NOT ALLOW FOR THE CDC'S RECOMMENDED SOCIAL DISTANCING GUIDELINES TO BE POSSIBLE.****

Online Instruction

Students participating in online learning will engage in learning as outlined in the CPCISD curriculum for all courses. This is very different from the distance learning program offered in the spring of 2020. That distance learning program was specifically created to provide opportunities for continued academic engagement in a temporary, emergency crisis situation. The online learning for 2020-2021 is designed to be a long-term educational option that will successfully guide students through a rigorous and comprehensive curriculum for the entire school year.

Parents should carefully consider whether online learning is an appropriate option for their children for the 2020-2021 school year. All instruction will be provided online but students will need strong at home support in order to create a learning environment that is conducive to a successful education. Below is an overview of the guidelines for families to consider.

Attendance is required daily in accordance with the approved school district calendar. In order to be counted present each day students must engage in specified instructional activities that

show adequate educational progress for the day. According to school policy, failure to do so more than 8 days in a semester could result in:

- POSSIBLE DENIAL OF SEMESTER CREDIT
- SUMMER SCHOOL ATTENDANCE
- REPEAT OF GRADE/CLASS
- REPORT OF TRUANCY TO LOCAL AUTHORITIES

Parents or guardians are required to provide adequate internet service and access to technology (e.g. iPad, Chromebook, laptop, desktop) for online instruction. If a special hardship exists, please schedule an appointment with your campus principal.

Instruction through online learning is designed for mastery of the TEKS; however, daily lessons will not mirror traditional face-to-face instruction.

Online instruction will be designed to meet the unique needs of students who have a more independent responsibility for their learning. It is essential that students develop a daily schedule in a designated work space that allows them to engage in online learning on a consistent basis.

For students who receive accommodations or modifications, ARD, 504, and LPAC committees may convene to make appropriate recommendations to meet the individual student needs to ensure continued growth in the general education curriculum and in individual goals and objectives.

Students who choose to participate in online learning will NOT participate in athletics or other extracurricular activities.

It may not be possible to offer some elective courses online due to the hands on nature of the coursework.

Grading for all online courses will follow the same grading policy as the face-to-face model. Late work for all online courses will follow the same late work policy as the face-to-face model. Online courses that earn high school credit will count in the GPA calculation and class rank as outlined in the CPCISD grading policy.

Breakfast and lunch can be provided to online learners at their usual cost. Parents or students should report to the campus office during their regular breakfast and/or lunch time to receive their meal.

Changing Your Option for Instruction

Parents or guardians may choose to change the instructional option for their child, but the following guidelines must be followed:

If you send your child to school for face-to-face instruction, but no longer feel this is the right decision, you may choose to go online at any time. PARENTS OR GUARDIANS MUST NOTIFY THE SCHOOL IN WRITING AND PROVIDE THE DATE TO BEGIN ONLINE INSTRUCTION.

If you place your child in online instruction, but no longer feel this is the right decision, you may choose face-to-face instruction. PARENTS OR GUARDIANS MUST NOTIFY THE SCHOOL IN WRITING AT LEAST ONE WEEK BEFORE **RETURNING**.

*Upon parent request, for the first three weeks of school, CPCISD will allow online learners to return to face to face instruction immediately.

Student & Staff Safety Protocols

Protocols for Screening and Isolation

All students and staff will be screened for COVID-19 symptoms regularly and individuals who present with symptoms will be separated and sent home.

Screening Protocols

Staff will be required to self-screen for COVID-19 symptoms prior to reporting to work each day.

Parents or guardians are expected to screen their children for COVID-19 symptoms each day prior to sending them to school.

Staff and student temperatures will be screened upon arrival and individuals will be referred to the nurse for any temperatures at 100.0 or above.

Isolation Protocols for Students or Staff Displaying COVID-19 Symptoms

When a student displays the following symptoms in a way that is not normal for them, the school nurse will provide a clinical assessment to determine if and when a student needs to be sent home:

- Feeling feverish or a measured temperature greater than or equal to 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit
- Loss of taste or smell
- Cough
- Difficulty breathing
- Shortness of breath
- Fatigue
- Headache
- Chills
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Shaking or exaggerated shivering
- Significant muscle pain or ache
- Diarrhea
- Nausea or vomiting

Students who are sent home by the school nurse due to illness will be immediately separated from their peers and should be picked up WITHIN ONE HOUR.

Any individuals who themselves either: (a) are lab-confirmed to have COVID-19; or (b) experience the symptoms of COVID-19 (listed above) must stay at home throughout the infection period, and cannot return to campus until the school system screens the individual to determine if 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:**
 - **at least one day (24 hours) has passed since recovery (resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications);**
 - **the individual has improvement in symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath); AND**
 - **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) obtain an acute infection test at an**

approved testing location (<https://tdem.texas.gov/covid-19/>) that comes back negative for COVID-19.

District communication will be provided to the students and staff who were in “close contact” with a student or staff member who is lab-confirmed positive for COVID-19. **These individuals will be required to quarantine for 14 days from last day of contact with the infected individual. A negative COVID-19 test result or doctor’s note will not negate this 14 day quarantine requirement.**

This document refers to “close contact” with an individual who is lab-confirmed to have COVID-19. The definition of close contact is evolving with our understanding of COVID-19, and individual scenarios will be determined with input from an appropriate public health agency. In general, close contact is defined as:

- a. being directly exposed to infectious secretions (e.g., being coughed on); or**
- b. being within 6 feet for a largely uninterrupted or sustained extended contact period throughout the course of a day of approximately 15 minutes; however, additional factors like case/contact masking (i.e., both the infectious individual and the potential close contact have been consistently and properly masked), ventilation, presence of dividers, and case symptomology may affect this determination.**

Either (a) or (b) defines close contact if it occurred during the infectious period of the case, defined as two days prior to symptom onset to 10 days after symptom onset. In the case of asymptomatic individuals who are test-confirmed with COVID-19, the infectious period is defined as two days prior to the confirming lab test and continuing for 10 days following the confirming lab test.

Students who have to be in isolation can begin online learning during that time.

Protocols for Face Coverings

CPCISD will follow the governor’s executive orders for requiring face masks when it is not feasible to maintain six feet of social distancing from others.

- There are exceptions within the order including one that exempts children under 10 and any person with a medical condition or disability that prevents wearing a face mask.
- Outside of an executive order from the governor or a requirement from the Texas Education Agency, CPCISD will not require face masks.

- Students and staff will be permitted to wear face masks if they choose, even if not required.

Protocols for Campus Visitors/Volunteers

Visitors will not be allowed on campuses without making prior arrangements - For the safety of all students and staff, parents may NOT enter the building during drop off/pick up or visit their child during breakfast or lunch. Parents may walk their child into the building on the first day of school.

Visitors/volunteers must follow the virus prevention and mitigation requirements of the school.

Campuses will utilize virtual meeting options to limit campus visitors when possible.

Protocols for Hand Sanitizing and Disinfecting

Frequent disinfection and hand sanitization will ensure health and wellness of students and staff.

Hand sanitizer will be available at the main entry to the campus, in the cafeteria, in classrooms, and in common areas throughout the campus.

Frequent hand washing will be encouraged.

Staff will have access to supplies to sanitize working surfaces and shared objects.

Each classroom and restroom will be cleaned and disinfected daily.

If a classroom or facility is closed due to COVID-19 spread, special cleaning protocols will be implemented.

Work and Learning Environments

General Classroom Configurations and Procedures

Each classroom will be outfitted with refillable individual hand sanitizer.

Desks should be spaced as far apart as much as instructionally possible.

Teachers should:

- Eliminate communal supplies as much as possible.
- Limit student movement within the classroom as much as possible.

- Outline hand washing and sanitizer protocols.

Minimize teacher workspace to increase student work area and eliminate extraneous furniture.

Physical Education Classroom Protocols

PE classes will be conducted outdoors whenever possible. Weather/temperature will be a consideration. Appropriate social distancing will be followed.

Any activities bringing students into close physical contact will be avoided as much as possible.

Procedures will be implemented in the locker rooms to promote social distancing.

Equipment will be disinfected.

Sanitizing areas and access to handwashing will be provided.

Instructional Considerations

Teachers should limit the number of students participating in small group instruction.

When possible, technology should be utilized when students are involved in collaborative work.

Special Education/504/LPAC Considerations

For a parent/guardian selecting online instruction for a student who receives accommodations or modifications, ARD, 504, and LPAC Committees will determine the unique needs of the student and make support and service recommendations for implementation in the online learning format.

Common Areas

Cafeteria

Hand sanitizer will be readily available in all cafeterias.

Tables and chairs will be spaced optimally so students are socially distanced as much as possible.

Students will utilize purchase methods with minimal contact (e.g. eliminating keypad used for lunch numbers).

Microwaves will continue to be available to students in each cafeteria. They will be sanitized daily.

Water Stations

Water fountains will be covered - students are encouraged to bring individual clear water bottles.

Hallways/Corridors

Congregating in hallways is discouraged.

Access to hand sanitizer will be provided throughout each campus.

Library

Will be treated in the same manner as classrooms.

Consider digital resources to limit the sharing of paper copies.

Recess (Elementary)

The number of students per recess group will be minimized where possible. Staggered schedules can be utilized when needed.

Hand sanitizer will be provided.

Transitions

Students and staff will follow disease mitigation safety protocols for face coverings.

When transitioning between classes, students will travel corridors as far to the right as possible and maintain social distancing.

Access to hand sanitizer will be provided throughout the campus.

Arrival

For the safety of all students and staff, parents may NOT enter the building during drop off/pick up. Parents may walk their child into the building on the first day of school.

Separate entrances will be utilized for different groups of students (i.e. grade level, bus riders, etc), and students will be directed to a designated location at the start of school.

Hand sanitizer stations will be placed at entrances and exits.

Dismissal

Release times of different groups of students will be staggered (i.e. grade level, bus riders, etc).

Hand sanitizer stations will be placed at entrances and exits.

Off Campus Student Activities

Student participation in academic contests will only be attended if specific guidance is provided by an authorized entity (e.g., Host site, TEA, the UIL, etc.).

Field trips for the first semester have been canceled.

On Campus Events/Meetings

Any school wide events that are approved to be held on campus need to adhere to social distancing requirements outlined by CPCISD, TEA and UIL. (Examples: Meet the Teacher, student performances, athletic events, etc.)

To limit larger gatherings, club meetings should be held virtually when possible. If meeting in person is required, groups should utilize larger meeting spaces and social distancing protocols should be implemented.

Extra-Curricular Programming Considerations

Cheer/Color Guard

Practices and performances will be conducted following safety protocol provided by guidance from CPCISD, UIL, and TEA (COVID screening, group sizes, sharing & sanitizing of equipment, locker room usage).

Athletics

Athletic practices and contests will be conducted following all safety protocols provided by guidance from UIL and CPCISD. This will include COVID screening, sharing & sanitizing of equipment, locker room usage, laundry, etc.

Hand sanitizing stations will be in athletic areas and hand washing will be emphasized before, during, and after activities. Equipment will be sanitized on a regular basis.

Cleaning and sanitation of all athletic facilities will happen routinely.

Locker room use will be determined by UIL. If locker rooms can be accessed, all locker room space will be utilized according to the guidelines.

Bus travel will follow transportation guidelines provided by the UIL and CPCISD.

Spectator attendance at games and contests will be determined by the UIL guidelines. Crowd sizes could be limited and CPCISD will follow all UIL guidelines.

All aspects of all athletic events will be evaluated after receiving guidance from the TEA and UIL to minimize the risk of exposure for both athletes that are participating and spectators that are observing.

Children should not attend athletic events without a parent/guardian present throughout the event. During athletic events, children who attend as spectators must remain seated in the stands unless using the restroom or making a purchase at the concession stand. Children not following these guidelines will be escorted to their parent/guardian and must remain seated with them. If they continue not to follow these guidelines they will be escorted to their parent/guardian and may be required to leave the premises for the remainder of the day.

To limit larger gatherings, booster club meetings should be held virtually when possible. If meeting in person is required, groups should utilize larger meeting spaces and social distancing protocols should be implemented.

Fine Arts

Large group practice sessions, sectionals and rehearsals should adhere to social distancing guidelines provided by an authorized entity (e.g., CPCISD, TEA, UIL, etc.)

Concerts/performances may be adjusted based on health and safety guidelines provided by an authorized entity (e.g., CPCISD, TEA, the UIL, etc.) including but not limited to transportation procedures, number of attendees, and the orientation of concerts.

To limit larger gatherings, booster club meetings should be held virtually when possible. If meeting in person is required, groups should utilize larger meeting spaces and social distancing protocols should be implemented.