



MARFA ISD

School Year Information
2020-2021

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Marfa ISD 2020-2021 School Year Information

Marfa ISD is excited to welcome our students and staff members back to school in September. Guidance from local, state, and federal officials and agencies have been utilized, and will continue to be followed, in the District's plans for returning to school in the 2020-2021 school year.

The District is working to ensure a safe and productive educational experience for our students, our staff, our parents and our community. Below are the current plans for the reopening of the Marfa ISD schools. **Please note that the details of this plan are subject to change based on updates with our community health needs, and any requirements or recommendations from local, state, and federal authorities.**

Thank you, parents, teachers, and community members, for your input regarding the reopening of our schools for the 2020-2021 school year, and we appreciate your patience and understanding during these changing times.

KEY DETAILS

Marfa ISD will offer remote/asynchronous instruction for the first 4 weeks of school (or up to another 4 weeks with school board approval), beginning with the first day of school on September 8, 2020. Students who need additional academic support will be assigned to attend on-campus tutorials on a schedule determined by administration and teachers.

However, please note that remote/asynchronous learning and instruction will look much different than it did during the end of last school year. The state's requirements for virtual learning are significantly more demanding on the student's daily participation for attendance and completion of work at home. Full-time remote/asynchronous learning will require more rigorous attendance. Students must log in daily, and complete an assignment daily for each class, as determined by the teacher, and grading will follow the same district policy as in-person instruction.

SCHOOL CALENDAR AND SCHOOL HOURS

- All students will need to register for the 2020-2021 school year. Prior to the second grading period, all parents will be required to notify the campus if their child will attend in-person instruction or virtual instruction.
- See the Marfa ISD 2020-2021 school calendar attached at the end of this document for the most up-to-date school calendar.
- School hours will be as follows:
 - Marfa Elementary First Bell: 7:55am Last Bell: 3:45pm
 - Marfa Jr/Sr High School First Bell: 7:55am Last Bell: 3:45pm

LEARNING OPTIONS

Two weeks prior to the second grading period, Oct. 2, 2020, parents will select one of the two following options for their children to attend school in the second grading period. (This date may change if the school board votes to extend virtual learning for an additional four weeks to Oct. 30, 2020.)

- Option 1: Full-time in-person on campus in accordance with local and state health guidelines
- Option 2: Full-time virtual, asynchronous learning
 - Asynchronous learning means the student and teacher will not always be engaged (instructing, learning, or completing assignments) at the same time. In this method, students learn through instruction that is not necessarily being delivered in-person or in real time. It will include online learning through the Texas Education Agency's Texas Home Learning platform.
 - Students who choose Option 2 will learn at the same pace and with the same rigor as the students in-person on campus.
 - Students who choose Option 2 will also be required to complete an assignment daily for attendance for each class. Otherwise an absence will be recorded. All truancy rules still apply for students who choose Option 2—Virtual, asynchronous learning.

Note:

If a parent chooses virtual, asynchronous learning for their child, the child must remain in this option (virtual, asynchronous learning) for the entire grading cycle. Students will not be allowed to move between Option 1 and Option 2 during the grading cycle unless he/she tests positive for COVID-19.

Parents will have the option at the end of each grading cycle to change Learning Options. Parents must inform the campus of the student’s change by the deadline listed below.

Grading Period	Notification Deadline
Second	October 2, 2020
Third	November 6, 2020
Fourth	December 11, 2020
Fifth	February 12, 2020
Sixth	April 1, 2020
Summer (if applicable)	TBD

The district will provide, as needed, laptops/Chromebooks and internet access for students. If a student, who has chosen the virtual learning option, is experiencing difficulties with technology, the student will also be provided paper copies of the instructional materials. Paper packets will also be available for grades PreK-Grade 2.

ATTENDANCE AND GRADING PROCEDURES

After the first 4 weeks of virtual learning (and possibly an additional 4 weeks if board approved), attendance and grading will be as follows:

- Option 1: Full-time in-person on campus
 - Attendance—students must report to each class at the required time in order to be counted present for the day (Elementary) or for the period (Jr/Sr High)
 - Grading—teacher, campus, and district grading policies will be followed
- Option 2: Full-time virtual, asynchronous learning
 - Attendance—students must log in daily, and complete an assignment daily for each class, as determined by the teacher
 - Grading—teacher, campus, and district grading policies will be followed

Note:

Students learning at home or on campus will follow the same grading procedures.

EXTRACURRICULAR PARTICIPATION

Students who choose to participate in athletics, extracurricular activities, student activity groups and specific CTE courses may choose the in-person on campus option or the remote/asynchronous option for instructional settings. These extracurricular activities include:

- All UIL activities (athletics including cheerleading, band, academics)

- Welding
- Art
- Music
- Robotics
- Other CTE courses to be determined

CAFETERIA

During the first 4 weeks of virtual learning (and possibly an additional 4 weeks if board approved), breakfast and lunch will be available for pick up at the cafeteria at designated times. Students will not be required to be in the vehicle when meals are picked up.

Cafeteria Safety Plan

Avoiding Transmission

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention.html>

Stay home if you are sick. DO NOT come to work if you are feeling ill (fever, cough, body aches, sneezing, runny nose etc.).

1. Learn what to do if you are sick.
2. Stay home if anyone in your home is sick.

Wash your hands often

1. Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
2. If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry.
3. Avoid touch your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
4. Wash hands before putting gloves on and after taking gloves off.

Avoid close contact

1. Avoid close contact with people. Maintain a distance of at least 6 feet from other people. This is especially important for people who are at higher risk of getting very sick.
2. Place distancing markers on the floors to clearly mark 6 feet spacing between students/staff.

Cover coughs and sneezes

1. Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or use the inside of your elbow.
2. Throw used tissues in the trash.
3. Immediately wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not readily available, clean your hands with a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.

Currently this is no evidence of food or food packaging being associated with transmission of COVID-19. Food borne exposure of this virus is not known to be a method of transmission according to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA.Gov).

Masks, Face Shields, and Shields for Serving Line and Point of Sale Area

1. Masks and face shields will be made available to all food service staff.
2. A surgical or cloth mask does not guarantee a person will not transmit the virus, so all food service employees must still adhere to all safety protocols, especially maintaining a distance of 6 feet from your co-workers and the community (when/if possible).

Staff will be sent home if they have symptoms or a temperature of 99.9 F or higher.

1. Food Service supervisor or designated food service employee will document temperatures and answers to screening questions on the health check log. Copies of the health check log will be available to screener at all times.
2. Each food service staff member will answer health screen questions upon arriving to work.
3. Each food service staff member will have their temperature taken by the screener, the screener will document the temperature. Temperature and questions will be taken/asked once a day, when the food service employee arrives to work, although temperature and questions may be taken/asked more than once a day if necessitated.

Food Service staff must not return to work unless they have been symptom free, with no fever-reducing medication for at least 72 hours.

Kitchen

1. Practice good hygiene before and after your shift.
2. Do not greet staff with hugs, handshakes, group photos, or any other physical contact.
3. Sanitize the kitchen prep areas before starting work for the day.
4. Change gloves frequently (with every new task!)
5. Sanitize work areas before and after each task.
6. Maintain 6 feet distance from other food service employees while preparing food, if possible.
7. Only food service staff may be in the kitchen; the exception: when students & staff are going through the serving line & for delivery of food service items.
8. Vendors/delivery drivers must wear a mask at all times.
9. Staff will wear gloves when putting away deliveries & wash hands after removing gloves.

Diner

1. Food Service staff will clean, disinfect, and sanitize all common surfaces daily.
 - a. Countertops
 - b. Tables
 - c. Doorknobs/Door Handles
 - d. Light Fixtures

- e. Bathroom Fixtures
- f. Toilets
- g. Phones
- h. Keyboards/Keypads
- i. Touch Screens
- j. Drinking Water Jug
- k. Floors (including bathroom floors)

HEALTH/SAFETY PLAN

General guidance:

- Monitor the potential impact of Coronavirus (COVID-19) in Presidio county and adjoining counties, and follow guidance provided by local health professionals.
- The Marfa ISD administrative team will meet weekly and will make the final decisions on whether the school will continue to offer both in-person instruction and remote/asynchronous instruction, or remote/asynchronous instruction only, based on the most current information.

Campus Procedures:

- Staff and visitors will have their temperatures checked prior to the school day as they enter the building. Temperatures will only be taken one time per day.
- If a student has a fever 100.0 degrees or higher, he/she will be isolated and then sent home until they are 24 hours symptom-free, with no fever-reducing medication.
- All students will wear masks while entering and exiting the building, during passing periods, and while in line for lunch and breakfast. While a student is seated, he/she will be encouraged to wear a mask.
- Physical distancing (6 feet or 2 arm's length) will be enforced when possible.
- Hand washing and/or hand sanitizing will be taught and required frequently throughout the day.
- All students (Elementary and JSHS), who are able, will wipe down their desks and chairs with disinfectant multiple times throughout the day. The teachers and students will play a role in the daily cleaning process.
- When in-person instruction begins, elementary students will eat breakfast and lunch in their classrooms. Junior high and high school students will eat breakfast and lunch in the cafeteria. All seats will be 6 feet apart. Students will wear masks entering and exiting the cafeteria. One person at a time will be allowed in line while getting food.
- When in-person instruction begins, all bus riders will wear a mask while on the bus, with some exceptions as determined by the bus driver and administration. All students will

have assigned seats for the 2020-2021 school year. Family members will be seated together. Riders will be seated in every other seat.

Positive Cases of COVID-19 on Campus:

- Beverly Dutchover, Marfa ISD nurse, is the District’s contact tracing specialist. If a positive case is reported, she will complete a contact tracing investigation to determine if other steps need to be taken.

CoVID 19 STANDARD RESPONSE PROTOCOL

Campus Level Focus				District Level Focus
RESPONSE AREA ACTIVITY	STAGE 1	STAGE 2	STAGE 3	STAGE 4
	No confirmed cases of COVID-19 among staff or students	1 - 3 confirmed case(s) of COVID-19 at one campus	4 - 10 confirmed cases of COVID-19 at one campus	11 or more confirmed cases of COVID-19 at a campus/district
Instruction	In-person and asynchronous instruction. All students will wear masks on campus. Student group activity limited to 3 per group. Desks spaced as far apart in classroom as possible.	In-person and asynchronous instruction continues. No student group activities. No common assemblies in closed areas smaller than gymnasium.	All instruction moved to remote/ asynchronous learning for 2 instructional days. In-person instruction will resume after 2 instructional days. Asynchronous instruction continues.	All instruction moved to remote/ asynchronous learning for a 1 week. Stage 2 protocol upon return.
Students	All students will wear mask on campus. Students to practice social distancing to greatest extent possible. No congregating in groups of more than 3	Confirmed exposure to confirmed cases, or confirmed with COVID-19, requires 14-day self-quarantine. May return to school after 14-day quarantine AND at least 10 days after symptoms first appeared AND at least 72 hours without fever.	All students to remain home for 2 instructional days, receiving remote/ asynchronous instruction. Those with confirmed cases, or exposed to confirmed cases, will self-quarantine for 14 days. May return to school after 14-day quarantine AND at least 10 days after symptoms first appeared AND at least 72 hours without fever.	All instruction moved to remote/ asynchronous learning for a 1 week. Stage 2 protocol upon return.
Staff Activity	In-person and asynchronous	Confirmed exposure to confirmed cases,	Move to remote instruction for 2	All instruction moved to remote/

	instruction. PPE to maximized as possible. Limited group activities (3 student or less), limited assemblies (students distanced 6 ft apart, or as much as possible). Monitoring of student reported symptoms. Daily cleaning of personal area and doorknobs/handles. Must self-monitor for symptoms daily.	or confirmed with COVID-19, requires 14-day self-quarantine. May return to school after 14-day quarantine AND at least 10 days after symptoms first appeared AND at least 72 hours without fever. If capable, provide remote instruction from home to students. Must self-monitor for symptoms daily.	instructional days. May return if symptom free for 48 hours. Must self-quarantine for 14 days if have, or exposed to, a confirmed case. Confirmed exposure to confirmed cases, or confirmed with COVID-19, requires 14-day self-quarantine. May return to school after 14-day quarantine AND at least 10 days after symptoms first appeared AND at least 72 hours without fever. Must self-monitor for symptoms daily. Monitor student symptoms daily.	asynchronous learning for a 1 week. Provide remote instruction from home to remote learners. Must self-monitor for symptoms daily. Stage 2 protocol upon return.
Extra-Curricular Participation/ Events	Practices to maximize use of PPE as possible (coaches to use as much as possible). Common equipment cleaned daily.	Normal participation and practices, except as noted above for students with confirmed cases, or exposure to confirmed cases.	Modification of practices to minimize (eliminate if possible) interactions within 6 feet. Students and coaches to wear PPE as much as possible. All common surfaces and equipment disinfected daily. Individual water bottles only; no common water container/fountain/cups. Uniforms cleaned daily.	Extra-curricular activities cancelled for remainder of season, or minimum of 2 weeks.
Campus Visitors & Spectators	All visitors must wear masks. Must attest they are symptom free and have not been exposed to any confirmed cases within the last 14 days. Limited spectators indoors. Visitors/parents	By appointment, attest they are symptom free, and have not been exposed to any confirmed cases within the last 14 days. Limited	Visitors must schedule appointments via telephonic/online methods if possible. No spectators allowed indoors, or outdoors.	Extra-curricular activities cancelled for remainder of season, or minimum of 2 weeks. No spectators allowed at any events (indoor or outdoor) for remainder of season,

	will be screened for all indoor meetings.	spectators allowed for indoor activities.		or 3 weeks, whichever is greater.
Administrative	Monitoring virus trends in community. Monitoring of staff symptoms daily via self-monitoring and reporting. Enforcing the use of PPE for all personnel/students on district property.	Monitoring of staff symptoms daily. Monitoring of student symptoms daily. Identify any staff that are confirmed cases or exposed to confirmed cases. Confirmed cases, or exposure to confirmed cases, require a doctor's note that they are no longer contagious and free of the disease. Communication with parents and staff that may have been exposed to a confirmed case.	Monitoring of staff symptoms daily. Monitoring of student symptoms daily. Identify any staff that are confirmed cases or exposed to confirmed cases. Confirmed cases, or exposure to confirmed cases, require a doctor's note that they are no longer contagious and free of the disease. Communication with parents and staff that may have been exposed to a confirmed case.	Monitor status of infection and recovery of affected staff and students. District operations closed for all except custodial/maintenance and administrative staff. Communicate with community regarding closure.
Custodial/ Maintenance	Daily cleaning of commonly touched items (doorknobs, handles, water fountains). Weekly application of disinfectant on floors/carpets. Monthly replacement of air conditioning filters.	Areas exposed to confirmed cases, or possible confirmed cases, must be deep cleaned, disinfected and closed to personnel for 48 hours.	Areas exposed to confirmed cases, or possible confirmed cases, must be deep cleaned, disinfected and closed to personnel for 72 hours.	All facilities closed for 1 week. Mass disinfection of facilities and vehicles. All playgrounds and athletic fields/facilities closed for all use.
*This plan is subject to change as events, orders, requirements, conditions, and circumstances dictate.				

Spectators and UIL Activities:

Marfa ISD is committed to the safety of all persons attending sporting events and other extracurricular activities in and on our facilities. Due to UIL guidelines and COVID-19, the following procedures will be implemented at ALL activities with NO EXCEPTIONS:

All spectators will be screened for COVID-19, which may include temperature checks. *(Please note, if anyone registers a temperature of 100 degrees or higher, he/she will not be allowed to enter the facility.)*

Facilities will be filled to a maximum of 50% capacity.

All spectators will be required to wear face coverings at all times, including when entering and exiting school facilities and when physical distancing cannot take place.

There will be absolutely no congregating before or after events in any areas of the facilities, including lobby areas of gymnasiums. Any students or children congregating or disregarding social distancing policies, will be asked to leave the facility.

There will be absolutely no spectators / parents allowed on the playing field or court before, during, or after contests, including Friday night football games. The Shorthorn Booster Club members will be allowed to set up and take down the run through tunnel during home varsity football contests.

If concession stands are open, spectators will be required to wear a face covering and physically distance while standing in line.

There will be no more than two (2) spectators at a time allowed in the restroom facilities.

Marfa ISD asks that all patrons respect these procedures so that we can safely continue to watch athletes perform.

These guidelines are in place to allow our students to enjoy the support of their families and community. As long as these safety measures are followed, we will continue to allow spectators into the Shorthorn facilities. Marfa ISD reserves the right to refuse entry to anyone who does not follow district policies and guidelines.

Information for Staff:

- If a staff member tests positive for COVID-19, or has a family member that tests positive, or is under a doctor's order to quarantine, then that staff member is eligible to receive 10 additional days of leave until December 31, 2020.
- If a teacher elects not to teach at school and he/she has not tested positive for COVID-19, the teacher may have to use his/her personal leave.

Updated August 21, 2020