

A photograph of a classroom scene. A female teacher with long brown hair, wearing a black and white checkered shirt and black pants, is standing and smiling while holding a red book. She is interacting with three young boys. One boy in a blue shirt is sitting at a round wooden table in the foreground, looking up at the teacher. Another boy in a grey shirt is sitting at a table behind him, also looking at the teacher. A third boy in a grey Under Armour shirt is sitting at a table to the right, looking towards the teacher. The classroom has a green wall with various educational posters, including a large number line and a poster with a green star. A small table with supplies is in the background. A tissue box is on the table in the foreground.

*Safe Return to In-Person
Instruction & Continuity
of Services Plan*

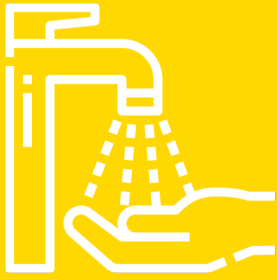
FALL 2022-2023
REVISED- August 15, 2022



TABLE OF CONTENTS



• Health & Safety Protocols	2	• Vaccine Plan	6
• Student & Staff Safety	3	• Disinfecting & Hand Sanitizing	7
• Suspected Communicable Diseases	4	• Campus/Classroom Cleaning & Disinfecting	7
• Face Coverings	4	• Websites	8
• Instructional Plans	5		



HEALTH & SAFETY PROTOCOLS

The details in this entire document are subject to change as directives are provided by governing authorities and/or health officials, or as environmental conditions change.

Weslaco ISD continues to monitor the spread of COVID-19 and receives regular guidance from Texas Governor Greg Abbott, Texas Education Agency Commissioner Mike Morath and other local, state and federal agencies regarding response, prevention and mitigation efforts. This direction will continue to evolve based on COVID-19 conditions across the state and our local community. We will educate our students, staff, and community members about the importance of frequent hand washing; covering a cough or sneeze; not touching one's eyes, nose, and mouth; staying home when sick; and other measures to help prevent the spread of communicable diseases. Hand sanitizer will be available at every building entrance and in every classroom. Weslaco ISD Custodial Services will continue to routinely clean and disinfect all facilities, including cleaning frequently-touched objects and surfaces with approved germicidal agents which are effective against multiple disease-causing viruses and bacteria.



STUDENT & STAFF SAFETY PROTOCOLS

Parents must ensure they do not send a child to school if the child has COVID-19 symptoms (as listed in this document) or has tested positive for COVID-19. All individuals (students/staff) who show symptoms will be isolated and sent home.

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

PROTOCOLS FOR STUDENTS AND STAFF CONFIRMED OR SUSPECTED OF HAVING COVID-19

As per the Texas Department of State and Health Services (TDSHS)

If symptomatic, students and staff will be sent home until at least 5 days have passed since symptom onset, are fever free, and other symptoms have improved.

Students and staff who test positive for COVID-19 but do not have any symptoms **MUST STAY** home until at least 5 days after the day they were tested.

Individuals who have symptoms, or test positive for COVID-19 and wish to return to school before completing the above stay at home period, the individual must either:

- obtain a medical provider's note clearing the individual for return based on an alternative diagnosis, though for health privacy reasons the note does not need to indicate what the alternative diagnosis is, or;
- obtain an acute infection test (at a physician's office, approved testing location, or home test) that comes back negative for COVID-19.

SUSPECTED COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CAMPUS PROTOCOLS

When a Communicable Disease is suspected the following protocols will be initiated. The Department of State Health Services (DSHS) mandates:

- The ill child will be separated from well children at the facility until the ill child can be picked up and taken home.
- Parents will be immediately informed so that medical advice can be sought.
- Protocol for Students and Staff Confirmed or Suspected of having COVID-19 will be followed for readmission.
- Please see website: www.dshs.texas.gov.

FACE COVERING PROTOCOLS

Per GA-38, school systems cannot require students or staff to wear a mask. GA-38 addresses government-mandated face coverings in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.





INSTRUCTIONAL PLANS

The Texas Education Agency's most recent Public Health Guidance for the upcoming 2022-23 school year indicated the following:

- “School systems must exclude students from attending school in person who are actively sick with COVID-19 or who have received a positive test result for COVID-19.”

Weslaco ISD is excited to welcome all students back to their classrooms for face-to-face instruction. Student learning will now include direct teaching, small group activities, and other pre-COVID instructional methods. Technology will be an alternate strategy to minimize instructional loss while students recover from medically excused absences.

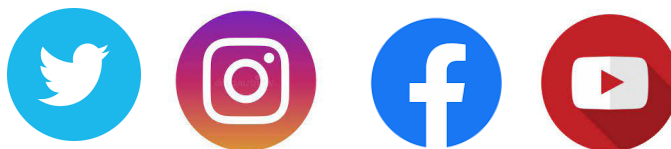
VACCINE PLAN

In an effort to provide all eligible students and staff with the opportunity to obtain the COVID-19 vaccine, Weslaco ISD has collaborated with several local agencies to provide vaccination opportunities. RGV Vax, also provides vaccination clinics throughout the year.

If you cannot attend the WISD/RGV Vax Vaccine sites, please click on any of the links below for COVID-19 vaccine registration requirements;

- Hidalgo County Health and Human Services - Scheduling Application
- RGV Vax - <http://www.rgvvax.com/>
- HEB Pharmacy - <http://vaccine.heb.com/>
- For Vaccines Near You - <https://vaccines.gov/>

Follow Weslaco ISD social media for notices pertaining for upcoming clinics.



@WESLACOISD



DISINFECTING & HAND SANITIZING PROTOCOLS

Frequent disinfection and hand sanitation will ensure health and wellness of students and staff. Hand-sanitizing and/or hand-washing stations will be available at every entrance, in the hallways and in all classrooms.

HAND WASHING/SANITIZING EXPECTATIONS

1. Alcohol-based hand sanitizer (60% alcohol or higher) will be available at all entrances, in classrooms, in the cafeteria, and in common areas throughout the school including restrooms and water fountains.
2. Staff will be expected to regularly wash or sanitize their hands.
3. Requirement for hand washing and/or use of hand sanitizer:
 - Provide hand sanitizer upon entry to the classroom and periodic teacher reminders during the instructional day.
 - Thorough hand washing upon return from outdoors, before eating, following restroom breaks.

CAMPUS/CLASSROOM CLEANING & DISINFECTING

Cleaning and disinfecting of WISD schools and buildings will take place on a daily basis. Special care will be placed to all high-touch areas such as door knobs, push bars and light switches. Custodial staff will be using an EPA-approved disinfectant (Note: This list is currently available on TxSSC COVID-19 resource page and the EPA website.) Frequent cleaning and disinfecting will promote a healthy learning and work environment for students and staff.

DAILY CAMPUS/CLASSROOM CLEANING

- Each classroom and restroom will be disinfected daily throughout the instructional day by custodial staff.
- All high-touch areas (door handles, work area, phones, light switches, desks, high touched devices such as computers or tablets) will be disinfected throughout the day and/or between use as much as possible by custodial and campus staff using an EPA-approved disinfectant (NOTE: This list is currently available on the TxSSC COVID-19 resource page and the EPA website.)
- Staff will have access to disinfectant wipes and/or disinfecting solutions to sanitize working surfaces and shared objects after each use and during breaks in instruction.
- Classrooms will be equipped for cleaning between transitions of students.
- Age-appropriate signage for proper hygiene practices will be posted throughout the buildings.

RESTROOMS

- Restroom sinks and stalls will meet social distancing requirements of at least six feet apart (middle restroom stall and sink will be temporarily off-limits).
- Campus staff should develop plans based on their individual campus needs to limit the number of students that enter the bathroom at one time.
- Elementary campuses could consider the scheduling of whole class restroom breaks to eliminate co-mingling of students across various classes and to ensure teacher monitoring of social distancing guidelines.
- Increased disinfecting by custodial staff will occur throughout the school day.
- Staff and students must wash hands with soap and water prior to exiting the restroom.
- All restrooms must have hand-washing signs with visuals indicating proper hand-washing techniques and social distancing signs should be displayed to consistently reinforce this practice.

TRAINING

- All custodial staff have been trained on cleaning protocols that include cleaning first then disinfecting and adhering to time on contact requirements in accordance with the EPA- approved disinfectants list.
- All maintenance and custodial staff will be properly trained on proper use and removal of PPE (masks, gloves, face shields).

ADDITIONAL CLEANING MEASURES FOR COVID-19 POSITIVE CASES ON CAMPUS

- Areas that are heavily used by the individual with the test-confirmed case (student, teacher, or staff) will be closed off until the non-porous surfaces in those areas can be disinfected, unless more than 7 days have already passed since that person was on campus.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/k-12-guidance.html>

<https://dshs.texas.gov/covid19readmission/>

