

**Return to In Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan (RIPICS)**

**Coleman ISD**

**School Year 2023-2024**

Updated 6/20/2023

**Introduction**

American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act requires that LEAs develop and make publicly available their plans for safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services. A summary of Coleman ISD’s plan is below.

The conditions surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic are continually evolving, and Coleman ISD’s Plans will be evaluated to adapt to the continuing trends of the COVID-19 virus. As adjustments may be necessary throughout the school year, it will be our priority to keep the community informed of those changes and updates. The Coleman ISD website will provide the most up to date information.

Please know that Coleman ISD will follow recommendations for school opening and operation from the Texas Education Agency, Centers for Disease Control (CDC), state and local health officials, and the Governor of the State of Texas. Circumstances related to COVID-19 may change throughout the coming school year.

Most Coleman ISD operations will return to normal (prior to COVID - 19) with the following expectations listed below.

**Health and Safety Measures (Updated 6/20/23)**

Ensuring all students, staff, and community members remain healthy and safe by following best practices in the areas of:

● Guidance, directives, and recommendations from health authorities

● Health and safety information, social distancing as feasible and infection control practices (hand washing, etc.)

● School health office practices, personal protective equipment (PPE) as needed, management of students and staff showing signs of illness

● Per Governor Greg Abbott’s Executive Order GA – 36 issued on May 18, 2021, face coverings can no longer be required for any student or staff member; however, masks may be worn by those who feel more comfortable doing so

● Face coverings no longer required in any educational space or activity including school buses, athletics, etc.

● Per Governor Abbott’s Executive Order, students and staff cannot be required to get vaccinated; COVID-19 has not been listed on the required immunizations for students

**Infection Control Measures**

● Coleman ISD will continue to encourage good hand hygiene such as reminding students to wash their hands after using the restroom, before meals, after recess, etc.

● Students and staff will have access to hand sanitizer

● Students, staff, and visitors will be encouraged to cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue and if not available, covered in their elbows. Used tissues are to be thrown in the trash, hands should be washed for at least 20 seconds or hand sanitizer used

● Health clinics will have well, and sick students separated as feasible when needing health service

**Health Screenings (Updated 06/20/23)**

• Students and staff should self-screen for illness symptoms daily before arriving at school. The best way to prevent the spread of illness in our schools is to stay home when ill. Students and staff should not attend school if they have a fever of 100.0 F or higher or new onset symptoms of illness.

• Students and staff may be subject to periodic temperature checks for verification, especially if they are feeling ill or suspected of having a fever during the school day.

Confirmed positive test with COVID-19

* Unless otherwise directed by a medical professional, both students and employees should isolate for five days after the date of symptom onset or test date if asymptomatic as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Control (CDC). After isolation ends, an additional five days of wearing a mask is encouraged.
* Individuals must be fever free for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications before returning to school or work. District administrators will continue monitoring the situation along with any updates in requirements for exclusion from the Texas Department of State Health Services.

Symptoms consistent with COVID-19

* Consider isolating to prevent the unintended transmission of the virus to others as recommended by the CDC
* Consider seeking medical guidance from your health care provider.
* Consider testing as recommended by the CDC.
* Consider wearing a mask or face covering if respiratory symptoms are present and you choose

not to test for COVID-19 to prevent the unintended transmission of the virus to others.

* Employees are expected to stay home when ill and notify their supervisor. Students should not be sent to school when ill. The school nurse will assess students who become ill during the school day and parents/guardians will be contacted as needed. Anyone with a temperature of 100.0 F or higher, active vomiting and/or diarrhea, or any other signs of a communicable condition will be excluded from school until the readmission criteria for the conditions are met as required by the Texas Department of State Health Services.
* Visitors should not enter district facilities if they are ill.

**Campus Operations**

● Campuses will develop schedules and protocols for the use of common areas (labs, flexible spaces, libraries, conference rooms, teacher workrooms etc.) All students and staff are encouraged to use hand sanitizer when entering and exiting common areas.

● Procedures and protocols will be put into place to address locker rooms. Protocols will be in place for disinfecting equipment, students changing clothes, students showering, distancing of students, etc.

● Hand sanitizer will be available in each classroom, entrances, and throughout common areas

● Restrooms will continue to be disinfected daily / Classrooms will continue to have surfaces disinfected daily

● Touchpoints such as doorknobs, light switches, etc. will continue to be disinfected throughout all buildings on a daily basis

● Teachers will continue to have access to disinfectant supplies to clean high-touch areas if desired

**Learning Environment**

● Desks and tables will be arranged to maximize space between students; desks and tables will not always be placed 3 feet apart due to space constraints

● Staff will have access to disinfectant solutions to sanitize high touch/working surfaces

● Staff will limit the use of shared supplies when possible

● The number of students participating in small group instruction at one time will be limited as feasible

● Students will be encouraged to supply their own art supplies

**Breakfast / Lunch**

● Recommended health and safety measures will be followed by the cafeteria staff

● Sanitizing and hand washing practices in all areas of the kitchen and serving area

● Non-disposable food service items will be handled with gloves and washed with soap and hot water or in a dishwasher

● Students will be encouraged not to share food or drink or personal items

● All tables will be sanitized between lunches

**Transportation**

● Ridership will remain at typical district capacity

● All buses will have hand sanitizer available for use when loading/unloading

● All buses will continue to be disinfected and wiped down as needed

**Visitors (Updated 8/8/22)**

● Campuses will continue to limit campus visitors

● Lunch time will not be open to parents/visitors

● No visitors on campus with lab-confirmed COVID - 19 or symptoms of COVID - 19

● Face coverings will not be required for visitors; however, they may wear a face covering if they are more comfortable

● Guest visits on campuses will be allowed for those required for educational purposes such as ARD meetings, 504 meetings, and parent/teacher conferences

● Visitors should use hand sanitizer upon entering a campus building

● Virtual meetings may be arranged to accommodate at a parent’s request

**Athletics and Activities**

● Athletics and Activities will resume normal operations in 2021-22 in partnership with governing bodies. Extracurricular activities will follow the guidelines set forth by the UIL, community health organizations, and other related entities

**Continuity of Services**

**Academic Instructional Delivery Models**

Providing a high-quality education through a face-to-face delivery model:

● In-Person Learning (Traditional Classroom Experience)

● No remote learning option is available this school year as the state will not fund virtual learning programs

● Students will have to be in attendance 90% of the day’s instruction offered in order to receive credit

**In-Person Learning**

● Available for students in Prekindergarten through Grade 12

● Students will attend school on a regular instructional schedule and will engage in face-to-face learning on campus all day, every day

● Students will follow their class schedules by transitioning to different classrooms for course instruction as needed

● Classroom instruction will be designed for mastery of student learning outcomes based on the academic standards of the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) for each content area

● Student participation will be required 5 full days per week

● Instruction provided by Coleman ISD teachers

● Instruction in core content and elective areas

● District curriculum, unit sequencing, and pacing of instruction

● Accommodations and support services provided

● Implementation of preventive safety measures

● Field trips will resume in 2021-22. Field trips will adhere to health and safety protocols in place at the time of the trip

**Addressing the Impact of Learning Loss**

● Coleman ISD will continue to move forward to respond to the pandemic and learning loss

● Coleman ISD continue to be flexible as governing authorities and/or health officials continue to update the status of present situations of environmental conditions affecting in place protocols

● Coleman ISD will continue to use screeners, benchmark assessments to help identify areas of learning gaps

● Incorporate differentiated learning opportunities as needed

● Provide more instructional time as needed during the school day to compensate for learning loss

● Provide tutoring opportunities for students not passing STAAR and EOC’s

● Intervention strategies

● Small group instruction as feasible

**House Bill 4545**

● The Texas Legislature enacted HB 4545 which requires that students who did not meet the passing standard for STAAR or EOC are to receive 30 hours of tutoring per subject area failed.

● Tutoring opportunities during the school day or after school give the students the opportunity to:

▪ Receive help from a teacher

▪ Complete assignments

▪ Reduce homework

▪ Practice for presentations

▪ Collaborate on assignments with other classmates

▪ Study for tests or quizzes

▪ Gain assistance with long term assignments

▪ Reading assistance

▪ A deeper understanding of content

**Social Emotional and Mental Health Support Systems**

Coleman ISD is committed to ensuring the needs of all students. There has been growing recognition of promoting and supporting the social and emotional well-being of students.  Coleman ISD will strive to connect with our students and build skills to identify emotions and feelings of stress and implement positive strategies to build relationships, cope with workloads, and examine ways to be successful in the midst of any challenges students may face in the coming year.

Coleman ISD will help address the mental health and social-emotional development of all students and staff by following best practices in the areas of:

● School-based mental health services

● Behavioral support systems

● Family engagement and support practices

● Staff supports

**Parent Communication**

Providing families with clear and concise communication through the following outbound channels:

● Email / Text Messages

● Website

● Phone calls

● Parents are encouraged to make sure that all contact information is up to date at the child’s campus – parent contact names, phone numbers, email addresses

**Communication Tools and Channels**

● Parents will receive texts from Coleman ISD to inform them of communications through letters or information posted to the District Website

● Campuses will share campus-specific information with parents via email, newsletters, student school email addresses, and other campus communication tools.

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*If you have a question about our District Return to In Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan (RIPICS), please contact the Administration Office at*

*325-625-3575.*