



TSD COVID-19 Health and Safety Plan

Addendum for 2021-2022 School Year

(Effective September 8, 2021)



This plan was updated on August 4 to reflect the current spike in the COVID-Delta Variant. These guidelines are subject to change based on evolving conditions and disease risk levels.

The following includes recently updated guidance from Austin Public Health (APH), the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), and Governor Abbott's Executive Order No. GA-36 related to COVID-19. The following updates replace recommendations in TSD's Reopening Plan dated August 13, 2020 and TSD's Flow Chart. Any items not listed below published in prior versions of our Reopening Health and Safety Plan remain in place. Employees and parents should take particular note of items marked **"(NEW)."**

The goal of this plan is to promote the health and safety of students and staff during the 21-22 school year. We recognize that some of our students have underlying medical conditions and encourage families to consult with their student's healthcare providers as needed with regard to health and safety protocols and submit medical documentation of the need for any special accommodations. Physician requests will be required for any special accommodations and the decision will be made by the ARD committee. **(NEW)**

To continue to keep TSD safe it is recommended that prevention strategies remain in place to safely continue in-person instruction. These include:

- All staff getting vaccinated when eligible. **(NEW)**
- All students 12 years of age and older getting vaccinated. **(NEW)**
- Staying home if sick or having symptoms of COVID-19.
- Correct use of masks or face coverings.
- Maintain physical distancing.
- Handwashing and covering coughs and sneezes.
- Engaging in outdoor activities whenever possible.
- Cleaning and disinfecting to promote a healthy environment.
- Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in the event a person on campus is positive for COVID-19.
- BinaxNOW rapid testing will be offered for all staff periodically during the school year. **(NEW)**

COVID-19 Symptoms



1. Screening and Symptom Monitoring

- All staff are required to submit the self-screening tool prior to coming on campus.
- Parents and residential staff will continue to conduct screening of their students.
- As a reminder, the questions on the self-screening tool are for new symptoms that a person has not had before and are not related to allergies, other chronic medical conditions, or other currently diagnosed medical conditions the individual may have.

2. Masking/Face Covering Required **(NEW)**

- Staff and students are required to wear face masks, while the Governor's Executive Order GA-38 case is litigated.
- Masks or face coverings should fit snugly over an individual's nose and mouth.

3. Physical Distancing

- Students and staff should be at least 3 feet apart at all times. **(NEW)**
- Six feet distancing is recommended when participating in vigorous physical activity, athletics and group gatherings.

4. Hand Hygiene, Covering Coughs and Sneezes

- Throughout the day, students and staff should perform regular hand hygiene using soap and water or liquid hand sanitizer.
- Suggested times to perform hand hygiene include when entering a room, prior to eating, after using the restroom, or after coughing or sneezing.
- Cover your cough and sneeze with a tissue. If you don't have a tissue, use your elbow. Wash your hands after.
- Until our vaccination rates increase, when greeting one another students and employees are encouraged to use an elbow bump instead of shaking hands or hugging.

5. Cleaning and Disinfecting

- High touch surfaces such as desk tops, door knobs, railings, and restrooms will be cleaned throughout the day and all additional areas throughout the campus on a routine basis.
- If a positive case of COVID-19 is identified on campus areas impacted will be cleaned and disinfected but do not need to remain closed for 24 hours. **(NEW)**
- Handwashing stations will be removed from the campus. **(NEW)**
- Campus water fountains will remain closed until further notice. **(NEW)**

6. Preparing for When Someone Gets Sick

- Students who are ill will be assessed by a Health Center nurse.
- The Health Center will determine if a student needs to be isolated or quarantined. Students experiencing COVID-19 symptoms will be taken to a designated room at TSD where they will be monitored and isolated from others. Parents or legal guardians will be notified and are expected to make arrangements to immediately pick up their student from TSD.
- Staff who are ill should notify their supervisor and make immediate arrangements to go home.

7. Required Actions if Individuals with Test-Confirmed Cases Have Been in a School

- Students and staff who are positive for COVID-19 will need to quarantine at home for 10 days.
- If an individual who has been in school is test-confirmed to have COVID-19, the school must notify its local health department, in accordance with applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations, including confidentiality requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

- Upon receipt of information that any teacher, staff member, student, or visitor at the school test-confirmed to have COVID-19, the school must submit a report to the Texas Department of State Health Services via an online form. The report must be submitted immediately.

8. Close Contacts and Quarantine

- Staff and students who are determined to be in close contact with positive COVID-19 individual will be informed, but not required to quarantine. **(NEW)**
- "Household based" close contacts are required to quarantine. **(NEW)**
- A close contact staff or student may remain on campus but should do the following:
 - Monitoring of their symptoms
 - COVID-19 rapid test
 - Use of KN95 mask **(NEW)**

9. Rapid Testing

- All students will receive a BinaxNOW Rapid Test upon arrival after the summer. **(NEW)**
- Families who do not give consent for COVID-19 Rapid Testing are strongly encouraged provide the school with COVID-19 negative screening test conducted within 48 hours of returning to campus. Documentation can be submitted to the Health Center by email: health.services@tsd.state.tx.us. **(NEW)**
- Staff test screening can be done at the health center during designated times or at a local community testing site. Tests can also be purchased from a local pharmacy.

10. Food Service/Cafeteria **(NEW)**

- Food services staff should continue to wear masks or face shields.
- Food service/food preparation among staff along with food preparation by students may resume with COVID precautions in place like frequent hand washing and mask recommendations.

- Lunch table occupancy will be established at 4 students per table. **(NEW)**
- Plexiglass partitions will be utilized at the dining tables and at the serving line. **(NEW)**

11. Visitors/Parents

- Visitors will continue to use the Visitor Self-Screening Tool prior to arrival at TSD and each day they are on campus.
- Visitors are strongly encouraged to wear a mask in all areas of the TSD campus.
- Parents are encouraged to drop off their students without entering the building or athletic facilities unless attending an event. **(NEW)**
- Parent visits must be scheduled with the department principal or dorm supervisor. **(NEW)**
- We will resume allowing campus visitors for the following: prospective family tours, current family visits and department specific events as determined within departments, and special events approved by the Executive Leadership Team. **(NEW)**
- Vaccinated volunteers, interns and interpreter interns may resume with restrictions. **(NEW)**

12. Transportation/Off Campus

- All students and staff will wear masks on school and charter buses. **(NEW)**
- Activities off campus will be allowed on a limited basis given COVID safety guidelines are followed along with the guidelines of local businesses.
- Off campus work placements can be resumed. Parent/Guardian waiver will be requested for those under 18 years of age. **(NEW)**
- Field trips may resume on a limited basis with implementation of COVID safety rules. **(NEW)**
- Large group events will be approved on a case-by-case basis by the Executive Leadership Team. **(NEW)**