



2022-23

**Leonard ISD Return to
School & Continuity of
Services Plan**

Revised 8/9/22

The conditions surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic are continually evolving, and Leonard ISD's Return-to-School & Continuity of Services Plan will be re-evaluated as necessary to adapt to the continuing trends of the COVID-19 virus, especially in the City of Leonard, Fannin County, and surrounding area. Please know that Leonard ISD will follow recommendations for school operations from the Texas Education Agency (TEA), the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), as well as state and local health officials. **Circumstances related to COVID-19 may change throughout the school year, and this document will be updated as conditions change.**

2022-23 Instructional Delivery Model

For the 2022-23 school year, Leonard ISD will provide In-Person learning on campus with safety protocols in place. There will be no remote instruction available.

Virus Prevention Strategies

Screening -

- Leonard ISD will continue to require all employees to self-screen for COVID-19 symptoms before coming to school each day.
- LISD encourages parents to perform a daily COVID-19 screening of their student.
- All staff and students should assess if they have recently begun experiencing any of the following symptoms in a way that is not normal for them.

- Feeling feverish or a measured temperature greater than or equal to 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit
- Loss of taste or smell
- New uncontrolled cough
- Difficulty breathing
- Shortness of breath
- Headache
- Chills
- Sore throat
- Shaking or exaggerated shivering
- Significant muscle pain, ache
- Diarrhea

According to CDC guidelines, a school administrator shall exclude from attendance any child having or suspected of having COVID-19. Exclusion shall continue until the readmission criteria for the conditions are met. The readmission criteria for COVID-19 is as follows:

If symptomatic, exclude until at least 5 days have passed since symptom onset, and fever free*, and other symptoms have improved. Children 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.

*Fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever suppressing medications. Fever is a temperature of 100° Fahrenheit (37.8° Celsius) or higher.

Any individual who possesses COVID-19 symptoms or is lab-confirmed with COVID-19, must remain off campus until he/she meets the current CDC and/or TEA criteria for re-entry.

- Following 5 days of self-quarantine, they may return to campus if they have no fever for 24 hours and symptoms have improved.

Visitor Procedures:

- Visitors/parents should self-screen prior to visiting any campus or facility.
- At this time, parents will be allowed on campus for scheduled meetings/special events during the school day but must first check-in at the campus office. Those with COVID or COVID like symptoms should not enter the campus.
- Visitors will not be allowed during mealtimes at any campus (mainly due to limited space and safety concerns).

Practices to Mitigate the Likelihood of COVID-19 Spread Inside the School

Hand washing/Sanitizing and Etiquette

- Students and staff should frequently wash their hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Hand sanitizer will be available in classrooms and high traffic areas such as the cafeterias, gyms, etc.
- When sneezing, individuals should sneeze into a tissue. Dispose of the tissue and immediately wash/sanitize hands. When a tissue is not available, individuals should sneeze into their elbow or hands and immediately wash/sanitize hands.

Masks and Face Coverings

- Masks/face coverings are optional for staff, students, and visitors.
- Staff and students choosing to wear a mask/face covering will not be treated differently.

Water Fountains

- Water fountains will be open at all campuses as well as refillable bottle stations. Students/staff are encouraged to bring a water bottle to school.

Cleaning/Disinfecting

- Frequently touched points in the school will be disinfected regularly (this includes door handles, water fountains, bathrooms, desks, tables, etc.)
- Each campus will be cleaned throughout the day. Electromagnetic sprayers will be utilized to sanitize on a regular basis.

Transportation

- Masks are optional on buses.
- Buses will be cleaned and sanitized regularly.

Staying Home

- Students and staff should stay home when they have:
 - o a fever over 100.0
 - o been test confirmed to have COVID-19
 - o or have COVID-19 symptoms

Response to a Case of COVID-19 on Campus

- Any person who has been test-confirmed to have COVID-19 should self-isolate for 5 days after symptoms first appeared OR date positive test-confirmed if not showing symptoms,
- Parents and staff are required to report a test-confirmed case of COVID-19 to a campus administrator or nurse.

Isolation Procedures Related to COVID-19

- Any individual who is lab-confirmed to have COVID-19 or who experiences COVID-19 symptoms must stay home throughout the infection period and cannot return to campus until the school nurse screens the individual to determine if the 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 (cough, shortness of breath); and
 - At least **five days** have passed since symptoms first appeared
 - In the case of an individual who has symptoms that could be COVID-19 but is not evaluated by a medical professional or lab-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 -
 - Obtain a medical professional's note clearing the individual for return based on alternative diagnosis, or
 - Receive two separate confirmations at least 24 hours apart that they are free of COVID via acute infection tests at an approved COVID-19 testing location.

Students and Staff Displaying Symptoms of COVID-19 at School

- When a student has displayed symptoms of COVID-19 or his/her temperature is 100° F or higher, the campus isolation plan must be followed. The school nurse will provide a clinical assessment to determine if and when a student needs to be sent home. The campus will immediately separate any student who shows COVID-19 symptoms and will isolate the student in the isolation area until the student can be picked up by a parent/guardian or designated emergency contact(s). The student will be monitored

while isolated. Students should be picked up within one hour from the time the campus contacted the parent/guardian.

- Parents of students potentially exposed to a confirmed COVID positive case will have the option to quarantine their student if the school is notified.
- At any time, if the student or staff member begins showing symptoms, then the student or staff member should seek guidance from a medical health professional. Once the student or staff member returns to school, they must be assessed by the nurse prior to going to class.

School Nurse's Clinic Procedures Related to COVID-19

- Students or staff who present symptoms will be evaluated and assessed by the school nurse.
- Leonard ISD will continue to offer COVID-19 testing administered by the school nurse. Students will need a parent to complete the permission form prior to being tested.
- Before any student is sent home sick, they must see the campus nurse. It is very important that school nurses know the reason a student is being sent home ill. This will aid in keeping everyone as safe as possible. Staff members displaying COVID-19 symptoms will also isolate themselves from students and other staff members. The campus nurse will make the determination whether the staff member should be sent home immediately.

What About a Positive COVID Case in the Home

If a positive COVID case is reported in the home, please seek advice from your medical health professional. However, if a student or staff member living in a household with a positive COVID individual becomes symptomatic, then he/she must be excluded from school unless he/she receives an alternate diagnosis from a doctor or receives two separate test confirmations at least 24 hours apart that they are free of COVID via acute infection tests from a medical provider with documentation.

Reporting Lab-Confirmed Positive Test of COVID

·Leonard ISD must report all positive COVID-19 cases to the Department of State Health Services (DSHS).

Instructional Continuity of Services

Leonard ISD has taken and will continue to take actions to ensure continuity of services, including but not limited to services to address students' academic needs as well as social, emotional, and mental health needs. As we move into the 2022-2023 school year, we affirm our commitment to provide quality instructional opportunities to prepare our students for the future.

To address previous learning loss due to the pandemic LISD has applied for and received ESSER funds which allows the district access to tailored, targeted support to address the challenges posed by COVID. Based on previous stakeholder feedback and district and campus collaboration, ESSER funds will continue to be used in several ways to address student and staff needs. The goal of these funds is to close learning gaps and improve student outcomes in an inclusive and supportive school community. LISD will support teachers through professional development adding interventionists to targeted campuses; and provide additional support staff to support students identified as EL, Special Education, and At-Risk. A significant area of focus is on recovering the learning loss through the use of accelerated instruction. High dosage tutoring, extending instructional time, and after school enrichment are strategies to help students make academic gains. Student and staff social and emotional needs are an important component of instruction as well.

Additional instructional priorities include technology enhancements and upgrades. Closing student learning gaps also requires steps beyond development and refinement of the district's curriculum. The district has expanded campus staffing to better support students. Campuses will engage in data driven meetings focused on core content instruction that analyzes student data through progress monitoring with the goal of meeting grade level standards as measured by various measures (TPRI, STAAR/EOC, CCMR, MAP Testing, etc.).

Student Absences as a Result of Illness - When a student is absent from school due to a positive COVID diagnosis (or other communicable illness) or if ordered to quarantine by a medical authority, parents may:

- In grades PK-5, make arrangements to pick up their child's missed schoolwork and/or utilize the SeeSaw platform by calling the campus office to report the absence.
- Students in grades 6-12 may access missed work through Google Classroom but should still notify the campus office to report the absence.

Recess/UIL/Social Emotional Needs

Recess is an excellent way to allow students to engage in physical activity and socialization. Campuses will reinforce safety guidelines. Students will have access to playground equipment and will have the opportunity to use sanitizer after the recess period.

UIL and Extracurricular Events - Athletic and extracurricular events will follow normal processes and competition for the 2022-2023 school year. These activities will follow guidelines set forth by the UIL, TEA and other organizations who establish safety standards for these programs.

Social/Emotional Needs - Leonard ISD employs school counselors and partners with Children's Health to provide TeleBehavioral Health Services. These professionals will focus on awareness of mental health, promote healthy coping skills, provide short-term counseling, and crisis intervention. Staff may provide assistance regarding situational concerns related to the pandemic such as anxiety, depression, grief and loss. Counselors may provide recommendations for area resources that treat mental health issues.

Periodic Review and Revision of Plan - During the period of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ARP ESSER III), Leonard ISD will periodically review and, as needed, revise its plan for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services. The plan will be reviewed at least every six months, and LISD will seek and take into account public feedback during the review process. Any revisions made to this plan will include updated public health guidance from federal, state, and local health authorities.