

COVID-19 STANDARD RESPONSE PROTOCOL

PREVENTION

No confirmed cases of COVID-19 among staff or students.

STAGE 1

- Health prevention measures are in place.
- Mask worn when unable to maintain social distance
- Daily intensive cleaning and frequent cleaning of common areas.
- Limited visitor access.
- Monitoring virus trends in the community via health departments

MITIGATION

One or more confirmed case(s) of COVID-19 at one facility.

STAGE 2

- Persons who came within close contact of an individual with a confirmed case of COVID-19 will be personally contacted by health experts and advised to self-quarantine for 14 days.
- Affected area is closed for deep cleaning.
- Self-Health monitoring, prevention information and stay home if ill communication to all persons at the school or facility.

MODIFIED OPERATIONS

Three or more confirmed COVID-19 cases in one specific area, ie: classroom

Stage 3

- Students and staff of that area will be advised to self-quarantine for 14 days
- Students impacted move to remote learning
- Affected area is closed for deep cleaning.

- Self-health monitoring, prevention information and stay home if ill reminders sent to all persons at the school or facility

FACILITY CLOSURE

COVID-19 cases exceed 10% of facility occupancy

Stage 4

- Entire facility will be closed for a minimum to two days.
- All students and staff at this campus may return if symptom free upon determination by the school district and health authorities.
- Those in close contact of the confirmed COVID-19 positive persons will be asked to self-quarantine for 14 days per CDC guidelines
- District-wide communications to staff/parents with health monitoring guidance.

DISTRICT CLOSURE

COVID-19 cases exceed 10% of occupancy in more than two facilities.

Stage 5

- All DISD facilities close for a minimum of 14 days.
- Students and staff move to remote learning and work.
- Disinfection of all facilities and school buses.
- All auxiliary areas such as playgrounds and athletic fields are closed. Extra-curricular activities are cancelled.

De Leon Independent School District
Safe Start Plan
2020-2021

De Leon ISD is committed to delivering Optimum Instructional Experiences for every student. We will strive to ensure that our learning environment is educationally challenging while following all health and safety protocols in our facilities. We have met with the Safe Start Committee, teacher representatives and the administrative team and have identified focus areas that we will use as a guide as we continue our **Quest for Excellence** in DISD.

DISD plans to offer two modes of instruction this school year. We will provide traditional, face-to-face instruction with safe guards in place throughout the District, and we will provide an Asynchronous Remote Plan for delivering instruction (instruction that may or may not require having the instructor and the student engaged at the same time). The Texas Education Agency is providing guidance and we will be working with teachers and staff during the days preceding the beginning of the school year to ensure that whether parents choose to send their student(s) to school for face-to-face instruction or choose to request remote instruction, our students will be well served. Because of the unpredictability of this Pandemic, we know that our plans may have to be altered. That being said, DISD teachers and staff stand ready to meet the needs of our children.

Instructional Continuity

De Leon ISD is committed to providing an optimum learning environment for all students in both a Face-Face and an asynchronous model. Our district will ensure our students have the opportunity to use technology and teacher expertise to challenge them to be independent thinkers and prepare them to be life-long learners. We will:

- Develop learning relationships between teachers and students
- Use an appropriate Learning Management System (LMS) based on TEKS Resources, TEA Texas Home Learning, and identified best practices using Google Classroom
- Monitor student progress and provide feedback

Students will:

- Engage daily in learning activities by submitting their own original work
- Follow [District guidelines](#) when using technology
- Follow the [DISD Student Code of Conduct](#)

Parents and Guardians will:

- Send students to school for face-to-face instruction when possible and/or provide areas at their home for student engagement.
- Ensure their student engages **daily**, completes assignments and monitors progress
- Communicate with campus staff to support student engagement and progress
- Be familiar with expectations

DISD will:

- Build a community of learners through face-to-face instruction, asynchronous instruction and remote instruction
- Develop a rich learning experience aligned with Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills
- Assess student work and Provide Feedback
- When possible and appropriate, provide dedicated technology devices for individual student use

Health and Safety

The Health and Safety of students and staff is one of DISD's foremost priorities. The District is committed to working with the local health department, the District SHAC Committee, and the Safe Start Committee to ensure a safe and healthy learning environment through:

- Sanitation—provide supplies such as hand sanitizers, UV lights, Foggers, water fountains retrofitted for bottle fill, plastic shields and masks, thermometers for each campus, two additional custodians
- Sanitizing Protocols—cleaning and disinfecting are part of the everyday approach to prevent the spread of infectious diseases. DISD will institute a rigorous schedule for cleaning and disinfecting in order to sanitize and keep germs on surfaces at a safe level.
- Hygiene & Personal Protective Equipment—Plexiglass has been installed in high traffic areas; teachers and staff will be encouraged to wash hands at least 20 seconds at least two times each day as well as

after restroom visits and before eating. Hand sanitizers will be available at each entrance.

- Response Protocol—Parents/guardians should perform a health screen prior to allowing their child to enter the school building, and Teachers and Staff should self-screen before entering each day. If a person has been diagnosed with a contagious disease, shows symptoms such as feeling feverish or having a temperature greater than 100.0 has lost taste or smell, has a cough, or difficulty breathing, shortness of breath, headache, chills, sore throat, shaking or shivering, significant muscle pain, diarrhea, etc., the student should opt to receive asynchronous at home instruction and the teacher/staff member should self-quarantine until all three of the following conditions for re-entry are met:
 - At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared
 - At least three days (72 hours) have passed with no fever above 100
 - There is improvement in symptoms

If a student becomes ill at school:

1. The Student will be quarantined in the nurse's area and not allowed to come in close contact with others
2. Parent/guardian will be asked to come to school and take the child home
3. Additional sanitation of the areas used by the student will be implemented

If a student/staff tests positive for COVID-19:

1. The District will contact persons who may have been exposed
2. The District will contact the Health Department
3. Deep cleaning and sanitations will be applied to all exposed areas.

- Visitors—Visitors will be required to wear personal protective face covering prior to entering any building, must undergo a health screening and temperature check. Lunch visitors will not be allowed until the Pandemic has passed.

Teachers and Staff Support

De Leon ISD realizes that the health and safety of the DISD staff ensures that our students will learn and have the best educational experience possible. We

believe DISD is a great learning community and is truly **The School of Choice** for this area of Texas; therefore, we intend to support our staff by maintaining safety and security throughout the work environment as we serve our students.

Return to work:

- All employees will return to work according to the [district calendar](#) for 2020-21.
- All employees will self-screen each day and follow Health Guidelines as outlined previously
- An employee with concerns should inform their supervisor and ask for guidance.
- Absences and leaves are addressed in the [Employee Handbook](#)
- Contracts and work calendars will be included in the Back-to-School Packet along with Professional Training schedules

Operational Guidelines

De Leon ISD understands effective and efficient structures are critical to ensure success in the day-to-day operations of a school.

- School Calendar is posted on the District Website and included in each employee packet
- Attendance—The 90% rule will remain (students must be in attendance in order to receive credit). Attendance may be recorded in a variety of methods: monitoring daily progress on a daily basis, personal contact through phone or computer messages. It will be **VITAL** for each student to provide a correct telephone number and/or email address.
- Extracurricular Eligibility—UIL eligibility is based upon students passing each class each grading period. Students can regain eligibility halfway through the following period if passing all courses. For the 2020-21 school year, UIL eligibility requirements for the first six weeks of the year have been modified to allow a student to be eligible for the first six weeks if the student accumulated at least two and one-half credits since the start of the 2019-20 school year.
- Facilities—Facilities may be used by outside entities though application and adherence to Facility Use Guidelines.
- Child Nutrition--The Child Nutrition Department is committed to ensuring students receive healthy, nutritious meals each school day.

[Prices](#) are included in each student packet and applications for the Federal Lunch program are also included.

- Food Service personnel will be trained in Covid-19 Safety Protocols
- Hand sanitizers will be provided at Cafeteria entry
- Microwave oven use will NOT be allowed
- Servers will wear shields or masks
- No parents/visitors will be allowed during meals
- Transportation—During this time, buses will run their regular schedules with the exception of the in-town route which will have to be limited (We will strive to serve students whose parents have a special need or if there is a safety issue.) to avoid overcrowding. Parents are encouraged to provide transportation when possible to avoid unneeded exposure. The Transportation Handbook can be found [here](#).
 - Bus Drivers will be trained in Covid-19 Safety Protocols
 - Windows will remain open when possible
 - Hand Sanitizers will be provided for students as they enter
 - Drivers will wear shields or masks
 - Buses will be sanitized after each route