

# **Ennis Independent School District**

# **ESSER III Planning Document**

# Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan

# 2021-2022

# (Updated August 20, 2021)

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# **Public Health Considerations**

During the 2021-2022 school year, Ennis ISD will continue to monitor COVID cases within the state and within Ellis County. With guidance from local medical professionals, Ennis ISD will make decisions that consider the health and safety of all students, staff and campus visitors.

Masks will be recommended, but not required for the 2021-2022 school year. Signs will be posted at each campus informing students, staff and visitors that Ennis ISD is following safety guidelines recommended by Texas Department of State Health Services. Custodial staff will return to usual cleaning procedures with additional cleaning measures being implemented when necessary.

Contact tracing is no longer required and quarantining due to exposure is optional. Starting August 16, 2021, the Ennis ISD COVID <u>dashboard</u> will be updated weekly with the number of active cases per campus.. In addition to the dashboard, Ennis ISD will alert parents with children in grades EC-6 via email when a student in their child's class tests positive. Our secondary campuses will alert parents when any student on that campus tests positive for COVID-19. We will continue to report all positive staff and student cases to our Local Health Authority and all staff, student and visitor cases to the state.

Parents are encouraged to monitor for symptoms of COVID-19 and all other illnesses and keep students home and seek medical attention. Hand sanitizing stations will remain in all District buildings and be refilled as needed. Signs will be posted throughout the buildings with reminders to practice good hygiene.

The Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS), released an <u>update</u> stating "A school administrator shall exclude from attendance any child having or suspected of having COVID-19. Exclusion shall continue until the readmission criteria for conditions are met." Students and staff who are positive for COVID-19, must meet the following readmission criteria before returning to school:

- 1. COVID-19 positive individuals must remain out for 10 days from symptom onset, be fever free for 24 hours without the aid of fever-reducing medication, and other symptoms have improved.
- COVID-19 positive individuals who are asymptomatic must remain out for 10 days from the test date.

# **On-Campus Instruction**

Ennis ISD will only offer on-campus, face-to-face instruction this year. Canvas (online learning platform) will continue to be used to support teaching and learning throughout the year. For specific questions about on-campus instruction at specific campuses, please contact the school's Principal.

When a student is out, they may access materials via Canvas in an effort to stay up-to-date on instruction. This does not constitute time in class for students. Students (or parents of our youngest students) are encouraged to communicate absences with their teachers(s). Students will have the opportunity to make up work once they return to school.

#### Attendance

Students are required to attend class at least 90% of the days the class is offered to receive credit. (Refer to the Ennis ISD Student Handbook for additional attendance information.)

Students who do not meet the required in-person attendance requirement must go through the Attendance Committee. Please contact the campus principal if you have questions.

While long-term remote/virtual instruction is not an option for the 2021-2022 school year, students are encouraged to stay up-to-date through Canvas.

Students who are absent from in-person instruction may not attend any extracurricular or club activities through Ennis ISD on the day of the absence. Coaches/directors/sponsors should check daily attendance before allowing a student to participate in a practice, performance or competition.

#### **Employee Wellness**

Employees are encouraged to monitor their health. If they are unwell, they must report the absence to their supervisor immediately and document the absence in AESOP, as appropriate.

COVID positive tests will be considered excused absences. The employee may use state, local, and non-duty days (for 226+ employees only) for COVID absences. Employees who miss more than 3 consecutive days must provide a doctor's note or a positive COVID test.

Ennis ISD offers health and wellness resources for employees in the following ways:

- Comprehensive Benefits Plan
- Wellvia (24/7 Telehealth medical provider)

### **Additional Resources**

Ennis ISD's 2021-2022 COVID-19 protocols can be found <u>online</u>. For specific questions about procedures and protocols at specific campuses, please contact the school's Principal.

# **Social Emotional Support**

Ennis ISD counselors are available to support students academically, socially, and emotionally. Counselors are prepared to provide support for families as well. In addition, Community In School coordinators are supporting mental health needs for At-Risk students in grades 4-12.

# Face-to-Face Learning

Ennis ISD will welcome students to 100% in-person instruction for the 2021-2022 school year.

# **Food Services**

Breakfast and lunch will be provided free of charge for all students for the 2021-2022 school year.

#### **Water Fountains**

On the advice of the CDC, Ennis ISD has replaced most water fountains with touchless water fountains to fill reusable bottles. Students are encouraged to bring refillable bottles to school for water.

#### **Hand Sanitizing Stations**

While not required during the 2021-2022 school year, Ennis ISD is committed to continuing to provide hand sanitizing stations in high traffic areas throughout all Ennis ISD facilities. The District will continue to encourage good hand washing procedures for all students and staff.

#### **Transportation**

Transportation will continue for all students who are eligible. Information on transportation services can be found at this <u>link</u>.