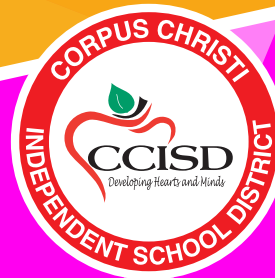


2021-2022 Back to School

Return to In-Person
Instruction and Continuity
of Services Plan



FIRST DAY
OF SCHOOL
TUESDAY,
August 10

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2021-2022 Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan

Corpus Christi ISD is committed to providing rigorous, TEKS-based instruction to all students in a healthy and safe environment. CCISD has been working diligently to plan on how we will maintain the health and safety of students, staff, and visitors in all of our buildings. All district campuses and facilities are open for business and we are excited about serving our community. CCISD looks forward to welcoming our students back to school on **Tuesday, August 10, 2021!** The 2021-2022 school calendar can be found on our district website and [here](#).

The purpose of this Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services plan is to share information on how Corpus Christi ISD will work tirelessly to continue our safe operation of schools while addressing the impacts of COVID-19 on our student's academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs. Many schools across Texas and the nation are receiving financial support from the American Rescue Plan Act Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) federal grant to assist school districts to reopen and sustain safe operation of schools while focusing on accelerating learning that was lost due to the pandemic.

Corpus Christi ISD believes in listening to our stakeholders and their needs when creating action plans. CCISD has created surveys to solicit stakeholder feedback. Stakeholders include parents, students, community members, campus leaders, teachers, and support staff. Hanover's Culture and Climate survey was completed by 13,073 respondents. The survey categories included: campus environment, instructional climate, student engagement, student support services, community engagement, and student emotional learning support. CCISD also solicited feedback on the best ways to appropriate ESSER funds. Responses were received from 2,675 respondents who indicated the focus of funding would go toward accelerated and expanded learning opportunities for students, evidence-based high quality instructional materials, expanded professional development for educators, counseling supports for addressing trauma, and supplies for cleaning and sanitizing.

While it is not possible to eliminate all risk of further spread of COVID-19, this guidance document contains information on practices that minimize the likelihood of viral spread. These protocols and guidelines will be modified based on public health and governmental directives and advancing scientific knowledge on the transmissibility of COVID-19. We also believe that educating our students about proper hygiene techniques and necessary safety measures to prevent the spread will not only keep them safe, but also their families.

Corpus Christi ISD has established a COVID Task Force to ensure the comprehensive nature of the district's mitigation efforts along with providing ongoing updates to the superintendent. The Task Force will ensure that all staff, resources and supplies are prepared for full in-person instruction. The following chart lists the names and positions of the COVID-19 Task Force members.



Kimberley James	Deputy Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction
Karen Griffith	Deputy Superintendent for Business & Support Services
Dr.Sandra Clement	Chief Officer for School Improvement & Innovation
Dr. Bruce Wilson	Executive Director for Middle & High Schools (Principal Supervisor)
Dr. John Prezas	Executive Director for Elementary Schools (Principal Supervisor)
Jennifer Arismendi	Executive Director for Educational Support & Counseling Services
Debra Nunez	Executive Director for Human Resources
Sean Babcock	Executive Director for Technology Services
Brenda Marshall	Senior Director for Athletics
Dr. Melisa Guerra	Senior Director for Special Education
Sonia Zyla	Senior Director for Assessment and Accountability
Mary Boyd	Interim Director for Food Services
Leanne Libby	Director for Communications
Veronica Sisk	Director for Student Health Services
Cary Perales	Director for Instructional Technology
Arnulfo Gonzalez	Director for Purchasing
Kyle Pelichet	Director for Transportation Services
Velma Salazar	Director for Special Programs
Kristi Warnke	Associate Director for Employee Benefits & Risk Management
Kimberly Howard	Coordinator for Human Resources
Jeremy Tremblay	Coordinator for Custodial Services
Donna Hohn	Comptroller
Dr. George Woods	C&I Specialist for Health and Physical Education
James Garcia	C&I Specialist for Elementary Fine Arts
Elizabeth Ortega-Ruiz	C&I Specialist for Secondary Fine Arts
Dr. Moriam Ojelade	Public Health Emergency Preparedness Manager (Nueces County Health Department)



Per ESSER requirements, all Texas public schools are required to make this plan available to the public for comment. CCISD has posted this document to the CCISD district webpage and will comply with board policy GC (LEGAL). In addition, this document must be revised and updated every six (6) months.

Corpus Christi ISD reserves the right to update these guidelines based on future guidance from the TEA, CDC, Governor's orders, and State and Local Officials.

This plan was developed with stakeholder feedback and is open to public comment. The public comment period will end on August 12, 2021 at 4:30pm. You may submit your comments via email to RIPICS@ccisd.us.



Maintaining Healthy and Safe Environments

Self-Screening

Everyone who enters a CCISD facility CCISD must participate in completing a COVID-19 screener . This activity is based on the honor system. Parents/guardians are expected to screen their student for COVID-19 symptoms each day prior to sending their student to school or placing their student on the school bus. All individuals must be free of the following symptoms:

- Fever of 100.0° F or above or feel feverish
- New or unexplained cough
- New or unexplained trouble breathing, shortness of breath, or wheezing
- New or unexplained fatigue
- Sore throat
- Diarrhea
- New or unexplained nausea or vomiting
- New or unexplained muscle aches
- New or unexplained headache
- New or unexplained congestion or runny nose
- New or unexplained loss of smell, taste, or change in taste

Masks and Face Coverings

Schools are required to comply with the governor's executive order regarding the wearing of masks. On Tuesday, May 18, Governor Abbott issued Executive Order GA-36 stating: "No governmental entity, including a county, city, school district, and public health authority, and no government official may require any person to wear a face covering or to mandate that another person wear a face covering."

As a Texas public school, Corpus Christi ISD is subject to this order and, effective on June 5, 2021, will no longer require face coverings for students, faculty, staff and visitors at any campus, facility or event, indoors or outdoors. Despite this change in our face covering protocol, CCISD remains committed to your safety and success.

While we may no longer require face coverings, we strongly encourage all students, staff, and visitors who are not vaccinated to continue to wear face coverings, especially those individuals who are at higher risk of complications and serious illness from COVID-19 as determined by CDC guidance and/or a medical professional. Signs will be posted at entrances of our campuses and facilities to remind every one of this. Masks are available upon request for students and staff.

A student suspected of having a communicable illness (such as flu, COVID-19, Pertussis, etc.) will be offered a disposable mask until they are picked up by a parent/guardian or person listed on the emergency contact card.



Face shields will be available to elementary students for voluntary use if the parent chooses for their child to wear them, such as during phonetic instructions or during lessons when staff work in close proximity to students. Face shields are also available to staff.

Corpus Christi ISD continues to encourage staff, families and students age 12 and older to get vaccinated against COVID-19. For more information about vaccinations, please visit NuecesKnows.com.

Physical Distancing

As CCISD prepares for all students to return to school, we know that maintaining 6 feet of social distance will be a significant challenge in the instructional environment. Therefore, CCISD encourages students to maintain a physical distance of 3 feet apart when feasible. Teachers are encouraged to use outdoor space for learning environments when instructionally possible.

Desk shields will not be mandatory this year. However, students and staff will have the option of requesting a personal desk shield that will be assigned to them. Plexiglas or desk shields that have been installed/provided on campuses can remain at principal and staff discretion.

Hand washing and Respiratory Etiquette

The Director for Student Health Services will prepare training materials for teachers to review with students that discuss proper protocols and expectations for hand washing and covering coughs and sneezes. Each campus will have visual reminders (e.g. posters) throughout the building of the proper protocols for hand washing and covering respiratory droplets.

In addition to handwashing, the use of hand sanitizer is also recommended. Alcohol-based hand sanitizer will be at the entrance of the campus, in each classroom and in the cafeteria. Students and staff are encouraged to sanitize their hands frequently, especially when entering the class, before and after handling manipulatives, and eating. Teachers will provide frequent reminders to students about the importance of using hand sanitizer.

Cleaning and Disinfecting Facilities

Custodial staff will clean and disinfect each classroom, restroom, office and common area each day, with additional disinfecting of all high touch areas multiple times per day. Custodial staff will use EPA registered disinfectants, approved for use against COVID-19. Fogger/sprayer will be used only at the end of the school day or when an area is used by an individual who became sick during the day and was sent home due to experiencing symptoms of COVID-19.

Teachers and campus staff will have access to disinfectant solutions for classroom use to sanitize high-touch and working surfaces and frequently shared items.

Visitors and Volunteers

For the first six weeks of the school year, CCISD will limit visitors to the campus. Only visitors with official school business will be allowed on campus and will need to schedule their visit with



campus staff. Volunteers are welcome on campus, however volunteers will not be allowed to access classrooms or settings where students are present. All visitors and volunteers must complete the COVID Screener before arriving at the campus. This will be re-evaluated at the end of the first six weeks.

Water Fountains:

Water fountains will not be accessible to students, however students can use the bottle-filling station on campus. Students are encouraged to bring a clear container for water with their name clearly marked on it.

Training

All CCISD personnel are required to complete in a timely manner the assigned training videos through Safe School. These trainings are designed to provide you knowledge to keep you and others safe.

The Director for Student Health Services will prepare training materials for teachers to review with students that discuss proper protocols and expectations for hand washing and covering coughs and sneezes.

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, offer a disposable mask for the student to wear until they are picked up, and 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 30 minutes from the time the campus contacted the parent/guardian. Classmates will be removed from the affected classroom and taken to an alternate location on campus (e.g. go on a walk outside, move to a different classroom, etc.) so that the classroom can be properly disinfected. 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. The staff member must notify Human Resources for further instructions.

Lab-Confirmed Positive for COVID-19

Any person who is lab confirmed positive for COVID-19 must remain off campus until they meet all of the criteria for re-entry as detailed in our CCISD [COVID Flowchart](#).



If diagnosed with COVID-19 either by a positive test or assumed positive based on symptoms, the following criteria must be met to return to a CCISD facility:

- At least 24 hours have passed since recovery (resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications); **and**
- The individual has improvement in symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath); **and**
- At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared.

If the individual has symptoms that could be related to COVID-19 and wants to return to work or school before completing the above self-isolation period, the individual must either:

- Obtain a medical professional's note clearing the individual for return based on an alternative diagnosis, or
- Return a lab test negative for COVID-19.

If the individual has tested positive for COVID-19 and believes the test was a false positive 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 an alternative diagnosis, though for health privacy reasons the note does not need to indicate what the alternative diagnosis is, or
- Obtain two PCR acute infection tests (at a physician's office, approved testing location, or other site) at least 24 hours apart that come back negative for COVID-19.

Results from a COVID-19 test administered at home will NOT be acceptable for use to return to work/school after a believed false positive.

Close Contact

Close contact is defined as:

- Being directly exposed to infectious secretions (e.g., being coughed on while not wearing a mask or face shield); or
- Being within six feet for a cumulative duration of 15 minutes.

Close contact includes living in the same household, caring for a sick person with the virus. Individuals are presumed infectious at least two days prior to symptom onset or, in the case of asymptomatic individuals who are test-confirmed with COVID-19, two days prior to confirming lab tests.

Vaccinated persons with an exposure to someone with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 are not required to quarantine if they meet all of the following criteria:

- Are fully vaccinated (i.e., 2+ weeks following receipt of the second dose in a 2-dose series, or 2+ weeks following receipt of one dose of a single-dose vaccine)
- Have remained asymptomatic since the current COVID-19 exposure

Students or employees who have had known close contact with a person who is test-confirmed to have COVID-19, will not be allowed to return to work or school until the end of the 10-day self-quarantine period from the last date of exposure. Symptom monitoring must continue for the full 14-day incubation period.



Symptomatic - Not Due to COVID or Close Contact

Students or employees who experience symptoms of COVID-19 but who have not been determined to have close contact with someone who is lab-confirmed with COVID-19 may provide COVID test results in order to be able to return to work/school prior to the 10 day period. This option is voluntary. The Director for Student Health Services staff will determine eligibility based on type of exposure. Staff and students who do not want to participate in testing will be required to quarantine for the remainder of the 10-day period. Symptom monitoring must continue for the full 14-day incubation period.

For a visual representation of this information please refer to the [COVID-19 Flowchart](#).

Communication

The campus administrator will use approved district templates for written notification to all parents/guardians and staff members when a person on campus tests positive for COVID-19. In addition, CCISD will maintain the district's webpage that provides [COVID case counts](#). This page will be updated weekly.

CCISD will continue to report to Texas Education Agency, Texas Department of Health and Human Services, and the Nueces County Health Department all persons who were on a CCISD campus and were identified as a person who was lab-confirmed positive or identified as a person who was potentially exposed to someone who was lab confirmed positive for COVID-19.

Vaccinations

Corpus Christi ISD employees have been provided multiple opportunities to be vaccinated for COVID-19 beginning March 2021. CCISD has partnered with the Nueces County Health Department, Driscoll Children's Hospital, Amistad Community Clinic, and The Children's Clinic to offer vaccines. Eligible students aged 12 years and older have also been offered the opportunity to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. Student vaccination clinics will continue for the duration of summer school. CCISD will continue to seek partnerships with community medical providers to offer vaccinations for staff, students, and families.

Facility Ventilation System

CCISD has worked hard to improve and maintain clean air quality in all district facilities. The majority of our buildings meet or exceed the CDC recommended outside air changes per hour. Outdoor airflow is important as it helps reduce the potential concentration of virus particles in the air. The district's protocol and air conditioning systems allows campuses to have fresh air cycled through the building throughout the day. Additionally, air filters are changed regularly which provides clean, fresh air.

Special Considerations for Children with Disabilities

The recommended procedures above will apply to all classroom settings, including special education service locations. Students whose IEP has a plan for wearing a face mask or shield



will be supported through instruction and reinforcement. Physical distancing of 3 feet will be adhered to as much as possible.

Shared manipulatives that cannot be cleaned and sanitized should not be used. Manipulatives that children have placed in their mouths should be set aside until they are cleaned by hand by a person wearing gloves. Enough manipulatives should be available so they can be rotated between cleanings.

Anytime a staff member is not able to maintain a physical distance of 3 feet because they are needing to provide a personal care service (i.e. toileting, feeding, transferring), staff are encouraged to wear a mask or face shield. Staff will wash hands prior to diapering, wear gloves and wash hands immediately following changings. Surfaces used to change students should be cleaned by a district-approved disinfectant. If staff are working closely with a student and there is a possibility of fluid contamination, an isolation gown should be worn. Staff should wash their hands and any place that was touched by a child's secretions. Contaminated clothes should be placed in a plastic bag or washed in a washing machine. Students will be monitored when utilizing hand sanitizer.

Cafeteria

CCISD will open up cafeterias to all grade levels and students to eat breakfast and lunch. Campuses will be encouraged to use physical distancing of 3 feet between students in a staggered seating arrangement. For the first six weeks of school, parents will not be allowed to eat lunch with their student. In addition, campuses will not be accepting deliveries such as food, gifts, etc. This will be re-evaluated at the end of the first six weeks.

Transportation

CCISD Office of Transportation offers the following guidelines to parents and caregivers regarding school bus transportation for daily bus routes as well as athletic events and field trips. Seating will be socially distanced when possible and siblings/students from the same household are encouraged to sit together. Bus windows will be opened during transport to allow for fresh air circulation. Although the district is implementing the safety protocols and disinfecting efforts described below, families are encouraged to drop students off or walk with their students to school to reduce possible exposure on buses. Masks/Face coverings are highly encouraged while on the school bus when riders are in close proximity and physical distancing is not possible.

Any student riding the bus is expected to follow these general guidelines while at the bus stop, boarding the bus, or unloading the bus:

- Students shall practice physical distancing while waiting, approaching, or loading the school bus.
- Students will use hand sanitizer when loading and unloading the bus. The hand sanitizer is located near the bus stairwell.
- When appropriate, students will load the bus from back to front.
- Standard CCISD bus rules apply.



Buses will be cleaned routinely. Bus drivers, bus assistants, and staff will spray and wipe down high touch areas such as bus seats, handrails, steering wheel, knobs and controls with disinfecting spray. Electrostatic spraying of bus interiors will occur weekly.

Instructional Continuity of Services

Corpus Christi ISD is ready to receive all students for the 2021-2022 school year! CCISD has taken and will continue to take actions to ensure continuity of services, including but not limited to services to address students' academic needs due to unfinished learning and their social, emotional, and mental health needs. In addition, CCISD has expanded our programs that teach skilled trades which lead to an industry certification and will continue to provide courses that allow students the opportunity to earn dual credit for college. As we move into the 2021-2022 school year, we affirm our commitment to provide quality instructional opportunities to prepare our students for the future.

Early data indicates that school closures and disruptions during the pandemic have resulted in unfinished learning for many students. To address this, CCISD is proud to announce that it has received a services grant from TEA which allows the district access to tailored, targeted support to address the challenges posed by COVID.

Based on stakeholder feedback and district and campus collaboration, ESSER funds will 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. CCISD will support teachers through coaching and professional development; adding literacy and math coaches; add interventionists to targeted campuses; and provide additional support staff to support students identified as EL, Special Education, and At-Risk. TEA's COVID Recovery Instructional Materials Support Initiative (CRIMSI) materials are high quality and will be implemented for specific grade levels in reading, math, and science based on district data. Other grade levels and contents will continue to receive the district's high quality, research based materials. A significant area of focus is on recovering the learning loss through the use of our acceleration plan. High dosage tutoring, extending instructional time, after school programs, and acceleration academies are strategies to help students make academic gains. Student and staff social and emotional needs are an important component of instruction this year. CCISD provides a social-emotional screener to determine those in need, provide evidence-based counseling curriculum for all students, and increase campus counselors and licensed mental health specialists to help provide mental health support. Additional instructional priorities include technology enhancements and facilities and infrastructure 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, such as professional learning communities, 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 (i.e. mCLASS,



STAAR, CCMR). The district has refined and reinforced its Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) plan to assist teachers and campuses track student growth.

Shared Materials and Equipment

Campuses and classrooms are encouraged not to share instructional materials when feasible. If materials must be shared, students will sanitize their hands before and after use. Shared materials and equipment should also be cleaned with an approved disinfectant for the item.

Physical Education and Recess

Whenever possible, physical education classes will be held outside to allow for maximum physical distance between students. Students should maintain 3 feet of physical distance, especially during periods of exertion. Any activities bringing students into close physical contact, or requiring multiple students to touch or handle the same equipment, will be minimized. Students should avoid touching their face at all times. Sanitizing areas and access to handwashing will be provided. All students will be required to wash their hands or use alcohol-based hand sanitizer when returning to their classroom.

Recess is an excellent way to allow students to engage in physical activity and socialization. Campuses will reinforce safety guidelines such as creating staggered schedules to limit the number of classes per recess group and have staff encourage students to physically distance themselves while engaging in playground activities. Students will have access to playground equipment.

UIL and Extracurricular Events

Athletic and extracurricular events (i.e. marching band, choir, NJROTC, etc) will resume normal processes and competition for the 2021-2022 school year. These activities will follow guidelines set forth by the UIL, TEA and other organizations who establish safety standards for these programs. The teacher/instructor of the respective programs will provide specific program guidelines regarding COVID.

Field Trips

CCISD's Instructional field trips will continue to be implemented as virtual experiences or outreach programs, where the presenter comes to the campus to engage students to build their knowledge, understanding, and add realism to a subject.

Social/Emotional Needs

Corpus Christi ISD employs school counselors and mental health professionals (i.e. licensed social workers, licensed professional counselor-associate, and licensed specialists in school psychology). Collectively, these staff members are well trained to provide support and resources to address the trauma that students, families, and staff have experienced due to the pandemic.

The CCISD Comprehensive School Counseling Program promotes academic, career and social/emotional success for all students as part of a strong Tier 1 counseling program. Mental



health professionals will work with students (with parental consent) who have been referred by their campus counselor or as part of a student's individualized education plan. Mental health 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, or difficulty transitioning back to in person learning. Both counselors and mental health professionals will provide referrals to school and community resources that treat mental health issues (suicidal ideation, violence, abuse and depression) with the intent of removing barriers to learning and helping the student return to the classroom.

CCISD has also partnered with several community organizations and universities to bring specialized clinical support to students who are most in need of mental and emotional services.

Periodic Review and Revision Plan

During the period of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ARP ESSER III) (until September 2023), Corpus Christi 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 CCISD 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.

Making The Plan Available to the Public

Corpus Christi ISD has taken the following steps to make this plan available to the public:

- The Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services plan is posted on the CCISD Webpage www.ccisd.us
- The plan is available in English and Spanish on the district website.
- For any questions on the plan outside of the public comment period, please submit your question to Let's Talk on the district's website www.ccisd.us.