



WINTERS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan

(RIPICS) August 24, 2021

Winters ISD plans on remaining 100% open, protocols and information for parents have been updated. Every six months the site-based committee will revisit protocols addressing CDC and Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) recommendations and address any changes.

Our goal is to guarantee a continuity of services for all students regarding academics, social emotional health, and food services.

- Campuses will focus on a rigorous tutoring schedule for all students to address learning loss.
- Each campus has a counseling program to address students' social emotional needs.
- A nurse is housed at the elementary but is available to the entire district to address health issues.
- Winters ISD will continue to provide free breakfast and lunch during the 2021-2022 school year for all students.

Campus Procedures

Winters ISD will continue to provide the safest learning environment for our students following procedures from the CDC. Our procedures will update throughout the year; however, the following procedures are currently in place:

- Adults will not be allowed to have lunch with students.
- Meet the teacher, assemblies, and open house will be held in person. Please try to limit the number of visitors for Meet the Teacher and Open House. Virtual parent conferences will still be allowed. Facebook live will also be utilized as appropriate.
- Parents will not be allowed to walk students to the classrooms.
- Students leaving during the day for appointments will need a doctor's note to return. High school students leaving to test for a driver's license will need to bring back documentation.

CDC Safety Recommendations

- According to a proclamation by Governor Greg Abbott of Texas, **masks are optional** and no longer required.

Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing

- As allowable, students will be 3 feet apart in the classrooms.
- Desks or tables will be socially distanced as much as instructionally possible.



- When possible, technology can be utilized when the use of manipulatives is needed. Teachers will consider assigning cohort specific manipulatives to reduce the possibility of exposure or consider creating individual bags of supplementary aids and/or manipulatives for student use that could also be sent home in the event of school closure.
- The use of outdoor space for learning will be considered when possible. Classroom groups working outside will maintain at least 12 feet of social distance from other classroom groups.
- Whenever possible, students and staff will maintain consistent groupings of people to minimize exposure. Additionally, supplemental services will be grouped by grade level when possible.

Handwashing and Respiratory Etiquette

- Alcohol based hand sanitizer will be available at the main entry to the campus, in classrooms, in the cafeteria, and in common areas throughout the campus.
- Thorough hand washing will continue upon return from outdoors, before eating, and following restroom breaks.
- Proper hand washing technique will be taught to all students and consistently reinforced.
- Supplies provided by students will not be shared.
- Music and PE equipment will be sanitized and wiped down after each use.
- The scheduling of whole class restroom breaks is recommended to eliminate co-mingling of students across various classes and to ensure teacher monitoring of social distancing guidelines.

Cleaning and Maintaining Healthy Facilities

- Each classroom and restroom will be disinfected multiple times daily.
- All high touch areas will be disinfected daily.
- School Buses will be disinfected after each use daily.
- Disposable cleaning cloths will be provided for each classroom and common area to maximize room to room cleanliness.
- Staff will have access to disinfectant wipes/spray to sanitize working surfaces and shared objects after each use and during breaks in instruction.
- Cafeteria tables will be cleaned between lunches.

Contact Tracing

- School districts are no longer required to do contact tracing. However, parents/guardians will be notified if their child might have been exposed via district communication methods (letters, Facebook, Dojo, Remind, School Messenger).
- Any vaccinated person will not have to be quarantined (must show proof of vaccine), *unless showing symptoms*.
- There will be a 10-day stay-at-home period for those that are unvaccinated and deemed to be in close contact with no symptoms present.



Diagnostic and Screening Testing

- Runnels County Hospital District will continue to test students and staff for COVID, if deemed necessary.
- The district will also continue working with Runnels County Health Department to advertise testing sites.

Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities

- Winters ISD will continue to partner with Runnels County Health Services and DSHS to provide vaccinations to staff and students.

Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities (health and safety)

- The recommended procedures will be applied to all classroom settings, including special education services locations when possible and appropriate. Individual student needs will be addressed according to the IEP.

Coordination with State and local health officials

- Winters ISD will continue to follow recommendations from the Runnels County Hospital District, the Texas Education Agency, and the State of Texas. You may also view updated health guidance from TEA.



