

SUDAN ISD 2022-23 COVID-19 GUIDELINES

as of June 6, 2022

Subject to change based on updated information or orders from local and state authorities.

Vaccinations

COVID-19 vaccinations are available free of charge to all employees at University Medical Center and clinics, through appointment with the City of Lubbock, United Pharmacy, or CVS and Walgreens.

PARENT AND PUBLIC NOTICE

Sudan ISD's plan for on-campus activities and instruction.

Considering the COVID-19 public health crisis, SUDAN ISD has worked to develop a safe, efficient, and responsible plan for the 2022-23 school year, which began on Tuesday, August 16, 2022. It is important that we accommodate the social, emotional, and health needs of our students and their families while simultaneously providing the high-quality education our students deserve. The following is a summary of the plan SUDAN ISD will follow to educate students while mitigating COVID-19 spread in schools based on the requirements and recommendations outlined by the Texas Education Agency.

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE TO STUDENTS

At the start of the 2020-21 school year, SUDAN ISD offered two instructional methods to students: On-Campus, **Traditional Instruction** and Remote, **Virtual Instruction**.

Beginning with the 2021-22 school year, Virtual Instruction will no longer be offered. Sudan ISD will operate as a face-to-face, Traditional Instruction, system.

The decision to end virtual instruction for the 2021-22 & 2022-23 school year was not taken lightly; however, district and campus administrators believe it is in the best interest of Sudan students.

Currently, Traditional Instruction is the only learning method available to SUDAN ISD students.

Attendance Guidelines

Per Texas Education Code (TEC), §25.092, students must attend 90% of the days a course is offered (with some exceptions) in order to be awarded credit for the course and/or to be promoted to the next grade. This requirement remains in force during the 2021-22 school year.

Students Receiving Traditional (On-Campus) Instruction:

1. Student absence guidelines are outlined in the Sudan ISD Student Handbook.

Quarantined Students:

1. Quarantined students are defined as students being required to stay home for COVID-19 related reasons by district or campus administrators, campus nurse, or county health officials. Any absences accrued while a student is awaiting COVID-19 test results will be corrected in our attendance software when the student is coded as Q, or quarantined. *Quarantine status will be confirmed through the SUDAN ISD Department of Health Services and the City of Littlefield/Lubbock Health Department.*

HEALTH AND SAFETY PROTOCOLS

Instruction will take place in-person and will be delivered by SUDAN ISD educators. The following protocols for the prevention, response, and mitigation of the virus are being considered at this time:

PREVENTION

Practices to prevent COVID-19 from entering our schools. Use of

face coverings will follow [Governor Abbott's order GA-34](#), which reads as follows:

"...individuals are strongly encouraged to wear face coverings over the nose and mouth wherever it is not feasible to maintain six feet of social distancing from another person not in the same household, but no person may be required by any jurisdiction to wear or to mandate the wearing of a face covering."

In compliance with this order, Sudan ISD will no longer require the use of face coverings as of Monday, March 22, 2021. Students and staff are encouraged to wear face masks should they choose to do so. If you choose to wear a mask, that mask needs to be worn over your nose and mouth.

Health Screening

- Staff:
 - Staff are required to complete daily health self-screening before coming to campus each day, including:
 - Daily temperature checks; and

- Self-screening for [COVID-19 symptoms](#).
 - Staff must report to the district any [symptoms](#) and/or a lab-confirmed case of COVID-19, and must remain off campus until they meet the [Return to School](#) criteria.
- Students:
 - Parents must ensure they do not send a child to school on-campus if the child has [COVID-19 symptoms](#) or is lab-confirmed with COVID-19, and instead should opt for their child to receive make-up work until [Return to School criteria](#) is met.
 - Students experiencing any [symptoms](#) or who have a lab-confirmed case of COVID-19 will receive make-up work until they meet the [Return to School criteria](#).
 - Parents may also opt for their child to receive make-up work if their child has had close contact with an individual who is lab-confirmed with COVID-19 until the incubation period has passed.
 - Teachers will monitor students throughout the school day and refer to the nurse if [symptoms](#) are present.
- Once it is determined that individuals who responded “Yes” to symptom screening questions have met the criteria for re-entry, the individuals’ responses will be destroyed.

School Health Related to COVID-19 (TEA Public Health Planning Guide)

- The school will immediately separate any student who exhibits [COVID-19 symptoms](#) while at school until the student can be picked up by a parent or guardian.
- Students who report feeling feverish will receive an immediate temperature check to determine if they are [symptomatic for COVID-19](#).
- The school will clean any areas used by the individual displaying [COVID-19 symptoms](#) while at school (student, staff, or visitor) as soon as feasible.

MITIGATION

Practices to mitigate the likelihood of COVID-19 spread inside the school.

Enhanced Sanitization

- Hand sanitizer and/or hand washing stations will be available in each classroom, at all entrances, and throughout common spaces.
- Students, staff, and visitors will be encouraged to sanitize and/or wash hands frequently.
- Students will be encouraged to clean their own spaces before and after use, in ways that are safe and developmentally appropriate.
- Custodial staff will engage in enhanced cleaning procedures of buildings including but not limited to all classrooms, offices, restrooms, and other common areas.
- Custodial staff will engage in enhanced cleaning procedures of commonly touched surfaces between student groups, if the same room/surfaces are used by multiple student groups.
- Custodial staff will use a cleaning process with CDC recommended disinfectants that are proven to kill the COVID-19 virus as well as others and are certified safe for schools.

- Custodial staff will utilize electrostatic misters in all campus areas. Misters are designed to spread disinfectant and ensure that disinfectant droplets adhere to and coat surfaces.
- Custodial staff will frequently wipe high traffic surfaces, including handrails, door handles, counter tops, restroom surfaces, and cafeteria surfaces continually throughout the day.
- Custodial staff will increase the frequency of cleaning and disinfecting of restrooms and common areas throughout the day.
- Custodial staff will continually monitor hand washing and sanitizing stations throughout each building to ensure necessary personal disinfectant products are filled and available.
- Custodial staff will ensure that cleaning products are stored safely, including storing harmful products where children cannot access them, and ensuring that harmful cleaning products are not used near children.

Student Meals and Cafeterias

- Students will be required to wash/sanitize their hands prior to entering the cafeteria.
- Thorough sanitizing and hand washing practices will be followed in all areas of the kitchen and serving locations.
- All tables will be sanitized between mealtimes.
- Students will be discouraged from sharing food or drink.
- Tables will be spread out across cafeterias to maximize space between groups.
- Condiments and pre-wrapped silverware will be included with all meals.
- Acrylic glass shields will be installed at serving counters.
- Cashiers will enter student numbers on keypads.

Transportation

- All buses will have hand sanitizer dispensers placed in the stairwells for use when loading/unloading. All students will use hand sanitizer when boarding/exiting the bus.
- Students will be assigned seats and a seating chart will be maintained by the bus driver.
- Buses will be thoroughly cleaned after each bus trip, focusing on high-touch surfaces such as bus seats, steering wheels, knobs, and door handles. During cleaning, windows will be opened to allow for additional ventilation and air flow.

RESPONSE

Practices to respond to a lab-confirmed case in one of our schools.

School Health Related to COVID-19 (TEA Public Health Planning Guide)

- If an individual who has been in a school is confirmed to have COVID-19, the school will notify the City of Lubbock Health Department in accordance with applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulation, including confidentiality requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act and Family Education Rights and Privacy Act.
- The school will close off areas that are heavily used by the individual with the confirmed case (student, teacher, or staff) until the non-porous surfaces in those areas can be disinfected, unless more than seven days have already passed since that person was on campus.

- Upon receipt of information that any teacher, staff member, student, or visitor at a school is test-confirmed to have COVID-19, the school must submit a report to the Texas Department of State Health Services via an online form. The report must be submitted each Monday for the prior seven days (Monday-Sunday).

Return to School Criteria (TEA Public Health Planning Guidance)

- Any individuals who themselves either: (a) are lab-confirmed to have COVID-19; or (b) experience the [symptoms of COVID-19](#) must stay at home throughout the infection period, and cannot return to campus until the school system screens the individual to determine any of the below 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 (e.g., cough, shortness of breath)
 - In the case of an individual who has symptoms that could be COVID-19 and who is not evaluated by a medical professional or 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 two-step set of criteria listed above.

REFERENCES

COVID-19 Symptoms (TEA Public Health Planning Guidance)

In evaluating whether an individual has symptoms consistent with COVID-19, consider the following question:

Have they recently begun experiencing any of the following 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
- Cough
- Difficulty breathing
- Shortness of breath
- Fatigue
- Headache
- Chills
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Shaking or exaggerated shivering
- Significant muscle pain or ache
- Diarrhea
- Nausea or vomiting

Close Contact (TEA Public Health Planning Guidance)

This document refers to “close contact” with an individual who is test-confirmed to have COVID-19. The definition of close contact is evolving with our understanding of COVID-19, and

individual scenarios should be determined by an appropriate public health agency. In general, close contact is defined as:

- a. being directly exposed to infectious secretions (e.g., being coughed on); or
- b. being within 6 feet for a total of approximately 15 minutes throughout the course of a day; however, additional factors like case/contact masking (i.e., both the infectious individual and the potential close contact have been consistently and properly masked), ventilation, presence of dividers, and case symptomology may affect this determination.

Either (a) or (b) defines close contact if it occurred during the infectious period of the case, defined as two days prior to symptom onset to 10 days after symptom onset. In the case of asymptomatic individuals who are test-confirmed with COVID-19, the infectious period is defined as two days prior to the confirming test and continuing for 10 days following the confirming test.

School Nurse Protocols

- Students or staff who present with symptoms of COVID-19 will be evaluated and assessed by the school nurse.
- If COVID-19 symptoms are present: staff member will be sent home, and student will be isolated from other students until parent arrives.
 - Nurse will notify campus administrator so disinfection protocol can be initiated.
- Student will be escorted to vehicle upon parent arrival.
- Nurse will provide parent/staff with return to school criteria.

