



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

Moving Forward Together  
September 2021



PEDRO MARTINEZ  
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

**WORKING DRAFT**

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Students, Families, and Staff:

Throughout this pandemic, San Antonio ISD has taken the lead in ensuring our learning environments are as safe as possible for our children and educators. We have implemented sound strategies and best practices around mask wearing, weekly COVID-19 testing and vaccinations, social distancing, sanitation, and ventilation. As a result, we have seen less than a 2% positivity rate in our schools so far this year.

We have proven that parents do not have to choose between safety and strong academic support. Parents and children deserve both. We are grateful for this outcome and continue to be proud of the staff, parents, and students who continue to support and follow our safety efforts.

We want you to know that your child is important to us – and we care just as much about their academic achievement as their social and emotional health. We know this pandemic has taken a toll. That is why, with your input, we have created – and will continue to update – a multi-year plan for academic and social emotional recovery, funded through the federal “American Rescue Plan” (ESSER).

Through ESSER funds, we are expanding access to social workers and deploying social-emotional specialists by scaling up our community partnerships, hiring additional Licensed Clinical Social Workers, and establishing a District-level clinical team to support a greater distribution of resources.

We also are providing intensive support at upper grade levels so that high school students have increased access to academic deans, behavior analysts and specialists, and special education resources. Students of all ages will have grade-appropriate instruction on mental health.

In preparation, all secondary teachers participated in a six-hour Youth Mental Health First Aid national certification course in August. Trainers from this course will be facilitating additional conversations and training to allow teachers to debrief and further apply their knowledge.

So that you know what to expect this school year, we welcome you to carefully review our Safe Return to In-Person Learning and Continuity Plan, which is detailed on the following pages. This plan continues to be informed by your input and guidance from the following entities:

- Texas Education Agency
- San Antonio Metropolitan Health District
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- Aspen Institute for Education & Society
- Council of Chief State School Officers
- Council of Great City Schools

Your feedback is reflected in the contents of this document, and your voice will continue to inform our plans throughout the school year. I thank you in advance for your role in ensuring our schools remain as safe as possible for our students.

Pedro Martinez  
Superintendent of Schools



# GUIDING COMMITMENTS



San Antonio ISD's planning and decision-making process is informed by the following guiding principles.

- **Health and Safety:** San Antonio ISD is committed to employing strict measures to preserve the health and safety of our families and staff. San Antonio ISD is also committed to the social emotional well-being of our students. This includes creating physically and psychologically safe and nurturing spaces.
- **High-Quality Instruction:** San Antonio ISD is committed to ensuring high-quality academics.
- **Educational Equity:** San Antonio ISD respects the cultural and linguistic heritages of our students, families, and staff, and is committed to ensuring that human and financial resources are distributed in ways that meet their diverse and unique needs.
- **Accurate and Timely Communication:** San Antonio ISD is committed to providing timely and transparent communication to students, families, and staff.



# INPUT & ENGAGEMENT



The following groups have been instrumental in providing guidance and direction on the SAISD plan.

## Back 2 School Task Force

The Back 2 School Task Force is an approximately 40-member team representing every department in the District. In addition, the following working groups were formed to contribute to the School Opening and Instructional Continuity Plan:

- Academics
- Access and Enrollment Services
- Accountability, Research, Evaluation, and Testing (ARET)
- Athletics
- Child Nutrition Services
- Communications
- Extended Day
- Human Resources
- Facilities
- Family & Community Engagement
- Procurement Services
- Financial Services
- Health Services
- Health & Safety
- Human Capital Management
- Information Technology
- Operations Services
- School Leadership
- School Operations and Supports
- Transportation

## Back to School Parent Town Hall

The District held a virtual parent town hall on July 26, 2021 in collaboration with Dr. Erika Gonzalez to answer parent questions, provide updates on COVID-19 in the community, and communicate information on health and safety protocols the District will be following during the 2021-2022 school year.

- [SAISD Safe School Start Town Hall Recording](#)

## Collaboration with External Partnerships

SAISD is appreciative of the contributions of time and resources to assist in our school opening. We would like to acknowledge the following partners:

- 3M Foundation
- A+ Academics
- AFCEA Education Foundation
- ATT Center
- Beldon Roofing
- Brown & Ortiz
- Charles Butt Foundation
- City of San Antonio
- City of San Antonio Metropolitan Health District
- Communities in School
- Connect Campaign & Food and Necessities Campaign
- CPS Energy
- Firstmark Credit Union
- Frost Charitable Foundation
- Google Fiber
- Greehey Family Foundation
- GTS Solutions
- HEB
- ImmSchools
- Myra Pryor Stafford Charitable Trust
- Nature Sweet Foundation
- O'Connell Robertson
- Pearl
- Randolph-Brooks Federal Credit Union (RBFCU)
- Rotary Club
- SA YES
- SAISD Foundation
- San Antonio Area Foundation
- San Antonio Food Bank
- San Antonio Housing Authority
- Spectrum
- Spurs Give
- Spurs Sports & Entertainment
- Tech Bloc
- USAA
- USAA Foundation
- Valero Energy Foundation
- VIA
- Wells Fargo Foundation

## Principals

Since April of 2021, the Superintendent and his executive leadership team have met weekly with school principals to prepare for the 2021-2022 school year. Principal feedback during this process is critical to planning and executing a safe plan for school opening.



**District Leadership Team (DLT)**

The 48-member DLT committee, composed of campus-based professional staff, paraprofessional/classified staff, district-level professional staff, parents, and business and community members, will advise the Superintendent on various matters, including the School Opening and Instructional Continuity Plan.

**Teacher Advisory Group (TAG)**

The 2021-2022 Teacher Advisory Group will provide ongoing feedback and guidance regarding the School Opening and Instructional Continuity Plan, as well as provide guidance on other topics relevant to academic programming.

**Principal Advisory Group (PAG)**

The 2021-2022 Principal Advisory Group will provide ongoing feedback and guidance regarding the School Opening and Instructional Continuity Plan, as well as provide guidance on other topics relevant to academic programming and school leadership.

**District Parent Advisory Council (DPAC)**

The 2021-2022 District Parent Advisory Council will provide ongoing feedback and guidance regarding the School Opening and Instructional Continuity Plan, as well as provide guidance on other topics relevant to academic programming and schooling.

**Student Advisory Committee (SAC)**

Students from each of the comprehensive high schools will advise the Board of Trustees and the Superintendent on various matters, including the School Opening and Instructional Continuity Plan during the 2021-2022 school year.

# INSTRUCTIONAL CALENDAR



The [2021-2022 Instructional Calendar](#) protects instructional time by adding a two-week intercession before the start of school - Summer Jump Start - and a one-week intercession at the end of Winter Break.

As part of our plan to prevent learning loss, schools might provide additional support to students during intercession weeks.



# LEARNING OPTIONS



## In-Person Instruction

All students are expected to return to in-person classes for the 2021-2022 school year.

## In-Home Learning Services

We recognize that some students may have medical conditions which prevent them from attending school based on the advice of their doctor. Families with special circumstances who have concerns with returning their student to in-person instruction may request in-home learning services by contacting their student's school.

## Retaining Students

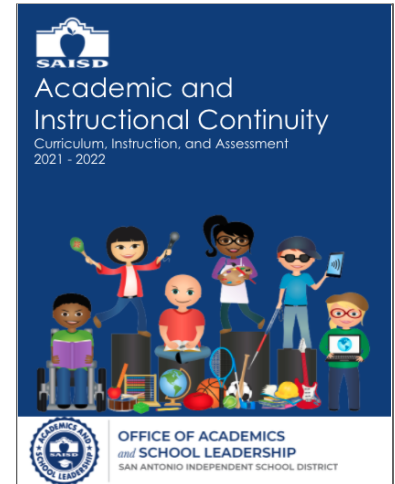
Parents with concerns about their child's progress and with questions about repeating a grade may contact their school counselor.

For more information on retention options, please refer to the following TEA resources:

- [Parents: Should Your Child Repeat a Grade or Course?](#)
- [Restart Kindergarten](#)
- [Formal Request to Repeat a Grade](#)

San Antonio ISD is committed to providing rigorous, TEKS-based instruction to all students through an in-person blended learning environment. The events around the COVID-19 pandemic continue to make this a challenging year, but the District has taken a comprehensive and thoughtful approach to ensuring all teachers are prepared to keep academic progress a priority and address the needs of our students while delivering high-quality instruction. These strategies, as outlined in the [Academic and Instructional Continuity Plan](#), include but are not limited to:

- Building a Learning Community with [Social Emotional Learning](#), [Culturally Responsive and Sustaining Teaching](#), and [Engagement Strategies](#)
- Providing High-Quality Instruction by Teaching On-Grade-Level Content, Integrating Differentiated Supports for Linguistically Diverse Students and Students with Disabilities, and [Accelerating Learning](#) in Small Group Settings
- Utilizing Strong [Formative Assessment Practices](#) to Collect Feedback on Student Progress and Generate Actionable Data to Inform Instruction
- Capitalizing on [Intersession](#) Days for Enrichment, Acceleration, and Credit Repair
- Engaging Instructional Staff in Ongoing Professional Learning Opportunities Aligned to District Goals and Priorities for Academic Achievement



## Advanced Placement

San Antonio ISD schools offer a variety of Advanced Placement (AP) courses that allow students to experience a college-level course while in high school. Each AP course concludes with an opportunity for students to earn college credit by obtaining a recommended score on a corresponding AP examination. The AP examinations are structured to measure three areas - depth of knowledge, completeness of thought, and synthesis of ideas. AP courses are offered in the core content areas as well as elective courses.

## Athletics

The Athletics Department has incorporated prevention, mitigation, and response measures in response to COVID-19. The San Antonio ISD [Return to Play Playbook](#) is intended to provide additional details regarding the shared commitments and protocols specific to District athletic and campus facilities. The current protocols for COVID-19 safety, including the San Antonio ISD Summer Strength and Conditioning Protocols, and COVID-19 Training for Cleaning and Disinfecting can be found on the [Athletics webpage](#). For the 2021-2022 school year the focus of the Athletics Department is to allow its athletes the opportunity to participate in sports in a safe format.

## Career and Technology Education (CTE)

The Career & Technical Education Department is committed to supporting San Antonio ISD's mission of preparing its students for an ever-changing world by providing rigorous instruction aligned with the demands and expectations of industry needs and local workforce. Programs of study offered focus on in-demand, high-wage, career opportunities. There are dual credit and industry-based certifications available through the programs of study.



## **Disability Services**

The Department of Disability Services recognizes that students with disabilities may have unique needs that may impact their ability to participate meaningfully in different instructional settings. Additional considerations for these students may include learning style, access to specialized materials and equipment, and student health status, which should be addressed via the ARD or §504 Process. In the event that a student has a medical issue that may prevent the student from participating safely via in-person instruction, a parent should reach out to their child's campus to initiate consideration for [Homebound Services](#).

## **Dual Credit/Dual Enrollment**

San Antonio ISD high schools offer a wide variety of courses that allow students to earn college credit while in high school. These courses may be offered in core academic and elective areas as well as in Career and Technology. The District works closely with its college partners to ensure that students can continue to take advantage of the opportunity for early college credit in virtual or hybrid course offerings.

## **Dual Language, ESL, & Migrant**

The Dual Language, ESL & Migrant Department will provide face to face language development and migrant program services and ensure that Emergent Bilingual students receive linguistic accommodations in culturally and linguistically responsive classroom settings throughout the 2021-2022 school year. Dual Language and/or ESL programs will be offered on [all campuses](#) with appropriately certified teachers and staff. The [International Welcome Center](#) will continue to provide placement testing and wraparound services in person.

## **Early Childhood Education**

San Antonio ISD has a long-rooted commitment and a dedicated focus in providing high-quality early childhood education for our youngest scholars. For over 20 years, the District has offered full-day Pre-K to students ages 3- and 4- years old with teachers certified in early childhood education (ECE) and instructional assistants in every ECE class. San Antonio ISD is the only district in Bexar County to offer universal Pre-K. Ongoing collaboration with its strategic partners, including the City of San Antonio Head Start and Communities in Schools (CIS) Parent and Child Emotional (PACE) Wellness Team, provide services to our campuses that offer Pre-K.

## **Educational Technology**

All students and teachers in grades Pre-K through 12 students have access to robust digital resources to support in-person and virtual learning, without disruption to high-quality instruction. Canvas, the District's learning management system (LMS), is made up of a powerful set of highly integrated learning products that allow teachers and schools the ability to customize their digital learning platforms. It operates as a central hub for curriculum, instruction, assessment, and mastery courses, and has a built-in assessment system with analytics to measure mastery of content. Canvas integrates with emerging technology and educational software apps such as Google, Microsoft, and Adobe, and incorporates dynamic communication tools for the digital classroom including calendars, announcements, and discussion boards. It also supports the use of assistive technology with Immersive Reader, Closed Caption, video annotation, and language translators.

The Canvas Learning Management System leverages technology in the [blended learning](#) classroom. In addition, Canvas serves as a collaboration platform for active learning and a communication tool for students and families.

In the event of an unexpected COVID-19 campus closure, the District will support the transition to remote learning by ensuring access to the Canvas LMS and other digital tools listed below so as to minimize any disruption in daily instruction.

Digital Tool	Grade Levels	Description
ClassLink Single Sign-On	PK-12	Provides access to apps, e-books, digital textbooks, and other digital tools. Students will be provided with QR codes to easily login to resources.
Canvas LMS	PK-12	Teachers publish their course content online including lesson activities, assessments, videos, contact and communication protocols, course syllabus or calendar, and link to other apps such as Google, Kami, Seesaw or PearDeck.
Seesaw	PK-3	A digital portfolio used in the lower grades to share and upload assignments for young children and serves as a communication tool for parents.
Zoom	PK-12	A web conferencing tool used for live class instruction.

Campus administrators will ensure that all teachers and students have access to district-provided digital resources and devices. The Office of Academics and School Leadership has developed a remote learning guide for the 2021-2022 school year to provide further guidance. For more information on Canvas LMS or other digital tools and resources visit the [Educational Technology & Design Website](#).

### Fine Arts

The Fine Arts Department has implemented safety measures to ensure a safe and secure learning environment. The safety guidelines include indoor masking, social distancing, scheduling considerations, and the use of water bottles. For all fine arts classes, masks must be worn at all times while in the classroom. Students and teachers should maintain a physical distancing as recommended by the CDC which includes 3 feet to the maximum extent possible. The Fine Arts Department will furnish face masks with slits for equipment that requires the use of a mouthpiece. In addition, bell covers will be provided for all wind instruments. All instrumental music students should have two masks that include one for the school day and one performance mask with slits for mouthpiece placement. Water stations or fountains should not be utilized. Students are encouraged to bring their own water bottle. Brass players will use puppy pads provided by the department to collect condensation from their instruments. The Fine Arts Department has provided [guidance](#) on outdoor rehearsals for band, the dance team, cheer team, and pep squad. Scheduling considerations have been made at the elementary level for those fine arts teachers who visit two campuses during a normal schedule.

### Gifted and Talented Education (GATE)

The Gifted and Talented Education (GATE) Department aims to transform potential in youth into outstanding achievement in adulthood. The District is committed to identifying and nurturing individual strengths in order to cultivate the unique intellectual and academic gifts and talents of our students. GATE services are provided at every San Antonio ISD campus by teachers trained in differentiation practices that they implement in their classroom and supplemented with face to face enrichment services provided by District GATE Specialists.

### Health & Physical Education

The Health & Physical Education Department provides students the opportunity to develop the mind, body, and spirit in a safe learning environment. Physical activity is important for students' overall well-being. The Health & Physical Education Department will continue to provide opportunities for structured outdoor and indoor learning. Safety guidelines for the program include masking, social distancing, sanitizing, and the use of water bottles, in accordance with the District Health and Safety Protocols and CDC COVID-19 Prevention K-12 School guidelines. When increasing movement from moderate to vigorous physical activity, several zones will be provided for students to sanitize and recover. Teachers will continue to [clean and disinfect](#) equipment and spaces, according to District guidelines.

## **JROTC/LOT**

The U.S. Army Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC) is one of the largest character development and citizenship programs for youth in the world.

## **Literacy and Biliteracy**

San Antonio ISD believes that the pathway forward is through rigorous Tier 1 instruction for all students that includes reading and writing in all content areas. The [Literacy and Biliteracy District Plan](#) will ensure comprehensive planning for instruction that begins with grade-level standards and complex texts, provides routines aligned to the Science of Teaching Reading and supports both literacy and biliteracy trajectories, and identifies the necessary scaffolds to support intervention and enrichment. Literacy and Biliteracy classrooms will be designed to excite students' love of reading, writing, and self-expression. All students can perform at high levels of literacy--if they are provided with voice and choice in the classroom.

## **Mathematics**

San Antonio ISD recognizes that the COVID-19 pandemic has had a dramatic impact on students and their ability to perform in mathematics. The pathway forward is through providing additional scaffolding to help students develop deep mathematical understanding of concepts and accelerate their learning. Schools are offering intersession opportunities as well as school-based tutoring sessions for students to have additional instructional time building both critical thinking and problem-solving strategies. Teachers are engaged in ongoing professional learning on evidence-based emerging supports and resources to engage students in relevant and applicable mathematical learning.

## **Postsecondary Initiatives**

San Antonio ISD has committed to opening the doors of postsecondary opportunity to its students by providing the resources and support for students to enter college. From college exploration and selection, to completing college, financial aid and scholarship applications, to registering and entering college in the fall after high school graduation, students have access to a team of staff committed to their success. College Bound Advisors, working closely with campus counselors and support staff, ensure that students are able to move past any barriers they may encounter on their journey to enter and persist in earning a college credential. College Alumni Advisors work to ensure that students who have entered college persist to completion of a college credential and offer enrollment support to students who have graduated from a San Antonio ISD high school and may have delayed college enrollment.

## **Science**

San Antonio ISD believes that effective science instruction exists through the lens of inquiry-learning focused on developing students who understand scientific inquiry and engage in a variety of scientific practices to explain phenomena and solve problems. Through inquiry-learning, students understand science as an iterative, dynamic, creative, and collaborative process similar to how real scientists do their work. Science instruction also allows students to develop models of systems within the natural world, investigate real-world situations, develop critical thinking with productive discourse, and engage in purposeful reading, writing, and speaking on relevant topics.

Please visit the [Academic Instruction and Continuity Plan](#) for more information about

# DIGITAL LEARNING PLAYGROUND



The San Antonio ISD Digital Learning Playground (DLP) is a one-stop shop for student digital learning. Students and families can find lessons and activities designed to engage students in continuous learning. The DLP is the District's continuous learning platform for students and families to engage in activities when they are away from school. Each DLP website features students' favorite digital learning activities such as academic and technology choice boards, family activities, self-care strategies, and resources for parents. Embedded in the lessons are supports such as Immersive Reader. All lessons are delivered in both English and Spanish to meet the needs of our students. New editions of the Digital Learning Playground ([Winter Edition](#), [Spring Edition](#), [Summer Edition](#), [Quarantine Edition](#)) are developed and launched throughout the year to meet the needs of students and their families.

# LEARNING IN QUARANTINE



The [Quarantine Edition](#) of the Digital Learning Playground was launched on September 7, 2021 to support the learning of students who are quarantined. A webpage, [Learning in Quarantine](#), and [handout](#) for families was developed with a full menu of lessons for students in grades Pre-K through 12 and their families. Lessons include embedded accessibility accommodations. Grade band specific lessons including Math and Istation are available to elementary students. High school students have full access to Edgenuity.

Explore Our Learning Choice Boards | Explora nuestras opciones de aprendizaje



The following prevention and mitigation strategies are implemented in alignment with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The District will continue to monitor information from the CDC, the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District (Metro Health), and the Texas Education Agency (TEA). There is broad agreement that air quality, mask wearing, handwashing, sanitizing, testing, and vaccination can mitigate the spread of COVID-19. As such, the District will continue to reinforce these best practices.

## Hand Washing

Students will continue to be instructed on [proper handwashing](#) and will be provided time within the school day to wash their hands.

## Mask Wearing

While the Governor's Executive Order forbids government entities from mandating mask wearing, the CDC recommends universal indoor masking regardless of vaccination status. Individuals who are outdoors should wear masks if they are in congregate settings and unable to socially distance. On August 16, 2021, the San Antonio ISD Board of Trustees adopted a requirement that all students, parents, employees, and visitors wear face coverings at all times when on District property. A resolution was passed by the Board of Trustees on September 13, 2021 reasserting the previous action that requires the use of face coverings of all individuals entering school premises.



The District's mask wearing protocol is informed by guidance from the following entities:

- Updated Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) [Guidance for COVID-19 Prevention in K-12 Schools](#) (July 9, 2021)
- City of San Antonio Metro Health's [Recommendations for Schools in San Antonio and Bexar County](#) (July 30, 2021)
- Texas Governor Greg Abbott's [Executive Order GA-38](#) (July 29, 2021)

## Sanitizing and PPE

Alcohol-based hand sanitizer dispensers are located in each classroom, as well as throughout common areas on each campus. As recommended by the CDC, the District's alcohol-based hand sanitizer contains at least 60% alcohol. Staff and students will be provided with disposable face masks as needed.

## Cleaning and Disinfecting

Both horizontal and vertical high-touch surfaces in learning areas will be cleaned daily using an Environmental Protective Agency (EPA) approved cleaning and disinfecting solution, followed by weekly surface treatment using an electrostatic applicator. High-touch surfaces in common areas such as hallways and bathrooms will be cleaned and disinfected several times daily using the EPA-approved solution. The District also employs an additional measure of disinfection by applying a non-toxic, water-based, surface barrier protectant that continuously kills pathogens for up to 30 days.



Cleaning and disinfecting will be required frequently on high-touch surfaces in common areas (e.g., door handles, sink handles, drinking fountains) within the school and on school buses at least daily or between use as much as possible. Use of shared objects (e.g., gym or physical education equipment, art supplies, toys, and/or games) should be limited when possible or cleaned between use.

All spaces occupied by a person who tests positive for COVID-19 will be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected within 24 hours.

### **Water Systems**

To minimize the risk of illness associated with drinking from the same water fountain, all campuses will have at least one water bottle filling station. Students and staff will be asked to bring a refillable water bottle daily.

### **Air Filtration**

The District continues to implement an aggressive preventive maintenance program of the HVAC systems to ensure systems are functioning as intended. In response to COVID-19, staff moved early to improve the air filtration of these systems by changing standard filters to higher efficiency filters designated as MERV-11. These filters are intended to remove micro particles from the air as they move through air handling devices. With the issuance of more recent guidelines of Indoor Air Quality by the CDC and ASHRAE (American Society of Heating, Refrigeration, and Air Conditioning), the District is now using MERV-13 high efficiency filters where possible.



### **School Buses**

Social distancing will be implemented on buses to the maximum extent possible. Students will be seated two to a seat, hand sanitizer stations will be available, buses will be sanitized after every route, every other window will be open, and roof hatches will be open (weather permitting). Individuals riding school buses are required to wear masks. Disposable masks are available to students without one.

### **Child Nutrition Services**

Meals are offered following the guidance of the CDC and Metro Health. The Child Nutrition Services Department continues to implement a detailed food safety plan as mandated by the Texas Department of Agriculture. Food items offered in cafeterias districtwide are made available in individual portions. High touch surfaces are cleaned frequently. Meals are also available to students in quarantine. For more information, please call (210) 554-2290.

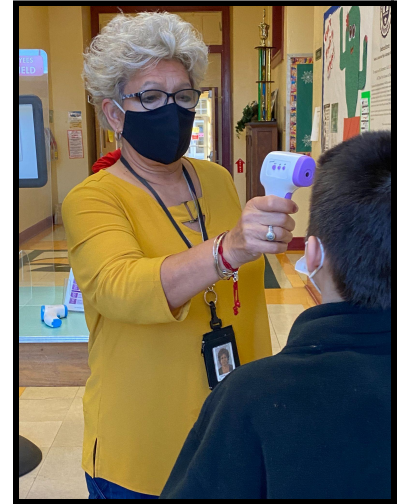


## Screenings, Temperature Checks, Rapid Testing, and PCR Testing

Individuals should stay home when they have any infectious illness.

The District will follow basic guidelines recommended by CDC and Metro Health. Campuses may go beyond the minimum guidelines. This includes conducting temperature checks and screening upon entry into the building.

[Weekly PCR testing](#) for students and staff will continue this fall at various sites districtwide. TEA anticipates that rapid testing resources will continue to be provided to school districts. We hope to provide rapid testing for extracurricular participation pending available funding. Additionally, we will continue to use cohort models, when appropriate, to limit student exposure, especially for early childhood students.



## Employee Vaccination Requirement

San Antonio ISD recognizes that COVID-19 - and in particular - the highly contagious Delta variant, poses a significant health risk to all District students, families, and staff. On August 20, 2021, a requirement was issued to ensure that all District employees be fully vaccinated by October 15, 2021. The approval of the resolution for the COVID-19 employee vaccination requirement was approved by the San Antonio ISD Board of Trustees on September 13, 2021. By requiring all staff to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19, the District remains steadfast in its commitment to maintain a safe and secure environment. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends COVID-19 vaccinations and boosters as the leading prevention strategy to end the COVID-19 pandemic and help schools safely return to in-person learning and activities.

Currently, public schools cannot require individuals to provide proof of vaccination status; however, the District is requesting that all students and staff provide this information to improve its ability to keep everyone safe. Employees are required to provide evidence of their vaccination status using a survey link by October 15, 2021. The purpose for collecting information regarding vaccination is to inform the District about students or staff members who may be identified as high-risk exposures and who may require quarantining.

Parents will be asked to provide evidence of vaccination status for their children through the campus nurses and the Student Health Services Department after the start of school.

## Vaccine Clinics

San Antonio ISD continues to provide ongoing opportunities for all eligible students (ages 12 and older), families, and staff to get vaccinated against COVID-19.

For a complete list of vaccination opportunities, please visit the [School Safety Hub](#).

## General Quarantine Criteria

San Antonio ISD will align with CDC and Metro Health guidelines to determine when individuals are identified as close contacts and are required to quarantine:

1. Students and staff should remain home when sick.
2. Individuals who are **fully vaccinated** will not have to quarantine if exposed to a lab-confirmed case as long as they are asymptomatic.
3. Individuals who are correctly and consistently masked, using well-fitting masks, will generally not have to quarantine if exposed to a lab-confirmed case.
4. Staff and students who are designated a "close contact" may be quarantined for up to 10 calendar days.

Student cases will be traced by campus nurses. Schools will notify the families of students who were determined to be in close contact with the COVID-19 positive individual.

### **Volunteers**

Due to the high COVID-19 transmission rate in our community, and to reduce risk to students and staff, volunteers and activities involving external groups or organizations will not be allowed in any school or building, during and out of instructional hours, until further notice. This includes parent and community volunteers, classroom helpers, classroom speakers, mentors, tutors, guest speakers, etc. Community use of school or building facilities will not be allowed. San Antonio ISD will require all volunteers in its campuses and administrative buildings to be masked and to have all required COVID-19 doses completed by October 15, 2021, once the volunteer program re-opens.

### **Visitors**

Visitors are restricted to essential school operations for parents. Parents will be allowed on campus for school business, enrollment, parent-teacher conferences, parent nights, etc. Mask wearing is required, as is the physical distancing of 3 feet to the maximum extent possible. Lunch visits are not allowed. San Antonio ISD requires all visitors in its campuses and administrative buildings to be masked.

### **Partners**

San Antonio ISD requires everyone working in its campuses and administrative buildings to be masked, including strategic partners supporting schools. The District requires all staff, including strategic partner staff working on San Antonio ISD campuses, to have all required COVID-19 doses completed by October 15, 2021. Strategic partners may direct any questions or concerns to Toni Thompson, Associate Superintendent, at TThompson@saisd.net or Sonia Quirino Canales, Community Relations Director, at SCanales3@saisd.net.

### **Service Providers**

Approved service providers visiting campuses will limit their visits to those required for essential school operations. Essential operations include, but are not limited to, facilities support, District meal service, social emotional support, approved deliveries, and services from providers that directly support the educational needs of students. Service providers working in San Antonio ISD campuses or administrative buildings are required to be masked and to have all required COVID-19 doses completed by October 15, 2021.

## **FAMILY COMMUNICATION**



We will provide families with the most up to date information as it pertains to COVID-19 in their child's classroom or school. Additionally, we will continue to communicate information on infections and other COVID-19 updates as it becomes available.

- Letters to Families  
Any time a student or staff member on your child's campus is identified as a lab-confirmed COVID-19 positive case, the principal will email a letter to the parents of all students.
- School Safety Hub and Web Updates  
The [School Safety Hub](#) will serve as a one-stop source to house communication updates to stakeholders. Major updates will also be highlighted on the [District home page](#) and the [Parents & Students webpage](#).
- COVID-19 Dashboard  
San Antonio ISD will continue to publish a [weekly public report](#) with the number of lab-confirmed student and staff COVID-19 cases on each campus.



- Forums

San Antonio ISD will hold virtual and/or in-person forums including town halls and virtual Q&As to engage families and community members.



## SCHOOL UNIFORMS & DRESS CODE

All students must adhere to the District's dress code, which has been updated for the 2021-2022 school year.

The new policy expands clothing options for our students in middle and high school grades, and gives lower grade levels the option of wearing jeans. The new guidelines also allow students to wear their natural hairstyles and religious head coverings.

- [Updated SAISD Dress Code Policy](#)
- [Dress Code By Campus](#)

The District has several programs available to assist families with the purchase of uniforms. Currently, Uniform Services has a uniform closet with the inventory to support approximately 5,000 students in need of a basic school uniform. Additional funding is available to help families purchase uniforms. Parents can submit an application to Uniform Services to receive uniform vouchers for use at any of the District's four approved vendors.

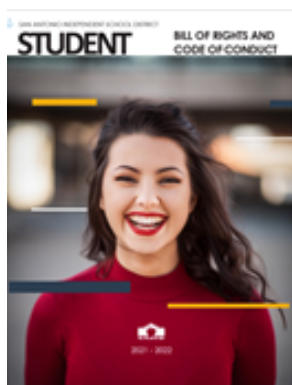


In addition to uniform assistance, the District also has support services available to families experiencing homelessness. For more information about any of these services, please email [saisdschoolsocialworkers@saisd.net](mailto:saisdschoolsocialworkers@saisd.net) or call (210) 554-2635.

## STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT



The San Antonio Independent School District (SAISD) has adopted the Student Code of Conduct (SCOC) to promote and maintain a positive, safe, and effective learning environment for students and adults. The SCOC articulates the behavior that is not allowable at school or school-affiliated functions or events, on school grounds, or on District transportation so that students and adults are knowledgeable about expectations and standards of behavior.



It is a priority of San Antonio ISD for staff to implement a restorative and instructional approach using evidence-based best practices to respond to student behavior. The student code of conduct provides a repository of resources that lead to improved student outcomes. It also delineates behavior that is not allowed at school, possible disciplinary consequences, and the relevant procedures, protections, and law related to student discipline. [View the Student Code of Conduct](#)

## TECHNOLOGY



San Antonio ISD is a proud one-to-one district, offering each student access to their own laptop, tablet, or iPad. This 1:1 model allows the San Antonio ISD community the opportunity of “Learning Everywhere” and to thrive in this digital ever-changing world. Tech Love and Care promotes the proper care, use and handling of each student’s laptop, tablet, or iPad. Consistent maintenance and care will ensure optimal performance, longevity, and ideal physical condition of your technology device.

Students who need a personal device can contact their campus for assistance. Any questions about District-issued devices can be directed to the District’s help desk. Staff members are available to take calls and answer any technology concerns.

- [Help Desk Webpage](#)
- [Tech Device Care Guidelines](#)



## READY FOR SCHOOL RESOURCES



San Antonio ISD has a team of experts available to answer questions and provide support to families so all students are ready for school every day:

- For general questions or concerns, call (210) 554-2210 or visit [www.saisd.net/backtoschool](http://www.saisd.net/backtoschool).
- For enrollment assistance, call (210) 554-2660 or visit [www.saisd.net/enroll](http://www.saisd.net/enroll).
- For information about after school care, call (210) 554-2605 or visit [www.saisd.net/afterschool](http://www.saisd.net/afterschool).
- For a list of immunization events, call (210) 207-8750 or visit [www.saisd.net/vaccines](http://www.saisd.net/vaccines).
- For questions about transportation, call (210) 354-9320 or visit [www.saisd.net/transportation](http://www.saisd.net/transportation).
- For questions about school meals, call (210) 554-2290 or visit [www.saisd.net/nutrition](http://www.saisd.net/nutrition).
- For uniform assistance, call (210) 554-2635.

## ESSER FUND UPDATE



The dollars allocated through the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund are critical to getting our teachers and students back on track and ready to tackle this school year and whatever lies ahead. For the 2021-22 School year, San Antonio ISD has been allocated approximately \$70M from ESSER III funds for year 1; \$70M for year 2 and \$68M for year 3 total \$208 million.

We have developed a comprehensive, working plan to ensure that students are back on track academically, socially, and behaviorally. San Antonio ISD will utilize ESSER funds to mitigate learning loss as a result of the pandemic. The Continuity of Services and ESSER Enhancement Plan outlines the District’s priority areas and was informed by stakeholder engagement sessions, research, and survey data. San Antonio ISD will continue to engage stakeholders regularly as we continue to gather input on the plan in years 2 and 3.

Visit the [ESSER webpage](#) for more information, and to read the plan in English and Spanish or to request it in another language.