

Cross Plains Independent School District



“Better People Make Better Buffaloes”

Return to In-Person & Continuity of Services (RIPICS)

Cross Plains ISD is committed to the health and safety of every student and staff member as well as our community. We will follow the guidance and best practices of the Center for Disease Control (CDC), Texas Department of State Health Services (TDSHS), Texas Education Agency (TEA), and local governance.

The document will be updated as government mandates change and has been updated for the 2021-2022 school year.

General Health & Safety Protocols

- Campus staff will be trained in COVID-19 safety protocols.
- Disinfectants will be used for deep cleaning campuses.
 - The District will store these products safely and ensure that harmful cleaning products are not used near children.
- Students, teachers, staff, and essential campus visitors/volunteers will be encouraged to sanitize and wash hands frequently.
- Tissues will be provided in classrooms and common areas to encourage students and staff to cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue, and if not available, to cover with their elbows. Used tissues should be thrown in the trash and hands washed immediately with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or hand sanitizer should be used.
- Social distancing and safety signage will be added and visible throughout school facilities.
- Cross Plains ISD is permitted to prevent any individual who fails the health screening criteria from being admitted to the campus until they meet the criteria for re-entry to the campus.
- **“Close contact” is defined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) as:**
 - Someone who was less than 6 feet away from an infected person (laboratory-confirmed or a clinical diagnosis) for a total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period.

Health Self-Screening for Staff & Students

- Students and staff are encouraged to take their own temperatures daily before arriving at school. Anyone with a fever of **100 or higher** should not come to school or an CPISD facility. (TEA mandate)
- Students and staff **are encouraged** to self-screen before coming to school by asking the following question (TEA mandate):

1. Have you experienced any of the following symptoms that indicate a possible COVID-19 infection?

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

Please answer YES or NO

2. Have you had close contact with any individual who is lab-confirmed with COVID-19?

“Close contact” is defined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) as:

- Someone who was less than 6 feet away from an infected person (laboratory-confirmed or a clinical diagnosis) for a total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period.

Please answer YES or NO

- Students and staff may be subject to periodic temperature checks for verification, especially if they are feeling ill or suspected of having a fever during the school day.
- Teachers, staff, and students must report to campus/district administration if they have COVID-19 symptoms or are lab-confirmed with COVID-19, and, if so, they must remain off campus until they meet the criteria for re-entry.
 - Additionally, teachers, staff, and students must report to campus/district administration if they have had close contact with an individual who is lab-confirmed with COVID-19, as defined in this document, and, if so, must remain off campus as recommended by CDC guidelines

Protocols for Individuals Confirmed, Suspected, or Exposed to COVID-19

Any individual, including teachers, staff, students or other campus visitors/volunteers, who either a) are lab-confirmed to have COVID-19 or b) experience symptoms of COVID-19 (as described in this document) **must** stay at home throughout the infection period, and cannot return to the campus until the school screens the individual to determine if the below conditions for campus re-entry have been met.

Confirmed COVID-19

If an individual who has been in a school is **lab-confirmed to have COVID-19**, the District will notify the Callahan County Health Department, in accordance with applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations, including confidentiality requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

In the case of **an individual who is diagnosed with COVID-19**, the individual may return to school when CDC guidelines are satisfied and the individual is symptom free.

Suspected COVID-19

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**, the individual is assumed to have COVID-19. The individual may not return to the campus until the individual has satisfied CDC guidelines.

If an **individual has symptoms that could be COVID-19 and wants to return to school before completing the recommended stay-at-home period**, the individual must either a) obtain a medical professional's note clearing the individual for return based on an alternative diagnosis, or b) receive a confirmation that they are free of COVID-19 via acute infection tests.

Exposed to COVID-19

Individuals, including students, teachers, staff or other campus visitors, and volunteers, **who have had close contact (as defined at the beginning of this document) with someone who is lab-confirmed to have COVID-19**, will be screened during the incubation period, and will allowed on campus.

Cross Plains ISD school will screen individuals after the incubation period has concluded. If the individual did not experience COVID-19 symptoms during that period, the individual could be allowed back on campus. If the individual experienced symptoms, they must stay at home until the CDC recommendations have been met.

Bus Transportation Protocols

- Families are encouraged to drop students off, carpool, or walk with their students to school to reduce possible virus exposure on buses.
- Cross Plains ISD will provide bus transportation options at the beginning of the fall semester as conditions are evaluated and ridership numbers examined.
- Bus Drivers will be trained in COVID-19 safety protocols.
- Masks are recommended for all bus drivers and riders due to social distancing limitations
- Hand sanitizer is on all buses will be available to be used by students when boarding and exiting the bus.
- Seats, handles, and high-touch areas will be disinfected.
- When possible, bus windows will be opened to allow outside air to circulate.

To assist our Transportation Department, during registration, please indicate if you would utilize Cross Plains ISD bus transportation if provided.

Lunchroom Safety

- Cross Plains ISD will utilize the school cafeteria for student meals.
- Modifications to lunch procedures will be based on specific situations that arise and on what is feasible for each campus and grade.
- Cafeteria staff will be trained in COVID-19 safety protocols.
- All cafeteria staff will be wearing gloves while serving students.
- Seats, tables, door handles, and high-touch areas will be disinfected regularly.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) & Masks

- For this document, masks include non-medical grade disposable face masks, cloth face coverings (over the nose and mouth), or full-face shields to protect eyes, nose, and mouth.
- At this time, masks **remain an option** and are not mandated for staff and students in grades Pre- K through 12.
- The Texas Education Agency recently announced that PPE would be purchased and provided to each District for use as needed.
From the state, Cross Plains ISD will receive:
 - student size disposable masks
 - adult size disposable masks
 - student size reusable masks

- adult size reusable masks
- gloves
- thermometers
- hand sanitizer
- adult face shields

Handwashing & Hand Sanitizers

- Students and staff will be trained in proper handwashing protocols to prevent COVID-19 and the spread of germs.
- CPISD teachers will encourage student handwashing for at least 20 seconds. In addition, all students will be encouraged to wash hands after using the restroom and before eating.
- Handwashing stations are available in restrooms and some classrooms.
- Hand sanitizer is available in each classroom and commons areas.

Social Distancing Protocols

- Students and staff will be trained in proper social distancing.
- Staff will help promote social distancing in shared spaces and hallways.
- Social distancing becomes a personal responsibility of each individual attending school or coming to an CPISD facility. Anyone causing a disruption or unwillingness to follow CPISD safety protocols, putting students/staff at unnecessary risk may be asked to leave the premises immediately.
- Whenever possible throughout the day, students and staff will remain six feet apart. It is not feasible that staff and students maintain six feet of social distancing at all times, especially in classrooms and instructional settings.

Cleaning & Disinfectant Protocols

- Cleaning and disinfecting will occur daily in every classroom, commons area, and on high-touch surfaces.
- Every classroom and office area will have disinfectant in a spray bottle with cleaning cloths provided for employees and students to use in high-touch areas throughout the school day.
- In addition to cleanings throughout each day, restrooms, cafeterias, and computer labs will undergo extensive cleaning after each day's use.

Protocols for Confirmed COVID-19

The District will close off areas that are heavily used by the individual with the lab-confirmed case (student, teacher, or staff) until the non-porous surfaces in those areas can be disinfected.

Instructional Delivery Options

Cross Plains ISD is committed to providing rigorous, TEKS-based instruction to all students that attend school.

All students must register. The registration process typically takes only a few minutes per student. It allows you to verify that your student's data is correct and provide updates for any critical information that has changed, such as contact phone numbers, emergency contacts, and student health history.

Continuity of Services: In the event of a school-wide closure, instruction will be delivered electronically utilizing LMS options including Google Classroom and iCEV. All services required by 504 plans and the student's IEPs will be delivered by the classroom, support, and special education teachers.

Face to Face Instruction

The key to returning to successful, sustained in-person instruction will be our commitment to health and safety guidelines (below). In-person instruction will resume on August 12, 2021. Students will follow regular schedules and course assignments.

Safety Guidelines for Face-to-Face Instruction

The District has budgeted for the necessary cleaning and sanitization supplies needed to open schools in August. The Texas Education Agency also provided additional supplies to school districts. All classrooms will be equipped with hand sanitizer, and bathrooms will be stocked with soap and paper towels.

All students will receive instruction on appropriate hygiene practices and mitigation strategies and will be reinforced throughout the school year. We have faith that our students will embrace doing their part to keep their home and school families safe.

Extra-Curricular Activities

Extra-curricular participation in certain activities will require face-to-face instruction. Students and staff will be trained in COVID-19 safety protocols. All participants, coaches, and directors will follow the rules established by the University Interscholastic League and the Texas Education Agency. Athletic practices and contests will be conducted following safety protocol provided by guidance from Cross Plains ISD, UIL, TEA & the CDC. UIL guidance can be found on the UIL website.

Attendance and Enrollment

- Cross Plains ISD will be required to record DAILY attendance in face-to-face and remote learning models. This requirement means students must have documented daily engagement to be counted present for credit or promotion purposes.

- Per Texas Education Code (TEC) 25.092, students must attend 90 percent of a course (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 effect during the 2021-2022 school year.

Technology Support

- All students in the remote learning model who do not have access to a technology device needs to contact their campus principal.
- Technology staff will be available in applicable instructional models to assist students and staff with technology support.

Large-Group Gatherings & Special Events

- To begin the fall semester, CPISD will take precautions when scheduling non-essential large group gatherings and events where adults and students must commingle or where students would be unnecessarily exposed to the virus in public places such as field trips, assemblies, dances, meet the teacher, open house, booster club events, etc.

Social-Emotional Support/Mental Wellness

- Cross Plains ISD counselors will be trained in COVID-19 safety protocols.
- Counselors will develop strategies and support for students, families, and staff members for each phase of recovery (before reopening, immediately after reopening, and long-term support).
- Counselors will develop a referral system for individuals who need targeted support as well as access to school-employed and community mental health professionals.
- A process will be established to help identify and provide support to students or staff, perhaps at higher risk for significant stress or trauma from COVID-19.
- Students in need of social-emotional support will be provided tiered interventions which could involve referral for additional school-based services or referral for outside mental health support.

Communication

Cross Plains ISD will continue to inform key stakeholders regularly while offering opportunities for feedback to help shape the CPISD 2021 Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan.

- The District and campuses will communicate official CPISD news using Remind, websites, and social media accounts.
- Specific questions, concerns, or suggestions should be directed to your campus administration.

PUBLIC HEALTH STATEMENT

Face-to-Face Instruction	
AT HOME BEFORE SCHOOL SELF-SCREENING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents/guardians are encouraged to screen their students for COVID-19 symptoms each day before sending their students to school. Details for self-screening are outlined in this document. • Parents must ensure they do not send a child to school on campus if the child has COVID-19 symptoms (as listed in this document) or is lab-confirmed with COVID-19.
ARRIVAL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Campus-specific arrival procedures will be created to facilitate social distancing protocols. • Students will arrive by walk-up, car drop-off, or school bus. Parents/guardians dropping off students will be able to walk them up to the specified drop off area at each campus. • Hand sanitizer will be available at the main entrance to the campus, in the cafeteria, and common areas throughout the campus.
DISMISSAL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Campus-specific dismissal procedures will be created to facilitate social distancing protocols. • Campuses may designate staggered dismissal groups. Staggering the groups of walkers, car riders, bus riders, or grade levels will help manage student movement in the building and decrease the risk of potential crowding outside at dismissal time. • Parents picking up students during the day shall follow campus pickup procedures. • Hand sanitizer will be available at the main exit of the campus, in the cafeteria, and common areas throughout the campus. • Cross Plains pick-ups are discouraged before dismissal time.

As it has always been, the health and safety of our staff and students remain our highest priority. While it is not possible to eliminate all risk of furthering the spread of COVID-19, this guidance document contains information on four sets of 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 will also keep their respective families safe.

<p>MASKS / FACE COVERINGS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students are encouraged but not required to wear masks upon entry into any school facility, any time they leave their classrooms such as when going to the bathroom, and any time in transition as students move from one classroom or space to another, and on school buses. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Specific mask protocols are included above in the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) & Masks section. • Students and staff shall provide their own masks. Any masks with designs must be school appropriate (as determined by campus administration).
<p>CLASSROOM</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teachers will monitor students throughout the day and refer to the office if symptoms are present. • Each classroom will have the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disinfectant in a spray bottle with cleaning cloths provided for employees and students to use in high- touch areas throughout the school day • Whenever possible, open windows or otherwise work to improve airflow by allowing outside air to circulate. • Teachers will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage hand hygiene upon entering the classroom and after group activities. • Establish student responsibilities to clean personal areas and materials/supplies with hand sanitizer, disinfectant wipes, and other self-cleaning products • Incorporate outdoor teaching when appropriate. • Limit the use of shared supplies when possible. Commonly-touched surfaces and supplies in classrooms will be disinfected between different class groups if multiple class groups use the same room.

<p>ISOLATION PROTOCOLS</p> <p>Student or Staff Displaying COVID-19 Symptoms</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When a student has displayed symptoms of COVID-19, the school staff will provide a clinical assessment to determine if and when a student needs to be sent home. • Students who are ill will be separated from their peers and should be picked up by the student's parent/guardian. • The District will clean the areas used by the individual who shows COVID-19 symptoms while at school (student, teacher, or staff) as soon as it is feasible. • Consistent with school notification requirements for other communicable diseases and consistent with legal confidentiality requirements, the District will notify all teachers, staff, and families of all students on campus if a lab-confirmed COVID-19 case is identified among students, teachers or staff on that campus. • Staff members displaying COVID-19 symptoms will follow district protocols, including isolation from students and other staff members.
<p>COMMON AREAS AND TRANSITIONS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Campus-specific transition procedures will be created to facilitate social distancing protocols. • Staggered releases from each class may be organized to limit the number of students in the hallway during transitions. • When transitioning between classes, students will be encouraged to maintain social distancing. • Traffic patterns may be established throughout the campus that separates individuals to the greatest extent possible. • Classroom doors may be propped open during transition times to reduce high touch areas. • Access to hand sanitizer will be provided throughout the campus.
<p>WATER</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students have the option to bring water bottles from home. • Students may fill their water bottles at school but will be encouraged not to drink directly from the water fountains.
<p>CAFETERIA</p> <p>BREAKFAST AND LUNCH</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cross Plains ISD plans to utilize the school cafeteria as much as possible for student meals. • Modifications to lunch procedures will be based on what is feasible for each campus and grade. • Cafeteria staff will be trained in COVID-19 safety protocols. • All cafeteria staff will be wearing masks and gloves while serving students. • Seats, tables, door handles, and high-touch areas will be disinfected regularly. • Staff will reinforce physical distancing and traffic patterns in the cafeteria when feasible. • Hand sanitizer stations will be available in all cafeterias.

RECESS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will implement schedules and routines that teach children to maintain safe distances from each other. • Children will sanitize their hands at the beginning and the end of recess.
VISITORS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visitors and volunteers will be limited as necessary. • Essential volunteers scheduled for work at a campus will be pre-screened for temperature/symptoms before admittance on campus.
PARENT MEETINGS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ARD meetings, 504 meetings, and parent conferences will be held in-person or virtually. • If an in-person meeting is required, all participants will be self-screen for COVID-19 symptoms before the meeting.

In the absence of state guidelines, Cross Plains ISD will adopt local guidelines for the closure of a classroom or a school building. Decisions will be made on a case by case basis.

Plans could include:

- Classroom/campus shuts down for cleaning (0-3 days)
 - Pre-K – 6th grade
 - Students/teachers shift to remote learning with generalized enrichment lessons for reading and math
 - 7th – 12th grade
 - Students/teachers shift to remote learning with course- specific requirements
- Classroom/campus closure due to internal spread of illness
 - Pre-K – 12th grade
 - Students/teachers shift to remote learning with course-specific requirements

Remote Asynchronous Instruction

Cross Plains ISD will only offer remote asynchronous instruction when there is campus or district closure.

Remote asynchronous instruction refers to a learning experience where students engage in assigned materials remotely and interact with the teacher via the computer or other electronic devices or over the phone. There is pre-assigned work with formative assessments on paper or district-selected electronic platforms. CPISD’s remote instruction may include live, scheduled, interactive classes with teachers and students in real-time. Regular grading policies apply to remote learning.

ROLES AND COMMITMENTS FROM THE STUDENTS AND PARENTS IN REMOTE LEARNING

STUDENTS	PARENTS / GUARDIANS
<p>Complete daily remote activities and assignments.</p> <p>Participate daily in scheduled learning activities, including intervention and tutorials.</p> <p>Take responsibility for asking for help, asking questions, and taking advantage of tutorial sessions.</p> <p>Turn in school work daily at the direction of the assigned teacher.</p> <p>Show up to any live remote instruction ready to learn, on time, dressed appropriately, and follow online etiquette, including using video and showing your face during class.</p>	<p>Monitor and ask for evidence that your child is on track with assignments and coursework.</p> <p>Monitor your students Google Classroom.</p> <p>Provide your child with assistance on their day-to-day activities except for designated independent work.</p> <p>Assist in supporting your child’s needs by establishing and managing a daily schedule.</p> <p>Create a designated learning space for your child at home to learn comfortably.</p> <p>Maintain communication with your child’s teacher by phone, email messages, and/or online meetings to create a learning partnership.</p> <p>Allow your child to struggle; it is allowed and encouraged! Do not help too much. Becoming independent takes lots of practice.</p>

Remote Instruction

PRE-K through 5th Remote Instruction

<p>PRE-K through 6th CORE AREAS</p> <p>(English, Math, Science, Social Studies)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There must be daily progress in district-selected electronic platforms. • There will be daily teacher-student interaction. • The student must be able to complete and turn in assignments daily. • The teacher may schedule one-on-one tutorials and intervention time as needed. • The teacher may have daily live interactive sessions to assist students. • Regular grading policies apply. <p>If teachers are assigned to remote learning they will work from a campus setting and be responsible only for the students assigned to them.</p>
<p>PRE-K through 6th</p>	<p>Students may access these lessons after completing work in the core areas. We may not provide live virtual instruction for music, art, PE, and gifted and talented classes, but the District will provide lessons for these areas.</p> <p>The physical education teacher will provide instructional videos. The Texas Education Agency requires students to have 135 minutes of physical activity per week.</p>
<p>COUNSELING SERVICES</p>	<p>The Counselors will maintain current information regarding mental health and community services for students, and staff on the District Website.</p>

Remote Instruction

HIGH SCHOOL – 7th through 12th Remote Instruction

<p>HIGH SCHOOL 7th – 12th CORE AREAS, LOTE</p> <p>(English, Math, Science, Social Studies, Languages other than English)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There must be daily progress in district-selected electronic platforms. • There will be daily teacher-student interaction. • The student must be able to complete and turn in assignments daily. • The teacher may schedule one-on-one tutorials and intervention time as needed. • The teacher may have daily live interactive sessions to assist students. • Regular grading policies apply.
<p>HIGH SCHOOL NON-CORE AREAS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some elective courses may not be available via remote instruction. • Some CTE courses may require face-to-face sessions. • Teachers will post lessons on a district-approved online learning platform, and students will complete work independently. • There must be daily progress in district-selected electronic platforms. • There will be daily teacher-student interaction. • The student must be able to complete and turn in assignments daily. • The teacher may schedule one-on-one tutorials and intervention time as needed. • Regular grading policies apply.
<p>COUNSELING SERVICES</p>	<p>The Counselors will maintain current information regarding mental health and community services for students, families, and staff on the District Website.</p>
<p>FOOD SERVICES</p>	<p>Families who select remote instruction will be responsible for providing meals for their family.</p>
<p>TECHNOLOGY DEVICES FOR STUDENTS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All students in the remote learning model who do not have access to a technology device need to consult with their campus principal. • Technology staff will be available in all instructional models to assist students and staff with technology support. Call your students campus for all remote learning technology questions.
<p>PARENT TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The District continues to develop family resources for all remote learning platforms. If you have questions regarding technology for remote learning, please contact your students’ campus.

SPECIAL EDUCATION	Parents should rest assured that we are committed to implementing a child’s IEP to the fullest extent possible in a remote setting. If there are difficulties with implementation, we will come together and arrive at workable solutions in the best interest of the child.
FOOD SERVICES	Families who select remote instruction will be responsible for providing meals for their family.
TECHNOLOGY DEVICES FOR STUDENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All students in the remote learning model who do not have access to a technology device need to consult with their campus principal. • Technology staff will be available in all instructional models to assist students and staff with technology support. Call your students campus for all remote learning technology questions.
PARENT TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT	The District continues to develop family resources for all remote learning platforms, if you have questions regarding technology for remote learning, please contact your students’ campus.

Additional Instruction

HIGH SCHOOL – 7th through 12th Virtual Instruction

HIGH SCHOOL 7th – 12th

MATH

- The district has adopted an additional platform for Math instruction which includes:
 - Virtual Math Instructor through Elevate K-12 (certified & qualified)
 - Full-Time Math Instructional Aide
 - Part-Time Math Tutor to instruct students in grades 7-12

Goal

- Eliminate learning gaps
- Provide additional learning resources to students
- Offer learning remotely when necessary

RIPICS Review Log

Return to In-Person & Continuity of Services

To be reviewed every 6 months

Date Reviewed by the Board of Trustees	Notes / Modifications
July 21, 2021	Initial Review
February 16, 2022	6 Month Review – See Board Minutes
August 31, 2022	6 Month Review – See Board Minutes