

Priddy Independent School District

2021-2022 Back to School Plan



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PRIDDY ISD

Back to School 2021-22

Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan

www.priddyisd.net

PLEASE NOTE: The details in this document are subject to change as directives are provided by governing authorities and/or health officials or as environmental conditions change.

Updated on 07/12/2021

Priddy ISD

Dear Priddy ISD Family,

Thank you so much for your patience and support over the last school year as we navigated the many changes brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic. As our leadership team worked tirelessly last summer to write the first version of this plan, we could not imagine where the road ahead would take us. Fortunately, we were able to start and end our school year offering in-person learning across the district. Despite the many restrictions placed on our day-to-day activities, students across PISD experienced a tremendous amount of success in academics as well as extracurricular activities.

As we return to school for the 2021-2022 school year, we anticipate a much more normal feel to our school days. Many of the restrictions in place through most of last school year will be lifted; however, we do plan to maintain several protocols put into place last year that helped prevent the spread of not only COVID-19, but also many other common illnesses we have seen run through the student body in years past. We adapted to many cleanliness and hygiene practices that will likely stay in place for the foreseeable future. I can assure you that we will continue to do everything possible to keep students, teachers, staff, and our community safe.

A grim reality we are facing as we move forward is the negative impact this pandemic has had on our students. Moving forward, we are committed to working together with our students and families to address learning loss as well as social emotional issues created by lost instructional time, high absenteeism, and other factors that made learning more challenging for our students.

To ensure that each of our students has access to a high-quality education, the Priddy ISD leadership team has once again worked hard on a Safe Return to School and Continuity of Services Plan that outlines safety protocols for the upcoming year and also outlines our vision for meeting the educational, social, and emotional needs of our students.

We are excited about the upcoming school year and encourage all of our families to partner with us as we continue to provide a high quality educational experience for the students in this amazing school district.

Sincerely,
Adrianne Burden
Superintendent

Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan

Introduction and Overview

On March 11, 2021, the American Rescue Plans (ARP) Act was signed into law. In it, the U.S. Department of Education is providing an additional \$121.9 billion for the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER). This legislation will award grants to state educational agencies for providing local education agencies with emergency relief funds to address the impact that COVID-19 has had, and continues to have, on the elementary and secondary schools across the country.

This plan describes how Priddy ISD will provide for the safe return to school in August of 2021 as well as provide a continuity of services for all students in our schools. This document complies with all reporting requirements of the ARP Act, the ESSER II and III grant terms established by the U.S. Department of Education.

One requirement in creating this plan was to seek [stakeholder input](#) using a variety of methods including public meetings, surveys, and needs assessments. After reviewing all of the information received through stakeholder input, top priorities were identified and the ESSER grants were written and submitted to the Texas Education Agency.

Priddy ISD will continue to review and revise this plan at least once every six months as required by the ARP Act.

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Safety Protocols

Protocols for Face Coverings

For the 2021-2022 school year, face coverings are optional at Priddy ISD. Students, staff, and visitors may wear face coverings if they choose, but they are not required while on campus or at school activities. The Priddy ISD Board of Trustees determined on [March 15, 2021](#), in a regular meeting of the Board that wearing masks would be optional if the superintendent and administrative team determined that transmission levels were low in our school community.

The district maintains the ability to require face coverings if the situation changes, such as a higher transmission level or governor's order. Priddy ISD will continue to work with the Mills County Health Department and follow recommendations from this entity should health conditions change in our area.

Protocols for Screening and Isolation

Screening Protocols

- Staff will self-screen for COVID-19 symptoms prior to reporting to work each day. Staff must ensure they do not come to campus if they have symptoms causing suspicion that they are infected with COVID-19.
- Parents/guardians are expected to screen their students for COVID-19 symptoms each day prior to sending their student to school. Parents must ensure they do not send a child to school if they suspect the student is infected with COVID-19.
- The list below details possible symptoms of COVID-19:
 - Feeling feverish or a measured temperature greater than or equal to 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit
 - Loss of taste or smell
 - Cough
 - Difficulty breathing
 - Shortness of breath

- Headache
- Chills
- Sore throat
- Shaking or exaggerated shivering
- Significant muscle pain or ache
- Diarrhea
- Teachers will monitor students and refer to the office if symptoms are present.

Isolation Protocols

Students or Staff Displaying COVID-19 Symptoms

- When a student has displayed symptoms of COVID-19, the office staff will provide a clinical assessment. As with all illnesses, students will be sent home if they have a fever of 100.4 or higher, are vomiting, or have diarrhea. Students will also be sent home if it is determined the symptoms may be from COVID-19.
- Students who are ill will be separated from their peers and should be picked up within 30 minutes and no later than 1 hour from the time the campus contacted the student's parent/guardian.
- Staff members suspected of being infected with COVID-19 will follow district protocols including isolation from students and other staff members.
- Any individuals who themselves either:
 - (a) are test-confirmed to have COVID-19; or
 - (b) are determined to have the symptoms of COVID-19 (listed above) must stay at home throughout the infection period, and cannot return to campus until the school system screens the individual to determine if the conditions for campus re-entry have been met:
 - In the case of an individual who is symptomatic and is diagnosed with COVID-19, the individual may return to school when **all three** of the following criteria are met:
 - at least 24 hours have 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); and
 - at least ten days have passed since symptoms first appeared.

- In the case of an individual that is asymptomatic but has received a positive COVID-19 test result, the individual may not return to the campus until ten days have passed since a positive test result.
- 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, and the individual may not return to the campus until the individual has completed the same three-step set of criteria listed above.
- If the individual has symptoms that could be COVID-19 and wants to return to school before completing the above 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, though for health privacy reasons the note does not need to indicate what the alternative diagnosis is, or
 - (b) obtain an acute infection test (at a physician's office, approved testing location (<https://tdem.texas.gov/covid-19/>), or other site that comes back 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
 - (a) 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
 - (b) 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.

Determining Close Contact

This document refers to “close contact” with an individual who is lab-confirmed to have COVID-19. For clarity, close contact is defined as:

- being directly exposed to infectious secretions (e.g., being coughed on, sharing a drink); or
- Having significant and sustained contact with an individual who is lab-confirmed to have COVID-19. Factors like social distancing, masks, ventilation, presence of dividers, and case symptomology may affect this determination.

- Either scenario above 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 lab-confirmed with COVID-19, the infectious period is defined as two days prior to the confirming lab test and continuing for 10 days following the confirmed lab test.
- If you are determined to meet the definition of close contact with a lab-confirmed case of COVID-19, you will be required to self-quarantine. See **Stay-at-Home Period for Close Contacts**.

Stay-at-Home Period for Close Contacts

For individuals who are determined to be in close contact with an individual who tested positive, the stay-at-home period can end for individuals experiencing no symptoms: - On Day 10 after close contact exposure without testing,

- On Day 7 after close contact exposure and after receiving a negative test result (that is administered at least 5 days after the last close contact) and with no symptoms.

Additionally:

- A vaccinated individual does not need to stay at home following close contact exposure to a test-confirmed individual if the following conditions are true:
 - The exposed individual is fully vaccinated (at least two weeks have passed since receiving the second dose of a two-dose vaccine or the first dose of a single-dose vaccine)
 - Have not experienced any COVID-19 symptoms following close contact exposure to a test-confirmed individual.
- Individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19 within the past 3 months and recovered do not have to stay at home or get tested again, as long as they do not develop new symptoms.
 - Individuals who develop symptoms again within 3 months of their first bout of COVID19 may need to be tested again if there is no other cause identified for their symptoms.

Positive Case Reporting

- All positive on campus cases will be reported as required per TEA/CDC guidelines.

Community Transmission Levels

Although Priddy ISD hopes the worst of COVID-19 is behind us, the district wants to be prepared in case that is not the case and there are outbreaks. The Transmission Level table and Prevention Practices table will remain in this guidance document for the 2021-2022 school year.

Priddy ISD will monitor the local / county transmission levels and seek input from the Mills County Health Department to determine the risk level for students and staff.

The district has identified three different transmission levels.

SUBSTANTIAL	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• High number of active cases related to population• Cases increasing rapidly• Strain on hospital beds/staff/equipment
MODERATE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Moderate number of active cases related to population• Cases are increasing slightly or staying steady• Hospital/ICU beds and equipment still available
LOW	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Small number of active cases related to population• Cases are decreasing; more cases are attributed to travel or close contact than to unknown community source• Hospital/ICU beds and equipment are widely available

Prevention Practices in the School Setting

Measures and precautions taken to protect students and staff may vary throughout the year depending on the transmission level. The table below will help explain this practice.

	Source Control Measures	Transmission Precautions
SUBSTANTIAL	<p>Face coverings must be worn by all staff and students. This is required during a substantial transmission level even if the governor's order is lifted. Mask breaks will be scheduled when social distancing can be maintained.</p> <p>Maximum social distancing measures will be taken, including possible changes to the school's daily schedule.</p> <p>Breakfast / lunch locations may be altered.</p> <p>No visitors will be permitted past the front desk.</p>	<p>Use of face mask/n95, eye protection, gloves, by school nurse when in close contact with suspected case of COVID-19 (fever plus symptoms).</p> <p>Use of face masks, eye protection, gloves by staff at high risk for coming into contact with blood, body fluids, secretions, and excretions</p> <p>Placement of face mask on student or staff with fever and/or symptoms of COVID-19</p>
MODERATE	<p>Face coverings will be worn by all staff and students and visitors as feasible, especially in common areas, during transitions and when social distancing can not be maintained.</p> <p>The school will implement</p>	<p>Use of face mask/n95, eye protection, gloves, by school nurse when in close contact with suspected case of COVID-19 (fever plus symptoms).</p> <p>Use of face masks, eye</p>

	<p>social distancing measures, such as desks in a row, no close contact groupings without face coverings and altered eating during breakfast/lunch.</p> <p>Only visitors essential to school operations will be allowed on campus. Screening will be required and face coverings will be required when social distancing can not be maintained.</p>	<p>protection, gloves by staff at high risk for coming into contact with blood, body fluids, secretions, and excretions.</p> <p>Placement of face mask on student or staff with fever and/or symptoms of COVID-19</p>
LOW	<p>Face coverings are optional.</p> <p>Visitors will be allowed on campus with administrative approval. Self-screening will be required.</p> <p>Outside field trips and in person assemblies will be allowed with administrative approval.</p> <p>Priddy ISD will continue to promote and encourage standard infection control protocols, such as hand washing and frequent disinfecting procedures.</p>	<p>Practice standard universal precautions when coming into contact with blood, bodily fluids, excretions and secretions.</p>

Protocols for Campus Visitors

As long as transmission levels are low, Priddy ISD will allow visitors with administrative approval and consistent with campus procedures. If transmission levels change, the Prevention Practices table above details procedures for campus visitors.

Food drop-off for students is still prohibited. Visitors during lunch time will be determined by campus policy but we will begin the year with closed to lunch visitors.

Protocols for Disinfecting and Hand Sanitizing

Hand Washing/Sanitizing Expectations

- Alcohol-based hand sanitizer will be available at the main entry to the campus, in all classrooms, in the cafeteria and in common areas throughout the campus.
- Staff and students will be expected to regularly wash or sanitize their hands.
- Training will be conducted for all employees and students on effective hand-washing techniques. Posters will be hung beside all sinks to demonstrate appropriate hand-washing measures.
- Requirements for hand washing and/or use of PISD-provided hand sanitizer:
 - Provide hand sanitizer upon entry to classroom and periodic teacher reminders during instructional day.
 - Thorough hand washing upon return from outdoors, before eating, following restroom breaks.

Disinfecting Expectations

- Staff will have access to disinfectant supplies to sanitize high-touch and working surfaces and shared objects regularly.
- Staff will limit the use of shared supplies when possible.

Protocols for Campus Cleaning and Disinfecting

Daily Campus Cleaning

- Each classroom and restroom will be cleaned daily.
- The cafeteria will be disinfected between lunch periods.
- Staff will have access to disinfectant supplies to sanitize working surfaces and shared objects after each use and during breaks in instruction.

Additional Cleaning Measure for Covid-19 Positive Cases on Campus

- Custodial staff will defog and disinfect classrooms, restrooms, the athletic facilities, weight room and all additional areas in the building when needed.
- Custodial staff will perform additional cleaning in areas of heavy use (classroom, restroom, workroom, etc...) for any individual who is lab-confirmed to have COVID-19 while at school.
- Campuses will close off areas that are heavily used by individuals who are lab-confirmed to have COVID-19 until the non-porous surfaces in those areas can be disinfected, unless more than 3 days have already passed since that person was on campus.

Work and Learning Environments

Classroom Configuration

- See the Prevention Practices table for more information on classroom configuration during moderate and substantial transmission levels.
- Recommended procedures will be applied to all classroom settings, including special education service locations when possible and appropriate. Students' individual needs will be addressed on a case-by-case basis.

Collaborative Work and Projects

- During low transmission levels, collaborative work and projects will be allowed.
- See the Prevention Practices table for more information on collaborative work during moderate and substantial transmission levels.

General Classroom Supplies

- Multiple locations of hand sanitizer, tissues, and trash cans will be available in several locations to limit student and staff movement.

Specialized Classrooms

- There will be adequate supplies to minimize the sharing of high touch materials or limit use of supplies of equipment to one group of students at a time.
- Career and Technical Education classes will follow industry-based safety guidelines as appropriate to the equipment and course content.

Physical Education Classroom Protocols

- Sanitizing areas and access to handwashing will be provided.

Meeting Spaces

- During low transmission levels, face-to-face meetings will be allowed.
- During moderate transmission levels, only meetings essential to school operations will be allowed.
- During substantial transmission levels, no visitors are allowed. All meetings involving individuals outside the school district will be conducted virtually.

Transitions

- During low transmission levels, transitions and traffic patterns are determined by campus procedures. There are no requirements of social distancing during this time.
- During substantial and moderate transmission levels, traffic patterns will be established throughout the campus that separate individuals to the greatest extent possible. When transitioning between classes, students shall travel corridors as far to the right as possible.

Arrival

- Students may not be dropped off until the building is open. The buildings will be open at 7:20 a.m.
- There will be designated doors for entry at each campus. These may be based on arrival methods: bus riders, drop-off, student drivers, students with unique needs. Campus principals will communicate entry procedures.

- Designated entry doors will be continuously monitored by staff to stop unauthorized access and to monitor for threats.
- Parents may not accompany students into the building.

Dismissal

- Sanitizer stations will be placed at each exit and students will be encouraged to sanitize hands prior to exit.

Breakfast/Lunch

- During low transmission levels, cafeteria capacity and seating arrangements will be determined by campus policies.
- During moderate or substantial transmission levels, as much physical distance as possible will be provided around each occupiable seat.
- During moderate or substantial transmission levels, signage and staff will reinforce physical distance and traffic patterns in the cafeteria.
- Hand sanitizer stations will be available at entrances and exits of the cafeteria.
- Regardless of the transmission level, no outside food may be dropped off at the campus. Students must bring their lunch each day or eat in the cafeteria.
- Water refill stations will be available at every campus.

Off-Campus Student Activities

- During low transmission levels, student participation in extracurricular contests (Athletics, FFA, UIL, etc...) will be allowed. Fans will also be permitted to attend these events with no limitations unless District, UIL, or TEA guidelines state otherwise.
- During moderate or high transmission levels, activities may be altered and attendance by fans may be limited.
- All field trips require approval of the administration. The transmission levels and social distancing capabilities will be considered before a field trip is approved.

On Campus Activities

- During low transmission levels, all school wide events (pep rallies, student assemblies, informational meetings, etc...) will be allowed. Parents and

community members will also be permitted to attend these events with no limitations unless District, UIL, or TEA guidelines state otherwise.

- During moderate or high transmission levels, on-campus activities may be altered and attendance by parents and community members may be limited.

Continuity of Services

Teaching and Learning

2021-2022

Face-to-face learning will be the only mode of instruction offered in Priddy ISD for the 2021-2022 school year. Priddy ISD ended the 2020-2021 school year with over 95% of

our students participating in in-person instruction on campus. It is in the best interest of our students to be in school. Assessment data shows deficiencies across the district in various subjects and grade levels. Below are steps the district plans to implement this school year to help close achievement gaps in those areas, as well as boost student achievement in all subjects through interactive technology devices.

Priddy ISD has developed the following plans to provide a road map for staying on track as we strive to mitigate learning loss for all students. This *Back to School Plan* will work in conjunction with district and campus improvement plans for this school year. The primary instructional goals for this school year will be to:

- Create rigorous, engaging and enriched learning environments.
- Create a culture of high expectations-every class, every day for all students.
- Adhere to our guaranteed and viable district curriculum.
- Provide high-impact tutoring for students that scored approaches or below on any given subject in any grade.
- Support students' social, emotional, mental health, and academic needs by implementing school-wide strategies that enhance learning, supports and interventions for all students as well as targeted assistance for students who need such supports

INSTRUCTION AND INTERVENTION

- **Reading Interventionist** - Priddy ISD will employ a reading interventionist to work primarily with grades Kindergarten - 6th grade. The interventionist will have successfully completed the State Reading Academy and have extensive experience in reading intervention.
- **High-Impact Tutoring** - Priddy ISD will provide high impact after school tutoring for students in all core subjects. Tutoring will begin the first full week of school and conclude in May 2022. Delivery will be by trained instructional staff in high impact tutoring strategies.

- **Instructional Technology Coordinator** - Priddy ISD will employ an Instructional Technology Coordinator to assist teachers and students in utilizing interactive technologies that promote student engagement and learning.

PROFESSIONAL and SEL DEVELOPMENT

- **TEKS Resource Reboot** - Priddy ISD will conduct extensive/ongoing training of all components of the TEKS Resource Curriculum. Training will be provided through Region 12 ESC and by district and campus administrative staff. Training will be both face-to-face and through self-paced, virtual options.
- **Google Training** - Priddy ISD will continue to provide Google Suite training to teachers. Although the district will not provide remote learning as an option for students, staff will continue to use the Google tools to communicate with students and parents, as well as engage students in more robust learning opportunities through these digital tools.
- **Branching Minds Professional Development** - Priddy ISD will offer Branching Minds training to all teachers. The goal of this training is to boost student engagement and achievement.
- **Reading Academies** - Priddy ISD has sent 7 staff to the state required reading academies. All will have completed the academy during the 21-22 school year.
- **Second Step SEL for Adults** - Priddy ISD understands educators play a meaningful role in each of their student's social-emotional development. We also understand teacher well-being is a powerful predictor of classroom quality. That is why we have partnered with and will provide Second Step SEL for Adults, a new professional program that strengthens the social-emotional skills and well-being of PreK - 12 teachers, leaders and staff.
- **Youth Mental Health First Aid** - Priddy ISD supports equipping our teachers and staff with the necessary skills needed to reach out and provide initial support to children and adolescents (ages 6-18) who may be developing a mental health or substance use problem and help connect them to the

appropriate care. That is why we are providing a Youth Mental Health First Aid training course that introduces common mental health challenges for youth, reviews typical adolescent development, and teaches a 5-step action plan for how to help young people in both crisis and non-crisis situations.

TECHNOLOGY

- **Smart Boards and Sound boosting Equipment** - Priddy ISD will equip classrooms in the district with state-of-the-art interactive smart boards to produce productivity and student engagement in the classroom. These devices will be used to enhance collaboration and student discourse.
- **Additional Chromebooks, Laptops and Electronic / Digital Devices** - Priddy ISD will continue to add chromebooks, laptops, and/or as needed electronic / digital devices to each campus so that all students in the district will have access to the latest technologies that help boost student achievement, increase student engagement and enhance student enrichment.
- **Increase District Network and WiFi Infrastructure Capacity** - Priddy ISD is dedicated to continue to build the district's network and WiFi infrastructure capacity including connectivity, mobile connectivity, hardware, and software based on current best practice and in alignment with PISD's 2021-2024 Technology Strategic Plan, the state of Texas' 2018-2023 Long-Range Technology Plan (LRTP), the 2020-2023 American Rescue Plan including funding guidelines set forth in ESSER I, II, and III, and Texas 2020-2023 Operation Connectivity Initiative including funding guidelines set forth in the ECF by the FCC.
- **Fixed Broadband, Mobile Connectivity and Remote Devices** - Priddy ISD will continue to address, manage and monitor as applicable the mobile and fixed connectivity issues and remote device needs of our students, teachers and staff in a concentrated effort to help stem learning loss, narrow the homework gap, and reduce the existing barriers to deliver high quality learning experiences anywhere our connected students learn.

- **Project STEAM** - Priddy ISD will provide unique STEAM opportunities throughout the year

SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING and MENTAL HEALTH

- **CharacterStrong SEL and Leadership Development** - Priddy ISD will continue to focus on fostering the “Whole-Child” from PreK - 12 by providing a district-wide high-quality SEL program focused on a holistic approach to address the social-emotional health and learning needs of our students while promoting transformative side-by-side high-leverage Character and SEL building skills and leadership development capacity based on servant-leadership training in alignment with CASEL
- **Family Engagement** - Priddy ISD supports that school culture is not just shaped by mission statements and what we teach in the classroom. Every behavior - whether it is a student’s, a teacher’s, or a parent’s - shapes how we experience school. For that reason, we have partnered with CharacterStrong to provide The FAMILY with high-impact engagement and relational skills building opportunities through the use of conversation starters, simple activities, and Family character challenges (“PurposeFull Pursuits”) related to the monthly trait presented in the student’s PurposeFul People SEL and Character building program. These events and opportunities will be offered throughout the school year.
- **District Value Focus for School Year 2021-2022** - Priddy ISD’s core values are Learn, Work, Serve and Respect. The spotlight core value for the 2021-2022 school year is SERVICE. SEL, Character Building and Leadership activities will be coordinated throughout the school year to reinforce the core value of SERVICE on campus, at home and in the community while building the servant-leadership capacity of our district.
- **Teen Mental Health First Aid** - Priddy ISD focuses on the “Whole-Child” and supports equipping our high school students with the knowledge and skills they need to foster their own wellness and to support each other. That is why we are making available the Teen Mental Health First Aid training which teaches

high school students about common mental health challenges and what they can do to support their own mental health and help a friend who is struggling.