



## **Return to In-Person Instruction & Continuity of Services Plan**

All instruction for the 2021-2022 school year will be in person. The Curriculum and Instruction Department will be working with all staff regarding our **Revisit, Revise** and **Recommit** plan. We will **Revisit** our previously utilized materials and resources, deciding if they are still relevant and how we utilize them going forward. We will **Revise** our materials and resources based on data points including student and campus needs; and we will **Recommit** to employing the best instructional practices to ensure high levels of learning for all students

### **Health and Safety of Students, Educators, and Staff**

MISD will continue to maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other school staff by following a complete list of COVID-19 protocols. Any changes to protocols may be made based on current TEA, CDC and Collin County Health Department guidance in conjunction with the State of Texas.

Effective June 1, 2021:

- Face coverings will be optional for visitors, staff and students.
- Campuses will work to ensure no student is treated differently as a result of their choice to wear a mask or not wear a mask.
- Visitors will be allowed on campus according to standard visiting rules.
- Social distancing will be maintained when feasible.
- Staff and students will continue to be expected to wash their hands frequently throughout the day.
- Parents and employees will continue to be required to report confirmed positive cases of COVID-19 to campus administration or their supervisor.
- Staff and students with symptoms of COVID-19 (until ruled out) OR a confirmed case of COVID-19 must quarantine for 10 days from the date of symptom onset or positive test if no symptoms.
- Staff will not conduct close contact reviews and students/staff will not be required to quarantine for exposure.

- Routine and enhanced cleaning/sanitation measures will continue at all MISD facilities; facilities will be disinfected and sanitized per industry guidelines. Emphasis will be given to ensure high touch surfaces are disinfected periodically.
- Any MISD facility identified having a confirmed COVID-19 positive will undergo enhanced disinfection per industry guidelines.
- Hand sanitizing stations will be located throughout all MISD facilities

## COVID-19 Isolation Plan

### Students Who Display COVID-19 Symptoms While at School

#### Step 1:

When a student on campus, has displayed symptoms of COVID-19, such as a fever, coughing, shortness of breath, etc., the school nurse 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 within one hour.

#### Step 2:

The campus nurse will speak with the parent/guardian regarding quarantine and isolation needed for their symptomatic student. The student who has symptoms of COVID-19, may return to campus after 10 days have passed from symptom onset AND symptoms resolved AND at least 24 hours have passed with no fever, without the use of fever-reducing medication. The student may return to campus before the end of the 10-day period only IF a note from a health care provider is received by and discussed with the campus nurse prior to the student returning to campus.

#### Step 3:

The campus nurse will follow up with the student throughout the quarantine and isolation period.

#### Step 4:

If the parent of the student reports to the campus nurse that the student was tested for COVID-19 and is now lab-confirmed positive, the steps for "Students Who Report That They Are Lab-Confirmed Positive for COVID-19" will be followed.

### Students Who Report That They Are Lab-Confirmed Positive for COVID-19

#### Step 1:

When a student has been lab-confirmed positive for COVID-19, the school nurse and teacher should be notified of their illness and should remain home for 10 days from the date of testing.

#### Step 2:

The student who had the lab-confirmed COVID-19 positive test result, may return to campus after 10 days have passed from the date the positive test was performed AND

symptoms resolved AND at least 24 hours have passed with no fever, without the use of fever-reducing medication.

Step 3:

The campus nurse will follow up with the lab confirmed COVID-19 positive student throughout the quarantine and isolation period.

Step 4:

MISD will follow Texas Education Agency and Collin County Health Department guidance for reporting lab positive confirmed COVID-19 cases.

## **Student Academic Needs and Student/Staff Social, Emotional, Mental Health**

### **Learning Loss**

In order to close the COVID gap, we are providing optional virtual academic enrichment for all students this summer, which they can access through Canvas and/or See Saw via the MISD website. However, our neediest students will attend specially designed summer school.

Our 5th and 8th Grade Summer Bridge Programs are for incoming 6th and 9th graders and will focus on sharpening math and reading skills, while utilizing AVID strategies such as leadership, team building, organization and college and career readiness. We are offering Apex courses for students entering grades 9-12 who need to take courses for credit recovery or for advancement. For 9th-12th graders who failed an EOC, we are offering Apex Tutorials to prepare for the EOC exams June 22-24, and we will have a drop in lab for one-on-one help.

### **Special Education**

For our students in Special Education, we will provide COVID Recovery Response Services (CRRS) and Extended School Year services (ESY) to qualifying students. CRRS provides students with disabilities the educational services needed to make up for skills or learning that have been lost due to COVID-19. ESY services provide qualifying individualized instruction and services to prevent severe or substantial loss of skills or learning during the time beyond the regular school year when schools are not in session.

### **English Learners**

For our EL students, we host a Newcomer Summer Language Enrichment Program which has a curriculum with social and emotional lessons embedded. In addition, our ESL teachers will be trained on best practices for Students with Limited/Interrupted Formal Education (SLIFE).

## Teacher Professional Development

We have numerous Summer Professional Learning opportunities for teachers to attend face-to-face or online. Our online Canvas courses allow teachers to participate in a variety of content specific courses at their own pace. Our MISD content coordinators and instructional technology team design these courses specific to our district needs. The Region 10 Summer Roadshow will be providing summer professional development to ensure educators have access to high-quality professional learning sessions including ELAR, STEM, Science, Math, GT, Counseling, English Learner Support, Dyslexia, CTE, Early Childhood, Special Populations, Social Studies, Effective Teaching, and Digital Learning.

As we prepare for the return of our teachers and staff for the 2021-2022 school year, the focus of our August Academy (District Professional Development Days) will encompass the three goals listed above--**Revisit, Revise, and Recommit**. We will be ready to return to the high quality instruction that we were able to provide pre-COVID, and students will be able to work collaboratively with their peers, use manipulatives, etc. We will also be utilizing evidence-based interventions during Tier I (regular school day) instruction time that is designed to complement intervention based tutorials.

## Counseling Services

Comprehensive school counseling services, mental health, and social emotional learning (SEL) are a priority at MISD. We have several structures in place to nurture the development of safe and supportive school climates. Every campus in MISD is a Marzano Research Framework certified level one high reliability school. This certification process requires schools to maintain specific best practices they use to sustain a positive school environment. In addition, each campus in MISD offers a comprehensive school counseling program that operates in conjunction with the school coordinated health team to support the academic, personal, and social needs of the whole child. During the pandemic, we worked to provide virtual lessons and resources such as virtual "calming rooms" and videos created by our counseling staff. We also provided virtual individual counseling and parent consultation as well as staff support through offering many training opportunities regarding student mental health topics and self-care practices.

Moving forward, our prevention activities will continue to include direct instruction, counseling services, awareness campaigns, staff training and parent education. Our program focuses on mental health, suicide prevention, substance use prevention, healthy relationships, character education and social and emotional learning (SEL). Our district SEL framework, McKinney ISD Lives Kind, highlights the skills of collaboration, active listening, self-regulation and coping skills, empathy, and speaking with positive intent. Activities under this framework may include interactive displays, specific teacher or counselor lessons, and student engagement opportunities such as positive behavior recognitions, community service projects, and student leadership activities.

MISD also has a team of specialized IMPACT counselors that support the prevention activities previously described as well as provide additional individual and small group

counseling services to students that complement those already provided by the school counselor. This team also assists the district with our crisis intervention and response as well as with our trauma informed care practices. Additionally, the IMPACT team provides support to students in our alternative discipline placements and our students at Serenity High School, our specialized non-traditional high school for students in recovery from substance use.

MISD has a dedicated position to provide services to our pregnant and parenting students. Our facilitator provides direct instruction, coordination of homebound support, community resource referrals, and assistance with enrollment in eligible public assistance programs. In addition, the facilitator provides virtual instruction, check-ins, and deliveries of needed supplies.

We also offer counseling services to our students through two outside partnerships. MISD and the Department of Counseling at Texas A&M University-Commerce have collaborated to sponsor the Harold Murphy Counseling Center (HMCC) at our Greer Annex. The HMCC provides three free sessions of counseling to MISD students PreK-12th grade and their family members as well as to our staff. The HMCC has responded during the pandemic by expanding their hours, introducing insurance filing support, sliding cost scale, and offering parenting classes and small groups. HMCC offers a special staff support group to assist teachers in their adjustment to the demands of the pandemic. In addition, MISD has partnered with the Children's Telebehavioral Health program to provide services to eligible students through brief counseling sessions during the school day and through their technology devices during periods of school closure. Students may receive up to four sessions at no cost. Children's has also provided staff training, articles and resources for parents, as well as free access to telephonic assessment and case management for families.

## **Homelessness**

MISD also provides specific attention and support to our students experiencing homelessness. We will continue to provide information, training, and development to district educators, counselors, support staff and community partners regarding the eligibility and identification, procedures, intervention techniques, and district response and responsibilities under the McKinney Vento Act, and how it benefits students experiencing homelessness. Economically vulnerable families and students are often displaced during times of crisis and this pandemic is no exception. We have seen changes in the needs of this group. For instance, the need for hygiene items, more living in "tripled up" situations, and more living in substandard housing. The district has participated for many years in the TEHCY grant program to help meet some of these needs. One highlight of this grant is our longstanding partnership with Samaritan Inn, the only homeless shelter in our county. The TEHCY grant includes funding for the contracted services of a unique Child Advocate position that is an integral support to the families residing there. The Child Advocate helps facilitate intake to the shelter, supports prompt school enrollment and transportation, facilitates onsite tutoring and parent education classes, as well as assists parents in monitoring grades and attendance fostering communication with school staff. In addition, the Child Advocate helps families plan extracurricular transportation, childcare, and summer activities.

Another highlight in our student support services is the Partners in Education program, which includes both the REACH mentorship program and the Communities in Schools (CIS) program. MISD currently operates one of the largest in school mentoring programs in the nation. We have an army of community volunteers that serve as REACH mentors that consistently work with K-12 students, which strongly supports their success. In addition, our CIS partners assist the school counselors and other staff in providing emergency food and supplies, support parents/caregivers in navigating school and community resources, and provide additional student support services on campus. Our district also funds additional staff to serve as community liaisons to work alongside our CIS representatives to ensure that our families are getting the information they need to access community resources. During the pandemic, Aramark food services ran continuous feeding programs to address hunger during both the school year and the summer. We also worked with other partners to provide food packs to any in need during special distribution events.

### **Health Services**

Our health services department provides ongoing health supports as well as referrals to resources for primary care, vaccinations, optometry and dental work. Our health services group received a grant to provide the "Stop the Bleed" training to staff and students to provide emergency wound care. Our health services team partners with Children's Telehealth to provide training, referral support and direct services to students. Our campus based coordinated health teams provide ongoing support for the MISD Health and Wellness Plan.

### **Collaborative Partnerships**

To provide all of these supports to students, whether in the pandemic or during the recovery period, we have made strategic partnerships throughout the community. These partnerships are vital in identifying and addressing needs, responding with support services, and ensuring sustainability. Some of our additional partnerships include Trusted World, McKinney Police Department, Family Promise, Collin County Homeless Coalition, Collin County Systems of Care, Coalition for Behavioral Healthcare of Collin County, Drug Free McKinney, CITY House, PTAs, Health Department, City of McKinney, Volunteer McKinney, Baby Booties Diaper Pantry, 3E, Community Life Line, and multiple food pantries, youth development organizations, businesses, and corporations. Collaborative services include social services, mentoring/tutoring, supplies to meet basic needs, transportation, summer camp, TANF, food stamps, WIC, Medicaid, protective services, utility/rent assistance, after school care, immunizations, emergency hygiene supplies, counseling services, college and career preparation, technology, child care, and parent and life skills training.

All of these district support positions, programs, community partnerships, and resources continue to help district staff identify and respond to unique barriers, stigmas, and challenges of student well-being and mental health in ways that ensure students have the support they need to achieve academic success and postsecondary readiness.

## **Student Attendance**

During the pandemic, attendance was obviously an issue. Therefore, we enhanced our approach to student attendance. The district implemented district level truancy hearings to get students/families re-engaged in the educational setting. Campuses identified students in need of referral to the district attendance-hearing officer after completing student attendance protocols. In addition to this approach, the district hired a District Truancy Liaison to help support the campuses by following up with students and families. Their primary role was to serve as a resource to help remove barriers that prevented students from fully engaging in the educational setting and planning with campus officials to facilitate those students' return to school. They also assisted families in need by connecting them with community partners and resources.

This year we plan to further utilize school and community partnerships/resources to help students stay fully engaged in their education through a family services approach to help educate the whole child.

We will provide community outreach to students and families most at risk of truant behavior by conducting mobile awareness sessions highlighting course offerings that are available to students and other opportunities available at school campuses. These awareness campaigns will help families make informed decisions regarding educational opportunities for their children during evening and weekend hours to accommodate working families.