

Houston Heights High School 2022-2023
Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan

The Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services plan was initially developed during the summer of 2020. It has been reviewed and revised as of 11/15/2022 with updated information from the Texas Education Agency and the CDC as well as input from stakeholders. Public notice for comment was posted at www.heightshs.org and the revised plan was placed on the 11/29/22 board meeting agenda for further comment and approval. The plan will continued to be reviewed every six months. The safety and well-being of the Houston Heights High School community is our top priority as we welcome all students and staff back to our campus for the 2022-2023 school year. HHHS will not offer virtual instruction for the 2022-2023 school year.

Stakeholder Input

Houston Heights High School invited and engaged required stakeholders to provide meaningful consultation through meetings and online and paper surveys regarding the Return to In Person Instruction & Continuity of Services Plan and the ESSER III grant. The following percentages of stakeholders provided input :

- 1) 62% response from student body
- 2) 14% response from parents and/or guardians
- 3) 92% response from all school staff which includes:
 - a) 100% response from teachers
 - b) 66% response from special education department
 - c) 66% response from school support and office staff
 - d) 100% response from administrators

Fall 2022 ESSER III Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services (RIPICS) Survey

| | HHHS Staff | | | HHHS Families | | | HHHS Students | | |
|--|------------|----------------|----------|---------------|----------------|----------|---------------|----------------|----------|
| | High need | Mod-erate need | Low need | High need | Mod-erate need | Low need | High need | Mod-erate need | Low need |
| Support our teachers with more training | 33% | 52% | 15% | 18% | 59% | 23% | 15% | 65% | 20% |
| Support our teachers by hiring assistants to help in class/tutor | 52% | 38% | 10% | 14% | 59% | 27% | 23% | 41% | 36% |
| Create more learning time through Saturday school | 33% | 38% | 29% | 36% | 27% | 36% | 24% | 43% | 32% |
| Create more learning time with after-school tutoring | 24% | 38% | 38% | 32% | 55% | 14% | 17% | 56% | 27% |
| Create more learning time with summer school tutoring | 19% | 68% | 14% | 9% | 59% | 32% | 14% | 55% | 32% |

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|---|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|-----|-----|-----|
| Provide students with mental health services and supports | 86% | 14% | 0% | 41% | 50% | 9% | 41% | 45% | 14% |
| Purchase educational technology | 38% | 48% | 14% | 50% | 41% | 9% | 46% | 42% | 12% |
| Input on Covid Protocols | Provide more masks, continue with temperature checks | | | | | | | | |

#1: School Health and Safety

Upon entering the school building:

- Students/staff screened for symptoms of COVID 19
- [COVID 19 Report Form](#)
- Students have access to hand sanitizer in all classrooms and common areas and are sent to wash hands or use sanitizer prior to eating.
- Students and staff are supplied with approved masks while on campus (no bandanas or gaiters allowed).
- All students and staff are encouraged to wear masks while on the school campus.
- All students and staff are encouraged to social distance in all areas whenever possible.
- Students are escorted to the restroom to ensure that restrooms do not become overcrowded.

#2: Cleaning Protocols

- Desks and other high touch surfaces are sanitized daily.
- Restrooms are sanitized daily.
- HEPA air purifiers utilized in all classrooms and office spaces and filters changed on required schedule.

#3: Meal Services

- Food safety regulations are followed during all meal services.
- Students are reminded to wash or sanitize hands before meals.
- Designated eating areas are sanitized between meals.
- Students will eat in designated areas and are encouraged to eat at tables outside.
- No food deliveries (i.e. UberEats) allowed.

#4: Responding to Sick Individual

- Students with COVID 19 symptoms or who are overheard that they may be in homes with active COVID 19 are sent to Room 108 to and parents will be contacted.
- Trained staff conduct COVID 19 screening and if given parental permission they will conduct a COVID 19 test on campus.

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- Areas heavily used by anyone with a lab-confirmed case or with symptoms (student, teacher, or staff) are closed until the non-porous surfaces in those areas can be disinfected, unless more than 7 days have already passed since that person was on campus.
- Any student/staff who (a) are lab-confirmed to have COVID 19; or (b) experience the symptoms of COVID 19 (listed below) must stay at home throughout the infection period, and cannot return to campus until the school system screens them to determine any of the below conditions for campus re-entry have been met:
- **A person diagnosed with COVID 19, may return to school when all three of the following criteria are met:**
 - at least one day (24 hours) has passed since recovery (resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications);
 - the person has improvement in symptoms (e.g.cough, shortness of breath); .
 - at least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared or ten days from the date of the positive test if asymptomatic.
- If a person has symptoms that could be COVID 19 and has not seen a medical professional or tested for COVID 19, they will be assumed to have COVID 19 and may not return to the campus until they have completed the three steps 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 or (b) obtain an acute infection test at an approved testing location ([https://tdem.texas.gov/COVID 19/](https://tdem.texas.gov/COVID%2019/)) that comes back negative for COVID 19.
- If a person who has been in a school is lab-confirmed to have COVID 19, the school will notify its local health department, in accordance with applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations, including confidentiality requirements of FERPA.
- Consistent with school notification requirements for other communicable diseases, and consistent with legal confidentiality requirements, the school will notify within 24 hours all teachers, staff, and families of all students in a school if a lab-confirmed COVID 19 case is identified among students, teachers, or staff who participate on any on-campus activities and have been in close contact with that individual.

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Close Contact: Per TEA the definition of close contact is evolving with our understanding of COVID 19, and individual scenarios should be determined by an appropriate public health agency.

In general, close contact is defined as:

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

Either (a) or (b) defines close contact if it occurred during the infectious period of the case, defined as two days prior to symptom onset to 10 days after symptom onset. In the case of asymptomatic individuals who are 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 confirmation lab test.

#5: COVID 19 Educational Outreach

- COVID 19 symptoms posters: [COVID 19 Symptoms Poster](#) displayed in common areas of school.
- Continue to partner with Harris County and the City of Houston to promote COVID 19 vaccinations and host vaccine clinics.
- Students will watch informational videos:
- [How Well Do Masks Work? \(Schlieren Imaging In Slow Motion!\)](#)
[See how masks stop the spread of COVID 19 - Nebraska Medicine](#)
[Bill Nye Conducts Viral TikTok Mask Experiment | NowThis](#)
- COVID 19 vaccine effectiveness and safety videos: [COVID-19 Videos](#)

#6 Addressing Academic Needs

- Continue offering high-quality and rigorous instruction to all students and identify students who are in need of remediation due to COVID-19 learning loss.
- Intervention will be conducted with the identified students and may consist of at least 30 hours of small group remediation each year.
- Lost learning may also be addressed during targeted interventions during the school day, increased learning time during summer school, or increased learning time through extended day learning such as before or after school tutorials or Saturday school.

#7 Supporting Our Students and Staff Social-Emotional & Mental Well-Being

- Staff at all levels received support and professional development on trauma-informed care, self-care, mindfulness, and grief.
- Counselors are available to work with students, families and staff to offer support and refer for other wrap-around services.
- Referral system for those needing targeted support.

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- Weekly mentor groups to monitor student progress and mental health.

#8 In The Event of Another Shutdown -

- Students will complete all work completely online via synchronous learning using the Google classroom platform.
- Students will log into classes at least 4 hours per day (Per TEA guidelines).
- Students will be provided Chromebooks or iPads and hot spots if needed.
- Students will meet virtually with counselors and other related service persons.

Houston Heights High School Vision Statement:

Houston Heights High School works to provide a safe and supportive learning environment where students and staff are compassionate, self-disciplined and critical thinkers.

Houston Heights High School Mission Statement

Our mission at Houston Heights High School is to serve the whole child by implementing the Essential Actions of the Effective Schools Framework with Response to Intervention (RTI) to ensure academic and behavioral success for every student while engaging our school community with transparent communication. We will accomplish this by implementing a school-wide process to provide prevention, early intervention and instructional programming in the least restrictive environment with a goal of closing gaps so that every student will be college, career or military ready upon graduation. This school-wide process will include frequent assessment of student performance, data-based decision making, and the use of multi-tiered, research-based interventions.

Houston Heights High School Leadership Team:

Erica McCready, Superintendent/Principal

Aaron Jacks, Business Manager

Joe Zapata, Assistant Principal

Board of Trustees:

Mr. Robert Guercio, Board President

Ms. Constance Singleton, Board Vice President

Mr. Clifton McDerby, Board Secretary