

TEA Requirement: Providing Notice

Falls City ISD is providing notice to parents, families, and the community regarding back-to-school plans and instruction through this initial document. As further required, one week prior to the start of school, a plan to mitigate COVID-19 will be disseminated to all families and posted on the district and school websites. Preliminary information is posted in this guidance and is subject to change based on state and local decisions.

COVID-19 Response Team – Falls City ISD has developed a COVID-19 Response Team to respond to concerns and communicate district decisions. Members of the team are noted below:

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|-------------------|---------------------------|
| Todd Pawelek | Superintendent |
| Julie Dunn | High School Principal |
| Jessica Ruple | Elementary Principal |
| Steve Stone | Director of Technology |
| Kellie Pawelek | District Nurse |
| Steven Wolf | Band Director |
| Lauren Arenas | Cafeteria/Human Resources |
| | |
| Jill Pawelek | Teacher |
| Chelsi Labus | Teacher |
| Pam Sanchez | Teacher |
| Tori Pawlik | Teacher |
| Broghan Moy | Teacher |
| Will Gates | Teacher |
| Jameson Grasshoff | Teacher |

Falls City ISD Re-opening Plan

TEA Requirement: Prevent and Mitigate

Falls City ISD must identify and implement practices to prevent the virus from entering the school and mitigate or reduce the likely spread inside the school; therefore, district practices and guidelines have been established for various areas noted below:

Health and Safety Guidance

- **Social and Emotional Well-Being** – Students’ social and emotional well-being are a top priority. Together, schools and families can support your child during this challenging time. With the endless COVID coverage, it is natural for your child to experience some changes in behavior and mood. Counselors and staff will continue to work closely with families and students to ease the stress. Keeping routines predictable, sharing COVID facts that are age-appropriate, making time to listen and share feelings, and reaching out to us for support are all important. We are here for you and your child(ren).
- **Masks** – **MASK ARE OPTIONAL FOR ALL STUDENTS AND STAFF.**

- **Handwashing/Sanitizing** - Students and staff are required to use hand sanitizer when entering a bus, building, classroom, and/or office. Frequent handwashing and sanitizing will also be incorporated in the daily schedules. Each classroom will be provided with sanitation kits that will be used during transitions. Buses, classrooms, and other common areas within the school will be thoroughly disinfected daily and deep cleaning schedules will be regularly conducted.

TEA Guidance is as follows for students:

“Parents must ensure they do not send a child to school if the child has COVID-19 symptoms (as listed in this document) or is lab-confirmed with COVID-19.

Teachers and staff must report to the school system if they themselves 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 return.

- **Social Distancing** – Staff and students will maintain social distancing in indoor and outdoor settings, to the extent possible.
- **Students with Health Conditions** – Parents and families know their child’s needs. While we are taking all measure to ensure each student’s safety, parents must place their child’s health needs first.

Campuses and Classrooms

- **Classroom Configurations** – Classrooms will be arranged to maximize the space between seating areas and transitions will be monitored to create appropriate distancing.
- **Restrooms and Water Fountains** – Students will be encouraged to bring their own water bottle or container for hydration. Handwashing will remain a priority during restroom breaks.

Instructional Models

- **Face-to-Face Instruction** – Our goal is to provide a safe environment where all students and staff can maximize the learning process. Falls City ISD is taking multiple precautions to protect both students and staff in school operations.
 - **Face-to-Face Instruction** – Students attend school daily, as with the regular school year, and follow safety, sanitation, and social distancing expectations.

TEA Requirement: Respond

Falls City ISD must identify and implement responsive actions to address the situation if there are lab-confirmed cases in a school.

Required Actions if Individuals with Test-Confirmed Cases Have Been in a School

1. If an individual who has been in a school is test-confirmed to have COVID-19, the school must notify its local 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).
2. Upon receipt of information that any teacher, staff member, student, or visitor at a school is test-confirmed to have COVID-19, the school must submit a report to the Texas Department of State Health Services via an online form. The report must be submitted each Monday for the prior seven days (Monday-Sunday).

Health and Hygiene Practices: Masks

Per GA-36, school systems cannot require students or staff to wear a mask. GA-36 addresses government-mandated face coverings in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Other authority to require protective equipment, including masks, in an employment setting is not necessarily affected by GA-36.

School systems must allow individuals to wear a mask if they choose to do so.

COVID-19 Symptoms

In evaluating whether an individual has symptoms consistent with COVID-19, consider the following questions: Has the individual recently begun experiencing any of the following in a way that is not normal for them?

- Feeling feverish or a measured temperature greater than or equal to 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit
- Loss of taste or smell
- Cough
- Difficulty Breathing
- Shortness of breath
- Headache
- Chills
- Sore throat
- Shaking or exaggerated shivering
- Significant muscle pain
- Diarrhea