New Braunfels ISD

2023-2024

Back-to-School

PLAN

Updated on 07/24/2023

NBISD 2023-2024 Back to School Plan (En espanol)

New Braunfels ISD remains committed to providing an environment where all students are engaged and empowered to become self-reliant learners in a constantly changing world. We believe education is a team effort between students, parents, teachers, and other staff members.

Because virtual learning opportunities were not funded by the legislature, students are expected to attend school in-person for the upcoming school year. NBISD remains committed to providing in-person learning environments with health and safety protocols. Our goal is to ensure all students have access to high-quality instruction while continuing to address health and safety concerns of students and staff with regards to COVID-19.

General Health and Safety Guidelines

Established health and safety guidelines will continue to be in place to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. We will continually monitor the health safety of our students and staff and will adjust procedures accordingly. The guidelines include, but are not limited to:

- Face Coverings: Per Governor's Order GA- 38 face coverings cannot be mandated however, Individuals may choose to mask at any time. People with symptoms, a positive test, or exposure to someone with COVID-19 should wear a high-quality mask or respirator when indoors in public.
- Vaccines: COVID-19 vaccines can not be required for students or staff members of New Braunfels ISD per Governor's Order GA- 39.
- Screening: Students and staff are asked to self-screen for high-risk COVID symptoms daily before coming to school. High-risk symptoms include new cough, fever > 100, shortness of breath, or loss of taste or smell. If any of these high-risk symptoms are present, keep your child at home, notify your campus and consult your healthcare provider.
    - During the school day, teachers will monitor students and refer them to the nurse if high-risk symptoms are present. The school nurse will provide a clinical assessment to determine if and when a student needs to be sent home.
- Students and staff will follow CDC recommendations regarding protocol for returning to school.
- All confirmed cases of COVID-19 will be reported to the TDSHS for contact tracing purposes.
- Special considerations may be required by students with developmental and/or behavioral disabilities who have limited mobility. Accommodations and assistance will be provided to ensure those students are able to appropriately engage in preventative actions.

Guidelines for Campus Visitors

- Individuals who enter an NBISD facility will follow specific guidelines for visitors, including checking in with the main office and wearing a visitor's identification badge at all times.

- Visitors and staff will follow safety guidelines found within this document (including physical distancing whenever possible) for meetings and conferences.
- Parents and visitors will only be admitted through the front office doors.
- Principals have the discretion to schedule volunteers and visitors based on campus needs and safety.

Cleaning & Disinfecting Guidelines

Custodial employees have been trained on safety guidelines, and will use EPA- approved disinfectants for deep cleaning campuses on a regular and ongoing basis.

- Cleaning and disinfecting will occur throughout the school day in high-traffic and frequent-touch areas (i.e., doorknobs, bathrooms, etc.).
- Deeper cleaning of campuses will occur after each school day.
- Each classroom will be cleaned/disinfected at the end of each day.
- Additional cleaning supplies will be provided for classrooms and common areas to help sanitize these areas during the school day.
- Staff will have access to additional cleaning supplies to help sanitize their spaces during the school day. Sanitizing stations will be located throughout all buildings in common areas.

Student Meals

USDA and TDA have returned to having schools participate in the National School Breakfast Program and National School Lunch Program as existed prior to COVID. Students are no longer eligible for free meals unless the student qualifies through the Free and Reduced Meal Program. A student will only qualify by meeting the standards that qualify them by completing the Free and Reduced Price Meal Application.

- Students will need to bring their lunch to school or plan to eat in the cafeteria.
- Cafeteria seating and serving areas will be cleaned between uses.
- All NBISD Child Nutrition staff will continue to practice health and hygiene regulations using face coverings and gloves while performing job responsibilities.

Classroom and Extracurriculars

- Extracurricular/Co-curricular activities, practices, and competitions will be conducted following UIL and TEA safety guidelines.
- Teachers will plan for/encourage frequent hand washing or hand sanitizing.
- Multiple locations of hand sanitizer will be available throughout the school.

Transportation

- Hand sanitizer will be available as students enter and exit the bus.
- Buses will be disinfected between morning and afternoon routes.
- All NBISD vehicles will be equipped with first aid kits and disinfecting supplies.

Continuity of Services

Our goal is to ensure a continuity of services for all students in the areas of academics, social-emotional well-being, and health.

Academics

- Campuses will provide tutoring services and accelerated learning during intervention/advisory blocks per campus master schedules.
- NBISD will offer Accelerated Instruction for grades 3-8 during the summer.
- Campuses will continue to utilize Canvas and SeeSaw for content delivery for in-person learning.
- Teachers will administer pre-assessments throughout the school year to accelerate instruction and target intervention.
- A universal screener/progress monitoring tool will be used to measure growth and proficiency and provide insights to help tailor instruction.
- Academic coaches/interventionists will be utilized on each campus to aid teachers in differentiating instruction to meet the individual learning needs of each student.
- Teachers were added to reduce class sizes.
- Intervention teachers were added at the district School of Choice, serving 95% of at-risk students to support students in earning credits for graduation.

Social-Emotional Well-Being and Health

- Each campus has a counseling program to address social-emotional needs.
- Additional counselors will continue to serve high-capacity campuses.
- Communities In Schools serve students on every campus.
- Each campus is provided a nurse to address health issues in an effort to maintain healthy learning environments.

Information in this document is subject to change based on guidelines from local, state, and federal authorities. It will be reviewed at a minimum every six months.