

COVID-19 Prevention, Mitigation, and Response Procedures at Rocksprings ISD

08/17/2020

Dear Parent/Guardian,

As we plan for returning to school at Rocksprings, we recognize that this will be an unusual school year, but we remain committed to supporting your student's learning, as well as his or her safety.

This document outlines the procedures our campuses will have in place to prevent or mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and to respond if a positive case is identified. We hope this transparency helps you to make a decision about your student's on-campus attendance at Rocksprings ISD.

The virus that causes COVID-19 can infect people of all ages. That said, research from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), among others, has found that while children do get infected by COVID-19 and some severe outcomes have been reported in children, relatively few children with COVID-19 are hospitalized or have severe symptoms. For many children, there are distinct benefits to attending school in person, including instructional, social, and safety benefits. For these reasons, the [American Academy of Pediatrics](#) has made a statement supporting on-campus instruction for students in the coming year.

While it is not possible to eliminate all risk of furthering the spread of COVID-19, the current science suggests there are many steps schools can take to reduce the risks to students, teachers, staff, and their families significantly. The Rocksprings strategy for opening and operating is outlined below. A more detailed plan can be found on our district website: <https://www.rockspringsisd.net/>

Prevention

To prevent COVID-positive individuals from entering our campuses, your student's school will have the following COVID-19 symptom screening procedures in place:

- All staff will be required to self-screen daily.
- All visitors will be required to screen upon arrival.
- Parents are asked to proactively identify when their student exhibits COVID-19 symptoms or has been exposed and to keep them home.

OR

- All students will be screened daily using handheld temperature readers every morning as they get on their bus or as they enter school.
The student screening procedure will be as follows: If a student has a temperature of 100 or more they will be required to stay home.

You can find more details here, including the questions you will be asked: (830) 683-8121 or (830) 683-4136

Information collected in these screens will not be retained if the screening is passed. If a parent indicates that a student is demonstrating COVID-19 symptoms, the school will retain that information until the student meets the criteria for return to school.

Criteria for Return to School

Conditions for return to school after an individual shows symptoms or gets a positive test result:

Either:

- 24 hours with no fever; and
- Symptoms improved; and
- 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared

Or:

- An acute infection test at an approved testing location (<https://tdem.texas.gov/covid-19/>) that comes back negative for COVID-19

Or:

- A doctor's note indicating an alternate diagnosis

Mitigation

Our district will be taking the following steps across each of our campuses to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

All adults in the building will wear masks.

All students [ages 10 and above] will be required to wear masks or face shield or both, also any student younger than age 10 may wear a mask or shield if their parent wants for them to do so, particularly when they are within six feet of one another, except when participating in activities that cannot be conducted with a mask on, such as eating, or unless it is not developmentally appropriate for the student to wear a mask.

Response

In the event of a COVID-positive case on campus, the campus will take the following steps:

- All areas that are heavily used by the individual with the lab-confirmed case will be closed off until disinfected.
- All teachers, staff, and families of all students in that school will be notified.
- The local health department will be notified.

We hope that this information gives you confidence in our systems and our ability to stop the spread of COVID-19 on our campuses. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to (830) 683-8121 – Elementary or (830) 683-4136 – Secondary or visit our website at: <https://www.rockspringsisd.net/>

While this will be a challenging year, we believe it can also be a great one, and we look forward to supporting your student in his or her learning journey.

Sincerely,

Larry J. Taylor – Interim Superintendent