

**FRUITVALE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT**

# **RETURN-TO-SCHOOL PLAN**

*IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19*

*OUR NUMBER ONE PRIORITY IS THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF OUR STUDENTS,  
TEACHERS, AND STAFF.*

*\*Changes to public health situations over the course of the school year may necessitate changes to this  
guidance.*

## INTRODUCTION

We have created this plan to aid in navigating the reestablishment of our school where employees, students, and families feel safe and to reduce the impact of COVID-19 conditions upon returning to the district. The guidelines referenced in this plan are based on guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and World Health Organization (WHO). Regular updates will be made to this plan based on information provided by the CDC, WHO, and applicable federal, state and local agencies.

## GUIDING PRINCIPLES

In order to ensure the continued well being of our students and employees the following guiding principles have been put in place:

1. EMPLOYEE AND STUDENT SAFETY MEASURES
2. HEALTH GUIDELINES
3. SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES

## FOUR PRACTICES

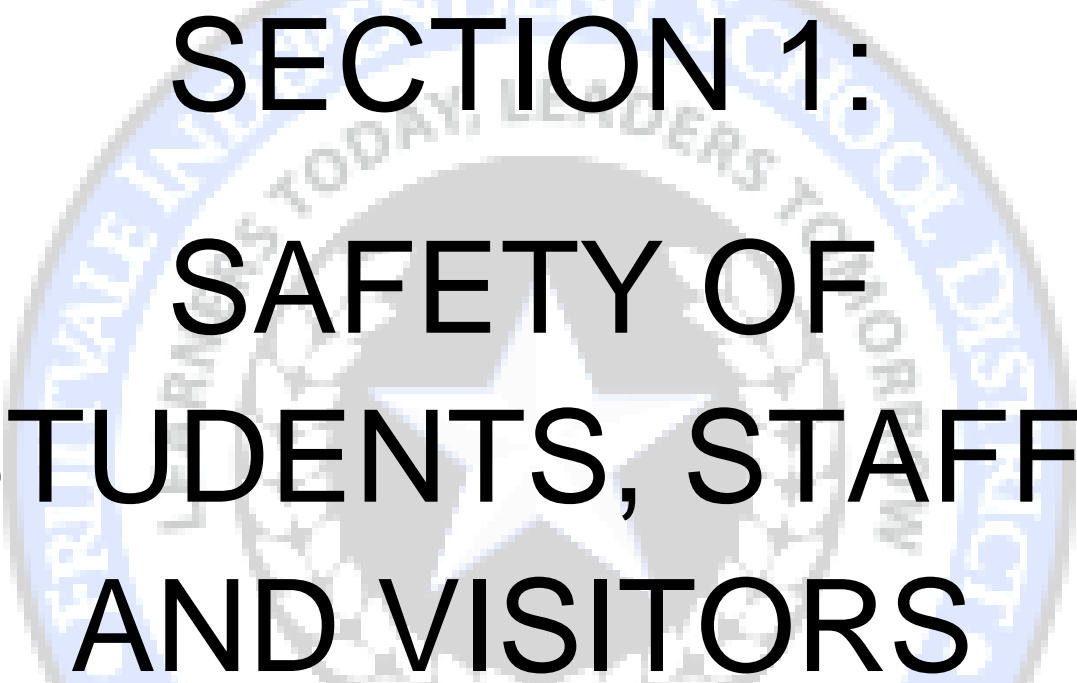
FISD will:

1. Provide notice to parents
2. Implement practices to prevent the virus from entering the school.
3. Respond to a lab-confirmed case in the school.
4. Implement prevention and mitigation practices to reduce the likelihood that an outbreak occurs on campus.

**EXPOSURE DEFINED:** Close contact of less than 6 feet for more than 15 minutes to a person who has COVID-19 symptoms or a person who has tested positive.

## Communication

- Fruitvale ISD will communicate through FACEBOOK, the school district website and School messenger email and rarely phone call outs.

The logo of Fruitvale Independent School District is a circular seal. It features a five-pointed star in the center, surrounded by a wreath. The text "FRUITVALE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT" is written around the top inner edge of the circle, and "TEXAS" is at the bottom. The motto "LEADERS TODAY, LEADERS TOMORROW" is written in a smaller font across the middle of the seal.

**SECTION 1:  
SAFETY OF  
STUDENTS, STAFF,  
AND VISITORS**

## **EMPLOYEE AND STUDENT SAFETY**

Fruitvale ISD has implemented increased cleaning protocols, hand sanitizer stations throughout the facilities and in classrooms, social distancing measures, self screening protocols, and education for our staff and students on hand washing and classroom cleaning measures. The district is providing gators, masks and shields as options on campus for staff and students. Sneeze guards are going up in the offices and we are building outdoor pavilion classrooms and creating outdoor classroom spaces for our students and staff. Disinfectants will be used for deep campus cleaning. Social distancing and safety signage will be added and visible throughout the school facilities. Our staff and student safety is our number one priority. Families will have the option for their child to participate in on campus instruction or to participate in virtual instruction daily. Substitute teachers will be screened and have their temperature taken if needed on campus, and will be required to report COVID-19 situations to administration.

## **VISITOR RESTRICTIONS**

FISD will not allow normal visitation to our campuses. Only FISD staff is allowed on campus during preparation for reopen. Visitors to campus will wear a face covering, maintain social distancing and must have a scheduled appointment. Upon arrival on campus, visitors will complete the COVID-19 screening process and have a temperature check. No volunteers will be allowed on campus.

## **TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS**

FISD will discontinue staff travel to conferences until further notice unless pre-approved by the office of the Superintendent. We will minimize non essential travel throughout the year.

## **EMPLOYEE SCREENING AND PROTOCOLS**

To help prevent the spread of COVID-19 and reduce the potential risk of exposure to our employees and students, we will be requiring employees to take their temperature prior to coming to campus and to complete a self-screening on Time clock plus with questions related to COVID-19 symptoms including:

- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Chills
- Repeated shaking with chills
- Muscle pain
- Headache

- Sore throat
- Loss of taste or smell
- Diarrhea
- Feeling feverish or a measured temperature greater than or equal to 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit
- Known close contact with a person who is lab confirmed to have COVID-19

All screening information will be kept confidential by Human Resource and the district nurse. Teachers and staff must report if they 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 re-entry. Additionally, staff must report if they have had close contact with an individual who is lab-confirmed with COVID-19, and, if so, must remain off campus until the 10-day incubation period has passed.

### **HANDOUT: SELF-SCREENING PROTOCOL**

Parents must ensure they do not send their student to school if the child has COVID-19 symptoms or is lab-confirmed with COVID-19, and instead should opt to receive virtual instruction until the conditions for re-entry have been met. Parents may also opt to have their child receive virtual instruction if their child has had close contact with an individual who is lab confirmed with COVID-19 until the 10-day incubation period has passed.

### **BEFORE COMING ONTO CAMPUSES OR BUSES**

At the beginning of the year and the start of every week of on-campus instruction, FISD parents will screen students prior to coming onto campus by taking their temperatures and answering the COVID-19 screening questions. FISD is permitted to prevent any individuals who fail the screening criteria from being admitted to the campus or a bus until they meet any of the criteria for re-entry to the campus.

### **HEALTH PROTOCOL**

- All district staff will be trained in COVID-19 safety protocols.
- Disinfectants will be used for deep cleaning campuses.
- Students, teachers, staff, and essential campus visitors will be encouraged to sanitize and/or wash hands frequently.
- Tissues will be provided in each classroom and common areas to encourage students and staff to cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue, and if not available, to cover with their elbows. Used tissues should be thrown into the trash immediately and hand washed immediately with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or hand sanitizer should be used.

- Sneeze guards and plexi-glass will be added to public reception desks.
- Social distancing signage will be added and visible throughout school facilities.
- No outside visitors or parents will be allowed to enter the student areas of the school.
- All visitors will be scheduled to be on campus and screened prior to a scheduled meeting. We will prevent visitors who fail the health screening from being admitted on campus until they meet the criteria for reentry to campus.
- Students will utilize backpacks instead of hallway lockers, at least during the fall semester, to help ensure social distancing/space between students.

## Protocols for Individuals Confirmed, Suspected or Exposed to COVID-19

Individuals including students, teachers, staff or other campus visitors/volunteers who have had close contact with someone who is lab-confirmed to have COVID-19, as narrowly defined in this document as determined by the appropriate public health agency through the 10-day incubation period, and should not be allowed on campus.

Fruitvale ISD school nurses will screen individuals after the incubation period has concluded, and if the individual did not experience COVID-19 symptoms during that period, the individual can be allowed back on campus. If the individual experienced symptoms, they must stay at home until the conditions for reentry have been met.

### COVID-19 CASE FORM

If an employee or student becomes ill on campus/district, he/she will immediately report to the district **nurse's isolation room** and the case form will be completed.

Once the employee or student arrives at the isolation room, immediately provide them with a mask and gloves. Explain that this is to help protect other employees and students and prevent the spread of the potential virus.

The nurse must complete the **HANDOUT: Suspected COVID-19 Case Form** and call the local health authority and seek advice regarding transportation and location.

The nurse and others attending the suspected infected person, should also wear a protective mask and gloves while working with the suspected infected person.

The nurse will direct the ill employee to leave work or call the parent of the student to be picked up and go home. The nurse and campus/district supervisor must identify persons who may have come in contact with the suspected infected person. *Unless*

*required by the local health authority, the name of the employee/student should not be provided.*

The nurse will advise employees and families of students that they may have been in contact with a suspected employee/student, and if they test positive will post on the school district website. The isolation area and suspected employee's or student's work area/classroom must be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected, in addition to all other common surfaces recently touched by the employee or student.

## **Positive Cases and Teachers, Staff, or Students Showing COVID-19 Symptoms**

- Schools should close off areas used by a sick individual (student, teacher, or staff) until they can be disinfected. If possible, wait 24 hours to clean these areas to increase the chances of the virus becoming inactive. If 24 hours is not possible, wait as long as possible.
- If a positive case is identified for a school participant, whether teacher, staff, or student, the school must identify any individuals who had regular or close contact with the affected participant. This will include the entire class (students, teachers, and staff) and potentially other teachers and staff (if multiple teachers work regularly with the student or staff member). If those teachers or the students interacted with other students or staff on a regular basis or came in close contact with them, those students and staff should be considered potentially exposed as well and should be screened for symptoms and tested for COVID-19 before returning to school or should quarantine for the required time period.
- All participants of the school program must receive notice if there is a positive case- we will do this through our school messenger email, so please ensure your email is correct. We will also post case numbers on the Fruitvale ISD website. Fisd cannot release names or specific classes of students because of FERPA privacy laws.
- Any teacher, staff member, or student who experiences any of the symptoms of COVID-19 (listed below) should self-isolate until the below conditions have been met. In the case of an individual who was diagnosed with COVID-19, the individual may return to the school program when all three of the following criteria are met:
  - at least three days (72 hours) have passed since recovery (resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications); and
  - the individual has improvement in symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath); and
  - at least ten days have passed since symptoms first appeared; or in the case of an individual who has symptoms that could be COVID-19 and does not get



evaluated by a medical professional or tested for COVID-19, the individual is assumed to have COVID-19, and the individual may not return to work until the individual has completed the same three-step criteria listed above; or if the individual has symptoms that could be COVID-19 and wants to return to the school program before completing the above self-isolation period, the individual must obtain a medical professional's note clearing the individual for return based on an alternative diagnosis.

Any student, teacher, or staff member living with someone who experiences any of the symptoms of COVID-19, whether they have a positive COVID-19 test or not, should self-isolate until the above conditions have been met. If they do not experience any COVID-19 symptoms during that period, they can return to school. If they experience symptoms, they must self-isolate until the conditions outlined above have been met.

## **FISD EMPLOYEE RIGHTS-SICK LEAVE**

The Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA or ACT) requires employers to provide their employees with paid sick leave and expanded family and medical leave for specified reasons related to COVID-19. These provisions apply until December 2020. Please contact the administration office with questions or if you need to apply for leave.

## **NURSE (NON COVID SITUATIONS)**

1. We will have one nurse designated for non-COVID situations.
2. School nurses will be trained in COVID-19 safety protocols.
3. Minor health needs will be handled in classrooms for the most part.
4. All school health areas will be cleaned and disinfected regularly.

## **GUIDANCE IF EXPOSED**

While we all hope to avoid exposure to illness from COVID-19, we need to be prepared for that possibility. If you or someone you've been in contact with has been exposed to the virus, our first concern is for your health and safety and those around you. In this rapidly changing situation, healthcare providers should have the most up-to-date information from the CDC.

Please do the following:

1. Quarantine yourself in a specific room away from others in your home
2. Contact the following (in order of priority), let them know you have been exposed to COVID-19, then follow their instructions.
  - a. Your healthcare provider
  - b. Your supervisor
  - c. FISD Administration office



3. Your supervisor will work with admin to determine appropriate next steps.
4. In case of an emergency, call 911 and let them know you have been exposed to COVID-19, then follow their instructions.
5. FISD recommends the student, teacher, staff or visitor should stay home through the 10 day incubation period and will not be allowed on campus. If the individual experiences symptoms, they must stay home until they meet the return to school/work requirements.

## LAB CONFIRMED CASE RESPONSE

- **Local Health Department Notified**
- **Areas Closed for Cleaning**
- **Alert Notifications Are Sent**

## SOCIAL DISTANCING

Social distancing is an effective way to prevent potential infection. FISD employees, students, parents, and visitors should practice staying approximately 6 feet away from others and eliminating contact with others.

- Traffic Flow – Taped lines on the floor will mark the walking direction throughout the office in order to maintain the social distancing requirement of 6 feet
- Ad-hoc Interactions/Gatherings – Non-essential/informal meetups and visiting should be avoided
- Students and staff will be trained in proper social distancing.
- Signage will be used as a reminder to help assist students and staff with social distancing in common spaces and hallways.
- Whenever possible throughout the day, students and staff will remain six feet apart. NOTE: It isn't realistic that staff and students can maintain six feet of social distancing at all times, especially in the classrooms.

***Social distancing becomes a personal responsibility of each individual attending school or coming to the FISD facility.***

## PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

In order to minimize exposure to COVID-19, PPE may be needed to prevent certain exposures. PPE can include:

**Masks:** Face masks are an important part of student and employee protection, as well as personal hygiene, social distancing, and frequent cleaning efforts. All staff and students will be provided options for masks including disposable masks, face shields or gators (buffs). FISD staff and students will comply with the governor's orders concerning face coverings. Elementary students are not required to wear mask, and TEA has said that it is not developmentally appropriate for PK and Kinder students to wear face coverings, but parents will determine if masks are developmentally appropriate for their child for first grade through fifth grade. Parents will be responsible for ensuring students bring these back to school each day for usage.

JH/HS students who are participating in outdoor activities (such as PE, ag, or band) will not be required to be masked, and if a staff or student brings a medical note they will not be required to wear a mask. If social distancing is maintained the students do not have to be masked, but during interactions with others they will be required under the current governor's orders to comply. When the governor's orders end, then it will become optional for staff and students.

We hope to keep at the Elementary and Junior High pods of students together for the most part during the day- which will minimize exposure to large groups of students, and we will encourage students to wear their gators or mask in larger settings to reduce transmission.

The Texas Education Agency is sending a number of disposable masks, reusable masks, gloves, thermometers, face shields and hand sanitizer to the district. The district has purchased multiple of additional items in addition to these for our staff and students.

**Gloves:** Touching your face with contaminated hands, whether gloved or not, poses a significant risk of infection. Wearing gloves does not diminish the need to wash your hands. Please remember to wash your hands properly as it is the number-one defense against any virus. Additionally, the proper removal of gloves reduces the risk of being exposed to contamination.

*Please note that social distancing should still be practiced even with the use of gloves and masks.*

In addition to using PPE, please remember to:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available. Staff and students will be trained in proper hand washing protocols to prevent COVID-19 and the spread of germs.
- Elementary teachers will teach and supervise proper hand washing.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or use the inside of your elbow

## **PERSONAL WORKSPACE**

FISD staff will use the signage provided to indicate the room is in need of sanitizing and disinfecting. All teachers and students are asked not to visit another classroom outside of their team or grade level. Employees are encouraged to disinfect their own personal workspace (teacher desk, phone, etc) throughout the day, giving special attention to commonly touched surfaces. Disinfectants should be stored securely in classrooms when not in use.

## **MODIFIED ARRANGEMENTS**

Space seating/desks at least 6 feet apart when feasible, or have students wear mask and sanitize when working close together.

Turn desks to face the same direction, or have students sit on only one side of tables, spaced apart.

Create distance between children on school buses, unless they are the same household, or have students wear mask and use hand sanitizer.

Provide physical guides, such as tape on floors or sidewalks and signs on walls, to ensure that staff and children remain at least 6 feet apart in lines and at other times.

In areas such as dining halls and playgrounds with shared equipment stagger usage and clean and disinfect between use. Elementary students will be able to play on the playground with a reduced number of students.

Keep each child's belongings separated from others and in individually labeled containers, cubbies or areas.

Classrooms need adequate amounts of supplies so they can minimize sharing of high

touch materials (such as art supplies). If sharing is unavoidable, limit use of supplies and equipment to one group of children at a time and clean and disinfect between uses.

## SHARED WORKSPACE

Employees are encouraged to disinfect their shared workspace in shared areas multiple times throughout the day, giving special attention to commonly touched surfaces. FISD has alcohol-based hand sanitizers throughout the workplace and in common areas. Cleaning sprays and wipes are also available to clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces such as telephones and keyboards. The FISD Custodial Team will clean all workspaces at their designated cleaning time.

*Please note that proper equipment such as acceptable disinfectant and PPE should be used when cleaning individual workspaces.*

There will be limited access to certain workspaces to reduce exposure to risks and ensure employee safety. Workspace usage is as follows:

**Capacity**– FISD will be monitoring the number of employees in the offices while the risk of infection exists and begins to diminish.

**Meetings**- All meetings are required to use Zoom as a virtual option even for employees in the office or school, or provide room for social distancing.

**Breakrooms or Teacher Lounge/Multipurpose Room**–These spaces could be closed for use until at different times of the year. This includes the use of shared appliances such as coffee machines, refrigerators, and microwaves.

## FACILITIES CLEANING

The safety of our employees and students are our first priority. Upon reopening, our schools have been completely cleaned and disinfected and we will continue to adhere to all necessary safety precautions. In addition to the deep cleaning of the office and school before employees and students return, the cleaning steps outlined below are to be taken to disinfect workplace surfaces, chairs, tables, etc. to protect employees and reduce the risk of spread of infection. We will require employees to maintain this safety standard by continuously cleaning and disinfecting based on the frequency stated below.

## GENERAL DISINFECTION MEASURES

Category	Area	Frequency
<b>Workspaces</b>	Classrooms, Offices	At the end of each use/day
<b>Appliances</b>	Refrigerators, Microwaves, Coffee Machines	Daily
<b>Electronic Equipment</b>	Copier machines, Shared computer monitors, TV's, Telephones, keyboards	At the end of each use/day and/or between use
<b>General Used Objects</b>	Handles, light switches, sinks, restrooms	At least 4 times a day
<b>Buses</b>	Bus seats, handles/railing, belts, window controls	At the end of each use/day
<b>Common Areas</b>	Cafeteria, Library, Conference rooms, Gyms, Common Areas	At the end of each use/day; between groups

The goal is to establish a sanitary baseline before the site opens. The site should be 100% disinfected prior to anyone returning to work.

## GENERAL DISINFECTION MEASURES PROTOCOL

- FISD custodial employees will be trained on COVID-19 safety protocols.
- Cleaning and disinfecting will occur daily in every classroom, common areas, and on high touch surfaces.
- Every classroom and office area will have disinfectant wipes and or disinfectant in a spray bottle with cleaning cloths provided to employees to use in high touch areas throughout the school day.

## DEEP CLEANING AND DISINFECTION PROTOCOL

Deep cleaning is triggered when an active employee or student is identified as positive for COVID 19 based on testing. Deep cleaning should be performed as soon as the confirmation of a positive test, as practical. While the scope of deep cleaning is presumed to be the full site, sites may reduce the footprint to be deep cleaned if there is sufficient rationale to do so, and they gain approval of the superintendent.

Notwithstanding the above, if an active employee is confirmed to have a COVID-19 positive test, in lieu of performing deep cleaning, sites may shut down the site for a period of 72 hours to allow for natural deactivation of the virus, followed by site personnel performing a comprehensive disinfection of all common surfaces. If possible custodial staff should wait 24 hours before disinfecting the area where a COVID 19 case is identified.

## **SIGNAGE**

Signage will be placed throughout the offices and school district to remind staff and students of social distancing, hand washing and sanitation, and other positive safety protocols.

## **LIBRARIES**

Library books will be reviewed on the school website and we will set up a way for them to notify the instructional aides in the libraries of their wish to check out a book. The book will be delivered to the student for checkout in their classroom, books will be returned to a plastic bin in the classroom to be picked up by the library and held for a number of days before being put out for recheck in the library. No student or staff will enter the library and touch multiple books while browsing for a selection.

## **CAFETERIA AND MEAL PERIODS**

- Cafeteria staff will be trained in COVID-19 safety protocols.
- Students will be provided with healthy meals Monday-Friday regardless of instructional setting or days on the campus, free of charge.
- Lunches are staggered to limit capacity
- Deep sanitizing of tables, chairs and walls will be done daily.
- No parents/visitors during lunch time.
- Classes will go to lunch on a staggered schedule to minimize the number of students in the cafeteria.
- We will have a no touch process for entering the numbers for student meals.
- Plexiglass will be installed to provide an additional barrier between the student and the cashier.
- Students may bring their own meals or be served individually plated meals in the cafeteria. A microwave will be provided in the cafeteria for warming food. The district will not allow outside food deliveries to our offices this school year.
- Students will be seated on one side of the table with a seat between them and the next student.
- Some students will also be able to eat in our outdoor pavilion when it is completed on campus, which will provide for additional safety and space.



- Each table and seat will be disinfected after usage.
- FISD will use disposable food service items and food items will be pre-packaged and boxed to minimize face-to face contact in the cafeteria line.

## **PREVENTIVE MATERIAL INVENTORY**

- Confirm school district has an adequate supply of soap, disinfection, hand sanitizer, paper towels, and tissues
- Confirm a supply of gloves and other protective gear
- Touch less thermometers on-site for employee and student screening

## **RESTROOM USAGE DURING THE WORK DAY**

Provide supplies for employees to clean up after themselves in staff only restrooms.

## **RESTROOMS/ LOCKER ROOMS**

While in restrooms or locker rooms, students are to stay 6 feet from others as a normal practice. Eliminate contact with others, such as handshakes. Avoid touching surfaces touched by others to the extent feasible. Avoid anyone who is coughing, sneezing or appears to be sick. Wash hands before exiting the area.

## **TRANSPORTATION CHECKLISTS**

Sanitation logs will be turned in to the Transportation Director after completing your last route. All surfaces must be cleaned with a disinfectant solution.

### **HANDOUT: TRANSPORTATION SANITATION CHECKLIST**

- **Hand sanitizer will be at the entry of all buses.**
- **For routes where students sit in close proximity within the bus, students are encouraged to wear mask or face shields while on the bus.**
- **When possible, windows will be open to allow outside air to circulate throughout the bus.**

## **BUS DRIVERS/BUS PROTOCOLS**

Bus drivers or custodial staff must disinfect the buses at a minimum:



1. Right after the morning and afternoon routes or after each trip

Bus drivers must not report to work if they suspect they are sick or if they have symptoms such as fever or difficulty breathing, or have been in contact with other people who have any confirmed respiratory illness or disease the last 7 days.

- Fruitvale ISD will provide bus transportation.
- Drivers will be trained in COVID-19 Protocols.
- Bus riders will be encouraged to social distance as much as possible.
- Bus riders will be taught to space themselves out from others as they exit the bus and walk into the school building.
- Drivers and riders will be strongly encouraged to wear a face covering.
- Hand sanitizers will be installed on all buses and are to be used by students when entering and exiting the bus.
- When possible, bus windows will be opened to allow outside air to circulate in the bus.

### Arriving/Dismissal

- HRE will allow one day of two guardians walking in HS, PK, and Kindergarten students the first day. All other students will be dropped off and no visitors will be allowed on campus to walk students to class.
- Parents are encouraged to drop their child off at school to reduce possible virus exposure. We are discouraging school transportation.
- Students will be provided hand sanitizer stations and be encouraged to use hand sanitizer immediately upon entering the building.
- Parents will not be allowed to drop off before 7:30 a.m.
- Parents/guardians will not be able to leave their cars or enter the building. We ask that parents make appointments and if necessary, return at a time when students and staff are inside of their classrooms.
- Parents who wish to pick up their student before the end of the school day will need to call ahead so that the child can be sent or accompanied to parent vehicles upon arrival. ***Paperwork will be provided at the vehicle and parents will not enter the building for pickups.***

***Parents may not schedule a pickup between 3:00 and 3:30 for a child.***

### SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING OF STUDENTS AND STAFF

The district/campus counselors will develop or provide videos and resources for parents and teachers to access. The counselors will work with students individually or in small

groups to address any well-being needs. Counselors will have a scheduled meeting time with virtual students each day.

## **STAFF TRAINING**

- **Pre-return to school training-**

Presented virtually to ensure understanding and preparedness to align with this manual

- **First Day Training/Orientation**

Align local protocols and procedures with this manual; meeting area must adhere to social distancing protocols or present via digital platform such as Zoom

- **Cleaning Crew Protocols**

Disinfection methods, comprehensive cleaning training

It is very important that all employees understand the safety requirements, protocols and expectations to ensure everyone and their communities stay safe and prevent the spread of the virus.

We will structure the training plan to effectively disseminate information to all teams and audiences.

Content Covered:

- All training topics can be reinforced with signage in the buildings.
- School/District checklists
- Response Teams
- Disinfection Measures
- Transportation
- Isolation protocols
- On site health screening
- Daily self-screenings
- Visitors
- Cleaning Crew Protocols

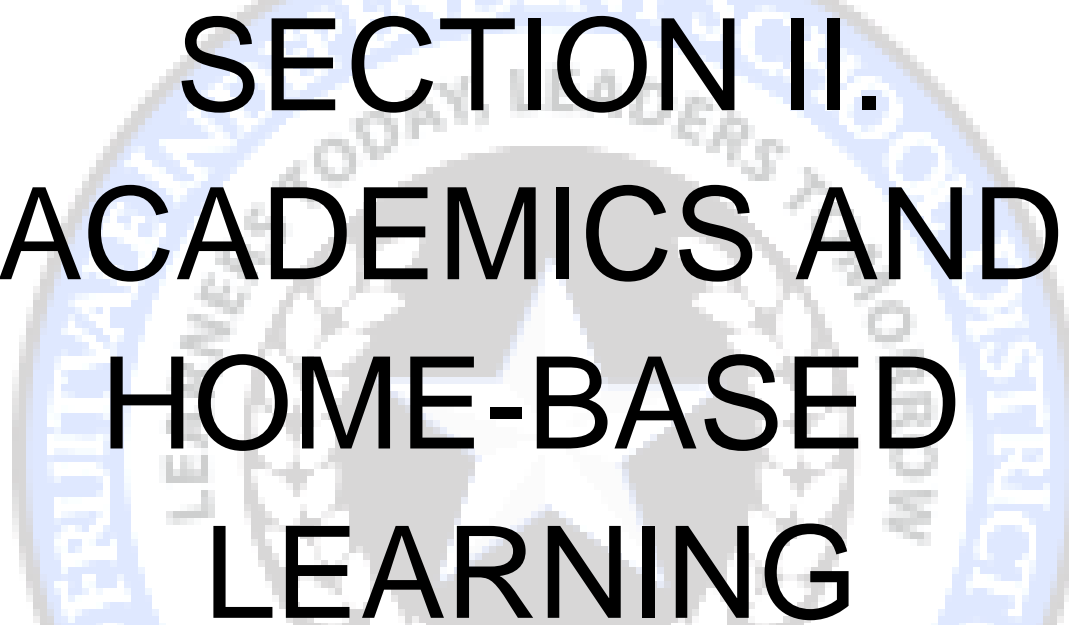
**HANDOUT: PowerPoint for First Day Orientation**

## COMMUNICATION METHODS

To stay updated on the most up-to-date information:

1. Teachers, students, and parents need to check their email often.
2. Visit our district website
3. Follow our facebook



The seal of Fruitvale Independent School District is a circular emblem. It features a central five-pointed star with a smaller star inside it. The words "FRUITVALE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT" are written around the perimeter of the seal. At the bottom, the word "TEXAS" is written. The seal is light blue and serves as a background for the main title text.

**SECTION II.  
ACADEMICS AND  
HOME-BASED  
LEARNING**

## In-Person and Virtual School Requirements

Fruitvale ISD will offer parents the option of in person school, full virtual school, or a hybrid model for the 2020-2021 school year. In-person school will be as normal as possible with the addition of the above mentioned safety protocols.

The Texas Education Agency has approved two different virtual school models in response to the COVID-19 pandemic for districts to utilize in addition to on-campus instruction for the 2020-2021 school year. Synchronous instruction (real-time/live, virtual instruction between teachers and students) and asynchronous instruction (teachers provide pre-recorded videos of instruction and guided support while students engage in learning materials on their own time and interact daily with the teacher). Fruitvale ISD will provide asynchronous instruction for students in grades PK-12. Fruitvale ISD will not provide synchronous instruction while On-Campus Instruction is taking place on district campuses.

Fruitvale ISD students participating in virtual instruction (asynchronous instruction) will be required to engage in learning activities on their own time during **EACH** school day, interacting daily with the teacher(s) via computer or other electronic devices, or over the phone. Teachers will post an assignment/activity each day and give guided support under this model of instruction. Fruitvale ISD has hired a virtual teacher to help support these off campus students and also will provide a help line to call for support. The student will be considered enrolled in Fruitvale ISD Virtual Instruction for attendance and funding purposes and will be eligible to participate in all extra-curricular activities and sports per UIL guidelines at the high school campus.

For students participating in asynchronous instruction to be counted for attendance purposes, **they must be engaged in one of the following ways for each enrolled class during EACH school day:**

1. Daily progress in the Learning Management System (LMS) as defined in the Fruitvale ISD learning plan; or
2. Daily progress via teacher-student interactions as defined in the Fruitvale ISD learning plan; or
3. Completion/submission of assignments from student to teacher (potentially via email, online, or mail).

Per Texas Education Code (TEC) 25.092, students must attend 90 percent of a course (with some exceptions) in order to be awarded credit for the course and/or to be promoted to the next grade. This requirement remains in effect during the 2020-2021 school year.

In the event that Fruitvale ISD is forced to close down campuses for an extended period of time, the district will immediately utilize Virtual Instruction (asynchronous model) with all students.

Fruitvale ISD will not provide synchronous instruction where all participants are present at the same time, virtually. However, at the discretion of the teacher, some video instruction will be provided via CANVAS.

Those choosing virtual learning:

- Students will be expected to participate in district/state assessments to measure growth and track learning.
- Students may be required to test onsite for benchmarks and state assessments
- Students will turn in daily assignments in CANVAS to get credit for attendance and grades
- Students will be provided a chrome device for use off campus
- A CANVAS login will reduce the number of places students are required to login.
- Hot Spot scholarships will be provided to families in need
- Fruitvale ISD has a help line for families who need instructional support as well as technology support.
- Some elective classes will have on campus requirements
- Social Emotional support will be provided
- Monday-Saturday required participation
- Attendance is taken daily
- All instruction will be delivered/facilitated online M-F and in person on Saturday
- Online instruction will be asynchronous (not live)
- Daily progress can be made through work submission in CANVAS.

### Instruction

All students will follow the same scope and sequence for in person and virtual learning. Parent portal will be available for both learning choices also. CANVAS will unify and connect in-person and virtual learning. Fruitvale ISD adopted CANVAS, a learning management system, to provide an easy to use, engaging learning environment for families who choose Virtual Learning and for teacher use in classrooms for face to face instruction. This online instruction provides a rigorous academic program which will require students to spend a significant amount of time working each day. CANVAS will allow teachers to provide students learning opportunities which closely mirror the activity in the classroom. To ensure student success with online learning, teachers, parents and students must each play a part in making At Home learning successful.

### Parent Commitment

Parents will be asked to commit to either on campus or virtual instruction by August 3, 2020. Parents are encouraged to stick with the commitment and notify the district in writing of a request to change placement from in-person to virtual or vis-versa. We would appreciate a week's notice if you intend to change your student's placement.

## Electives

Some elective courses may have coursework that can only reasonably be completed in person, even if some components of the course could be taught virtually. (welding, etc.) These courses will be made available to students who are otherwise learning virtually, although the district can require a student to come to campus to complete a required assignment or project for an elective course if the course requires assignments that cannot be reasonably completed virtually.

## GRADING POLICY

### Grading

To receive credit and attendance for the courses for this school year students are expected to complete the assignments, grading has to follow district policies and be the same on and off campus according to the required TEA guidelines.

### Attendance and Enrollment

- Fruitvale ISD will be required to take DAILY attendance under all learning models. This means students will have to be present on-campus or engaged online in their Learning Management System (LMS) **EACH** day to be counted present for credit purposes. Students must attend 90% of a course in order to be awarded credit for the course and/or be promoted to the next grade level. Student attendance may be earned through the delivery of virtual instruction because of the public health situation.

### Special Programs

- Special Programs staff will be trained in COVID-19 safety protocols.
- Instruction - Special education and 504 students will receive instruction and related services in accordance with their individualized education/accommodation plan. Virtual learners will receive services virtually rather than on campus.
- Related and/or other services (speech therapy, occupational therapy, physical therapy, direct psychological services, and/or vision services) will be provided by the same service provider when possible through various digital platforms (Zoom, Google Meet, etc.) for virtual learners. Some related and/or other services such



as vision, orientation and mobility, and adapted physical education may be provided via consultation and not as a direct service.

- Students with disabilities whose needs pose additional challenges to learning in a virtual environment are encouraged to attend On-Campus Instruction.
- Therapy services will continue for students receiving those services within both learning platforms. Virtual students will receive these services through an electronic digital platform provided by the district. Students attending school on campus will receive these services face to face while at school.
- Regression will be addressed in an ARD/504 committee meeting.
- Special education transportation services will be provided as written in the ARD paperwork for on-campus learners.
- Additional PPE for staff and additional sanitization procedures will be practiced in special education classrooms.
- Evaluations for special education/504 eligibility will vary on a case by case basis. Fruitvale ISD will encourage on-site/in-person evaluations in order to ensure the accuracy and integrity of the evaluation. In the event that an evaluation is needed and an in-person or on-campus accommodation cannot be made, the evaluation will be conducted virtually when possible.

## Technology Support

- All Pre-K through 12th Grade Fruitvale ISD students will have access to a district-issued personal device for On-Campus and Virtual learning.
- Parents are required to sign the District Issued Device Agreement Form. This form outlines the acceptance and agreement to adhere to the guidelines and responsibilities of the device protection plan. If the device is lost or deemed to be damaged due to negligence as defined by the school administration, replacement and/or repair cost may be assessed.
- Technology staff will be available in all instructional models to assist students and staff with technology support.
- ***Fruitvale ISD has GOGUARDIAN in place on all devices to track student online virtual presence- teachers can see screens on and off campus and all sites are tracked at school and at home by this program to ensure that students and families are utilizing technology in a safe manner.***
- Fruitvale ISD will be providing a Hot Spot Scholarship to families who are in need of WIFI support at home after they complete the free and reduced lunch application and a scholarship form.

## RECEIVING AND RETURNING STUDENT WORK IF DISTRICT CLOSES

In the event that the school does not reopen or has to close in 2020-2021, we will follow the guidelines below for receiving and returning student work.

Work will be given and received through CANVAS. This learning management system will allow students to login one time and access all of their courses, videos, and online programs. This will make it easier for parents to keep their students on track from home and will allow a one stop place for student learning.

Families will be able to access the internet, effectively all activities can be done online, which will eliminate any public health risk associated with providing instructional support in person. Teachers are receiving new laptops and recording devices to use in their classrooms to record instruction and upload into the canvas system.

### Outdoor Spaces

Fruitvale ISD is adding multiple outdoor classrooms and spaces for students. There is a reduced risk of spreading the virus outdoors so we are going to have multiple areas available for outdoor classes and lunches for students. We will also try to support more outdoor PE programs for students. Playgrounds/PE equipment will be sanitized frequently.

# SECTION III: EXTRACURRICULAR AND DISTRICT WIDE EVENTS

## Extracurricular Participation

- Students and staff will be trained in COVID-19 safety protocols.
- All participants, coaches, and directors will follow rules established by the University Interscholastic League (UIL) and the Texas Education Agency (TEA).
- Due to COVID-19 and the impact on facility management, Fruitvale ISD will not be renting school facilities.

## Large-Group Gatherings & Special Event Announcements

- FISD will avoid scheduling non-essential large group gatherings and events where adults and students must commingle or where students would be unnecessarily exposed to the virus in public places. If such events take place, students in close proximity such as a pep rally would be required to wear a mask if not performing or competing. Events most likely will be closed to spectators.

## Social-Emotional Support/Mental Wellness

- Fruitvale ISD counselors will be trained in COVID-19 safety protocols.
- Counselors will develop strategies and support for students, families, and staff members.
- Counselors will develop a referral system for individuals who need targeted support as well as access to school-employed and community mental health professionals.
- Students in need of social-emotional support will be provided tiered interventions which could involve referral for additional school-based services or referral for outside mental health support.

# FAQ:

1. I would like my child to wear a mask. Can we send a mask with them?

Absolutely! The district is purchasing a free gator for students, but we will work with your child to help ensure they wear their mask as you request. We want your child to be safe, but also to have some normalcy. 80% of families did not want to see mandatory mask in the surveys we sent out.

2. Will my child be punished or held back because of absences due to COVID?

If your child contracts COVID or has been exposed and quarantined, they will continue instruction virtually. This will count the same as being present in school so they will not be counted absent as long as they are participating daily in online instruction.

3. What if the teacher contracts COVID or is exposed. Who will teach the class?

A substitute teacher with the support of the regular teacher if able on CANVAS.

4. Will temperature checks be done daily?

No, it is not recommended by TEA to do daily temperature checks. However, we will perform frequent temperature checks to check anyone with symptoms.

5. Will school supplies be different for those choosing virtual instruction?

No, those students will purchase the same supplies.

6. How do I register for virtual or in person instruction?

Enrollment is online for returning students, and you will need a parent portal account. New students will be able to come on campus beginning August 3<sup>rd</sup> to get set up to do online enrollment with each office.

7. If a student is doing virtual instruction, can they change their mind and come back to in school instruction.

YES

8. If a student chooses virtual instruction are they allowed to participate in extracurricular activities?

Yes, as long as they come to the classes required for that program and meet all the requirements for grades and attendance we will allow a hybrid program for students to participate.