

Prairie Valley Independent School District

“An Exemplary School District” 1998-2002, 2006-2011

“Post-Secondary Readiness Distinction” Earned 2016

“Academic Distinctions” Earned 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019

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Tim West, Superintendent

Lisa Sadler, Principal

Prairie Valley ISD District Reopening- COVID19 Action Plan

With COVID19 safety as our focus, this guidance document is being provided to staff, parents and families of all Prairie Valley ISD students. This virus can infect people of all ages, and we will do everything feasible to keep our students, our staff, and our community safe. Consistency is the best way to reduce the potential negative impact of infection on our students' educational experience. In order for us to provide a safe and educational environment, all Prairie Valley ISD stakeholders are encouraged to read this document that has been developed based upon guidance from the Center for Disease Control, American Academy of Pediatrics, and the Texas Education Agency. The Prairie Valley ISD Reopening Action Plan addresses:

- I. Providing notice to parents and public
- II. Prevention and response strategies and considerations
- III. On campus and virtual instruction
- IV. COVID19 symptoms and close contact definition

I. Providing Notice to Parents and Public

- a. The designated communication team regarding all COVID19 related issues will consist of the school superintendent, Mr. Tim West, the school principal, Lisa Sadler and the school nurse, Laurie Ritchie. If you have any questions or concerns, please direct those to our designated team.
- b. All parents and guardians will be provided with a Student Handbook that describes the attendance requirements in order to be granted credit for a given class or grade level. Students must be in attendance over 90% of the school year. This TEA requirement will remain in effect for the 2020-2021 school year.
- c. Given the public health situation, student attendance may be earned through the delivery of virtual instruction or in a face to face, traditional environment. Parents who wish to transition their child from one to another are permitted to do so at each grading period. Other exceptions will be discussed furthermore within this document.
- d. Prairie Valley ISD will provide notification to all staff and families if a positive case of COVID19 has been confirmed. Notification requirements and HIPPA laws will be followed in this process.

II. Prevention and Response Strategies and Considerations

- a. Self-screening will be expected of all staff and students prior to arriving on campus. This includes recognizing symptoms and taking their own temperature. Symptoms are described in section IV of this document. If symptoms are present, the parent or employee must report this to PVISD administration and must remain off campus until the requirements are met to return. Those requirements for return of any student or staff member that exhibits symptoms or tests positive are as follows:
 - i. At least 3 days (72 hours) have passed since recovery (resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications)
 - ii. The individual has improvement in symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath)
 - iii. At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared
- b. Parents must ensure they do not send a child to school on campus if the child has COVID19 symptoms or is lab-confirmed with COVID19, and instead should opt to receive remote instruction until the conditions for re-entry have been met. Parents must also use the remote instruction option if the child has had close contact (defined in part IV of this document) with a COVID19 positive person. Any positive case or close contact must be reported to PVISD as soon as possible.
- c. Visitors will be screened with questions regarding symptoms and be denied access if any symptoms are reported or witnessed. Only essential visits will be allowed. UIL and school sponsored activities will be considered essential and all government required social distancing measures will be strictly enforced. If activities can be staggered, every effort will be made to decrease crowd sizes. UIL guidelines will be enforced and can change at any given time, just as all governmental requirements.
- d. More frequent cleaning practices will be arranged for surfaces that are touched in common throughout the day. (door handles, tables, desks, shared technology, shared supplies). Cleaning supplies will be stored safely. No harmful cleaning supplies will be used, only school approved cleaning products.
- e. Whenever possible, PVISD will open windows or otherwise work to improve air flow by allowing outside air to circulate in the building.
- f. Mask requirements will reflect the governor's executive orders. At this point, Montague County is exempt from the governor's executive orders to wear face coverings in public places. Our students will have the freedom to wear protective equipment if desired, but it is not required. Please note that we must abide by any orders set in place by the governor's office and must abide by those as soon as orders go into effect. Please also note that these executive orders will not apply to any student in Prekindergarten through 4th grade. You are welcome to wear a face covering of your choice, or a school issued mask if you do not have a mask of your own. If you choose to wear your own face mask, the mask must fall within dress code guidelines, with school appropriate patterns or wording. Faculty and staff will be provided face masks or shields in order to provide one on one, face to face instruction. Teachers will not be required to wear a mask while teaching if a safe distance is maintained.
- g. Transportation- Students will be required to use hand sanitizer upon boarding the bus. Bus windows will be open, as permitted by weather, to allow outside air to circulate

in the bus. The CDC warns us that buses may be the location where COVID19 is mostly spread. Therefore, the CDC suggests that students be seated by family or socially distanced as much as possible on bus routes. Because of these suggestions, Prairie Valley ISD strongly recommends that families to drop off and pick up your child at school or to carpool with close contact families if at all possible to reduce possible virus exposure on buses. If this is not possible, please know that if your normal mode of transportation is the bus, it is always available. Buses will be thoroughly cleaned after each trip, focusing on high-touch surfaces such as seats, steering wheels, knobs, and door handles.

- h. Social distancing will be enforced as per the American Academy of Pediatrics. Their suggestions include the following.
 - i. Desks will be arranged 6 feet apart when possible. When not possible, stricter guidelines will be in place, such as increased sanitation and limiting close face to face contact.
 - ii. Breakfast and lunch will be provided in separate congregations and at staggered times to reduce large group gatherings of students and adults in close proximity. Breakfast will be delivered to classrooms for elementary and designated areas for junior high and high school students. Lunches will be staggered in order to use the cafeteria for elementary, with social distancing while in line being enforced and deep cleaning in between servings. The lunchroom will be used for a portion of our junior high and high school lunch, with other congregating areas as assigned, in order to social distance. We have decided not to purchase shields or dividers for our cafeteria, as our district is small enough to accommodate the suggested social distancing guidelines.
 - iii. Supervised handwashing will be enforced for our youngest of students, with every opportunity to encourage proper techniques to all of our students.
 - iv. Students will be expected to move to classrooms with no congregating by lockers and moving in a one-way fashion up and down hallways. Books will be left in classrooms to eliminate the need to go to lockers during passing periods.
 - v. In person parent or staff meetings will be reduced to only when necessary in order to reduce adults congregating in close contact. When meetings are necessary and cannot be done via electronic means, everyone must follow mask protocols set forth by the governor's current executive orders and be seated 6 feet apart.

III. On Campus and Virtual Instruction

Keeping our students and staff safe is our first priority. COVID19 is a major disruption, but we will create an environment where students can safely learn on campus by significantly reducing the risk of viral spread on campus. Our collective goal is to safely maximize learning opportunities and we know on campus instruction is likely the best option for most. However, fully virtual instruction will be an option for all students for the upcoming 2020-2021 school year if parents so choose. These two options will be discussed at length below. Please understand that during the 2020 spring semester of the COVID19 closure, we transitioned to remote instruction as a crisis response. We provided *instructional support* as opposed to *new knowledge and skills*. Use this information as a guide for your decision to have your student on campus or learning virtually from home. You will be asked to fill out our Instructional Commitment Form at least one week prior to the beginning of school, choosing from the options listed below. Your options will be a commitment for one grading period of 6 weeks. You may transition from one to another only at a grading period, unless a situation as described below occurs.

- a. **On Campus Instruction** will be as close to normal as possible, with all prevention strategies explained in this document set in place. This option includes following normal attendance rules and the approved

and published 2020-2021 school calendar. It also includes all daily activities, such as bus transportation (if needed), breakfast and lunch, and all UIL and non UIL activities and sports. If at any time you feel as though your student is unsafe due to COVID19 on our campus while receiving this type of instruction, you may transition to Virtual Instruction at any point, but must remain virtual until the end of the current grading period.

- b. **Virtual Instruction** will be provided to our students by our PVISD faculty and staff. This option includes following the approved and published 2020-2021 school calendar and must be followed for an entire grading period. This option has some limitations of which you must be aware. Attendance rules still apply, with attendance being determined by each teacher based upon daily engagement and progress monitoring. This will involve the student being actively engaged when required by the teacher, and fulfilling the same expectations as those experiencing On Campus Instruction. Internet connectivity will be necessary for this option. Only students enrolled in technology classes that require certain software or devices will be provided a device from PVISD. You must provide your own internet and device for Virtual Instruction. If disruptions or availability of internet access become an issue, PVISD will provide remote instruction through other means, as determined by our faculty. Families who choose this option are, assumingly, doing so in order to limit their child's exposure to COVID19. Hence, no participation in UIL or non UIL activities will be allowed during the school day from 7:40 a.m. until 3:40 p.m. Students may participate before and after school hours, but not during the actual school day. PVISD will continue to provide breakfast and lunch for students who are learning from home and those parameters will be discussed with each individual family as needed.

IV. COVID19 Symptoms and Close Contact Definition

- a. In evaluating whether an individual has symptoms consistent with COVID19, consider the following:
- i. Feeling feverish
 - ii. Loss of taste or smell
 - iii. Cough
 - iv. Difficulty breathing
 - v. Shortness of breath
 - vi. Headache
 - vii. Chills
 - viii. Sore Throat
 - ix. Shaking or exaggerated shivering
 - x. Significant muscle pain or ache
 - xi. Diarrhea
- b. Close contact is defined as being directly exposed to infectious secretions (e.g., being coughed on while not wearing a mask or face shield; or being within 6 feet for a cumulative duration of 15 minutes while not wearing a mask or face shield.)