**Lewisville Independent School District**

*Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan*

During the 2020-2021 school year, the district implemented a leveled protocol system for COVID-19 virus mitigation and transmission. Beginning with the first day of in-person school on September 8th, 2020, Lewisville ISD operated safely at a “Level Orange” protocol which provided a safe opportunity for face-to-face instruction, in addition to the Virtual Pathway option. A COVID Call Center was designed and implemented which allowed us to track and monitor the virus levels and support contact tracing, and CDC strategies were successfully implemented district wide to ensure safety and continuity of services as our staff and students participated in the in-person learning model for the entire school year.

That type of leveled guidance system, in addition to other supports like the COVID Call Center, would be replicated in the event of another virus outbreak. Lewisville ISD has already created the structure required to support in-person instruction, as required during the 2020-2021 school year, and would utilize this foundation for possible needs as they arise in the future.

Lewisville ISD is committed to providing safe, high-quality, in-person instruction for our learners. Our vision makes clear our promise to our students, staff, parents, and the communities we serve – *all of our students enjoy thriving, productive lives in a future they create.* We will fulfill our mission of designing and implementing a learning organization that provides engaging, innovative experiences every day, through the guiding principles of our four cornerstones: Student Learning, Student Experience, Resource Stewardship, and Community Engagement.

In fulfilling this promise, the district takes the following considerations into effect when determining operational guidelines for the school environment related to virus mitigation:

* TEA school opening guidance
* CDC school guidance (including but not limited to):
  + Masks
  + Physical distancing
  + Handwashing and respiratory etiquette
  + Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities
  + Improving ventilation
  + Contract tracing and quarantining
  + Diagnostic and screening testing
  + Efforts to provide vaccinations
  + Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities
* Any state or local restrictions
* School data analyzed in collaboration with the Denton County Public Health Department and other local health officials
* Community transmission data and trends, analyzed in collaboration with local health officials
* Available hospital occupancy data, ICU bed availability, etc. analyzed in collaboration with local health officials

It has been our intention to operate the 2021-2022 school year and beyond in a more traditional way, in what most would consider a “typical” school environment. Many decisions are dependent on moving targets, such as health-related circumstances in our communities, and decisions made by authorities such as the Governor or the Texas Education Agency. For those reasons, the LISD website is where our most current virus-mitigation guidance can always be found:

[**lisd.net/covid19**](http://lisd.net/covid19)

Without a doubt, the health and safety of our students, families, staff, and communities are at the heart of every choice we make. Lewisville ISD is committed to providing resources to support not only the physical health, but also the social, emotional, and mental wellness of staff and students through the availability of at least one nurse and at least one counselor at each and every campus. Multiple processes are in place to help us to identify emerging needs, and target our resources where support is most essential. Counselors are trained on the Adverse Childhood Experiences Study (ACES), which is highlighted as an intervention/awareness practice by TEA, and have implemented trauma-informed practices with Trust Based Relational Intervention (TBRI) and ACES.

We know that it is only with a firm foundation of safety, health, and wellness that we can continue our work to provide high-quality, in-person instruction for our learners. As Lewisville ISD maintains the high level of excellence in our academic services, we have also been monitoring student performance since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic and responding to trends and achievement gaps throughout the school year. The district’s [use of funds plan](https://www.lisd.net/Page/26150) outlines the additional measures we are taking to help mitigate learning loss due to COVID-19.