



Blanket Independent School District

901 Ave. H
Blanket, TX 76432

www.blanketisd.net

Return to In-Person Instruction & Continuity of Services (RIPICS) Plan

Introduction

American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act statute requires that LEAs develop and make publicly available their plans for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services. A summary of Blanket ISD's plans is below.

Effective Date of Plan

This plan is effective as of June 7, 2021.

Public Comment & Stakeholder Input

This plan was developed in consultation with stakeholders after soliciting public comment via electronic survey, public board meeting, Site Based Decision Making Meeting, staff meetings, small student groups including NHS, FFA officers, and students at summer workouts.

Ongoing Review & Publication of Plan

The plan was drafted on July 7, 2021 and posted to the LEA website <https://www.blanketisd.net/COVID-19-Information>. Every six months, BISD will review the plan in accordance with the latest guidance from the CDC, state and local governments. If revisions are needed to the plan, public input will be solicited and stakeholders will be meaningfully consulted. The revised version of the plan will then be posted on the website. The chart below provides information on this ongoing process.

Return to In-Person Instruction & Continuity of Services Plan Review		
2021-2022 Year 1	<u>Date of Initial Plan:</u> July 7, 2021	<u>Six Month Review Date:</u> January 7, 2022 <input type="checkbox"/> No revision needed <input type="checkbox"/> Revisions were made
2022-2023 Year 2	<u>Six Month Review Date:</u> July 7, 2022 <input type="checkbox"/> No revision needed <input type="checkbox"/> Revisions were made	<u>End of Grant Period Review Date:</u> January 7, 2023 <input type="checkbox"/> No revision needed <input type="checkbox"/> Revisions were made
2023-2024 (Carryover Year)	Last required review is 9/30/2023 ~Grant ends 9/30/24~	

General Instructional Settings

Blanket ISD will start in-person learning for Kindergarten – 12th Grade on Monday, August 16, 2021, 7:25 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

- Given the public health situation, student attendance may be earned through the delivery of remote instruction if the student must be in quarantine.
- Blanket ISD will offer Synchronous and Asynchronous remote learning opportunities if a student must quarantine. Synchronous is daily participation through the live/ real time virtual classrooms. Asynchronous is independent daily participation in class assignments. 3rd - 12th grade may choose between Synchronous or Asynchronous while k-2 must do asynchronous.
- Both synchronous and asynchronous require students to show **daily progress** in remote learning. Just signing into class or logging in to an online platform does not count for attendance. Completing all assignments in one day for the week is not acceptable for daily attendance.
- Per Texas Education Code (TEC), §25.092, students must attend 90% of the days a course is offered (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 force during the 2021-22 school year.

Provisions to Reduce Risk of Exposure to Health Hazards

Systems & Procedures

- Staff will be trained in COVID-19 safety protocols and receive additional training for changes made in the guidance and protocols related to COVID-19.
- Personal Protective Equipment will be provided for students and staff. Face coverings are optional for all staff and students.
- Students and staff are required to self-screen before coming to school; staff and students who are sick should not attend school in-person.
- Staff and Students must report to administration if they are lab-confirmed with COVID-19, and if so, the school will contact the local health department for further guidance; as per TEA Health

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Guidance (June 3, 2021), the school must notify its local health department, in accordance with applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations, including confidentiality requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

- Disinfectants will be used for deep cleaning the campus throughout each day. School transportation will be sanitized after use.
- To allow for social distancing during lunch, grade level groups (PK-5th, 6th-8th, and 9th-12th) will have separate lunch periods. Outdoor tables will be used for social distancing if weather permits; old gymnasium will be used during wet or cold weather.
- Cafeteria tables, chairs, door handles and high touch areas will be sanitized between lunch periods.
- When feasible breakfast and lunch silverware will be pre-packaged/wrapped.
- Students PK-12 will be trained and encouraged to use proper hand washing and sanitizing practices often.
- Cleaning and disinfecting will occur daily in every classroom, common areas, restrooms and high touch surfaces.
- Student desks/tables and chairs will be disinfected between classes as often as possible or as feasible.
- Hand sanitizer will be accessible throughout the campus.
- Recess and PE will be outdoors when weather permits.
- Equipment will be sanitized after use.

Modifications to Facilities

- When feasible classroom tables and desks will be set up to allow for social distancing.
- Blanket ISD will be remodeling vacant classrooms to provide more space for larger classes and elective courses that need space for students to work on hands-on assignments or projects while social distancing.
- Blanket ISD will be allowing the use of outdoor tables to allow for social distancing during breakfast and lunch periods; these tables may also be utilized for outdoor staff and/or student meetings if weather permits.

Students' Academic Needs

Blanket ISD will be addressing students' academic needs in several different ways. We will be offering summer school, after school and Friday Tutorials. We will also be using various online and consumable supplemental resources to address learning gaps. Blanket ISD will be replacing and adding technological devices to better meet student academic needs and teacher instructional needs. Additional staff such as interventionists and paraprofessionals will be hired to provide extra support in meeting student needs.

Students' Social, Emotional, Mental Health Needs

Blanket ISD will be implementing a K-12 TEKS aligned SEL program to help address the social, emotional and mental needs of students.

Staff's Social, Emotional, Mental Health Needs

Blanket ISD will promote self-care with all staff members. Morale-boosting activities such as staff celebrations, provided meals and staff "spotlight" will be used to increase the staff social and emotional needs. Administrative weekly newsletter will include words of encouragement and suggestions of self-care. Periodic surveys will be used to determine staff needs throughout the year. The teacher component of the student SEL program will also contribute to staff social, emotional and mental health needs.

Questions

Questions regarding this plan may be directed to:
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