



CHESTER INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Superintendent
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Q&A

In an effort to be as transparent and thorough as possible, we have set up a Q&A in hopes that all of your questions can be answered. If you have questions, please feel free to email us at info@chesterisd.com and we will get your questions up on the page as soon as possible. Please check the website, www.chesterisd.com, to view the Q&A page daily. Thank you for your support!

1. When does school start?

- The first day of class will be Monday, August 10, 2020. However, with our phase in approach, only a few grade levels will begin on the 10th. Below is the schedule:

August 10th – 4th, 5th, 8th, 11th, 12th grades return to school. All others will need to pick up a packet on August 7th, from 2:00 – 4:00

August 17th – 2nd, 3rd, 7th, 10th along with the above grade levels

August 24th - All students return

2. Are students and staff required to wear mask?

We will follow the Governor's executive order until it expires. Exceptions to the Governor's mask order include:

- Children under the age of 10 (3rd Grade and below)
- Any person with a medical condition or disability that prevents wearing a face covering
- Any person consuming food or drink or is seated at a restaurant to eat or drink
- Any person that is exercising or engaging in physical activities outdoors and is maintaining safe social distancing from people who are not part of their household
- Any person who is driving alone or with passengers who are in the same household as the driver
- Any person obtaining a service that requires temporary removal of the covering during security surveillance, screening or need for specific access to the face (like while visiting a bank or obtaining personal care involving the face).
- Any person in a pool, lake or similar body of water
- Any person who is voting, assisting a voter, serving as a poll watcher or actively administering an election (but wearing a mask is strongly encouraged)

- Any person who is actively providing access to religious worship (but wearing a mask is strongly encouraged)
- Any person while the person is giving a speech for broadcast or to an audience
- Any person who meets the criteria laid out by the Texas Division of Emergency Management regarding minimal cases of COVID-19 and whose county judge has opted out of the face-covering requirement (but wearing a mask is strongly encouraged)

3. How will attendance be monitored in a virtual environment?

- Engagement will determine whether students are “present” each day. Engagement is determined in the following ways:
- **Daily** progress via teacher-student interactions, or
- Completion/Turn-in of assignments from student to teacher (potentially via email, on-line, or mail).

4. Will students who choose the virtual method be allowed to participate in extra-curricular activities?

- No

5. Will bus routes be run this year?

- Yes. However, it is strongly encouraged for parents to consider dropping off/picking up your child to avoid overcrowding of busses.

6. Will Elementary students change classes?

- Only 4th and 5th grade students will change classes. Those classes are placed directly across the hall from each other.

7. How long is the commitment to virtual instruction?

- The commitment to virtual/remote learning will be for 6 weeks. The first 6 weeks will run from August 10 – September 18. (See school calendar for dates of following 6-week grading periods) Exceptions will be made for any student needing to switch from in-class learning to virtual/remote learning due to sickness/health in an effort to maintain a safe environment for everyone.

8. Will devices be sent home for students?

- Students in grades 6-12 will be able to bring devices home daily. Elementary students will have access to devices daily but will not be allowed to take them home. Exceptions can be made on case-by-case basis at the discretion of the building Principal.

9. Will guest/parents be allowed on campus?

- No. Parent/Teacher meetings will be scheduled by appointment only.

10. What are the screening protocols?

- Staff will be required to self-screen for COVID-19 symptoms prior to reporting to work each day.
- Parents or guardians are expected to screen their child/ren for COVID-19 symptoms each day prior to sending their students to school. Students will be screened prior to getting on the bus and entering school at the beginning of the day. Teachers will monitor students and call the nurse if symptoms are present.

11. What are the isolation protocols for students or staff displaying COVID-19 symptoms?

- When a student has displayed symptoms of COVID-19, such as a fever, coughing, sneezing, shortness of breath, etc., the school nurse will provide a clinical assessment to determine if and when a student needs to be sent home.
- Students who are ill will be separated from their peers and should be picked up within one hour.
- District communication will be provided to the students/staff who were in contact with a student/staff member who was lab-confirmed positive for COVID-19.
- Students and staff who have displayed symptoms of (presumptive positive) or tested positive for COVID-19 will be required to isolate for 10 days from the onset of symptoms and be fever-free for 72 hours and symptoms resolved before returning to campus; unless a written alternative diagnosis is received from the healthcare provider and discussed with the campus nurse prior to the student or staff member's return. Students who have to be in isolation can become asynchronous learners during that time.

12. Will mask and face shields be provided for students and staff?

- Yes. Mask will be provided for students and staff and face shields will be provided only for staff.