



AN EARLY COLLEGE DISTRICT

# BROWNSVILLE

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT



2021

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

2022



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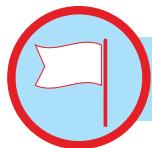
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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>BOARD OF TRUSTEES</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>OVERVIEW</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS</b>	<b>4</b>
SUMMER PROGRAMS	4
FALL PROGRAMS	5
<b>SOCIAL EMOTIONAL SUPPORTS</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>SAFETY PROTOCOLS</b>	<b>10</b>
ENTRY SCREENING PROTOCOLS	10
PHYSICAL DISTANCING PROTOCOLS	12
PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT PROTOCOLS	12
CLEANING AND DISINFECTING PROTOCOLS	13
<b>CAMPUS PROTOCOLS</b>	<b>14</b>
REQUIRED:	14
INFECTION PROTOCOLS	15
<b>CLOSE CONTACT</b>	<b>16</b>
CLOSURE PROTOCOLS-TEA	17
<b>HEALTH SERVICE PROTOCOLS</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>COVID-19 SCREENING AT NURSING SERVICES</b>	<b>20</b>
Screening Questionnaire for COVID-19	21
<b>APPENDIX A: COVID-19 Verification of CLOSE CONTACT Flow Chart</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>APPENDIX B: COVID-19 For VACCINATED Employee's/ Student's</b>	<b>24</b>



## OVERVIEW

The Brownsville Independent School District is pleased to announce the start of the Acceleration Learning Academies beginning June 14, 2021, through July 30, 2021, for elementary and middle school summer sites and high school beginning June 14, 2021, and ending July 30, 2021.

The district will continue to implement health and safety protocols in accordance with the latest Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Guidelines as the health and safety of all our students and staff is our number one priority.

This Re-entry Plan serves as a guide for the community, students, faculty, and staff to familiarize themselves with the summer and fall acceleration programs in order to close academic achievement gaps due to the COVID-19 slide that will continue through the 2021-2022 school year.





## INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS

### Summer Programs

The Brownsville Independent School District will return to 100% face-to-face instruction for the 2021-2022 school year. The district firmly believes it has a strong instructional program to address the achievement of all students and will offer targeted acceleration programs to ensure the achievement gap due to COVID-19 is closed. In addition, campuses will continue to be thoroughly disinfected in accordance with health guidelines. The campuses will also be equipped with the necessary disinfecting supplies and personal protective equipment (PPE) recommended by the CDC.

#### ACCELERATION LEARNING ACADEMIES - ALL GRADE LEVELS

The district will offer Acceleration Learning Academies at various sites that will focus on students who did not achieve a passing grade for the 2020-2021 school year. The academies will run from June 14 through June 30, 2021.

#### JUMP STAART PROGRAM - ELEMENTARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOL

The school district will also offer a program called Jump STAART from July 26 through August 6, 2021. This program is based on school recommendations for grades 2-4 at the elementary level. Students who were 5th graders during the 2020-2021 school year and have been recommended to the program will attend their respective middle school.

In middle school, the Jump STAART program will also run from July 26 through August 6. This program will focus on math and reading acceleration. The current 8th graders who were promoted to the 9th grade will attend the high school they will be enrolled in for the 2021-2022 school year.

#### SUMMER BRIDGE ACADEMIES - HIGH SCHOOL

The high schools will continue to offer Summer Bridge to focus on the Texas Success Initiative test as well as core area enrichment.

## Fall Programs

### ELEMENTARY EXTENDED DAY

The school district will continue to offer an extended day at all elementaries for the 2021-2022 school year. The hours for the extended day program are from 3:30 - 5:30 p.m. (Monday-Friday). The extended day provides both remediation and enrichment for all elementary students. At the start of the school year, the elementary schools will send out an extended day calendar to all parents and guardians.

### MIDDLE SCHOOL TUTORIALS

The middle schools will offer targeted tutorials both during the day and after school for students who are in danger of failing, need STAAR remediation, and enrichment programs through the ACE grant program.

### HIGH SCHOOL TUTORIALS

The comprehensive high schools will offer credit recovery, tutorials, and state assessment remediation during the school day and after school. The campuses also provide TSI and AP review sessions during the school year.



## BISD SUMMARY OF OPTIONS FOR REMOTE LEARNING SCHOOL YEAR 2020-2021

Student Identification	ADA Code	Method of Instruction	Who will deliver instruction
<b>COVID-19 Positive*</b>	9	Synchronous (up to 20 days) Minimum 4 hours per day	Temporary Classroom Assignment (TCAP) Emergency Permit Teacher Certification Waiver School District Teaching Permit
<b>Close Contact*</b>	9	Synchronous (up to 20 days) Minimum of 4 hours per day	Temporary Classroom Assignment (TCAP) Emergency Permit Teacher Certification Waiver School District Teaching Permit
<b>GE Homebound/Section 504*</b>	TBD	F2F at home or Remote Synchronous 4 hours per week equals 5 days of attendance	General education certified teacher - supplemental duty

\*Must meet qualification as per TEA/CDC guidelines



# Campus Assignments for Remote Instruction

## ELEMENTARY

Grade	School	Substitute Teacher Campus Assignment	Total Substitute Teachers Assigned
PK-3	All Schools	Putegnat	A total of 8 substitute teachers for all elementary schools combined  TBD by Human Resources  Generalist Degree
PK-4	All Schools	Benavides	
K	All Schools	Castañeda	
1st	All Schools	Brite	
2nd	All Schools	Hudson	
3rd	All Schools	Peña	
4th	All Schools	Yturria	
5th	All Schools	Ortiz	

## MIDDLE SCHOOL

All Middle Schools	Substitute Teacher Campus Assignment	Total Substitute Teachers Assigned
Besteiro	Manzano 6 <sup>th</sup> Math & Science	A total of 6 substitute teachers for all middle schools combined  TBD by Human Resources
Faulk	Vela 6 <sup>th</sup> English & Social Studies	
Garcia	Perkins 7 <sup>th</sup> Math & Science	
Lucio	Garcia 7 <sup>th</sup> English & Social Studies	
Manzano	Oliveira 8 <sup>th</sup> Math & Science	
Oliveira	Stillman 8 <sup>th</sup> English & Social Studies	
Perkins		
Stell		
Stillman		
Vela		

# Campus Assignments for Remote Instruction

## HIGH SCHOOL

Grade	School	Substitute Teacher Campus Assignment	Total Substitute Teachers Assigned
9 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup>	BECHS	Brownsville Learning Academy	<p>A total of 4 substitute teachers for all high schools combined</p> <p>1 English 1 Math 1 Science 1 Social Studies</p> <p>TBD by Human Resources</p>
9 <sup>th</sup> -12th	Hanna		
9 <sup>th</sup> -12th	Lopez		
9 <sup>th</sup> -12th	Pace		
9 <sup>th</sup> -12th	Porter		
9 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup>	Rivera		
9 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup>	Veterans		



## SOCIAL EMOTIONAL SUPPORT

### ELEMENTARY

Elementary campuses will utilize the Quaver Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) to teach a universal social-emotional learning curriculum to students in PreK-5th grades. Teachers will deliver weekly lessons to students using this best-practice curriculum. The school counselors will integrate the topics and strategies into their class time lessons to strengthen the development of the students' social-emotional skills. In addition, Quaver SEL includes a curriculum component for parents to practice the SEL lessons at home with their child.

### SECONDARY

All secondary campuses will utilize Apex Suite 360 in the 6th -12th grades. This evidence-based program will address the non-academic issues surrounding student success and wellness and aligns with the CASEL competencies. The lessons focus on critical topics faced by students every day and promote student engagement with their peers and teachers. This program aims to increase positive social behavior, decrease conduct issues, and improve academic performance.

Quaver SEL and Apex 360 are both aligned with the Collaborative for Academic and Social-Emotional (CASEL) competencies that include:

**Self-Awareness:** the ability to understand emotions, values, and personal goals.

**Self-Management:** the skills and attitudes that help regulate emotions and behaviors.

**Social-Awareness:** the ability to understand the backgrounds of different people and cultures and act with compassion and empathy toward others.

**Relationship Skills:** the ability to establish and maintain healthy relationships and use communication skills to work collaboratively with others.

**Responsible Decision Making:** the skills and attitudes necessary to make sound and healthy choices in daily living.



## SAFETY PROTOCOLS

Before school buildings reopen for the 2021-2022 school year, employees, parents, students, and community members, the campuses must be thoroughly sanitized, and all CDC guidelines, health protocols, and TEA health guidance protocols will be reviewed and implemented. The safety protocols include required and recommended protocols. Mitigation consists of both recommended and required practices to reduce likely spread inside the school buildings.

Safety Protocols will be implemented for the face-to-face learning mode. Safety protocols are required and recommended practices.

- Required protocols will be in place to minimize the risks of exposure of COVID -19 for students, staff, and families. These protocols are considered the minimum level of implementation, and the District may not be less restrictive.
- Recommended protocols are additional strategies that schools may choose to use to minimize the spread of COVID-19. Not all recommended practices will be possible in all settings, and therefore should be tailored based on campus layout and grade level served.

## ENTRY SCREENING PROTOCOLS

All employees, students, parents, and essential visitors will undergo daily screenings conducted by screening monitors within each location. The following guidelines will be implemented to ensure effective screening at the start of the day and based on enrollment:

500 or less: 5 Monitors

1000 or less: 10 Monitors

2000 or less: 15 monitors

2500 or more: 20 monitors

When asking individuals if they have symptoms of COVID-19, administrative staff or district nurses must only require the individual to provide a “yes” or “no” answer to the overall statement that they are symptomatic for COVID-19, as opposed to asking the individual for specific symptom confirmation. Additionally, as per TEA guidelines, school districts are not entitled to collect information during screening on the specific health information of an individual beyond that they are symptomatic. Screening questions can be found on page 18.

If the screening yields a “yes” response to any symptom questionnaire, the employee will be sent home, and a student will be escorted to a holding room until the parent or guardian is able to pick them up. If the employee or students tests positive, they will need to meet the criteria for re-entry. All of the questionnaires will be destroyed for the employee who has been cleared to re-enter the school building.

#### **STUDENTS:**

- Temperature checks and symptom questionnaires will be done in the morning, prior to entering the building.
- Students displaying symptoms will not be allowed to enter the classroom/campus and be escorted to the holding room.

#### **FACULTY AND STAFF:**

- Teachers/Staff are required to self-screen every day, before the start of the school day.
- Temperature checks will be conducted with all staff every morning, as well as questionnaires.
- Teachers/staff displaying symptoms will not be allowed on campus. Human Resources will determine when teachers will be allowed back.
- Teachers/staff who have tested positive for COVID-19 must remain off campus until they meet the criteria for re-entry. Teachers and staff must also report to the administration if they have had close contact with an individual who is lab-confirmed with COVID-19, as defined later in this document. They must remain off campus until Human Resources have cleared them.

#### **PARENTS:**

- Training provided for parents through Parental Involvement on COVID-19 symptoms and safety protocols.
- Parents will need to fill out a symptom questionnaire prior to entering the building and undergo a temperature check.
- A parent who tested positive for COVID-19 will not be allowed to enter the building.

#### **VISITORS:**

- Temperature checks will be conducted for all visitors entering the building.
- Symptom questionnaires must be filled out.

- A visitor who has tested positive for COVID-19 will not be allowed in school buildings until they have met the criteria for re-entry.
- Non-essential visitors will not be allowed in the building.
- Employees who work at the Central Office or CAB will be screened upon entering their work location and will not need to be re-screened when they visit the schools. If any Central Office or CAB employee reports directly to any of the school buildings, they will be required to undergo the screening at the visiting school.

## PHYSICAL DISTANCING PROTOCOLS

- BISD will have social distancing floor/seating markings throughout campus.
- Mark 6 feet of spacing to remind students and staff to always stay 6 feet apart in lines, and at other times they may congregate (e.g., during lunch, arrival and dismissal, restrooms, locker rooms, etc.).
- 3 feet in the classroom and 6 feet everywhere else without a mask if possible.
- Ensure that each campus has one entry and one exit for students. If the enrollment is large, assign teachers by grade level and by hallway so that, for example, all 6th-grade students are located in the same hallway, and they enter the campus through the closest hallway adjacent to their classrooms. Another example would be bussed students who enter from one hallway. They can enter the hallway, go to their classroom, and exit the hallway closest to the bus at the end of the day.
- Utilize visual cues, posters, and barriers to direct traffic flow and demonstrate social distancing.
- Divide entry points rather than channeling all students through the same entry and exit spaces.
- Provide daily/frequent reminders of social distance through announcements and social media.

## PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT PROTOCOLS

Masks include non-medical grade disposable face masks, cloth face coverings (over the nose and mouth), or full-face shields to protect eyes, nose, and mouth.

- Safety kits will be issued to personnel.
- Schools WILL COMPLY with Governor Greg Abbott's Executive Order regarding the face masks.
- Students, staff, parents, and all community members are recommended to wear masks at all times while in any location of district campuses and offices.
- The district will have masks available for staff, students, and visitors who wish to wear masks.
- Students and staff are welcome to wear face shields along with masks.

## CLEANING AND DISINFECTING PROTOCOLS

Facilities, Maintenance, and Operations employees and campus-level custodians will ensure all school buildings are disinfected properly according to local, state, and federal guidelines. In addition, the district has worked diligently to equip the campuses with the equipment and materials necessary to disinfect all spaces in the schools.





# CAMPUS PROTOCOLS

## REQUIRED:

- Ensure the availability of appropriate supplies to support healthy hygiene behaviors (e.g., soap, hand sanitizer, paper towels, disinfectant wipes) and strategically place supplies in areas where they may be frequently used.
- Develop processes to frequently check and refill supplies at the point of use (e.g., hand sanitizer available near shared equipment, hand sanitizer near school building entrances/exits, etc.).
- Build routines of hand hygiene into the daily school schedule for all students and staff, including handwashing and sanitation breaks during or between classroom activities.
- Use posters to promote health etiquette expectations in highly visible locations.

## COVID-19 PROGRAM COORDINATOR

- Each campus will assign a COVID-19 Program Coordinator. The COVID-19 coordinator will communicate concerns, challenges, and lessons learned about COVID-19 preventive activities as needed with staff, students/families, school and district leadership, and local health officials.
- The COVID-19 Coordinator will monitor COVID-19 Status at the campus. The coordinator will ensure appropriate notification is provided in a timely manner.

## CAMPUS PROTOCOLS TO REDUCE VIRUS SPREAD

Classrooms will be reconfigured to ensure, to the extent possible, social distancing at least 3 feet of space. Some school areas will not meet this recommendation, but campus administrators will ensure these recommended guidelines are followed in areas that can be reconfigured. In addition, as the CDC guidelines are updated and State and Local guidelines, the district will ensure that to the extent possible, these guidelines are adhered to in areas where students are present.

- Schools will ensure they have accurate contact information for the parents of students enrolled at their schools. Any form of communication with respect to these guidelines or any COVID-19 information will be sent to parents in their preferred language..
- Campus employees and students must follow all of the required protocols pertaining to the schools in this plan.
- Students will not be allowed to share personal belongings, technology devices, supplies, materials, water bottles, costumes, or uniforms.
- Create a routine for environmental cleaning and disinfection of high-touch surfaces and shared equipment throughout the day. Increase the frequency of disinfection during high-activity periods during the school day.
- Shared workspaces will be equipped with plexiglass as well as areas where visitors frequent, such as the reception area of each school.
- Restrooms will be frequently sanitized as per the schedule recommended by the Maintenance Department. As previously mentioned, it is highly recommended that each campus has a monitor assigned to limit the number of students in the restrooms and ensure social distancing is enforced.

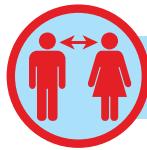
- Assign a restroom custodian that will disinfect the restrooms in between classes.
- Restrooms will have a checklist displayed in every bathroom to document cleaning times.

## HYGIENE PROTOCOLS

- Schools should attempt to have hand sanitizer and/or handwashing stations with soap and water at each entrance. They should also attempt to provide hand sanitizer and/or handwashing stations with soap and water in every classroom.
- Students, teachers, staff, and campus visitors should be encouraged to sanitize and/or wash hands frequently.
  - School systems are encouraged to have students engage in supervised handwashing for at least 20 seconds at least two times each day, in addition to being encouraged to wash hands after using the restroom and before eating.
  - School systems are encouraged to teach students good handwashing techniques.

Students, teachers, staff, and campus visitors should be encouraged to cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue, and if not available, covered in their elbows. Used tissues should be thrown in the trash, and hands should be washed immediately with soap.





## CLOSE CONTACT

Close contact is determined by an appropriate health agency. For clarity, 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 throughout the course of 24 hours, with or without wearing a mask or face shield;
- Individuals are presumed infectious at least two days prior to symptom onset or, in the case of asymptomatic individuals who are lab-confirmed with COVID-19, two days prior to the confirming lab test.
- You provided care at home to someone who is sick with COVID-19 or lives in the same household.

### INDIVIDUALS CONFIRMED OR SUSPECTED WITH COVID-19

Any individuals who themselves either: (a) are lab-confirmed to have COVID-19; or (b) experience the symptoms of COVID-19 (listed below) must stay at home throughout the infection period and cannot return to campus until the school system screens the individual to determine any of the below conditions for campus re-entry have been met:

- In the case of an individual who was diagnosed with COVID-19, the individual may return to school 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);
  - the individual has improvement in symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath), and at least fourteen days have passed since symptoms first appeared.

In the case of an individual who has symptoms that could be COVID-19 and who is not evaluated by a medical professional or tested for COVID-19, such individual is assumed to have COVID-19, and the individual may not return to the campus until the individual has completed the same three-step set of criteria listed above.

Suppose the individual has symptoms that could be COVID-19 and wants to return to school before completing the above stay-at-home period. In that case, the individual must either (a) obtain a medical professional's note clearing the individual for return based on an alternative diagnosis or (b) receive two separate confirmations at least 24 hours apart that they are free of COVID via acute infection tests at an approved COVID-19 testing location found at <https://tdem.texas.gov/covid-19/>.

### Identifying Possible COVID-19 Cases on Campus:

- Schools must immediately separate any student who shows COVID-19 symptoms while at school until a parent or guardian can pick up the student.
- School administration will need to designate a room to isolate a student displaying symptoms while waiting to be picked up. Do not utilize the nurse's station as other ill and not COVID-19 positive students might also be in the nurse's office.
- Schools should clean the areas used by the individual who shows COVID-19 symptoms while at school (student, teacher, or staff) as soon as it is feasible.
- Students who report feeling feverish should be given an immediate temperature check to determine if they are symptomatic for COVID-19.

## **RESPOND: PRACTICES TO RESPOND TO A LAB-CONFIRMED CASE IN THE SCHOOL**

Required Actions if Individuals with Lab-Confirmed Cases Have Been in a School

- If an individual who has been in a school is lab-confirmed to have COVID-19, 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).
- Schools must close off areas heavily used by the individual with the lab-confirmed case (student, teacher, or staff) until the non-porous surfaces in those areas can be disinfected unless more than 3 days have already passed since that person was on campus.
- Consistent with school notification requirements for other communicable diseases and consistent with legal confidentiality requirements, schools must notify all teachers, staff, and families of all students in a school if a lab-confirmed COVID-19 case is identified among students, teachers, or staff who participate in any campus activities.

## **CLOSURE PROTOCOLS-TEA**

Should the superintendent of schools order a campus closure due to a confirmed COVID-19 case, the school will immediately switch to a virtual learning environment the next school day. Each campus should have a plan to transition to virtual learning. The distribution of devices, materials, teacher training, parent communication guidelines, and procedures for special needs students should be included in this plan.

Google Classroom and Seesaw will be the adopted districtwide primary platforms used for all campuses to minimize the overall number of technology platforms used and avoid any confusion or delays in learning for families and students. In addition, communication platforms such as Remind will only be used to communicate with students, not for actual classroom teaching.

The district level and campus level employees will continue to utilize Microsoft TEAMS to hold virtual meetings and disseminate information from central office to campus-level personnel.

The Maintenance Department will train school-level custodian departments on how to utilize the Clorox Deep Cleaning machine and deep cleaning procedures for disinfecting the campus. The superintendent of schools may close the campus a minimum of 1 to a maximum of 5 days.





# HEALTH SERVICES PROTOCOLS

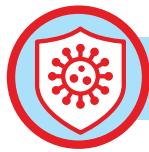
## COVID-19 SYMPTOMS

- Feeling feverish or a measured temperature greater than or equal to 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit.
- Loss of taste or smell
- Cough
- Difficulty breathing
- Shortness of breath
- Headache
- Chills
- Sore throat
- Shaking or exaggerated shivering
- Significant muscle pain or ache
- Diarrhea

## TEACHER COVID KITS

Every teacher will receive a Teacher COVID Kit, which will include the following:

- Masks (disposable and washable)
- Gloves
- Thermometer
- Face Shields
- Disinfecting Spray
- Disinfecting Wipes
- Hand Towels



## COVID-19 SCREENING AT NURSING SERVICES

Staff / Student arrives at the nursing office with symptoms (Nurse use PPE) to assess and notify Covid coordinator.

The student presents with symptoms in the classroom; the teacher should contact the Covid coordinator to have the student escorted to a holding room, then notify the nurse to assess the student.

COVID-19 signs and symptoms over the course of the disease:

Fever, Cough, Nasal congestion or rhinorrhea, sore throat, shortness of breath, diarrhea, nausea, vomiting, fatigue, headache, myalgia, poor appetite, rash, red eyes, cracked/swollen lips, red/swollen tongue, swelling noted in hands/feet, stomach pain.

Nursing Assessment:

VERBAL: Start of symptoms, recent travel, exposure to someone ill?

VISUAL: Rapid or difficulty breathing, red eyes, flushed cheeks, coughing

PHYSICAL: (USE PPE) Temperature over 100 degrees Fahrenheit or < Oxygen Sat.

Student: Isolate, contact parent, refer to doctor, notify Health Services Administrator for suspected COVID 19 cases and school administrator

Staff: Refer to their doctor and provide Cameron County Health Department phone number 956-247-3650 website <https://bttxcares.com>, UTRGV 833-887-4863, notify Health Services Administrator for suspected COVID-19 cases (956) 698-0142.

Employees must contact the Human Resources Department if placed in quarantine for suspected or positive COVID-19. (956- 548-8031)

CALL EMS IMMEDIATELY (911) for:

Trouble breathing

Persistent pain or pressure in the chest

Confused

Inability to walk or stay awake

Bluish lips or face

In order to return to school/work a medical clearance is required.

## Screening Questionnaire for COVID-19

1.) Have you had contact with anyone that you know who has been diagnosed with COVID-19? Yes      No

### Who has been diagnosed with COVID-19?

*\*Close contact is defined as being within 6 feet for more than 15 minutes with someone positive for COVID-19 without a mask. Having direct contact with infectious secretions from a person with confirmed COVID-19 without a mask (for example, being coughed or sneezed on)*

2.) Have you had a positive-COVID test for active virus during the past 10 days? Yes      No

3.) Do you have any of these symptoms: Yes      No

- Fever or chills
- Cough or congestion
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- Recent onset of loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

### If the answer is yes to any of these questions

Do not let the student, staff, or visitor enter the school. If the answer is yes to any of these questions

- Do not let the student, staff, or visitor enter the school
- Immediately separate student/staff from other people
- Strong recommendation for timely testing for COVID-19
- Students or staff should be tested no sooner than 48 hrs after exposure.
- A clearance from a medical provider or the Cameron County Health Department is necessary to return to school or work.

## References:

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2020) ongoing Surveillance Resource Center.  
<https://www.cdc.gov/surveillancepractice/>.

Federal Emergency Management Agency. Emergency Management Institute. (2019, September 12). IS-100.C: Introduction to the incident command system, ICS 100.c

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National Association of School Nurses. (2016). Framework for the 21st-century school nursing practice, NASN School Nurse, 31,45-53. Doi:10.1177/1942602x15618644.

TEA SY 20-21 Public Health Planning Guidance July 17, 2020

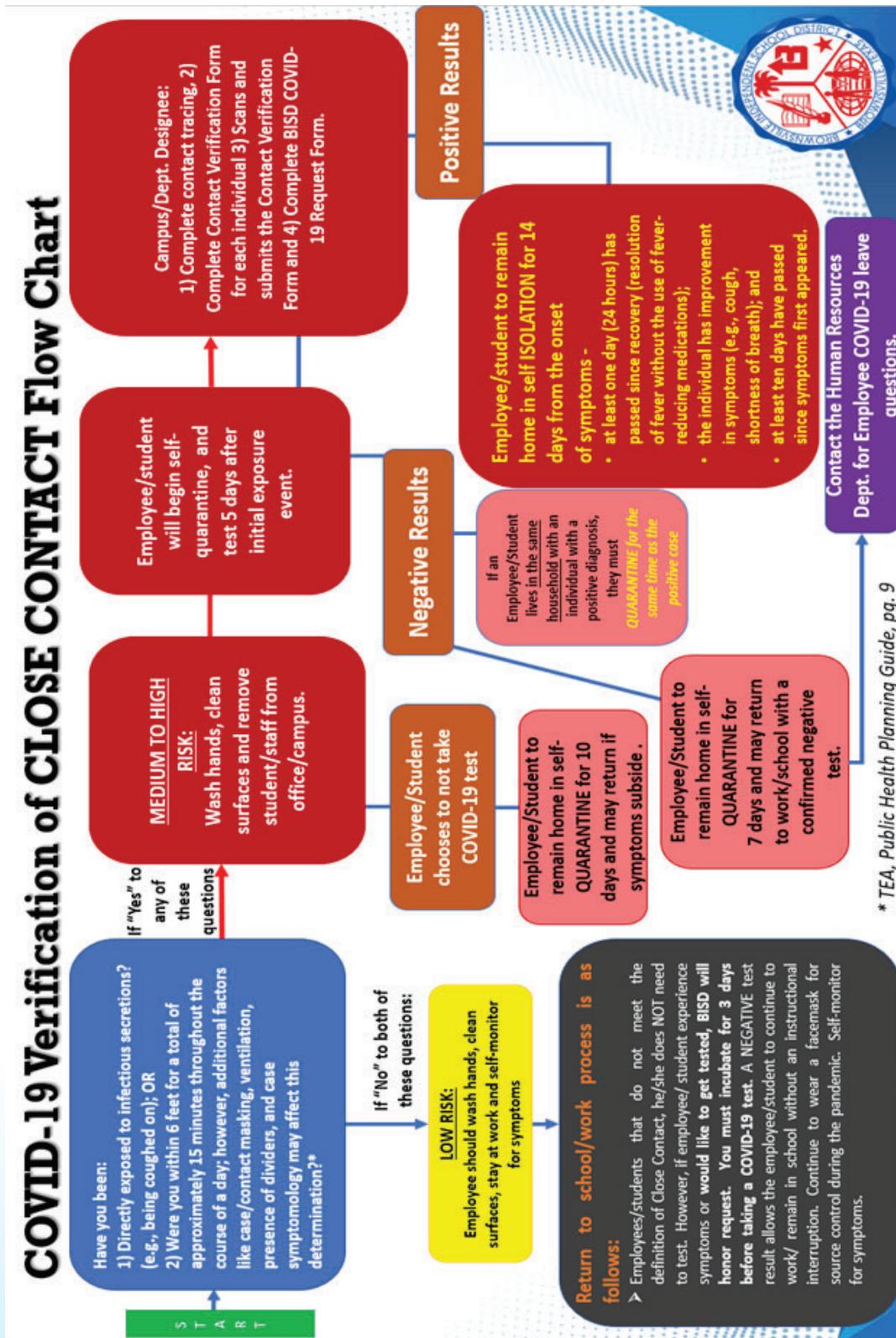
Texas Department of State Health Services website

Vision, Hearing instructor manuals by Texas Department of State Health Services.

World Health Organization website



## APPENDIX A: COVID-19 Verification of CLOSE CONTACT Flow Chart



## APPENDIX B: COVID-19 for VACCINATED Employee's/Student's

### COVID-19 For Vaccinated Employee's/Student's

