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# Farwell Independent School District

PO Box F Farwell, Texas 79325 (806) 481-3371 Fax (806) 481-9275 Superintendent COLBY WALDROP (806)-481-3371

High School Principal COBY NORMAN (806) 481-3351

Junior High Principal KRISTY WHITE (806) 481-9260

Elementary Principal TONYA O'NELL (806) 481-9131

## **Parent/Guardians**

COVID-19 Prevention, Mitigation, and Response Procedures at Farwell ISD

8/3/2020

Dear Parent/Guardian,

As we plan for returning to school at FARWELL ISD, we recognize that this will be an unusual school year, but we remain committed to supporting your student's learning, as well as his or her safety. This document outlines the procedures our campuses will have in place to prevent or mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and to respond if a positive case is identified. We hope this transparency helps you to make a decision about your student's on-campus attendance at FARWELL ISD.

The virus that causes COVID-19 can infect people of all ages. That said, research from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), among others, has found that while children do get infected by COVID-19 and some severe outcomes have been reported in children, relatively few children with COVID-19 are hospitalized or have severe symptoms. For many children, there are distinct benefits to attending school in person, including instructional, social, and safety benefits. For these reasons, the American Academy of Pediatrics has made a statement supporting on-campus instruction for students in the coming year. While it is not possible to eliminate all risk of furthering the spread of COVID-19, the current science suggests there are many steps schools can take to reduce the risks to students, teachers, staff, and their families significantly. The FARWELL ISD strategy for opening and operating is outlined below.

#### Prevention

To prevent COVID-positive individuals from entering our campuses, your student's school will have the following COVID-19 symptom screening procedures in place:

- All staff will be required to self-screen daily.
- All visitors will be required to screen upon arrival.
- Parents are asked to proactively identify when their student exhibits COVID-19 symptoms or has been exposed and to keep them home.

AND

All students will be screened weekly using a paper copy/Google classroom.
The student screening procedure will be as follows:
Weekly COVID-19 questionnaire. Weekly temperature checks.

Information collected in these screens will not be retained if the screening is passed. If a parent indicates that a student is demonstrating COVID-19 symptoms, the school will retain that information until the student meets the criteria for return to school.

Criteria for Return to School

Conditions for return to school after an individual shows symptoms or gets a positive test result: Either:

- 24 hours with no fever; and
- Symptoms improved; and
- 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared

Or:

An acute infection test at an approved testing location (<a href="https://tdem.texas.gov/covid-19/">https://tdem.texas.gov/covid-19/</a>) that comes back negative for COVID-19

Or:

A doctor's note indicating an alternate diagnosis

### Mitigation

Our district will be taking the following steps across each of our campuses to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

- All adults in the building will wear masks.
- All students ages 10 and above will be required to wear masks, particularly when they are within six feet of one another, except when participating in activities that cannot be conducted with a mask on, such as eating, or unless it is not developmentally appropriate for the student to wear a mask.
- More opportunities to clean classrooms and other high use areas.
- Students will be given more opportunities to wash hands for at least 20 seconds.
- All visitors will wear masks and answer the COVID-19 questions.

### Response

In the event of a COVID-positive case on campus, the campus will take the following steps:

- All areas that are heavily used by the individual with the lab-confirmed case will be closed off until disinfected.
- All teachers, staff, and families of all students in that school will be notified.
- The local health department will be notified.

We hope that this information gives you confidence in our systems and our ability to stop the spread of COVID-19 on our campuses. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to your campus principal. TEA also has a website available if you would like further information. It is available at www.tea.texas.gov/coronavirus

While this will be a challenging year, we believe it can also be a great one, and we look forward to supporting your student in his or her learning journey.

Sincerely,

Superintendent Farwell ISD

Celebrating over 100 years of Excellence 1908-2008

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# FARWELL ISD MITIGATION PLAN FOR COVID-19

- 1. All faculty, staff, and students (10 years and older), will be required to wear face coverings when social distancing can't take place.
- 2. Students will have their temperature checked weekly and be sent home if their temperature is 100 degrees or higher. At this time, Covid-19 protocols will be in effect.
- 3. Staff will do a self-check daily to ensure they are symptom free.
- 4. Parents will help ensure that their kids come to school symptom free.
- 5. Students will be provided the time to wash hands at least twice a day.
- 6. Hand sanitizer will be available in all classrooms.
- 7. Custodial staff will disinfect the building at least twice a day.
- 8. Teachers will be required to disinfect all flat surfaces and door handles in their room at the end of each day.
- 9. Desks will be 6 feet apart if possible.
- 10. School custodians will disinfect each campus with a fogger once a week.
- 11. All athletic locker rooms will be disinfected with a fogger each day.
- 12. All visitors to the school must answer the Covid-19 questionnaire, take their temperature, use hand sanitizer, and wear a mask.
- 13. Outside visitor will be limited to scheduled meetings with teachers/administrators.

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