



AN EARLY COLLEGE DISTRICT

# BROWNSVILLE

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

# STARTING STRONG

## 2020-2021 SCHOOL PROTOCOLS



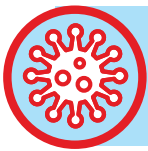




# CAMPUS HEALTH AND SAFETY PROTOCOLS

In order to avoid or minimize the risk of exposure or spread of COVID-19 when a student or Teacher/staff member tests positive for covid-19 the following safety protocols are required and will be implemented:

1. Students, staff, parents, and all community members must wear masks at all times while in any location of district campuses and offices in order to comply with Governor Greg Abbot's executive order. Students in Pk-3<sup>rd</sup> grade will also be provided face shields.
2. Essential visitors will be allowed to enter the building. Sign-in at the front office is required. Temperature checks and symptoms questionnaires will be done in the morning, prior to entering the building. Individuals who have symptoms will not be allowed on campus.
3. Students and staff members that are displaying symptoms during the school day will be escorted to designated room and wait for the parents to pick them up. Teacher/staff will be sent home.
4. Students will not be allowed on campus without a doctor's clearance to return.
5. Teachers/Staff Members that are displaying symptoms will not be allowed on campus.
6. Teachers/Staff Members who test positive for COVID-19 must remain off campus and follow doctor's orders. Individuals who have tested positive will need a doctor's clearance to return to work.



## IDENTIFYING POSSIBLE COVID -19 CASES ON CAMPUS

1. Schools must immediately separate any student, teacher or staff member who shows COVID-19 symptoms while at school and isolate them until the student can be picked up by a parent or guardian. These individuals will be sent home until they are cleared by a Physician.
2. Students will contact School nurse for clearance to come back to school.
3. Employee will call Monica de la Garza in the Human Resources Office for further guidance and instructions for clearance to return to work.
4. Schools should immediately track the areas where the student or employee has been on campus and who they were in close contact with. Refer to Page 38 of the reopening manual for the definition of close contact.
5. Schools should clean and or disinfect the areas used by the student or employee who shows COVID-19 symptoms while at school as soon as possible. In the event the campus custodian is not available due to possible exposure, the principal should contact Mr. Jimmy Haynes to schedule disinfecting at 956-698-0825.
6. Specific areas will be close for the remainder of the school day, plus one additional school day for deep cleaning and disinfecting process to take effect.
7. Schools will re-open on the following day after the disinfecting and cleaning of the campus has taken place.



## SCHOOL CLOSURE PROTOCOL

Should the superintendent of schools order a campus close due to a confirmed COVID-19 case, the following procedures must be followed:

1. At Home Learning or via remote instruction will continue to the extent it is possible to do so beginning the following day.
2. Each campus should have a plan to transition to At Home Learning or via remote instruction to include the distribution of devices and materials.
3. Communication will be sent to **ALL** parents and staff notifying them of a confirmed case (TEA letter)
4. Campus will notify local health department of confirmed case in accordance to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Family, Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)
5. Campus Custodians will utilize the Clorox Deep Cleaning machine as well as deep cleaning procedures for disinfecting the heavily used areas used by the individual with the test confirmed case.
6. The superintendent of schools may close the campus a minimum of 1 to a maximum of 3 days.



## CAMPUS VISITOR PROTOCOL

1. Temperature checks will be conducted for all visitors entering the building.
2. All visitors who are able to enter the building will be required to wear a face covering. Visitors may be asked to momentarily remove a face covering to verify identification.
3. All visitors will be screened using the BISD Health Screening Form. When asking individuals if they have symptoms for COVID-19, school systems will only require the individual to provide a “Yes” or “No” to the overall statement that they are symptomatic for COVID-19
4. A visitor who has tested positive for COVID-19 will not be allowed in school buildings until they have met the criteria for reentry in accordance to Center for Disease Control (CDC) Guidelines.
5. Non-essential visitors will not be allowed in the building.
6. Social distancing will be maintained for any meeting with a visitor (ARD, etc.).
7. BISD campuses will not accept non-essential deliveries (including meal deliveries) during the school day. During substantial and moderate COVID-19 activity, BISD will restrict visitors inside the building, including volunteers and parents.
8. Employees who work at 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.
9. 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.



# DISINFECTING AND HAND SANITIZING PROTOCOL

All staff will receive COVID-19 training, including hand-washing procedures, the use of personal protective equipment, sanitation procedures, and safe glove removal procedures. All students will receive hand-washing training, face covering training, safe glove removal, and sanitation procedures training on the first day of instruction.

1. Schools should have hand sanitizer and/or hand washing stations with soap and water at each entrance. Campuses should provide hand sanitizer and/or hand washing stations with soap and water in every classroom, in the cafeteria and in common areas throughout the campus.
2. Teachers, staff, and campus visitors should be encouraged to sanitize and/or wash hands frequently.
3. Students will be 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.
  - a. Campuses are encouraged to teach students good handwashing techniques.
  - b. 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, hands should be washed immediately with soap.

## ***NOTE:***

- ***Secondary students will be asked to wipe down their desk at the end of each class period.***
- ***Teacher will spray the desk and have one student volunteer use gloves to wipe down all desks in the classroom.***
- ***Elementary students will be asked to wipe down their desks at the end of the day when safe and developmentally appropriate.***
- ***Harmful cleaning products will not be stored near students. Students will not have access to harmful cleaning products.***





# DISINFECTING AND HAND SANITIZING PROTOCOL CONTINUES

## *Classroom Configuration*

1. Desks or tables will be socially distanced as much as instructionally possible.
2. Group or pair work can be implemented while maintaining social distancing.
3. Plexiglass will be utilized for all desks in early childhood classes (PK3 – 3<sup>rd</sup> grade).
4. Face Shields will be provided and worn by all PK3- 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students
5. Facial coverings (masks) will be provided and worn by all PK3-12<sup>th</sup> grade students.
6. When possible, eliminate communal supplies. It will be critical for students to keep track of their individual supplies. Shared supplies will be sanitized between use.
7. Non-essential items will be removed from the classroom (bean bags, reading nooks, rugs, etc.).
8. Recommended procedures will be applied to all classroom settings, including special education service locations when possible and appropriate.
9. Students' individual needs will be addressed on a case-by-case basis.
10. When possible, technology can be utilized when the use of manipulatives is needed.

Teachers will consider assigning cohorts of student specific manipulatives in order to reduce the possibility of exposure or consider creating individual bags of supplementary aids and/or manipulatives for student use that could also be sent home in the event of school closure.

The use of outdoor space for learning will be considered when possible. Classroom groups working outside will maintain at least 12 feet of social distance from other classroom groups.

Whenever possible, students and staff will maintain consistent groupings of people to minimize the spread of the virus. Additionally, supplemental services will be grouped by grade level when possible. Elementary: Based on campus decisions with input from teachers, teachers may move to students for transitions in instruction and students will remain in their homeroom class.





# EXTRA CURRICULUM ACTIVITIES

1. Hand sanitizing stations will be located in Fine Arts classrooms/Band Halls.
2. Large group practice sessions, sectionals and rehearsals will adhere to social distancing guidelines provided by an authorized entity (e.g., BISD, TEA, UIL, etc.)
3. Fine arts music private lesson teachers will not be allowed to teach on campus facilities until further guidance is provided by an authorized entity.
4. Per UIL guidelines (released 7/21/2020), all employees, parents, visitors, and students over 10 years of age must wear face coverings or face shields upon entry to an area where UIL activities are being conducted and when not actively practicing or playing in the contest unless one of the exceptions below applies:
  - a. Any person with a medical condition or disability that prevents wearing a face covering while a person is consuming food or drink, while the person is in a swimming pool or body of water when a congregating group maintains at least six feet of social distance any other circumstance indicated in Executive Order GA-29

Parents should screen their students for COVID-19 symptoms prior to their student's entry into an area where fine arts activities are being conducted or the student's participation in the fine arts activity. School staff may screen students for symptoms and/or ask screening questions of a student's parent/guardian if that parent is dropping off or picking up a student from a Fine Arts or UIL event.

All visitors to Fine Arts or UIL events are required to be screened to determine if they have COVID-19 symptoms, are lab-positive for COVID-19, or have been in close contact with someone who is lab-positive for COVID-19. Temperature checks may also be conducted prior to granting entry to UIL events.

## ***Athletics***

All athletic instruction will continue using virtual platforms. Coaches will continue to work with our athletes on sport strategy, strength and conditioning, character development, and nutrition. Coaches will receive instruction from state and local health organizations to ensure all staff and students remain healthy and safe.

Once our local health department and our BISD administration clear our staff and students to return to face to face instruction, Athletic Return to Play protocols will be reviewed, practiced, and documented to ensure all stakeholders are informed, trained, and prepared.

# RETURN TO PLAY Things to Know



## PROTOCOLS



Athletes **must bring their own masks**. Spotters must wear masks when participating in indoor activities.



Water and Food should not be shared; Bring adequate water in personal bottle.



Use Hand Sanitizer and Wash Hands regularly



Athletes & Coaches are to maintain **at least 6 feet in distance from one another** when there is no physical activity occurring.



Athletes & Coaches are to maintain **at least 10 feet in distance from one another** when there is physical activity occurring.

## Pre-Screening/Check-In

Each day athletes will be required to fill out a personal health pre-screening prior to participation in activity via Rank One App



Athletes will enter & exit through

Designated areas in the Facilities; Follow social distancing guidelines



Temperatures of each coach and athlete will be taken upon entry to the facilities each day



## STAY HOME IF:

- You Feel Sick
- You have a fever of 100.0 or higher
- If someone in your household is ill
- If you have been exposed to anyone who has tested positive for COVID



Make sure you have updated Online forms on the following link:

[https://  
brownsvilleisd.rankonesport.com/New/  
NewInstructionsPage.aspx](https://brownsvilleisd.rankonesport.com/New/NewInstructionsPage.aspx)

Sources: CDC.gov

[www.uiltexas.org/policy/covid-19](http://www.uiltexas.org/policy/covid-19)





Brownsville Independent School District  
Athletic Department  
COVID-19 Athletics Return to Play



Dr. Rene Gutierrez  
Superintendent of Schools

Gilbert D Leal  
Athletic Director

*"Education and Leadership Through Athletics"*

*Information for the Student –Athlete and Parent/Guardian*

- COVID-19 refers to the specific strain of the Coronavirus that originated in China in late 2019. This virus has disproportionately affected vulnerable people with co-morbidities, but still poses risk to all ages if proper precautions are not followed.
- Student-Athletes that wish to practice or compete in athletic activities in Brownsville Independent School District must read all information associated with COVID-19 and understand their role in safeguarding their own health, and the health of others.
- This document detailing COVID-19 and the associated information applies to ALL of the following;
  - All athletic activities including interscholastic athletes, an athletic contest or competition sponsored by or associated with a school
  - All cheerleading, club sports and school affiliated organizations
  - All practices, skills training, weight lifting and scrimmages
- Any of these things may cause the transmission of COVID-19
  - Person to Person contact via respiratory droplets
  - Lack of strict social distancing measures
  - Lack of a face covering may help expedite virus transmission between people
  - Lack of sanitizing of high touch surfaces
- **Warning signs** in your family that you or your youth athlete may be COVID-19 positive:
  - Cough
  - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
  - Fever
  - Chills
  - Muscle Pain
  - Sore Throat
- Loss of taste and smell
- A student-athlete/family member/coach who exhibits these symptoms before, during, or after an athletic activity **MUST** be removed from activity. Before returning to the activity, the student-athlete must be seen by a health care professional and cleared in writing.
- Any student-athlete with any of these symptoms cannot participate in practices, scrimmages or competition until cleared by a health care professional.

BISD does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability or genetic information in employment or provision of services, programs or activities.

BISD no discrimina a base de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo, religion, edad, incapacidad o información genética en el empleo o la disposición de servicios, programas o actividades.



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- There are many ways to ensure a student-athlete can minimize his/her risk of COVID-19 exposure. They include:
  - Washing hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
  - Wear a face covering anytime you leave your house and are around others.
  - Social distancing anytime you are in public or around others.
  - Cover your cough/sneeze in a tissue.
  - Use Hand Sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol content.
- If you think you have COVID-19, Stay Home Except to get Medical Care
  - Stay home. Most people with COVID-19 have mild illness and can recover at home without medical care. Do not leave your home, except to get medical care. Do not visit public areas.
  - Take care of yourself. Get rest and stay hydrated. Take over-the-counter medicines, such as acetaminophen, to help you feel better.
  - Stay in touch with your doctor. Call before you get medical care. Be sure to get care if you have trouble breathing, or have any other **emergency warning signs**. Or if you think it is an **emergency**.
  - Avoid public transportation, ridesharing, or taxis.
- When to Seek Emergency Medical Attention
  - Trouble breathing
  - Persistent pain or pressure in the chest
  - Bluish lips or face
  - Inability to wake or stay awake

### Resource Center of Additional Information

- Center for Disease Control and Prevention: <https://www.cdc.gov/>
- National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS): <https://www.nfhs.org/>
- Texas Department of State Health Services: <https://dshs.texas.gov/>
- University Interscholastic League: <https://www.uil-texas.org/>

Prior to athletic participation the student-athlete and parent/guardian must acknowledge receipt of information about COVID-19 by signing the BISP COVID-19 Athletics Return to Play Student-Athlete and Parent/Guardian Signature Form. Your school Athletic Coordinator will keep a record of the form and file it.

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### **Student-Athlete and Parent/Guardian Signature Form**

**What is COVID-19?** Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a disease that was identified in Wuhan, China, and is now being spread throughout the world. People are encouraged to take common-sense precautions to prevent the spread of all infectious diseases, including COVID-19.

#### **Which activities requires student-athletes and parents to sign and acknowledge this form?**

- All athletic activities including interscholastic athletics, any athletic contest or competition sponsored by or associated with a school
- All cheerleading, club sports and school affiliated organizations
- All practices, skills training, weight lifting and scrimmages

#### **What are the symptoms of COVID-19?**

- Cough
- Shortness of breath
- Fever
- Chills
- Muscle pain
- Sore Throat
- Loss of taste and smell

#### **What should a student-athlete or family member do if they experience the above symptoms?**

Stay home. Most people with COVID-19 have mild illness and can recover at home without medical care. Do not leave your home, except to get medical care. Do not visit public areas.

Stay in touch with your doctor. Call before you get medical care. Be sure to get care if you have trouble breathing, or have any other emergency warning signs, or if you think it is an emergency.

Avoid public transportation, carpooling or ridesharing.

#### **How can a student-athlete return to training after experiencing symptoms?**

Before returning to the activity, the youth athlete must be seen by a health care professional and cleared in writing.

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\_\_\_\_\_  
 Student Athlete Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Student Athlete Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Parent/Guardian Name

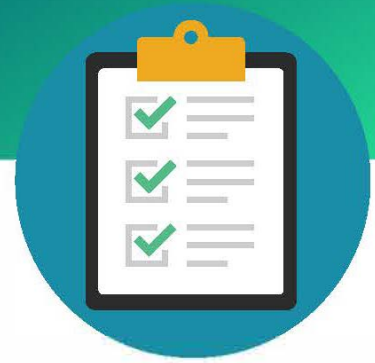
\_\_\_\_\_  
 Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

# CHECKLIST FOR COACHES

## Protect Players from COVID-19

- Send a welcome email or call parents and/or players. Inform them about **actions that the sports program will take to protect players**. Remind them to stay home if sick or if they have been around someone who is sick.
- Be a role model. **Wear a cloth face cover** and encourage parents, fans, officials, and sports staff to wear one during practices and games.
- Provide **hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol** to players before and after practice/game, or encourage them to wash their hands with soap and water.
- Educate players about **covering coughs and sneezes** with a tissue or their elbow. Discourage spitting.
- Remind players about **social distancing** and identify markers (signage or tape on floor, if applicable). Encourage your players to focus on building their individual skills and cardiovascular conditioning, so they can limit close contact with other players.
- Check with your sports administrator to make sure they are following **cleaning and disinfection** recommendations.
  - Cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched surfaces on field, court, or play surface (e.g. drinking fountains) at least daily or between use.
  - Cleaning and disinfecting shared equipment



Lower Risk



Skill-building drills at home



Within-team competition

Higher risk



Full competition from different areas



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[cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus)

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# Notes

