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PEARLAND ISD COVID-19 SCHOOL CLINIC PROCEDURES

August 19, 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We are excited to welcome your students back to campus or virtually in just a few short weeks! Much preparation is underway. 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. We would like to cover a few important reminders before school starts. A more detailed plan of the overall district strategy can be found on our district website under [Plan to Proceed](#).

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.

The self-screening that is required of students who will be returning to face to face learning is a very important step to ensuring the safety of all students, staff and community. Please plan to **keep your student at home if he or she is exhibiting any of the following symptoms** prior to coming to school.

- 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
- Fatigue
- Headache
- Chills
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Shaking or exaggerated shivering
- Significant muscle pain or ache
- Diarrhea, Nausea or vomiting

Students will be sent home according to TEA & Brazoria County Health Department guidelines. **Students who exhibit ANY COVID symptoms in a way that is not normal for them** will be sent to their school clinic and will be expected to stay home for a minimum of ten days unless other return to school criteria are met (please see below). Each campus has prepared separated spaces to care for ill and well students to

minimize close contact. In an effort to minimize excess traffic in the clinics and to decrease students' increased risks of possible illness exposure, please encourage your students to stay in class as much as possible and to only go to the clinic when absolutely necessary.

Criteria for Return to School

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

Either:

- 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared; **AND**
 - 24 hours with no fever; **AND**
 - Symptoms improved
- OR:**
- An acute infection test at an approved testing location (<https://tdem.texas.gov/covid-19/>) that comes back negative for COVID-19
- OR:**
- A doctor's note indicating an alternate diagnosis

Please note, there are two kinds of tests available for COVID-19, [viral tests](#) and [antibody tests](#).

- A viral test tells you if you have a current infection.
- An antibody test might tell you if you had a past infection. An antibody test might not show if you have a current infection because it can take 1–3 weeks after infection for your body to make antibodies. Having antibodies to the virus that causes COVID-19 might provide protection from getting infected with the virus again. If it does, it is not known how much protection the antibodies might provide or how long this protection might last.

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 Jackie Smith at 281.412.1440 or visit our website at www.pearlandisd.org.

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,

Jackie Smith, RN
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