



Breckenridge ISD 2020-2021 School Year



“Returning to Learning”

The district will continually update this document when new guidance is released from the Texas Education Agency (TEA) and state and local health experts regarding on-campus instruction this fall. All of the proposed protocols and procedures are subject to change based on state and county guidance for schools.

The Breckenridge ISD Administrative Team is working diligently to prepare for a safe reopening for the 2020-2021 school year. Our goal is to offer on-campus instruction beginning on **August 19, 2020**; however, we have developed a remote learning option for parents who may not feel comfortable sending their children to school.

There is not a "one-size-fits-all" approach to reopening schools across the state of Texas. Based on available information as of July 23, 2020, school districts in Texas will create local plans for reopening based on general guidance from the Governor's Strike Force to Reopen Texas, the Texas Education Agency (TEA), the University Interscholastic League (UIL) and local government and health officials.

The District is working to ensure a safe and productive learning environment for all. Guidance used to develop this plan can be found at:

- [SY 20-21 Public Health Planning Guidance](#)
- [SY 20-21 Attendance and Enrollment FAQ](#)
- [University Interscholastic League COVID-19 Information](#)

Please note that these details are subject to change based on guidelines and recommendations from local, state, and federal authorities.

Key Details

Breckenridge ISD plans to reopen to provide face-to-face instruction beginning on August 19, 2020. A digital, remote learning option will also be available. Remote learning WILL NOT be the same type of virtual instruction provided during the Spring School Closure. The requirements for remote learning will be significantly more rigorous and more demanding on the student's daily participation and completion of work at home, as compared to this past spring.

School Year Calendar and Daily Time Adjustments

[See the BISD 2020-2021 Calendar Page for Details](#)

Daily School hours have been modified to reflect the following:

<u>Campus</u>	<u>First Bell</u>	<u>Dismissal Bell</u>
Breckenridge High School (Grades 9-12)	8:05AM	3:53PM
Breckenridge Junior High School (Grade 6-8)	8:05AM	3:53PM
South Elementary (Grades 3-5)	8:00AM	3:45PM
East Elementary (Grades PK-2)	7:45AM	3:30PM

Instructional Efforts/Goals Underway for the New Year

- Developing blended learning instructional models that support both in-person and remote learning
- Providing a Chromebook or tablet for all students
- Working to provide temporary broadband internet access solutions and options
- Working on facilitating an improved communications hub between the school and home

Health/Safety Efforts Underway for the New Year

- Monitoring the potential impact of Coronavirus (COVID-19) in Stephens County and follow guidance provided by local health organizations
- Using a preventive, antimicrobial misting system at all facilities and on buses to thoroughly and widely disinfect twice daily. The District also disinfects locker rooms, weight rooms, and equipment cages twice daily
- Hand sanitizer stations located at all facility entrances
- Hand sanitizer and disinfectant spray available for all classrooms
- Measure temperatures before visitors enter the buildings
- Students and staff will be expected to utilize the district's self-screening questionnaire
- Face coverings are highly recommended at this time by the Governor's order ([Executive Order GA 29](#)) for ages 11 and above.
- Social distancing (6 feet or 2 arm's length) enforced when possible
- Handwashing and/or hand sanitizing required frequently throughout the day. Proper self-care habits will be taught.

Guidelines for 2020-2021 School Year

Registration

All students will need to register for the 2020-2021 school year through the Skyward Family Access system. Parents will have until August 5, 2020 to choose either on-campus or online, remote learning. If that choice is not made by August 5, students will be placed in the on-campus option. Parents can indicate this choice by completing the survey found [HERE](#) and indicating their choice during the registration process.

Learning Options

- Beginning August 19, 2020, Breckenridge ISD will offer two instructional delivery options for students attending the District:
 - A full-time, in-person, on-campus instructional program with heightened hygiene and sanitization protocols, and
 - A full-time, online, remote learning instructional program using a district-owned device or a personal device supplied by the student
- Student grading policies and learning expectations under each of these models must be consistent with each other, and must reflect the grading policies used before COVID-19 for on-campus assignments. Therefore the district will not be using pass/fail this fall.
- Under the Remote Instruction model, Breckenridge ISD will provide virtual instruction for students in grades PK-12 where students engage in the learning materials and teacher recorded videos on their own time and **interact daily** with the teacher. Teachers will give guided support under this model of instruction. At the discretion of the teacher, some live instruction may be provided and required via video conferencing (Google Meet) under the district's remote learning plan.
- In the event that BIRD is forced to close down campuses for an extended period of time, the district may utilize the Remote Learning model for all students until a return to on-campus instruction is possible.

Enrollment and Attendance

- Per Texas Education Code (TEC) 25.092, students must attend 90 percent of a course (with some exceptions) in order to be awarded credit for the course and/or to be promoted to the next grade. This requirement remains in force during the 2020-2021 school year for both on-campus and remote learning models.
- Breckenridge ISD will be required to take DAILY attendance under all learning models. This means students will have to be **present on-campus** or **engaged** online in their remote learning **each day and in each assigned class** to be counted present for credit purposes.
- For a student participating in Remote Instruction to be counted for attendance, they must be engaged in one of the following three ways in each class daily:

- Daily progress as defined in the approved learning plan; or
- Daily progress via teacher-student interactions, as defined in the approved learning plan;
or
- Completion/submission of assignments from student to teacher (potentially via email, phone call, or on-line).

Remote Learning Considerations

Breckenridge ISD will provide remote instruction for students in grades PK-12. Breckenridge ISD may also provide real-time instruction to remote learners while on-campus instruction is taking place on district campuses in certain circumstances. Students participating in remote instruction will be required to engage in digital learning activities on their own time during the school day, interacting daily with the teacher(s) via computer or other electronic devices, or over the phone. Teachers will post an assignment/activity each day and give guided support under this model of instruction. The student will be considered enrolled in Breckenridge ISD Remote Instruction for learning, attendance and funding purposes.

The remote learning option is a fluid option that can be accessed at any time. However, once the remote learning option is chosen the student must remain with that option until the end of that six week grading period. Parents must inform the campus of the student’s intent to change instructional models by the deadlines listed below. The form can be obtained from your campus. Changing options frequently may have a negative impact on a student’s ability to receive credit for the course as well as their academic success.

Grading Period	Notification Deadline
First Six Weeks	August 5, 2020
Second Six Weeks	September 14, 2020
Third Six Weeks	October 27, 2020
Fourth Six Weeks	December 11, 2020
Fifth Six Weeks	February 2, 2021
Sixth Six Weeks	March 22, 2021
Summer School (if applicable)	May 24, 2021

EACH STUDENT WHO IS PARTICIPATING IN REMOTE LEARNING WILL BE REQUIRED TO MAKE CONTACT WITH EACH TEACHER IN EACH CLASS DAILY! Failure to do so will result in consequences to the student in regards to attendance, credit, and/or eligibility. Please understand all extra curricular participation requires On-Campus learning.

Suggested Daily Schedule for Remote Learning

If you choose Remote Learning, your student will be expected to work for a minimum of **FOUR** hours per day to complete required coursework. You will need to check with your student's teachers for further information.

Extracurricular Considerations

- The BISD Board resolution mandates students who choose to participate in athletics, extracurricular activities, student activity groups and specific elective courses **MUST** choose the in-person option. These activities may include:
 - All UIL activities
 - Athletics including Cheerleading
 - Ag
 - Band
 - Student Clubs including Journalism, Student Council, NHS, etc.
 - UIL Academics and Debate
 - Theatre/One-Act Play
 - Student groups that meet outside the classroom
- All participants, coaches, and directors will be trained in COVID-19 safety protocols.
- All participants, coaches, and directors will follow rules established by the University Interscholastic League (UIL) and the Texas Education Agency (TEA).
- UIL guidance can be found on the [UIL Website](#).
- In response to healthcare providers' focus on the COVID-19 pandemic, the UIL recently waived the required pre-participation physical examination for students involved in band/athletics who already have a physical on file for the 2019-2020 school year. Those students who are new or do not have a physical already on file will be required to get a physical and complete the pre-participation physical examination form **BEFORE** participating in band/athletics for the 2020-2021 school year.

Technology

The district has procured devices for staff and students. Information concerning the use of district-owned devices and distribution will be provided to parents by the student's home campus.

Special Programs

- Special Programs staff will be trained in COVID-19 safety protocols.

- Instruction - Special education and 504 students will receive instruction and related services in accordance with their individualized education/accommodation plan.
- Related and/or other services (speech therapy, occupational therapy, physical therapy, direct psychological services, and/or vision services) will be provided by the same service provider when possible through various digital platforms (Zoom, Google Meet, etc.) for remote learners. Some related and/or other services such as vision, orientation and mobility, and adapted physical education may be provided via consultation and not as a direct service.
- Students with disabilities whose needs pose additional challenges to learning in a remote environment are encouraged to attend on-campus Instruction.
- Regression will be addressed in an ARD/504 committee meeting.
- Special education transportation services will be provided as written in the ARD paperwork for on-campus learners.
- Evaluations for special education/504 eligibility will vary on a case by case basis.

Social-Emotional Support and Mental Health

- Counselors will develop strategies and support for students, families, and staff members.
- Counselors will develop a referral system for individuals who need targeted support as well as access to school-employed and community mental health professionals.
- Students in need of social-emotional support will be provided tiered interventions which could involve referral for additional school-based services or referral for outside mental health support.

COVID-19 Prevention

COVID-19 Symptoms

- Any of the following symptoms indicate a possible COVID-19 infection:
 - Temperature of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher when taken by mouth;
 - Sore throat;
 - New uncontrolled cough that causes difficulty breathing (or, for students with a chronic allergic/asthmatic cough, a change in their cough from baseline);
 - Diarrhea, vomiting, or abdominal pain; or
 - New onset of severe headache, especially with a fever.

Screening

- All teachers and staff will be required to self screen for COVID-19 symptoms before coming onto campus each day. This self screen will include teachers and staff taking their own temperature. Teachers and staff must report to their principal if they themselves have COVID-19 symptoms or are lab confirmed with COVID-19, and, if so, they must remain off campus until they meet the criteria for re-entry as noted in this document. Additionally, they must report to the school system if they have had close contact with an individual who is lab-confirmed with COVID-19, as defined within this document, and, if so, must remain off campus until the 14 day incubation period has passed.
- Parents must ensure they do not send a child to school on campus if the child has COVID-19 symptoms (as listed in this document) or is lab-confirmed with COVID-19, and instead should receive remote instruction until the below conditions for re-entry are met. Parents should have their students receive remote instruction if their child has had close contact with an individual who is lab-confirmed with COVID-19 until the 14-day incubation period has passed. Breckenridge ISD may screen students for COVID-19 as well. Screening may also be required for any parent or guardian if that person will be dropping off or picking up their child from inside the school.
- Students may be screened at any time.
- Visitors will be allowed on campus in limited circumstances. Before visitors are allowed on campuses, Breckenridge ISD will screen each visitor to determine if the that person has symptoms (as listed in this document) or are lab-confirmed with COVID-19, and, if so, they must remain off campus until they meet the criteria for re-entry as noted in this document. In addition, all visitors will be screened to determine if they have had close contact with an individual who is lab-confirmed with COVID-19, and, if so, they must remain off campus until the 14-day incubation period has passed. Screening questions will be supplemented with temperature checks of adults.

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 in this document) must stay 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 one day (24 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);
 - At least ten 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.

Identifying Possible COVID-19 Cases on Campus

- Employees must immediately separate any student who shows COVID-19 symptoms while at school until the student can be picked up by a parent or guardian.
- Staff will clean the areas used by the individual who shows COVID-19 symptoms while at school (student, teacher, or staff) as soon as is feasible.
- Students who report feeling feverish will be given an immediate temperature check to determine if they are symptomatic for COVID-19.

COVID-19 Response Protocols

Required Actions if individuals with Lab-Confirmed Case in the School

- If an individual who has been in a school is lab-confirmed to have COVID-19, the school will 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 will close off areas that are 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 7 days have already passed since that person was on campus.
- Consistent with school notification requirements, schools will 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 on campus activities.
- For more information, please see the [Breckenridge ISD COVID-19 Standard Response Protocol](#)

COVID-19 Mitigation Protocols

General Health and Hygiene Practices

- School facilities will have hand sanitizer at each entrance. In addition, hand sanitizer will be available in each classroom.
- Students, teachers, staff, and campus visitors will be encouraged to sanitize and/or wash hands frequently.
 - Campuses will encourage students to engage in 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.
 - Campuses will teach students good handwashing techniques.
 - Campuses will encourage students, staff and visitors 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 and water for at least 20 seconds, or hand sanitizer should be used.
- Campuses will institute more frequent cleaning practices, including additional cleaning by janitorial staff. Students may be provided the opportunity to clean their own spaces before and after they are used, in ways that are safe and developmentally appropriate.
 - Schools will arrange for additional cleaning and disinfecting of surfaces that are touched in common throughout the day (i.e. door handles, sink faucets, etc.)
 - Schools will ensure these cleaning products are properly stored to ensure safety.
- In addition to cleanings throughout each day, restrooms, cafeterias, and computer labs will undergo extensive cleaning after each day's use.
- Whenever possible, schools will open windows to improve air flow in classrooms and/or buildings.
- Interior classroom doors will be left open (where it doesn't compromise physical safety) in an effort to reduce contact with door handles.
- On the first day a student attends school on campus, schools will provide instruction to students on appropriate hygiene practices and other mitigation practices adopted in the district.

Masks, Face Shields, and other Face Coverings

- For the purposes of this document, masks include non-medical and medical grade disposable face masks and cloth face coverings (over the nose and mouth). Full-face shields may be used in place of a mask to protect eyes, nose, and mouth whenever a mask is not feasible or whenever the educational context may benefit from the ability to see an individual's full face.
- The use of some sort of face covering is **highly recommended** in circumstances where social distancing may not be possible.
- Schools are required to comply with the governor's executive order regarding the wearing of masks.
- In addition to the executive order, Breckenridge ISD may require the use of masks or face shields for adults or students for whom it is developmentally appropriate.

- It may be impractical for students to wear masks or face shields while participating in some non-UIL athletic or other extracurricular activities. When it is impractical for students to wear masks or face shields during those activities, schools will require students, teachers, staff and visitors to wear masks or face shields when entering and exiting facilities and practice areas and when not actively engaging in those activities. For example, schools may allow students who are actively exercising to remove masks or face shields as long as they can keep at least six feet between them and others without a face covering.

Student and Teacher Groupings

- Where feasible without disrupting the educational experience, students will be encouraged to practice social distancing.
 - In classroom spaces that allow it, student desks will be spaced six feet apart or as far apart as space allows.
 - In classrooms where students are regularly within six feet of one another, staff will utilize hand sanitizer and increased hand washing opportunities.
- When feasible and appropriate (for example, in P.E. classes as weather permits), classes will consider gathering outside, rather than inside, because of likely reduced risk of virus spread outdoors.
- As is the case in typical years, Breckenridge ISD, with policies that allow it, will open facilities to the public. Operation of the facilities should be done consistent with the governor’s executive orders for similar activities and additional disinfecting requirements provided by the outside entity.
- Schools will plan for entry, exit, and transition procedures that reduce large group gatherings (of students and/or adults) in close proximity.
- Depending on local conditions, schools may consider eliminating assemblies and other activities that bring large groupings of students and/or teachers and staff together.
- When transitioning between classes, students will be encouraged to maintain social distancing.
- Traffic patterns may be established throughout the campus that separates individuals to the greatest extent possible.

Cafeteria and Food Service

- Breckenridge ISD plans to utilize the school cafeteria as much as possible for student meals. ***NOTE: For the safety of all students, no parents/visitors during lunch, until further notice. Additionally, meals may not be delivered during the school day by the parent/guardian to the school office. Students are welcome to bring a lunch from home prior to the school day beginning. Students that forget to bring a lunch will be offered a meal in the cafeteria.***
- Schools will plan for adjustments during breakfast and lunch that reduce the likelihood that students meet the close contact definition (defined later in this document).
- Modifications to lunch procedures will be based on specific situations that arise and on what is feasible for each campus and grade.
- Cafeteria staff will be trained in COVID-19 safety protocols.
- All cafeteria staff will be wearing masks and gloves while serving students.

- Seats, tables, door handles, and high-touch areas will be disinfected regularly.

Student Transportation

- Bus drivers will be trained in COVID-19 safety protocols.
- The district will require students and staff to use hand sanitizer upon boarding the bus.
- When possible, buses will open windows to allow outside air to circulate in the bus.
- Buses will be thoroughly cleaned after each bus trip, focusing on high-touch surfaces such as bus seats, steering wheels, knobs, and door handles.
- Masks may be required for students and staff when being transported in school buses and vehicles.

****Breckenridge ISD encourages families to drop students off, carpool or walk with their student to school to reduce possible virus exposure on buses.***

Visits to Schools

- Visitations to schools will be limited to those necessary for the educational process. During these visits, parents and other visitors must follow virus prevention and mitigation requirements of the school.
- Schools will restrict visits to only those essential to school operations.
- Parents will not be able to eat breakfast or lunch with their child.

Staffing

- School teachers and staff will be trained specifically on the protocols outlined in this document and the practices adopted by their school system.
- Schools will reduce in-person staff meetings or other opportunities for adults to congregate in close settings. When those meetings are necessary and cannot be done via electronic means, everyone must follow the mask protocols in this guidance, remain at least 6 feet apart where feasible, and consider whether increased airflow from the outdoors is possible in those settings.
- Staff may be provided with masks and/or clear face shields.

“Close Contact” Definition

This document refers to “close contact” with an individual who is lab-confirmed to have COVID-19. Close contact is determined by an appropriate public health agency. For clarity, close contact is defined as:

- being directly exposed to infectious secretions (e.g., being coughed on); or
- being within 6 feet for a cumulative duration of 15 minutes;

if either occurred at any time in the last 14 days at the same time the infected individual was infectious.

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.

Frequently Asked Questions

General Questions

What precautions will be in place on campus?

We will implement increased signage around campuses promoting disease mitigation strategies, increased cleaning and sanitation practices, as well as frequent reminders of hand hygiene and social distancing. BISD will comply with all health and safety mandates established by the health department and Texas Education Agency. Classrooms will be arranged to maximize space between students. We encourage students and staff to provide their own PPE. However, in an effort to get school started, with the support of the State, BISD has secured the following:

- 4,044 Student Size Disposable Face Masks
- 9,436 Adult Size Disposable Face Masks
- 936 Student Size Reusable Masks
- 2,433 Adult Size Reusable Masks
- 7,786 Gloves
- 11 Thermometers
- 158 Gallons of Hand Sanitizer
- 229 Adult Face Shields

Will students and staff be required to wear masks?

*The use of some sort of face covering is **highly recommended** in circumstances where social distancing may not be possible. The use of face coverings may be mandated at any time by the district or by the Governor's order ([Executive Order GA 29](#)) for ages 11 and above.*

Will CDC social distancing guidelines be observed ?

All areas of the campus will be monitored frequently to encourage social distancing. Social distancing will be observed as much as possible, but at times students will be closer than the recommended 6 feet apart.

Signage reminding students and staff about handwashing, social distancing, and infection prevention will be posted throughout the school and in areas mentioned above.

What happens if a student or a teacher tests positive for COVID-19? Will the entire classroom have to quarantine and enroll in remote learning? What if multiple classrooms and students/staff are impacted?

When notification of a possible exposure occurs, BISD, in coordination with local health authorities, will begin contact tracing and complete a thorough risk assessment. Based on this assessment, a

determination as to whether an entire classroom or multiple classrooms are required to quarantine will be made. Students will have the opportunity to access remote learning during the quarantine period.

Will visitors be allowed on campuses?

Visitors will be allowed on campuses on a very limited basis using the guidelines below.

- *All visitors must have a scheduled appointment*
- *All visitors required to wear masks*
- *All visitors must utilize hand sanitizing stations upon entry*
- *Parents will be required to drop off students at designated drop off locations*
- *Students may bring lunch, but no drop-off or delivery of lunch allowed*
- *No visitors will be allowed to eat with students*
- *The district recommends that students in PK - 8th grade remain on campus for lunch*
- *Until further notice, classroom parties will not be allowed*

Parent/Student Related Questions

What if most families choose the on-campus option? Would there have to be changes to accommodate social distancing or will there be a limit of how many students can select the in-person option?

We will continue to work closely with TEA and local health authorities to ensure the safety of our students. We believe we will be able to provide instruction to students in whichever format their families choose. Keep in mind, BISD will comply with all mandates regarding social/physical distancing as well as health and hygiene protocols. At this time, there are no limits on either learning option.

How will you address social, emotional, or mental health concerns?

Counselors are available to support students academically, socially, and emotionally and can provide mental health support or resources for families who may be struggling emotionally. If a student needs to schedule a counseling session, please contact the campus counselor.

Will we still have open house events, assemblies, or concerts?

At this time, large events will occur in accordance with guidelines from the CDC, TEA, the Governor's Office, and county and local health officials. Some of these events may be postponed or cancelled.

Will buses run?

Yes, transportation will continue as it always has with additional health and safety protocols in place..

Will social distancing be observed on buses, and how will seating arrangements be determined?

We cannot guarantee 6-foot social distancing on our district transportation. Students will be instructed with specific safety protocols. The bus driver and students will use hand sanitizer that will be provided. School buses will be cleaned and disinfected twice daily.

What precautions will be in place for athletics, fine arts, and other extracurricular activities?

Safety guidelines have been developed for conducting workouts, rehearsals, and practices. The district will continue to follow all mandated guidelines provided by UIL, TEA, and the state.

Will students have recess or the ability to play and socialize with other students?

We are awaiting guidance from the Texas Education Agency on recess activities. However, we anticipate elementary students will have recess time with restrictions that reinforce social distancing.

Will students remain enrolled at their school if they choose remote learning?

Yes, students will remain enrolled at their home campus.

Will meals be provided for students who select remote learning?

Options are being explored for providing meals to qualified students who select remote learning. The district will provide more information at a later date.

Are immunizations required for students enrolled in remote learning?

Yes. At this time the Texas Department of State Health Services has not waived the vaccine requirements for students.

How will remote learning be different from at-home learning during the closure last spring?

Students who select remote learning will be required to attend and participate in class daily, and instruction will be led by a teacher. In the spring last year, students' assignments were limited. Remote learning this year will be a full course load of instruction and assignments that is equivalent to what students who are attending school in-person will be required to complete. It will be the responsibility of the parent and student to ensure remote learning meets the same expectations as on-campus learning which includes completion of all assignments, daily communication with teacher and daily time commitment. Teachers delivering remote instruction will receive additional training and support in digital teaching strategies and using online curriculum. Both on-campus and remote learning will utilize the same grading system.

Who will be required to take State assessments?

Students participating in both on-campus and remote learning will be required to participate in state (STAAR/EOC/TELPAS, etc.) testing.

Will packets be available for instruction if we do not have access to a device or internet?

No, packets will not be considered as a sole source of instruction as we move into the 2020-2021 school year.

Can a student be counted absent from remote learning?

Yes. In the remote learning instructional method, student engagement is measured daily, and attendance is assigned based on the student's completion of that day's engagement measure. Students who do not complete the daily measure of engagement are to be counted absent for that day, and that absence cannot be changed to present if the student completes the engagement measure on a later date.

Under the remote learning instructional method, if a student decides to complete the entire weeks' worth of work on Monday, can the student's attendance be coded to show perfect attendance for the week?

No. In the remote learning instructional method, student engagement is measured daily, and attendance is assigned based on the student's completion of that day's engagement measure. Students who do not complete the daily measure of engagement are to be counted absent for that day, and that absence cannot be changed to present if the student completes the engagement measure on a later date. In the example above, the student would be counted absent Tuesday-Friday.

Will the 90% minimum student attendance for class credit rule be in effect for the 2020– 2021 school year?

Yes. The minimum attendance for class credit rule of TEC, §25.092, will be in effect for the 2020–2021 school year, and TEA will not be issuing waivers for LEAs to exempt themselves from the rule. Students are required to attend at least 90% of their classes (with some exceptions) to receive credit and be promoted. Remote attendance will count in the same manner as on-campus attendance in satisfying this requirement.

Will truancy laws be in effect during the 2020–2021 school year for students receiving remote instruction due to COVID-19 related closure or health concerns?

Truancy laws will apply to students who fail to attend school either on-campus or remotely.

Staff Related Questions

Will teachers get to choose if they want a remote or in-person schedule?

Staffing decisions will be determined based on student choice of instructional delivery. Principals, in cooperation with teachers, develop work assignments. If a teacher has safety concerns about returning to work on site, they should contact their principal. At this time, all staff will report to their applicable BISD facility to promote instruction for all students.

What will staff do if they have to quarantine due to COVID-19? Will the district provide extra sick or personal days for staff?

Requirements to quarantine are determined by the health department. In addition to existing leave balances in effect for employees, Breckenridge ISD will follow all provisions of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) which is in effect through December 31, 2020.

As a staff member can I go to other campuses?

All guidelines listed above are in effect unless you are visiting a campus for school related business.