



Return to Learning Plan

Bovina Independent School District



2021-2022

General

Bovina ISD plans to return to 100% in-person learning for the 2021-22 school year. We are excited to welcome everyone back into our buildings. At this time, no remote learning options will be offered and face coverings will be optional, regardless of vaccination status. Currently, per Gov. Greg Abbott's executive order, BISD cannot legally require masks and the State will not fund a remote learning option. We are unable to provide remote learning other than limited homebound instruction offered for significant medical conditions.

We will continue to monitor and reassess as conditions dictate. The District may need to change protocols at any time to address specific needs and circumstances in order to protect the health and safety of students, employees and the community. The following guidelines are in accordance with direction from the Texas Education Agency (TEA) and the State of Texas.

The designated communication team regarding all COVID-19 related issues at Bovina ISD will consist of the following personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please direct those to our designated team.

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| Denise Anderson, Superintendent | denise.anderson@region16.net |
| Dan Castillo, High School Principal | dan.castillo@region16.net |
| Rhanda Emery, Middle School Principal | rhanda.emery@region16.net |
| Danella Wheeler, Elementary Principal | Danella.wheeler@region16.net |
| Coby Emery, Athletic Director | coby.emery@region16.net |
| Stan Miller, Technology Director | stan.miller@region16.net |
| Richard Villarreal, Maintenance/Transportation | Richard.villarreal@region16.net |

Masks

Per GA-38, masks will not be required for staff, students, or visitors. An individual may choose to wear a mask if desired and unvaccinated staff and students are encouraged to do so. Campuses will work to ensure no student is treated differently as a result of the choice to wear a mask or not to wear a mask.

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) continues to recommend that individuals two and older continue to wear masks indoors. Consistent and correct mask use by people is especially important indoors and in crowded settings, when physical distancing cannot be maintained. To be clear, while CDC and APA recommend wearing masks, the Governor's order cited above requires mask wearing as voluntary.

Visitors and Meetings

Visitors will be allowed on campus according to standard visiting rules. Meetings will be allowed on campus without capacity restrictions and face coverings will not be required.

Extra- and Co-Curricular Activities

All extra- and co-curricular activities will resume with no capacity or participation restrictions. The District will follow all mandated guidelines provided by TEA, UIL, and the State.

Students and spectators will not be required to wear masks.

Vaccinations

Per Gov. Abbott's order, BISD cannot require students or staff to get vaccinated. At this time, the State of Texas has not added the COVID-19 vaccination to the required immunization list for students. BISD cannot require students or staff to report vaccination status.

Absences

If a student or staff must isolate after testing positive for COVID, the school/teacher will implement the following:

1. The teacher will work with the student and parent to provide make-up work to the student, understanding there is not a remote instruction option available.
 2. Teachers will utilize the appropriate LMS (i.e. Google Classroom) to provide students with work to be completed.
 3. The student will submit make-up work as noted in the student handbook.

 4. Employees must use personal leave time while they are isolating.
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COVID-19 Reporting/Tracking

As partners working together to maintain a healthy school environment, we ask parents and employees to report confirmed positive cases of COVID-19 to the school district. Parents should report positive cases to the school nurse, principal or their designee; employees should report to their campus principal.

Schools are not required to conduct COVID-19 contact tracing. If we are made aware that a student is a close contact, parents will be notified. Parents of students who are determined to be close contacts of an individual with COVID-19 may opt to keep their students at home during the recommended stay-at-home period.

For individuals who are determined to be close contacts, the stay-at-home period can end for students experiencing no symptoms on Day 10 after close contact exposure, if no subsequent COVID-19 testing is performed.

Alternately, students can end the stay-at-home period if they receive a negative result from a PCR acute infection test after the close contact exposure ends.

Students and staff will not be required to quarantine for exposure but the District is still required to report positive cases to the Department of State Health Services.

Prevent

Bovina ISD will:

1. Educate staff about the current health issues and preventative measures.
 2. Ensure staff have all proper supplies available upon request.
 3. Continue regular campus cleaning procedures that include sanitizing and disinfecting.
 4. Educate students and staff on proper handwashing and respiratory etiquette.
 5. Staff and students will maintain six feet of social distancing in indoor settings, to the extent possible
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Screening Procedures

BISD asks individuals to self-screen for COVID-19 symptoms before coming onto campus each day. Employees and students must notify the school system if they are test-confirmed with COVID-19 and remain off campus until they meet the criteria for re-entry as noted below.

Confirmed COVID-19 Positive Case

As provided in the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) Rule, school systems must exclude students from attending school in person who are actively sick with COVID-19 or who have received a positive test result for COVID-19. Parents must ensure they do not send a child to school on campus if the child has COVID-19 symptoms or is test-confirmed with COVID-19 until the conditions for re-entry are met.

The readmission criteria for COVID-19 is as follows:

-If symptomatic, exclude until at least 10 days have passed since symptom onset, and fever free**, and other symptoms have improved. Children who test positive for COVID-19 but do not have any symptoms must stay home until at least 10 days after the day they were tested.

****Fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever suppressing medications. Fever is a temperature of 100 degrees Fahrenheit or higher.**

Respond

Required actions if individuals with test-confirmed cases have been at a BISD facility:

1. If an individual is test-confirmed to have COVID-19, the individual must notify his/her campus principal or supervisor so they can notify the Superintendent, who must notify the 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).
 2. Upon receipt of information that any teacher, staff member, student, or visitor at BISD is test-confirmed to have COVID-19, the school must submit a report to the Texas Department of State Health Services via an online form.
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Mitigate

Staff guidelines to mitigate the likelihood of COVID-19 spread:

1. Individuals will be encouraged to wash their hands regularly.
 2. Individuals will be advised to cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue, and if not available, covered in their elbow.
 3. Individuals will be encouraged to stay at least 3 feet away from each other.
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Social, Emotional, or Mental Health Concerns

The Counselor and Social Worker 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. To ensure staff is equipped to address social and mental health concerns, Guidance and Counseling will continue to host training opportunities including trauma informed care, Mental Health First Aid, and social emotional learning.

Meals and Transportation

Bovina ISD must comply with child nutrition guidelines. Students may have meals in both the cafeteria and in classrooms.

At this time, meals will be provided to all students at no cost. This is for the 2021-2022 school year only.

Parents/guardians are expected to screen their students for COVID-19 symptoms each day prior to sending their student to board the bus.

Buses will be thoroughly cleaned after each bus trip, focusing on the high-touch surfaces such as bus seats, steering wheels, knobs, and door handles.
