

In-Person Instruction Health and Safety Plan

2021 – 2022

Reviewed

July 2023



INITIAL DEVELOPMENT JUNE 3, 2021

UPDATED February 2022

Updated June 2022

Reviewed December 2022

Reviewed and Updated July 2022

Reviewed January 2023

Reviewed July 2023

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Purpose

This plan is intended to be a simplified strategic framework for returning students, staff, and administrators to in-person instruction and activity for the 2022-2023 school year.

Situation and Assumptions

The COVID-19 pandemic rates of infection and hospitalization in the United States and the State of Texas have shown a marked decline as we enter Summer 2022. As year 2 of the pandemic is behind us and multiple vaccines and boosters with high efficacy are in circulation for various age groups, including most school-age ranges. It can be assumed that the pandemic situation will continue to change and evolve on the world stage as variants are detected and seasonality of the virus is unknown. In the previous years, early mitigation efforts slowed the spread of the disease; however, we did experience seasonal case increases which created great uncertainty. It can be assumed that as vaccination levels increase and remain effective against any new variants, as they have reportedly been thus far, the mid-summer risk will be reduced as compared to the previous year. It can be assumed that plan changes or adjustments will be presented in the form of new Governor's orders, US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance, Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) guidance, Tarrant County Public Health (TCPH) guidance, TEA guidance, University Interscholastic League (UIL) guidance, and more.

It can be assumed that our protocols will require adaptation as more is discovered regarding COVID-19, new variants of the virus, and any other novel disease, reaction, or complication. The strategies and protocols may expand or contract as required to remain responsive to the situation.

Plan Review

This plan will be reviewed every 6 months through at least September 30, 2023. As with the 2020-2021 COVID-19 Safety Protocols, the development of the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 safety plan will be guided by federal, state, and local health guidance while accounting for requirements in federal, state, and local policy and law.



Health and Safety Plan

Maintaining a Healthy Environment

The overarching mission is to safely educate the students of Keller ISD and maintain a healthy environment for all of our students, teachers, staff, and guests. Our primary goal is to prevent the introduction of COVID-19 into the school environment, when possible, through health screening questions and instructing those who are ill to remain at home. Any additional efforts that might be needed for students with disabilities or other at-risk populations can be addressed on an individual basis with those staff members who serve those students.

Should case numbers rise and additional efforts to control the spread of COVID-19 be necessary, then mitigation efforts reduce the risk of transmission from person to person through distancing, sanitation, cohorting, scheduling, and optional masking. Response efforts are designed for rapid detection, assessment, contact tracing, and isolation of identified cases that are on or have been on campus in order to contain positive cases that occur.

Prevention and Mitigation

Self-Screening

All members of the campus community should self-screen for illness, including COVID-19, each day before boarding a bus or entering school property.

Parents have the option to complete either of the following for students:

- **Self-screening tools are available online at www.kellerisd.net/StudentScreening.**
- **Self-screening steps to be completed without an online form:**

- Check for a temperature of 100.4°F or higher
- Sore throat
- Cough (for students with chronic cough due to allergies or asthma, a change in their cough from usual)
- Difficulty breathing (for students with asthma, check for a change from their baseline breathing)
- Diarrhea or vomiting
- New onset of severe headache, especially with a fever



Check your child for these symptoms before they go to school. Check symptoms for changes from usual or baseline health.

If your child DOES have any of the symptoms above:

- Keep them home from school
- Seek your healthcare provider's advice and/or get your child tested for COVID-19.
- Contact your child's school and report that your child is sick and complete the online positive case report at www.kellerisd.net/SelfReport. The school may ask some additional questions to help determine when it is safe for your child to return to school and about other people who may have been exposed.
- CDC has a [Coronavirus Self Checker*](#) available on its website, which may help you make decisions about seeking medical care for possible COVID-19.

Teachers, staff, visitors, and others have the option to complete either of the following:

- **Self-screening tools are available online at www.kellerisd.net/Screening.**
- **Self-screening steps to be completed without an online form:**

- Check for a temperature of 100.4°F or higher
- Sore throat
- Cough (for chronic cough due to allergies or asthma, a change in their cough from usual)
- Difficulty breathing (for asthma, a change from their baseline breathing)
- Diarrhea or vomiting
- New onset of severe headache, especially with a fever

Check for these symptoms before going to work or visiting the school or any District building. Check symptoms for changes from usual or baseline health.

If you have any of the symptoms above:

- Remain home and do not come to school or work.
- Seek your healthcare provider's advice and/or get tested for COVID-19.
- For employees, contact your supervisor and report that you are sick and complete the online positive case report at www.kellerisd.net/SelfReport. Human Resources may ask some additional questions to help determine when it is safe for you to return to work and about other people who may have been exposed.
- CDC has a [Coronavirus Self Checker*](#) available on its website, which may help you make decisions about seeking medical care for possible COVID-19.



Source: [CDC Recommendations for Schools](#)

Vaccinations

The COVID-19 vaccines continue to be available to anyone interested in receiving vaccines and boosters through public health providers. Families and staff can get more information from [the CDC](#), [Tarrant County Public Health](#) and consult their physician for guidance on vaccine information.

Hygiene and Cleaning

Good hygiene practices will support health and wellness for our students, staff, and guests.

- **Good hand hygiene includes hand washing often:**

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.

It's especially important to wash:

- Before eating or preparing food
- Before touching your face
- After using the restroom
- After leaving a public place
- After blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing
- After handling your mask
- After changing a diaper
- After caring for someone sick
- After touching animals or pets

- If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.



- **Cover coughs and sneezes:**

- While masks are optional, if you are wearing a mask: You can cough or sneeze into your mask. Put on a new, clean mask as soon as possible and wash your hands.

If you are not wearing a mask:

- Always cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or use the inside of your elbow and do not spit.
- Throw used tissues in the trash.



- Immediately wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not readily available, clean your hands with a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.

- Hand sanitizer will be available in classrooms and common spaces.
- Staff and students will be expected to regularly follow hygiene procedures including handwashing/sanitizing and cough/sneeze covering.

Cleaning high touch surfaces can also reduce the risk of the transmission of communicable diseases, including COVID-19.

- Custodial services will enhance cleaning of doorknobs, tables, and other high touch surfaces in common areas, restrooms, and high traffic areas. Classrooms, offices, and other spaces will receive regular cleaning of high touch surfaces.
- If someone is sick or has tested positive for COVID-19, the District custodial staff will disinfect frequently touched surfaces and concentrate on areas occupied by the person who is reported to be positive. The District uses products from the EPA's List N: Disinfectants for Coronavirus (COVID-19) external icon according to manufacturer's labeled directions.

Disinfection Process

- All areas will be disinfected with a hospital-grade disinfectant. (Used daily.)
- Electrostatic sprayers are used to ensure that all surface areas are disinfected, including, but not limited to, desks, doorknobs, keyboards, tables, etc.

Custodial Services Equipment

- N95 face masks
- Gloves
- Electrostatic sprayers
- Misters, hand-held sprayers, foggers

Custodial Services Materials

- Keller ISD uses a hospital-grade disinfectant daily
- Oxivir Tb
- Microfiber color coded by area
- Hand sanitizer (already dispersed to all campuses)



- If surfaces are dirty, the District staff will clean them using detergent or soap and water prior to disinfection.
- Facilities will also manage and maintain air systems and filters will be regularly changed.

Physical Distancing

The District is prepared to implement physical distancing opportunities whenever possible as recommended under CDC guidance, generally between 3 to 6 feet depending on the setting and level of community spread of COVID-19.

The District has the options for any of the following distancing measures to be implemented as appropriate:

- Floor markers
- Seat markers
- Line / Hall markers
- Desk spacing
- Cohorting / podding

Face Coverings / Masks

While encouraged for mitigation and supported for all those who choose to wear one, cloth face coverings or masks are optional and not required for students, staff, or guests at Keller ISD. The [Governor's Executive Order GA-36](#) and the [Keller ISD Board of Trustee's Resolution on Safety Protocols](#) updating policy CB(Local) prohibit any requirement of masks. Individuals with disabilities or other medical or special needs that may require additional mitigation should contact their campus for individual assessment and support.

Adapted from Source: CDC [\(1\)](#)[\(2\)](#)[\(3\)](#)

Response

The District is prepared to respond to positive COVID-19 cases. The response process is intended to quickly identify and contain cases before they can spread to others. This requires quick reporting of positive cases on the part of families and staff along with the isolation of the sick individual. Diagnostic testing is widely available through [Tarrant County Public Health Screening and Testing](#) resources as well as local physician, clinic, hospital, and pharmacy sources. The District will continuously evaluate the need to re-instate a COVID19 testing project and implement as necessary according to state and county guidance.



Student Confirmed Case

When a student tests positive or is diagnosed with COVID-19:

- The student must remain home until completing the required isolation protocol per the Texas Administrative Code 97.7.
 - The student may return to school after meeting the following conditions (Isolation Protocol):
 - At least 10 days have passed since either symptom onset or from the date a positive test was collected, **and**
 - At least 24 hours have passed since resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications, **and**
 - Other symptoms have improved, **and**
 - The student did not have severe symptoms at any point during their illness.
 - For students who never develop symptoms, isolation and other precautions can be discontinued 10 days after the date of their first positive viral test.
 - If a student experiences severe illness with COVID-19, is immunocompromised, required hospitalization, or if any other complication was identified by a physician that might indicate a longer period of infectiousness, then isolation for up to 20 days after symptom onset is required.
- The student should be in isolation as much as possible in the home to prevent the spread to others.
- If the student has any siblings in the home, it is also recommended that they remain home to minimize the risk of transmission to others. If the student's parent is an employee of the District, the employee should remain home and contact their supervisor for direction.

Adapted From Source: CDC & TAC

Employee Confirmed Case

When an employee tests positive or is diagnosed with COVID-19:

- The employee must remain home until completing the required isolation protocol.
- The employee will immediately contact their supervisor who will inform Human Resources and complete online self-reporting tool.
- As soon as illness is reported to the District, the internal contact tracing protocols for illness in school will be conducted. The employee may return to work after meeting the following conditions (Isolation Protocol):



If there are no symptoms or mild symptoms, the, the following criteria is applicable:

- At least 5 days have passed since either symptom onset or from the date a positive test was collected **and**
- At least 24 hours have passed since resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications.
- IF you have not symptoms, or your symptoms are resolving after 5 days, then you can return to work on day 6, but you must wear a face covering around others for days 6-10.
- If you develop a fever (100F or higher) or your symptoms have not improved, please remain home and contact the HR office for additional guidance.

For highly symptomatic cases or cases with fever (100F or higher): the following applicable:

- At least 10 days have passed since either symptom onset of from the date a positive test was collected **and**
- At least 24 hours have passed since resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications **and**
- Other symptoms have improved.
- You did not have severe symptoms at any point during your illness.

- If an employee experiences severe illness with COVID-19, is immunocompromised, required hospitalization, or if any other complication was identified by a physician that might indicate a longer period of infectiousness, then isolation for up to 20 days after symptom onset is required.
- The employee should be in isolation, as much as possible, in the home to prevent the spread to others.
- If the employee has any students or other District employees in the home, it is recommended that they also remain home to minimize the risk of transmission to others.

Adapted From Source: [CDC](#)

Student Illness Detected in School

Teachers will be provided a recognition training for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 for quick detection in the classroom and on campus. This will reduce over alerting when seasonal allergies and other factors are present, such as seasonal flu. Teachers and staff are NOT meant to diagnose but to be a reporter of concern for COVID like symptoms as needed and trained nurses will provide clinical assessments, but a COVID test will not be administered by school staff. If a concern is present in the classroom or on campus, then:

- The nurse or campus designee will be contacted. The nurse will provide a clinical assessment to determine if and when a student needs to be sent home.



- Students who are ill should be picked up within 30 minutes and no later than 1 hour from the time the campus contacted the student's parent/guardian.
- Individual case assessment will determine if the classroom requires further sanitation.
- Contact tracing will be conducted for **special circumstances as warranted**.
- Upon confirmation of a diagnosed case, District communication will be provided to the parents of students who share a class with a COVID-19 positive student or staff member.
- Reporting will be made to Tarrant County Public Health Department as required for communicable diseases.

Contact Tracing for Close Contacts

A close contact is determined by distance and time with an infectious person. Contact tracing of close contacts for students is initiated by the trained staff of Health Services Department for special circumstances. Nurses will lead this effort and will be supported by campus and district administration. The identity and health information of students will be protected. And, when the special circumstances are identified by the nurse, the teacher and nurse will collaborate to identify students who may have had exposure to the positive individual.

Source: [CDC](#)

Quarantine Protocol

The purpose of quarantine is to break the transmission cycle of disease by removing potentially infected persons from the environment to prevent further exposures and infections. While the Keller Independent School District does not intend to manage close contact quarantines in the 2022-2023 school year, parents may choose to quarantine their child based on their family situation. It is recommended that individuals follow the guidance of their healthcare provider and/or Tarrant County Public Health regarding exposure and quarantine management. A positive case in the home involving someone other than the student or employee becoming ill should consult their physician and/or Tarrant County Public Health, then follow the recommended guidance or quarantine options provided by either the doctor or public health official to prevent the continued spread of COVID-19.

Any symptoms that appear or positive test results received during quarantine should be reported immediately to a medical professional and positive test results should be reported to the District through the [online case self-reporting tool](#).



Employee Illness at Work

If an employee becomes ill at work, they should immediately isolate themselves and contact their healthcare provider. If fever or other symptoms of a communicable illness are present, they must leave work and contact their supervisor. For identified positive employee cases, supervisors will coordinate with Human Resources to conduct internal contact tracing as needed and make notifications to those who should monitor themselves due to exposure in the work environment. Anyone who may have been exposed will be notified through a contact tracing protocol. The identity of the individual who is ill or tests positive cannot and will not be shared with anyone in the contact tracing process.

If exposures to students are identified in this process, then the student and employee contact tracing processes and communication procedures will be integrated.



Board Resolution on Safety Protocols

Resolution of the Keller Independent School District Board Regarding ESSER III, Safety Protocols, and Policy CB(LOCAL): State and Federal Revenue Sources

WHEREAS, on April 28, 2021, TEA notified school districts of the opportunity to apply for their allocation of the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief III (ESSER III) Fund, which should be used to respond to the pandemic and to address student learning loss as a result of COVID-19;

WHEREAS, TEA published guidance regarding how these funds can be used and local compliance requirements school districts must follow, including a recommendation that districts develop local board policy to address how the district will provide the required public notice regarding federal grants and awards for consistency;

WHEREAS, Texas Education Code 11.151 gives the Board of Trustees the exclusive power and duty to govern and oversee the management of the public schools of the District;

WHEREAS, the Board finds that a need exists to adjust local policy provisions to address public notice for federal grants and awards and approval of required grant plans;

WHEREAS, Governor Abbott issued Executive Order GA34 allowing wearing face coverings to be optional, and the Texas Education Agency issued public health guidance allowing Boards of Trustees to make wearing of face coverings optional;

WHEREAS, on May 17, 2021 Keller ISD communicated an intent to allow safety protocols, including face mask requirements, to expire beginning June 1, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Governor Abbott then issued Executive Order GA36 on May 18, 2021, that prohibits school districts and other governmental entities from mandating the wearing of a face covering.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of Keller Independent School District:

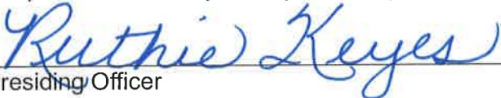
RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Keller Independent School District determines that the District will make the wearing of face coverings, including masks, optional beginning June 1, 2021. Attendees of District events that occur off District property will follow the masking requirements of the venue at which the event is held. All other safety protocols will also be allowed to expire on June 1, 2021. The administration is directed to continue to consult with local and state health officials in determining if safety measures are necessary in the future.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of Keller Independent School District adopts the following text for inclusion at CB(LOCAL), State and Federal Revenue Sources:

- The District shall provide public notice of federal grant applications through an information item at a Board meeting and by publishing information on the District's website. The District shall make available opportunities for public input as required by law or the granting agency.
- Approval of required grant and award plans shall be by the Superintendent.

The change to CB(LOCAL) is effective based on the adoption date of this resolution.

Adopted this 24th day of May, 2021, by the Board of Trustees.



Presiding Officer



Secretary



Governor's Executive Order GA-36

Executive Order

BY THE
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF TEXAS

Executive Department
Austin, Texas
May 18, 2021

EXECUTIVE ORDER
GA 36

Relating to the prohibition of governmental entities and officials from mandating face coverings or restricting activities in response to the COVID-19 disaster.

WHEREAS, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, issued a disaster proclamation on March 13, 2020, certifying under Section 418.014 of the Texas Government Code that the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) poses an imminent threat of disaster for all counties in the State of Texas; and

WHEREAS, I issued Executive Order GA-34 on March 2, 2021, to open Texas 100 percent and remove face-covering requirements; and

WHEREAS, since then, COVID-19 hospitalizations and the rate of new COVID-19 cases have continued their steady decline; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order GA-34 specifically provides that "no person may be required by any jurisdiction to wear or to mandate the wearing of a face covering," and, notwithstanding that order, some local governmental entities have caused confusion by nonetheless purporting to require face coverings; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order GA-34 also provides that "there are no COVID-19-related operating limits for any business or other establishment," that any "conflicting order issued by local officials in response to the COVID-19 disaster" is superseded, and that all relevant statutes are suspended to the extent necessary to preclude inconsistent local orders; and

WHEREAS, to further ensure statewide uniformity, and based on the continued improvement of conditions in Texas, revised standards are appropriate to achieve the least restrictive means of combatting COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, in the Texas Disaster Act of 1975, the legislature charged the governor with the responsibility "for meeting ... the dangers to the state and people presented by disasters" under Section 418.011 of the Texas Government Code, and expressly granted the governor broad authority to fulfill that responsibility; and

WHEREAS, under Section 418.012, the "governor may issue executive orders ... hav[ing] the force and effect of law;" and

WHEREAS, under Section 418.016(a), the "governor may suspend the provisions of any regulatory statute prescribing the procedures for conduct of state business ... if strict compliance with the provisions ... would in any way prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with a disaster;" and

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE
12:15 P.M. O'CLOCK

MAY 18 2021



WHEREAS, under Section 418.018(c), the “governor may control ingress and egress to and from a disaster area and the movement of persons and the occupancy of premises in the area;” and

WHEREAS, under Section 418.173, the legislature authorized as “an offense,” punishable by a fine up to \$1,000, any “failure to comply with the [state emergency management plan] or with a rule, order, or ordinance adopted under the plan;”

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the State of Texas, do hereby order the following on a statewide basis effective immediately:

1. No governmental entity, including a county, city, school district, and public health authority, and no governmental official may require any person to wear a face covering or to mandate that another person wear a face covering; provided, however, that:
 - a. state supported living centers, government-owned hospitals, and government-operated hospitals may continue to use appropriate policies regarding the wearing of face coverings; and
 - b. the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, the Texas Juvenile Justice Department, and any county and municipal jails acting consistent with guidance by the Texas Commission on Jail Standards may continue to use appropriate policies regarding the wearing of face coverings.
2. Notwithstanding the above, public schools may continue to follow policies regarding the wearing of face coverings to the extent reflected in current guidance by the Texas Education Agency, until June 4, 2021. The Texas Education Agency shall revise its guidance such that, effective 11:59 p.m. on June 4, 2021, no student, teacher, parent, or other staff member or visitor may be required to wear a face covering.
3. This executive order shall supersede any face-covering requirement imposed by any local governmental entity or official, except as explicitly provided in paragraph numbers 1-2. To the extent necessary to ensure that local governmental entities or officials do not impose any such face-covering requirements, I hereby suspend the following:
 - a. Sections 418.1015(b) and 418.108 of the Texas Government Code;
 - b. Chapter 81, Subchapter E of the Texas Health and Safety Code;
 - c. Chapters 121, 122, and 341 of the Texas Health and Safety Code;
 - d. Chapter 54 of the Texas Local Government Code; and
 - e. any other statute invoked by any local governmental entity or official in support of a face-covering requirement.

Pursuant to the legislature’s command in Section 418.173 of the Texas Government Code and the State’s emergency management plan, the imposition of any such face-covering requirement by a local governmental entity or official constitutes a “failure to comply with” this executive order that is subject to a fine up to \$1,000, beginning at 11:59 p.m. on May 21, 2021.

4. Under Executive Order GA-34, business activities and legal proceedings are free to proceed without COVID-19-related limitations imposed by local governmental entities or officials, in all counties not in an area of high hospitalizations as defined in that executive order. Executive Order GA-34 also superseded any conflicting local order in response to the COVID-19 disaster, and directed that all relevant laws

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SECRETARY OF STATE
12:15 PM O'CLOCK
MAY 18 2021



are suspended to the extent necessary to preclude any such inconsistent local orders. Pursuant to the legislature's command in Section 418.173 of the Texas Government Code and the State's emergency management plan, the imposition of any conflicting or inconsistent limitation by a local governmental entity or official constitutes a "failure to comply with" this executive order that is subject to a fine up to \$1,000, beginning at 11:59 p.m. on May 21, 2021.

This executive order supersedes subparagraph numbers 1(b) and 2(c)(iii) of Executive Order GA-34, but does not otherwise supersede Executive Orders GA-10, GA-13, GA-34, or GA-35. This executive order shall remain in effect and in full force unless it is modified, amended, rescinded, or superseded by the governor. This executive order may also be amended by proclamation of the governor.



Given under my hand this the 18th
day of May, 2021.

Handwritten signature of Greg Abbott in black ink.

GREG ABBOTT
Governor

ATTESTED BY:

Handwritten signature of Ruth R. Hughs in black ink.

RUTH R. HUGHS
Secretary of State

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE
12:15 PM O'CLOCK

MAY 18 2021

