



# School Opening and Instructional Continuity Plan

2022-2023



Dr. Jaime Aquino  
SUPERINTENDENT

*Last Revised: August 29, 2022  
This is a living document. Changes will be incorporated by SAISD on a regular basis.  
Updates to this plan will be tracked in the Table of Contents.*

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Dear SAISD Familia:

Welcome to the 2022-23 school year! Thank you for trusting us with your most precious treasure: your children. We pledge to preserve that trust each and every day.

We are committed to ensuring that your child is able to dream big and graduate prepared to be a productive member of our society. Every day we will work diligently to ensure your child receives the best education possible – one that will allow them to pursue a life without boundaries.

We care equally about your child's health and safety, and social and emotional well-being. We recognize that the pandemic and recent school tragedies have taken a toll. You'll soon read how we have taken all necessary steps to make sure students and staff are healthy. At the same time, we will provide challenging and enriching academic experiences. Throughout this school year, our focus is to make your child's classroom learning engaging, joyful, and taking care to minimize the risks associated with the COVID pandemic.



We feel it is important to share with you how we will do this, and we encourage you to carefully review the following pages. This booklet outlines our plans to protect everyone in our care, to launch a safe and healthy school opening, and to continue your child's academic and social emotional recovery.

This plan is possible because of your input and the support of the federal "American Rescue Plan" (ESSER). It also is guided by the following organizations:

- Texas Education Agency
- San Antonio Metropolitan Health District
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- Aspen Institute for Education & Society
- Council of Chief State School Officers
- Council of Great City Schools

Your feedback is reflected in the contents of this document, and your voice will continue to inform our plans throughout the school year. I thank you in advance for your role in ensuring our schools remain as safe and as healthy as possible for our students.

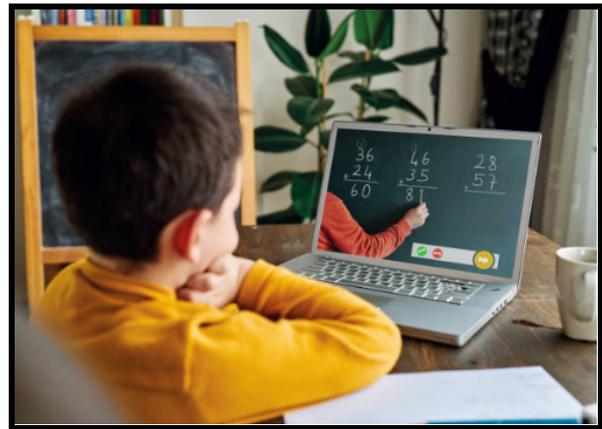
Again, welcome! We can't wait to offer your child an exciting school year where daily we make dreams a reality.

In service,  
Dr. Jaime Aquino  
Superintendent

San Antonio Independent School District (SAISD) is beginning the 2022-2023 school year by expecting all students to attend school in person, and by offering the full array of academic and student services in all of its schools. This guide booklet serves two purposes. First, it explains how we will meet that expectation by doing all that we can as a school district to create a healthy learning environment this year. This means mitigating the effects of COVID so we are able to keep as many of our students and faculty in attendance every day. It also means employees and students may have to be isolated if they test positive, or quarantined if they come in close contact with someone who has COVID. Second, it explains what we are doing to ensure academic and instructional continuity. We know that the best learning experience for our students occurs in our classrooms. Every healthy student should attend every day of school.

San Antonio ISD's 2022-23 COVID Readiness Plan is informed by the following guiding principles.

- **Health and Safety:** At SAISD, we know that in-person, in-classroom learning experiences are most effective for making sure that all students learn. We are committed to keeping our schools and classrooms open whenever possible and to mitigating the effects of the COVID pandemic on our students, their families, and our faculty and staff. Therefore, we are steadfast in employing strict measures to preserve the health and safety of our students, families and staff. San Antonio ISD is also dedicated to the social emotional well-being of our students. This includes creating physically and psychologically safe and nurturing spaces.



- **High-Quality Instruction:** San Antonio ISD is committed to ensuring high-quality academics.
- **Educational Equity:** San Antonio ISD respects the cultural and linguistic heritages of our students, families, and staff, and pledges to distribute human and financial resources in ways that meet their diverse and unique needs.
- **Accurate and Timely Communication:** San Antonio ISD will provide timely and transparent communication to students, families, and staff.

## COVID HEALTH & SAFETY



SAISD wants you to be assured that we remain steadfast in our commitment to the health and well-being of our students, families, faculty and staff. We strongly recommend that everyone wears a mask. The San Antonio Metropolitan Health District continues to state that "as long as both parties are properly masked, then no exposure." To this end, we will continue to provide mask supplies for those who request them.

We also know that with frequent testing, we are better able to identify those who have COVID and get them proper care, as well as isolate them and quarantine those who they might have exposed to help slow the spread of the virus. That is why we will continue to offer COVID-19 vaccination clinics and weekly testing, and we remain committed to our sanitation and air purification protocols.

We continue to follow updated recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Metro Health, and the Texas Education Agency (TEA). We will also monitor community risk levels and issue guidance for mask-wearing; other mitigating factors may change as needed. Pay attention to regular SAISD bulletins as well as this document for updates.

## MITIGATING THE EFFECTS OF THE COVID PANDEMIC



When maintaining the continuity of instruction, our highest priority is to keep teachers and students in the best of all learning environments – the classroom. For this reason we will do all that we can to keep our classrooms open by reducing the impact of COVID on our students and faculty.

The most important mitigating measure is wearing a mask indoors, especially when it is difficult to maintain social distance. Therefore SAISD strongly recommends everyone to wear a mask in our schools. The district will make masks available.

Other mitigating measures include getting vaccinated and updating your vaccination with appropriate boosters, getting tested when you have symptoms, routine hand washing and sanitizing, quarantining exposed students and employees with symptoms, and isolating students and employees who have tested positive.

### **Mask Wearing**

SAISD strongly recommends that everyone wear a mask if they are indoors and unable to maintain 6 feet physical distance from others when the community risk level is high. When the community risk level is medium, then employees are encouraged to wear masks when indoors and when physical distancing is not possible. When the community risk level is low, then mask-wearing is optional and is left to the individual's discretion. Masks should also be worn outdoors when in congregate settings and when physical distancing cannot be maintained.

The district will continue to review recommendations from the City of San Antonio, San Antonio Metropolitan Health and CDC for updates on guidelines for mask wearing.

The CDC has developed the COVID-19 Community Levels as a tool to help communities decide what prevention steps to take based on the latest data. Levels can be low, medium, or high and are determined by looking at hospital beds being used, hospital admissions, and the total number of new COVID-19 cases in an area. Metro Health's guidance closely aligns with the guidance from CDC. Another factor that is important to consider when decisions are made about risk levels is the positive rate for the community.

Low	Medium	High
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stay <a href="#">up to date</a> with COVID-19 vaccines</li> <li><a href="#">Get tested</a> if you have symptoms</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If you are <a href="#">at high risk for severe illness</a>, talk to your healthcare provider about whether you need to wear a mask and take other precautions</li> <li>Stay <a href="#">up to date</a> with COVID-19 vaccines</li> <li><a href="#">Get tested</a> if you have symptoms</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wear a <a href="#">mask</a> indoors in public</li> <li>Stay <a href="#">up to date</a> with COVID-19 vaccines</li> <li><a href="#">Get tested</a> if you have symptoms</li> <li>Additional precautions may be needed for people <a href="#">at high risk for severe illness</a></li> </ul>
<p>People may choose to mask at any time. People with symptoms, a positive test, or exposure to someone with COVID-19 should wear a mask.</p>		

**Vaccine Clinics**

San Antonio ISD continues to provide ongoing opportunities for all eligible students, families, and staff to get vaccinated against COVID-19. For a complete list of vaccination opportunities, please visit the [School Safety Hub](#). Information will continue to be updated as health care providers partner with the district.

**Employee Vaccination Expectations**

SAISD employees may voluntarily upload a vaccine card or request a religious or medical exemption [by clicking this link](#) or using this QR code.



The upload through the link works using your phone/tablet camera. From a laptop or desktop computer, the photo will need to be saved on your device prior to completing the form.

Individuals who are unable to get a vaccine due to medical reasons or religious beliefs may submit a [request for an accommodation to Human Capital Management by using the form available at this link](#). Once the information is reviewed, a final determination will be made regarding the request for the accommodation. Contact Human Capital Management for questions or more information – (210) 354-9500.

Individuals are considered to be fully vaccinated two weeks after they have completed the required dose (Johnson & Johnson) or doses (Pfizer or Moderna) for the vaccine.

**Hand Washing**

Students will continue to be instructed on [proper handwashing](#) and will be provided time within the school day to wash their hands.

## Sanitizing

Alcohol-based hand sanitizer dispensers are located in each classroom, as well as throughout common areas on each campus. As recommended by the CDC, the district's alcohol-based hand sanitizer contains at least 60% alcohol.

## Cleaning and Disinfecting

Both horizontal and vertical high-touch surfaces in learning areas are cleaned daily using an Environmental Protective Agency (EPA) approved cleaning and disinfecting solution, followed by weekly surface treatment using an electrostatic applicator. High-touch surfaces in common areas such as hallways and bathrooms are cleaned and disinfected several times daily using the EPA-approved solution. The district also employs an additional measure of disinfection by applying a non-toxic, water-based, surface barrier protectant that continuously kills pathogens for up to 30 days.



[Cleaning and disinfecting](#) will be required frequently on high-touch surfaces in common areas (e.g., door handles, sink handles, drinking fountains) within the school and on school buses at least daily or between use as much as possible. Use of shared objects (e.g., gym or physical education equipment, art supplies, toys, and/or games) should be limited when possible or cleaned between uses.

All spaces occupied by a person who tests positive for COVID-19 will be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected within 24 hours.

## Water Systems

To minimize the risk of illness associated with drinking from the same water fountain, all campuses will have at least one water bottle filling station. Students and staff will be asked to bring a refillable water bottle daily.

## Air Filtration

The district continues to implement an aggressive preventive maintenance program of the HVAC systems to ensure systems are functioning as intended. In response to COVID-19, staff moved early to improve the air filtration of these systems by changing standard filters to higher efficiency filters designated as MERV-11. These filters are intended to remove micro particles from the air as they move through air handling devices.

With the issuance of more recent guidelines of Indoor Air Quality by the CDC and ASHRAE (American Society of Heating, Refrigeration, and Air Conditioning), the district is now using MERV-13 high efficiency filters where possible.

Air and surface cleaning devices are also deployed in all learning and eating spaces. These units combine multiple complementary technologies, including HEPA, activated carbon, and ActivePure® Technology. Patented ActivePure is an advanced surface and air purification technology. It has been proven to reduce over 99.9% of many common airborne and surface contaminants, including SARS COV-19.

### School Buses

Students will be seated two to a seat, hand sanitizer stations will be available, buses will be sanitized after every route, every other window will be open, and roof hatches will be open (weather permitting). Masks are strongly recommended for individuals riding school buses. Disposable masks are available to students without one.



### Child Nutrition Services

Child Nutrition Services offers a variety of meal programs to meet the nutritional needs of students. All meals provided are free of charge and comply with the nutritional requirements and program regulations administered by the Texas Department of Agriculture and the United States Department of Agriculture, including the USDA'S Smart Snacks in School (Federal Register 7 CFR Parts 210 and 220). A variety of food items are offered daily in district cafeterias to promote student choice and a healthy eating environment. A detailed food safety plan has also been implemented to ensure a clean and safe environment for students. Meals are also available to students in quarantine. For more information, please call (210) 554-2290.

### Volunteers

Volunteers are welcome on campuses to assist with school needs. Please contact your [campus](#) or [FACE Specialist](#) to inquire about volunteer opportunities. In order to ensure the safety of district staff, students, and families, all volunteers are encouraged to wear a face mask while on campus and follow district health and safety protocols. Complete the 2022-2023 volunteer application by visiting [www.saisd.net/volunteer](http://www.saisd.net/volunteer).

### Visitors

Parents and community members are welcome on campuses and other buildings for school/district business, enrollment support, parent-teacher conferences, parent nights, meetings, etc. To maintain the safety and security of the campus for the students and staff, the district requires that all visitors, including parents, first report to the main office where they will be asked to sign in, declare their purpose for the visit, and obtain authorization for the visit. When arriving on campus, all parents and other visitors should be prepared to show identification. School officials shall prohibit and, if appropriate, remove any unauthorized person from the campus.

Visits to classrooms during instructional time are permitted only with approval of the principal/designee and teacher, so long as their duration or frequency does not interfere with the delivery of instruction or disrupt the normal school environment. Visits to other areas, such as the cafeteria during lunch, are also subject to approval by the principal/designee, and visitors are required to report to the main office to sign in and receive authorization prior to entering these areas. At the conclusion of the visit, the visitors must return to the main office and sign out. San Antonio ISD encourages all visitors in its campuses and administrative buildings to be masked.

### Service Providers

Service providers that have been approved by the district may continue to visit campuses or other administrative buildings for district meal service, approved deliveries, facilities/maintenance requests, social emotional support, and to provide other services that directly support the educational needs of students. Service providers working in San Antonio ISD campuses or administrative buildings are encouraged to be masked.

Private or outside service providers for students who are not contracted by the district, or who are not district employees, will not be permitted on campus to visit with, observe, or provide services to the student while at school. Parents/guardians shall arrange for any services from non-district private providers to occur outside of school facilities.

## COVID SYMPTOMS & TESTING



One successful way to stop the spread of COVID is to know when you have it. If you have symptoms, you should make certain whether you are carrying the virus. Testing is the best way to find out for sure. Employees, students, substitutes, and visitors/volunteers who are experiencing symptoms or have been diagnosed with any illness or infectious disease should not report to school or work. The most important thing they can do is to stay home and get better.

Individuals who are experiencing symptoms of COVID should seek advice from a medical provider as necessary and/or test for COVID.

COVID-19 Symptoms may include:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath/difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- Sore throat
- New loss of taste or smell
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

### Strategies for Everyday Operations

- Many prevention measures recommended to help prevent COVID also help prevent the spread of other infectious diseases.
- Strategies schools and ECE program should promote, emphasize, and implement whether COVID-19 is circulating in the community or not:
  - Staying up-to-date on vaccinations
  - Staying home when sick
  - Improving ventilation
  - Washing hands and covering coughs and sneezes
  - Cleaning surfaces at least once a day.

## COVID Testing

Regular testing continues to be considered a reliable way to quickly identify who has COVID. SAISD will continue to offer access to COVID testing to our students and staff through multiple vendors. Currently SAISD is awaiting funding from TEA for no-cost COVID tests and seeking partners to offset costs. SAISD anticipates that the district will have funding and sites established sometime in late August.

In the meantime, ACCUReference offers PCR testing at no cost to students, families and staff with proof of insurance. Without proof of insurance, individuals may be charged a fee. Rapid testing is also offered for a fee. Results are typically available within 24-48 hours.

- ACCUReference Quincy
  - Monday – Friday 7:30 am – 5:00 pm
- ACCUReference Alamo Stadium Lot B 110 Tuleta Drive 78212
  - Monday – Friday 10:00 am – 6:00 pm
  - Saturday - Sunday from 10:00 am – 3:00 pm
- ACCUReference SAISD Sports Complex (Next to Burbank HS)
  - Monday – Friday 9:00 am – 4:00 pm
  - Some dates may not be available due to scheduling of Athletics

Other sites that may offer free tests to students, families and staff include:

- Curative COVID Testing sites (mobile vans, kiosks, drive-through and indoor facilities), [which can be reached through this link](#). Please note that some of the sites do not offer free COVID tests.
- City of San Antonio provides testing locations, [which can be reached through this link](#). Please note that some of the sites do not offer free COVID tests.

Additionally, various medical and retail clinics also offer testing. Employees and families should provide proof of insurance, if insured, at many of these sites.

It is recommended that a staff member or student who receives inconclusive lab results, should re-test. Lab tests can be inconclusive for a number of reasons, such as when the sample gathered is insufficient.

Results from home test kits will not be accepted as official lab results.

Individuals should not test within 90 days of receiving positive results as some people may remain positive beyond their infectious period. The majority of the transmission occurs early in the course of illness: 1-2 days prior to onset of symptoms and the 2-3 days after.

## Notification Regarding Positive Cases

A general notice will be sent to parents of enrolled students and staff when a lab-confirmed case is identified for a campus, typically within 24-48 hours. An additional notice will be sent to parents who have children in a classroom where a lab-confirmed case is identified, typically within 24-48 hours.

Teachers and staff assigned to classrooms where students are identified as having lab-confirmed cases will be notified in a timely manner. Additional communication will be provided to employees when high risk exposures have been identified on the campus or in the department/building.

*Any time a student or staff member on your child's campus is identified as having a lab-confirmed COVID-19 positive case or as having been potentially exposed to the positive individual, the principal will send notification to the parents of impacted students.*

Employees may direct questions to the COVID Response Team at (210) 354-9500 or [COVIDQUESTIONS@saisd.net](mailto:COVIDQUESTIONS@saisd.net). [Examples of family communication letters can be found here on the SAISD Employee Portal.](#)

### **When and Who to Contact in Cases of COVID**

SAISD employees should provide immediate notification to their principal/immediate supervisor, and the Human Capital Management (210-354-9500) regarding COVID illness or exposure in these situations:

- Employees who have tested positive for COVID-19
- Employees with symptoms and who are being tested for COVID-19
- Employees who are symptomatic and have been in close contact (exposure) with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 as defined by CDC and Metro Health

SAISD has created two online forms, one for self-reporting a positive COVID test, and the other for self-reporting COVID exposure. Employees should also follow up as indicated below:

Immediately notify principal/immediate supervisor

Immediately notify Human Capital Management at (210) 354-9500 or via

- [COVID-19 Self Report](#) (office.com)
- [COVID -19 Exposure Self Report](#) (office.com)

Employees who have tested positive should contact their medical provider in the event that they qualify for additional treatment.

## **ISOLATION & QUARANTINE**



Students and employees with COVID should get well and prevent spreading the virus to others. Therefore, students or employees who have tested positive must stay home from work for a minimum of 5 calendar days, regardless of vaccination status or evidence of symptoms. Day "0" is the day that the symptoms began OR the day that the test was taken, whichever comes first. Individuals whose fever or symptoms persist, should remain at home and in isolation. Individuals with symptoms should isolate for at least 5 days even if they are awaiting testing results.

Individuals should only return to work/school following their isolation period of 5 calendar days if their symptoms are improving and they are fever-free without taking fever-reducing medications for 24 hours. Upon return, the district strongly encourages them to wear a well-fitting mask for 5 days. Individuals returning from isolation are not required to take a test, in accordance with guidance from the CDC and San Antonio Metropolitan Health.

### **Quarantine/Exposure**

Quarantine is no longer recommended. Individuals who have developed symptoms following exposure to someone who has tested positive should stay home for the appropriate period of time, pending test results. In these instances, the individual should test once symptoms develop. The individual should wear a mask for 10 full days as soon as he/she is aware they were exposed. The individual should get tested 5 days after exposure, even if no symptoms develop.

## Human Capital Management Determinations in Collaboration with Student Health Services

The SAISD Human Capital Management COVID Response Team and Student Health Services manage all decisions regarding isolation, quarantine or other next steps, including:

- Whether to send the affected employee/student home to isolate. Those guidelines can be found above.
- Whether to send any employees/students with symptoms home to quarantine. Those guidelines can be found above.
- Notifying affected employees and principals/supervisors regarding clearance for returning to work. Campus nurses notify parents for positive student cases. [Examples of family and employee communication letters can be found here on the SAISD Employee Portal.](#)
- Providing appropriate communication to staff and parents in accordance with HIPPA and FERPA guidelines. SAISD does not reveal or disclose personal information to individuals other than those who are required to know for supervisory and managerial purposes.

Throughout this time, HCM will maintain communication with affected employees and their principals/immediate supervisors to provide updates, information, and appropriate actions.

For more information on instructional lessons during a student's isolation or quarantine click on this [link](#).

### Contact Tracing

Student cases will be traced by the campus nurse using the following priority categories:

- Classrooms with multiple positive cases in one week or successive weeks
- Early Childhood classrooms
- Special Education classrooms (self-contained)
- Extra Curriculars (athletics, fine arts, JROTC)
- Teacher request
- Others as appropriate

Employee cases will be traced using the following rules:

- Staff cases will be assigned to a nurse by the COVID Response team.
- Individuals identified as close contacts will be contacted via email by the COVID Response team.

### Employee Wellness Leave

In the Summer of 2020, in an effort to support staff who were required to isolate due to COVID-19, the District began providing wellness leave to minimize the impact of employees having to use accrued personal leave. At that time, the isolation period had the potential to require the employee to have to use all of their allotted personal leave. The Wellness Leave Program was aimed at enhancing safety, while offsetting the use of personal leave.

This section highlights the changes to the Wellness Leave Program offered by the San Antonio Independent School District, as of September 15, 2022.

Wellness leave is available to full-time employees (including certain positions that may work less than 40 hours per week but are considered full-time) and long-term substitutes if certain criteria are met. Beginning September 1, 2022, wellness leave is available if: (1) The eligible employee is up to date with all COVID-19 vaccinations; or (2) has applied and been approved for a medical or religious exemption through Human Capital Management. Employees who do not meet the criteria do not qualify for wellness leave.

Current CDC guidance provides that an individual who has recently tested positive should isolate for five (5) calendar days from the date of testing or the date when symptoms began, whichever occurs first. Alternatively, an individual who has been identified as a close contact to another individual who has recently tested positive for COVID-19 may need to stay home (if symptomatic) for the appropriate period pending test results. Definitions of "exposure" and "isolation" can be found at the CDC website [here](#).

Wellness leave will only be offered when the qualified employee provides a lab-confirmed positive test result. Qualified employees must provide proof of having received all doses in the primary series and at least one booster (or be exempt), in order to qualify for wellness leave. The amount of wellness leave will depend on how many workdays remain in the 5 calendar-day isolation or quarantine period. Additionally, a positive employee or an employee who is a close contact will only be provided wellness leave (of up to 5 working days) once per occurrence.

Workday absences due to the employee's need to provide childcare (for a child who may be isolating or quarantining) will not be covered under wellness leave but the employee may use accrued personal leave.

If the employee is still feeling ill after the five (5) calendar day isolation period, they are encouraged to request personal leave until they feel well enough to return to work. Additionally, if a positive employee can return to work on day 6, they will be required to wear a well-fitted mask while at work until day 10.

The Wellness Leave Program and its eligibility criteria remain at the discretion of the District and are subject to change.

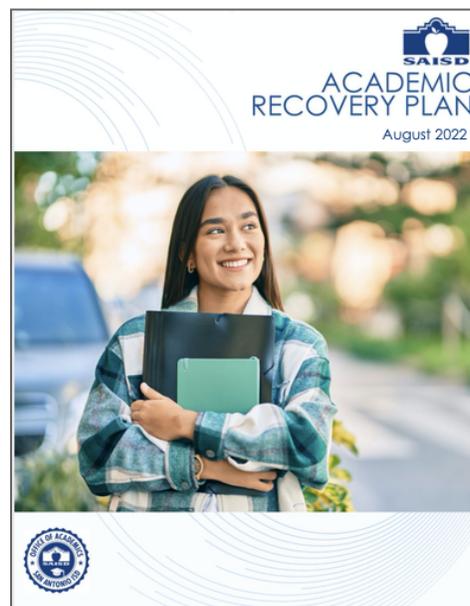
# ACADEMIC & INSTRUCTIONAL CONTINUITY



At SAISD we are excited to welcome our students back for in-person learning for the 2022-2023 school year. We know that students learn best in classrooms with their teachers and peers physically present. Therefore, we encourage every healthy student to attend every day of school.

In the section that follows, we provide information about what specific SAISD programs will be doing and about the tools that educators, students and families will use to maintain academic and instructional continuity under COVID conditions in 2022-2023. We will also describe what we are doing to minimize learning loss due to COVID and to promote a full academic recovery for all students.

Academic recovery is an umbrella term used to describe the range of support provided to students to mitigate learning loss due to the COVID 19 pandemic and ensure that students are on track for graduation and postsecondary success. The [SAISD Academic Recovery Plan](#) provides a comprehensive overview of the strategies working in concert to address learning loss. It describes support across five categories: Family & Community Engagement; Social, Emotional, & Academic Development; Instructional Continuity; Tiered Instruction; and Postsecondary Readiness. Each section includes an overview of the program or initiative, how it addresses academic recovery, and associated legacy documents to provide additional information and clarification.



## INSTRUCTIONAL CONTINUITY

- **Building A Learning Community** through [Social, Emotional, and Academic Development](#), [Culturally Responsive Teaching](#), and [Student Engagement](#).
- **Providing Rigorous On-Grade-Level Instruction** with Tiered Instructional Approaches, [Content-Based Language Instruction](#), and Holistic Biliteracy
- **Designing High-Quality Curriculum** with Instructional Frameworks, Aligned Curriculum Development Processes and Resources, and Leveraging Technology Tools.
- **Mitigating Learning Loss** by Monitoring Student Progress via [Formative Assessment](#), Attendance, Chronic Absenteeism, and Dropout Recovery, Extended Learning, Credit Recovery and Protection.
- **Professional Learning** with Professional Learning Communities and Equity Series.
- **Extracurricular Programming**

## DISABILITY SERVICES

- **Providing a Continuum of Supports** for Students through an Individualized Education Program.

## EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

- **Implementing The three E's** of the Early Childhood Academic Recovery Plan (Enroll, Engage, Empower).

## COLLEGE, CAREER, & MILITARY READINESS

- **Ensuring High-Quality Pathways to Career or College** through a Broad Range of Choices including P-Tech and Early College High School.

## Athletics

The Athletics Department has incorporated prevention, mitigation, and response measures in response to COVID-19. The San Antonio ISD [Return to Play Playbook](#) is intended to provide additional details regarding the shared commitments and protocols specific to district athletic and campus facilities. The current protocols for COVID-19 safety, including the San Antonio ISD Summer Strength and Conditioning Protocols, and COVID-19 Training for Cleaning and Disinfecting can be found on the [Athletics webpage](#). For the 2022-2023 school year the focus of the Athletics Department is to allow its athletes the opportunity to participate in sports in a safe format.

## Disability Services

The Department of Disability Services offers a full continuum of Special Education services, Dyslexia Intervention, and accommodations via Section 504 of the Americans with Disabilities Act, for eligible students. The District recognizes that students with disabilities may have unique needs that may impact their ability to participate meaningfully in different instructional settings. Additional considerations for these students may include learning style, access to specialized materials and equipment, and student health status, which should be addressed via the ARD or §504 Process. In the event that a student has a documented medical issue that may prevent the student from participating safely via in-person instruction, a parent should reach out to their child's campus to initiate consideration for [Homebound Services](#).

## Educational Technology

To ensure instructional continuity as a result of COVID-19, all students in grades Pre-K through 12 have access to robust [digital resources](#) that support in-person and virtual learning. SAISD will implement the four systems noted below to support families and students, maintain communication with the teacher and school, and to minimize any disruption to high-quality instruction.

Digital Tool	Grade Levels	Description
ClassLink Single Sign-On	PK-12	Provides access to educational apps, e-books, digital textbooks, and other digital tools. Students can easily access resources with a QR code.
Canvas LMS	K-12	Teachers publish their course content: lesson activities, assessments, videos, contact information, course syllabus and calendar.
Seesaw	PK-2	A digital portfolio and learning platform used in the lower grades to share and upload assignments for young children and serves as a communication tool for parents.
Zoom	PK-12	A web conferencing platform.

# ABOUT OUR ED TECH TOOLS

## CANVAS (K-12)



### ABOUT

Canvas is our district's official learning management system including features such as:

- Calendars and messaging
- Discussions
- Assignments & Quizzes
- Family engagement
- Campus admin communication tools
- Analytics and outcome tracking
- Integration with Google, Kami, and more

### AUDIENCE

Primary Resource for **K-12** COVID-19 Instructional Continuity

## SEESAW (PK-2)



### ABOUT

Seesaw is a digital portfolio and learning platform including features such as:

- Drawing tools
- Photo & video recording
- Activities & assignments
- Reflection and feedback tools
- Family engagement
- Campus admin communication tools and more

### AUDIENCE

Primary Resource for **PK** COVID-19 Instructional Continuity (Available for Grades PK-2)



In the 2022-2023 academic year, all classrooms in K-12 will utilize the Canvas Learning Management System as the primary platform that will serve as the central hub to communicate with students and families, and to publish student assignments. Canvas integrates with emerging technology and educational software apps such as Google, Microsoft, and Adobe, and incorporates dynamic communication tools including calendars, announcements, and discussion boards. It also supports the use of assistive technology with Immersive Reader, Closed Caption, video annotation, and language translators. A professional development presentation on Canvas is available in the [COVID Ready Webpage](#) under the teacher button or via this [link](#). Specific details on Canvas expectations are outlined in the presentation.

## CANVAS READINESS EXPECTATIONS

### Instructional Continuity Readiness via Canvas

All classrooms must be at-the-ready to support students as a result of COVID-19 absences whether by the teacher or student. In preparation, teachers will:

- **Publish your Canvas course(s).**  
K-5 publish 1 academic course to hold all curriculum content. 6-12 may cross-list different periods of the same course to develop content more efficiently.
- **Edit your homepage using the template provided by the district with built-in school banner.**  
Your homepage should include a welcome message and your contact information such as name, email, phone, etc.
- **Provide guided instruction for students to access and use Canvas.**  
Use Canvas Commons to import the module, Intro to Canvas for Students to guide students through using features like Pages, Assignments, and Quizzes. Also, import the Digital Citizenship lessons to support safety online.
- **Post a minimum of one assignment per week in the Canvas course to ensure continued practice for students.**  
Post an assignment one time per week for instructional continuity readiness. Teachers will choose the content for the assignment to post. The following slides provide 3 examples of suggested interactive assignments.
- **Provide parents/guardians codes to join student's Canvas course(s) as observers.**  
Offer on-going communication with parents through Canvas features such as calendar, announcements, and assignments.
- **Place 3 unpublished instructional lessons (sub-plans) in your course to be assigned directly to students by a campus team member in response to a teacher's absence.**  
Ensure that you have an Instructional Coach or co-teacher added to your course(s).



In Pre-Kindergarten, students will utilize the SeeSaw platform as the primary tool to communicate with students and families so as to minimize any disruption in daily instruction.

## SEESAW READINESS EXPECTATIONS

### Instructional Continuity Readiness via Seesaw

All classrooms must be at-the-ready to support students as a result of COVID-19 absences whether by the teacher or student. In preparation, teachers will:

- **Sign in to Seesaw through Classlink.**  
If you are a PK-2nd grade teacher, your Seesaw account will be automatically created by Frontline (our Student Information system) and you will access your Seesaw account using Classlink (our Single Sign On).
- **Provide guided instruction for students (and parents/guardians) to access and use Seesaw.**  
Offer direct instruction to students on how to open Seesaw via Classlink, accessing their classroom from the dashboard, and how to use the different features of Seesaw. Also, access the Digital Citizenship lessons through Seesaw's "School & District" Activity Library.
- **Post a minimum of one activity per week in the Seesaw classroom to ensure continued practice for students.**  
Post an activity one time per week for instructional continuity readiness. Teachers will choose the content for the activity to post. The following slides provide 3 examples of suggested interactive assignments.
- **Provide parents/guardians access to join student's journal entry(ies) as observers.**  
Offer parents the opportunity to view their student's journal by email address, mobile phone numbers, printed invites or shared invite links. Once approved by the teacher, parents/guardians will receive updates when their student shares something within their Seesaw journal.
- **Connect with your campus administrator and follow the plan to place 3 unpublished instructional activities (sub-plans) that could be assigned directly to students by a campus team member in response to a teacher's absence.**  
Ensure that you have an Instructional Coach or co-teacher added to your Seesaw class(es).



Campus administrators will ensure that all teachers and students have access to district-provided digital resources and devices and will offer professional development training on the use of Canvas and SeeSaw for Instructional Continuity. For more information on Canvas LMS or other digital tools and resources visit the [Educational Technology & Design Website](#).

### Fine Arts

The use of masks, playing masks, face shields, bell covers, and puppy shields are now optional in fine arts classes, both indoors and outdoors. All of these items are available through the teacher upon request. Teachers may request these items from the Fine Arts Department through their coordinator. Students should continue to refrain from sharing water bottles and towels. There are no restrictions on tumbling for cheer teams, pep squad, dance team, or fine arts dance classes.

# DIGITAL LEARNING PLAYGROUND



The SAISD Digital Learning Playground (DLP) is the district's continuous learning platform for students and families to engage in activities when students and/or teachers are away from school. Students and families can find student centered lessons and activities designed to engage students in continuous learning. Each DLP website features students' favorite digital learning activities such as academic and technology choice boards, family activities, self-care strategies, and resources for parents. The academic choice boards serve to review and reinforce taught content in all subject areas. Embedded in the lessons are supports such as Immersive Reader. All lessons are delivered in both English and Spanish to meet the needs of our students, and are available year round to supplement learning. Editions currently available are: [Winter Edition](#), [Spring Edition](#), [Summer Edition](#), [Quarantine Edition](#).



[Quarantine Edition](#)



[DLP Summer Edition](#)



[DLP Spring Edition](#)



[DLP Winter Edition](#)

# LEARNING IN QUARANTINE



Although we expect students to attend school in person during the 2022-2023 school year, students who are exposed to COVID may be required to isolate or quarantine.

In the event that a student is asked to isolate or quarantine due to COVID-19, SAISD offers a variety of resources available for continued learning at home. Refer to the [Isolation & Quarantine section](#) in this guide to read about the circumstances where a student might be quarantined.

In 2022-2023, teachers will use the Canvas Learning Management System for grades K-12 to maintain communication with students and families and to publish lessons so that students may continue their instruction. In addition, students will have access to the Digital Learning Playground Quarantine Edition that has a choiceboard of lesson activities and academic resources. The teacher may opt to assign these lessons as well.

In Pre-kindergarten, teachers will use SeeSaw as the central hub for communication with families and students and will be used to publish assignments when the student is absent. PK students will also have access to the [Digital Learning Playground Quarantine Edition choiceboard](#). The DLP lesson activities may be assigned by the classroom teacher.

## Resources

Parent Guide: Learning Resources for Students in Quarantine

- [www.saisd.net/learninginquarantine](http://www.saisd.net/learninginquarantine)

Digital Learning Playground Quarantine Edition Choiceboard

- [www.saisd.net/page/DLP-quarantine](http://www.saisd.net/page/DLP-quarantine)

**Parent Guide: Learning Resources for Students in Quarantine**

Instructional support for students in quarantine will be provided through the platforms below. Please visit [www.saisd.net/learninginquarantine](http://www.saisd.net/learninginquarantine) to access these resources.

- SAISD Digital Learning Playground: Quarantine Edition** Grades: PK-12  
Students and families can engage in continuous learning while outside the classroom through our Digital Learning Playground. SAISD's in-house platform. Activities provided include student academic choice boards, family activities, and self-care strategies.
- Istation** Grades: K-5  
Students have access to an adaptive literacy curriculum that provides personalized instruction. Istation is available through the SAISD ClassLink Single Sign-On and the Digital Learning Playground.
- Imagine Math** Grades: K-8  
Students have access to an adaptive math curriculum that provides personalized instruction. Imagine Math is available through the SAISD ClassLink Single Sign-On and the Digital Learning Playground.
- Instructional Support Through Edgenuity** Grades: 6-12  
Students have the opportunity to self-enroll in courses that will allow them to choose their own learning adventure. Activities provided include electives, career and technology, core classes, and test prep for assessments like the TSI or SAT. [Click here for login instructions.](#)

**Request a Device or Hotspot**

Contact your child's school to submit a request.

**Access SAISD ClassLink Single Sign-On**

Visit this link for directions.

**Request Tech Support or Password Reset**

Contact Help Desk at (209) 244-2929 or [helpdesk@saisd.net](mailto:helpdesk@saisd.net).

**Access Free Tutoring**

Connect with a tutor 24/7.

Remember that students' attendance will not be negatively impacted if they are enrolled, but temporarily unable to attend school because they are required to quarantine due to a COVID-19 exposure or positive test result.

**At Home Learning Activities**  
*En casa actividades de aprendizaje*  
Grades | *Grados* K - 1

**Istation**

adaptive reading software  
software de lectura adaptativa

**Imagine Math**

adaptive math software  
software de matemáticas adaptativa

Illustration of a child on a computer screen interacting with other children.

**Academic Choice Boards**  
Each button links to a week of choice activities to explore

**Juntas de elección académica**  
Cada botón enlaza con una semana de actividades de elección para explorar

1	7
2	8
3	9
4	10
5	11
6	12

**Academic Interactive Modules**  
Each button links to a multi-step interactive adventure

**Módulos académicos interactivos**  
Cada botón se vincula a una aventura interactiva de varios pasos

English		Español	
1	7	1	7
2	8	2	8
3	9	3	9
4	10	4	10
5	11	5	11
6	12	6	12

Students can access both Canvas and SeeSaw via the Classlink Website at [www.link.saisd.net](http://www.link.saisd.net). Students will learn about these platforms upon returning to school in the fall.

# FAMILY COMMUNICATION



We will provide families with the most up to date information as it pertains to COVID-19 in their child's classroom or school. Additionally, we will continue to communicate information on infections and other COVID-19 updates as it becomes available.

## Notification to Families

Any time a student or staff member on your child's campus is identified as having a lab-confirmed COVID-19 positive case or as having been potentially exposed to the positive individual, the principal will send notification to the parents of impacted students.

## School Safety Hub and Web Updates

The [School Safety Hub](#) will serve as a one-stop source to house communication updates to stakeholders. Major updates will also be highlighted on the [district home page](#) and the [Parents & Students webpage](#).

## COVID-19 Dashboard

San Antonio ISD will continue to publish a [weekly public report](#) with the number of lab-confirmed student and staff COVID-19 cases on each campus.

# SCHOOL UNIFORMS & DRESS CODE



All students must adhere to the district's dress code, which has been updated for the 2022-2023 school year.

The new policy expands clothing options for our students in all grades, with the exception of specialty campuses which may have their own dress code. Guidelines also allow students to wear their natural hairstyles and religious head coverings. The student dress code, including guidance for backpacks, can be found in the [Parent-Student Handbook](#) starting on page 49. A list of specialty schools who will follow their own dress code can be found at [www.saisd.net/dresscode](http://www.saisd.net/dresscode).

The district has several programs available to assist families with the purchase of uniforms. Student Applications are accepted for eligibility of a reduced and/or free polo shirt and khaki pants. Student uniform applications can be found on the campus websites under the Student or Parents dropdown menu.



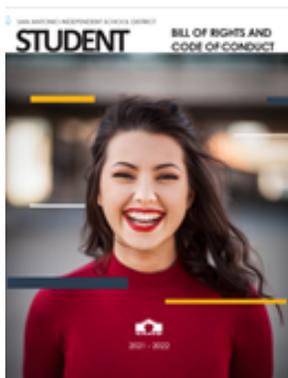
In addition to school uniform assistance, the district has support services available to families experiencing homelessness. Services for students experiencing homelessness include: school supplies, transportation and community referrals, for example. For more information about any of these services, please email [saisdschoolsocialworkers@saisd.net](mailto:saisdschoolsocialworkers@saisd.net) or call (210) 554-2635.

# STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT



The San Antonio Independent School District (SAISD) has adopted the 2022-2023 Student Code of Conduct (SCOC) to promote and maintain a positive, safe, and effective learning environment for students and adults.

The SCOC outlines the behavior that is not allowable at school or school-affiliated functions or events, on school grounds, or on district transportation so that students and adults are knowledgeable about expectations and standards of behavior.



It is a priority of San Antonio ISD for staff to implement a restorative and instructional approach using evidence-based best practices to respond to student behavior. The student code of conduct provides a repository of resources that lead to improved student outcomes. It also delineates behavior that is not allowed at school, possible disciplinary consequences, and the relevant procedures, protections, and law related to student discipline. [View the Student Code of Conduct](#)

# TECHNOLOGY



San Antonio ISD is a proud one-to-one district, offering each student access to their own laptop, tablet, or iPad. This 1:1 model allows the San Antonio ISD community the opportunity of "Learning Everywhere" and to thrive in this digital ever-changing world. For SAISD families that do not have access to reliable internet at home, the district offers several options for home connectivity, such as hotspots and LTE routers. These are available upon request to ensure that students are able to access their coursework anywhere.

[Tech Love and Care](#) promotes the proper care, use and handling of each student's device. Consistent maintenance and care will ensure optimal performance, longevity, and ideal physical condition of your technology device.

Students who need a personal device or home internet can contact their campus for assistance. Campuses may request devices from the Information Technology department by submitting a service request in the IT service portal.



Other questions about district-issued devices can be directed to the district's help desk. Staff members are available to take calls and answer any technology concerns.

- [Help Desk Webpage](#)
- [Tech Device Care Guidelines](#)
- [How to Request Devices](#)
- [Home Internet Options for Students](#)

## READY FOR SCHOOL RESOURCES



San Antonio ISD has a team of experts available to answer questions and provide support to families so all students are ready for school every day:

- For general questions or concerns, call (210) 554-2210 or visit [www.saisd.net/backtoschool](http://www.saisd.net/backtoschool).
- For enrollment assistance, call (210) 554-2660 or visit [www.saisd.net/enroll](http://www.saisd.net/enroll).
- For information about after school care, call (210) 554-2605 or visit [www.saisd.net/afterschool](http://www.saisd.net/afterschool).
- For questions about immunizations, call (210) 207-8750 or visit [www.saisd.net/vaccines](http://www.saisd.net/vaccines).
- For questions about transportation, call (210) 354-9320 or visit [www.saisd.net/transportation](http://www.saisd.net/transportation).
- For questions about school meals, call (210) 554-2290 or visit [www.saisd.net/nutrition](http://www.saisd.net/nutrition).
- For uniform assistance, call (210) 554-2635.

## INPUT & ENGAGEMENT



SAISD's Continuity of Instruction Plan benefits from the input of a wide range of people, including students, family members, community groups and employees. The following groups have been instrumental in providing guidance and direction on the San Antonio ISD plan.

### Back 2 School Task Force

The Back 2 School Task Force is an approximately 40-member team representing every department in the district. In addition, the following working groups were formed to contribute to the School Opening and Instructional Continuity Plan:

- Academics
- Access and Enrollment Services
- Accountability, Research, Evaluation, and Testing (ARET)
- Athletics
- Child Nutrition Services
- Communications
- Extended Day
- Human Resources
- Facilities
- Family & Community Engagement
- Procurement Services
- Financial Services
- Health Services
- Health & Safety
- Human Capital Management
- Information Technology
- Operations Services
- School Leadership
- School Operations and Supports
- Transportation

### Back to School Parent Town Hall

The district is hosting virtual parent town hall on August 10, 2022 to answer parent questions, provide updates on COVID-19 in the community, and communicate information on school safety for the 2022-2023 school year.

- [SAISD Safe School Start Town Hall](#)

## Collaboration with External Partnerships

SAISD is appreciative of the contributions of time and resources to assist in our school opening. We would like to acknowledge the following partners:

- 3M Foundation
- A+ Academics
- AFCEA Education Foundation
- ATT Center
- Beldon Roofing
- Brown & Ortiz
- Charles Butt Foundation
- City of San Antonio
- City of San Antonio Metropolitan Health District
- Communities in School
- Connect Campaign & Food and Necessities Campaign
- CPS Energy
- Firstmark Credit Union
- Frost Charitable Foundation
- Google Fiber
- Greehey Family Foundation
- GTS Solutions
- HEB
- ImmSchools
- Myra Pryor Stafford Charitable Trust
- Nature Sweet Foundation
- O'Connell Robertson
- Pearl
- Randolph-Brooks Federal Credit Union (RBFCU)
- Rotary Club
- SA YES
- SAISD Foundation
- San Antonio Area Foundation
- San Antonio Food Bank
- San Antonio Housing Authority
- Spectrum
- Spurs Give
- Spurs Sports & Entertainment
- Tech Bloc
- USAA
- USAA Foundation
- Valero Energy Foundation
- VIA
- Wells Fargo Foundation

## Principals

The Superintendent and his executive leadership team continue to meet on a weekly basis with school principals to prepare for the 2022-2023 school year. Principal feedback during this process is critical to planning and executing a safe plan for school opening.



## District Leadership Team (DLT)

The 48-member DLT committee, composed of campus-based professional staff, paraprofessional/classified staff, district-level professional staff, parents, and business and community members, will advise the Superintendent on various matters, including the School Opening and Instructional Continuity Plan.

## Teacher Advisory Council (TAC)

The 2022-2023 Teacher Advisory Council will provide ongoing feedback and guidance regarding the School Opening and Instructional Continuity Plan, as well as provide guidance on other topics relevant to academic programming.

### **Principal Advisory Council (PAC)**

The 2022-2023 Principal Advisory Council will provide ongoing feedback and guidance regarding the School Opening and Instructional Continuity Plan, as well as provide guidance on other topics relevant to academic programming and school leadership.

### **District Parent Advisory Council (DPAC)**

The 2022-2023 District Parent Advisory Council will provide ongoing feedback and guidance regarding the School Opening and Instructional Continuity Plan, as well as provide guidance on other topics relevant to academic programming and schooling.

### **Student Advisory Committee (SAC)**

Students from each of the comprehensive high schools will advise the Board of Trustees and the Superintendent on various matters, including the School Opening and Instructional Continuity Plan during the 2022-2023 school year.

## **ESSER FUND UPDATE**



The dollars allocated through the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund are critical to getting our teachers and students back on track and ready to tackle this school year and whatever lies ahead.

We have developed a comprehensive, working plan to ensure that students are back on track academically, socially, and behaviorally. San Antonio ISD will utilize ESSER funds to mitigate learning loss as a result of the pandemic. The Continuity of Services and ESSER Enhancement Plan outlines the district's priority areas and was informed by stakeholder engagement sessions, research, and survey data. San Antonio ISD will continue to engage stakeholders regularly as we continue to gather input on the plan in years 2 and 3.

Visit the [ESSER webpage](#) for more information, and to read the plan in English and Spanish or to request it in another language.

## **RESOURCES & CONTACT INFORMATION**



The information provided in this communication is based on what is currently known about the virus as a result of research and guidance from medical professionals. SAISD HR will provide updates as more information and guidance become available. Positivity rates in Bexar County and guidance from Metro Health and CDC will influence decisions.

For general information on COVID-19, visit the following:

Centers for Disease Control (CDC): <https://www.cdc.gov/cdc-info/index.html>.

San Antonio Metro Health at <http://www.sanantonio.gov/HEALTH>.

The SAISD HR COVID Team provides dedicated customer care, in English and Spanish. All COVID inquiries should be directed to COVID Team. These matters are not handled by Employee Benefits, Risk Management & Safety unless an employee is placed on leave. If you call and we are not able to respond immediately due to high call volume, please try again within an hour during normal business hours. The COVID Team is ready to answer your questions and provide more information by contacting us directly at (210) 354-9500 during normal business hours (8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.).