## U.S. Mail Guidelines and Procedures

- 1) All mail must have an address, which includes a physical address, city, state and zip code.
- 2) All mail must have a return address of your school or department.
- 3) Both the destination address and return address may be handwritten, typed or printed.
- 4) All addresses, either handwritten or labeled, must be in the center of the envelope. The destination address should NOT be lower than 5/8 inches from the bottom of the envelope; this is the barcode area.
- 5) If you are using a window envelope, a label may be placed over the window.
- 6) If you are using a window envelope, the entire address including the city, state and zip code must be visible inside of the window.
- 7) The letter must be folded properly to fit inside the envelope and **SHOULD NOT** obstruct the flap from folding over and sealing properly.
- 8) **ALL MAIL MUST BE INSIDE ENVELOPES**. Tri-folded and half-folded paper will jam and tear during the metering process.
- 9) Do not use crack-and-peel or self-sealing envelopes. These will need to be sealed by your campus or department before delivering to the mailroom.
- 10) Do not use red envelopes. Meter ink is red and is NOT visible on red envelopes.
- 11) Standard letter envelopes **MUST BE LEFT UNSEALED** with flaps up or down.
- 12) In large mail outs, please keep all handwritten letters separate from labeled and typed letters.
- 13) In large mail outs, please keep all letters and postcard addresses facing in the same direction.
- 14) All manila envelopes must be sealed. The meter machine cannot do this function.
- 15) If you are using manila envelopes with metal brads, the brad must be covered with tape in order to prevent damage to the meter machine.
- 16) All mail, including envelopes, flats and packages are picked up daily at 2:00 from the SAISD mailroom. Anything delivered after the deadline will be sent the following business day.

- 17) In the event of rain, please cover all mail to avoid water damage to the letters. Also, this will prevent them from sticking and gluing to each other.
- 18) Standard postcard dimensions are: 3.5" x 5" minimum and 4.25" x 6" maximum. All other postcard sizes will be metered at a letter rate. For metering purposes, we highly recommend using a non-glossy card stock paper to prevent jams and tearing.
- 19) Do not use glossy paper for postcards; the meter ink will smear.
- 20) A Printing Services Postage form, along with a budget code and authorized signature, must be provided for each mail out. This form is available for download at: www.saisd.net/printingservices

## **CONTACT INFORMATION:**

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