

# MT. ENTERPRISE ELEMENTARY



## An Overview of Reopening Plans for the 2020-21 School Year

### **Introduction**

Mt. Enterprise Elementary has been planning for what return to school will look like and feel like for our students, teachers, and families. The health and safety of our school community has been our priority as we plan for reopening for the 2020-21 school year. These plans are based on guidance from Texas Education Agency, plans from other districts, as well as, federal, state, and local agencies. As guidance changes, our plans will be revised.

***We are committed to the health and safety for all so that we do not contribute to the number of new Covid-19 cases.***

**Mt. Enterprise Elementary Instructional Considerations** for opening in August of 2020, based on Texas Education Agency guidelines, consist of in-person learning and virtual asynchronous learning.

**In-person instruction** is our traditional method of on campus, classroom learning between teachers and students interactions with one another.

**Asynchronous instruction** does not require having the teachers and students engaged at the same time. In this method, the students learn from the teachers' instruction that is not necessarily delivered in person or in real time. This type of instruction may include various forms of digital and online learning, such as prerecorded classroom video lessons.

### **Pre-Kindergarten-1<sup>st</sup> Grade Instruction**

Children that will be doing the in-person instruction method will be in their classrooms throughout the day unless switching to PE, music, lunch, or recess. We will try our best to make sure all children are as far apart as the classroom allows or separated by clear plexiglass/plastic while teaching is taking place. During any type of interactive, cooperative play inside of the classroom, students may be asked to wear a face covering if the parent complies. During transitions to specials/other activities, children will practice social distancing at all times.

### **2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Instruction**

Children that will be doing the in-person instruction method will be in one of their 2 classrooms throughout the day unless switching to their other class, PE, music, lunch, or recess. We will try our best to make sure all children are as far apart as the classroom allows or separated by clear plexiglass/plastic while teaching is taking place. During any type of interactive, cooperative play inside of the classroom, students (under the age of 10) may be asked to wear a face covering if the parent complies. Students 4<sup>th</sup> grade and up must wear a face covering throughout all transitions and stations. During transitions to specials/other activities, children will practice social distancing at all times.

### **School Closure Instruction**

In the event of a closure due to Covid-19, campus models are developed with instruction continuity in mind, so we can pivot to a Remote Asynchronous model for all students.

### **Arrival and Departure**

#### **Arrival**

*Student arrival times are 7:30 am – 7:55 am (Monday - Friday)*

- Students who will be eating breakfast must come through the cafeteria door that can be accessed by the bus lane/front parking lot. Our school resource officer will be available to monitor traffic flow. Students will have their temperature checked before entering the building and will be positioned 6 feet apart when waiting in line for breakfast. Students will sit in a spot in the cafeteria until the 7:50 bell.
- Students not eating breakfast will need to be dropped off in the circle drive. These students will have their temperature checked upon exiting the car and will go immediately to their grade level holding room until the 7:50 bell.

*Students arriving after the 7:55 bell, must come in the front, receive a temperature check and then will be given a tardy slip that they will bring to their teacher. 5 tardy slips will result in after school tutorials to make up for the time lost. We ask that you respect our 8:00 a.m. start time and only drop off late for doctor's appointments or other emergencies.*

## Departure

*Our doors will be locked throughout the day. We ask that if you need to pick your child up early for a doctor's appointment or other, you call the front office to let us know when you arrive. The sign out sheet will be right outside the front office doors. Please fill out the columns. We will call for the student and send them out while monitoring them. 5 "leave early" days will result in after school tutorials to make up for the time lost.*

**Students will not be released between 3:00 and 3:15 due to our office getting ready for dismissal.**

- We will continue to have 3 methods of drop off:
  - **Walk ups-** Walkups will be dismissed at 3:15. Mrs. Wigand and Mrs. Weaver will be at the gate to monitor children and get them to parents. Children will not be released out of the side gate (by stairs in the circle drive area) until teachers have made eye contact with parents. Each child's parent will receive a color-coded sign with the child's name to hold. We ask that you maintain social distancing/wear masks while in the crowd of our children. We appreciate your cooperation. Walk-ups is ideal for small children that take a while to get in the car, causing back up. When at all possible, we prefer parents stay in cars and wait in the circle drive. Our dismissal is very quick and smooth. Please do the walk up method if you are walking with your child, or need to get out of your vehicle to get children in the car. We also ask that you respect the parking area (do not block vehicles and do not park in the street).
  - **Bus Riders-** Bus riders will be released at 3:20. Mrs. Chapman will collect children in the upper elementary building, Ms. Downs will collect children from the primary building, and Ms. Stephens will collect children from the main office building. Teachers will lead and monitor them all while maintain social distancing as they walk them to the bus.
  - **Car Riders-** Car riders will be release at 3:25 or as soon as bus riders are out of all buildings. Older siblings will be allowed to go sit with their younger sibling. We will try our best to maintain social distancing while children get into cars. One homeroom teacher will be at poles to help children get into cars, one homeroom teacher will be monitoring the remainder of the class. Due to the anticipation of an increase in car riders, we ask that you stay in your vehicle so that we can move quickly.

## Attendance

- We will be required to take daily attendance with both face-to-face, in-person instruction and virtual, at-home distance learning models. For face-to-face, this means students will have to be present in-person and meet engagement measures in learning each day, to be counted as present for credit purposes. Daily Engagement Measures are required for attendance. "Engagement" is defined by TEA as daily progress or completion and submission of assignments.
- For Asynchronous Virtual Learning, attendance requirements (as required by the TEA) will be documented through daily engagement measures. The engagement method is described below:
  - Daily progress via teacher-student interactions and completion/turn-in of assignments from student to teacher online for a minimum of 180 minutes

(not necessarily consecutive) must occur each day to be considered present that day.

- There will be recommended times for log-ins to the school platform as well as required video chat Zoom sessions.
- Attendance Policy will be in place, as well as, Texas Education Code (TEC) 25.092, students must attend 90 percent of the school periods in order to be promoted to the next grade. This requirement remains in force during the 2020-2021 school year.
- Given the public health situation, student attendance may be earned through the delivery of virtual, at-home distance learning instruction.

### **Campus Visitors**

Mt. Enterprise Elementary will only allow visitors to the campus that have an appointment to meet with a teacher or the principal/superintendent. The front doors to the buildings will be locked throughout the school day. Visitors must answer the COVID screener questions and must be wearing a mask prior to entering the front office. If you need to drop something off to the front office for a delivery to a student/teacher, you may do so, however, you must comply with all requirements mentioned above or you can leave in the bucket outside of the front doors. This will be checked regularly-please leave a note explaining where it goes. At this time, we will not allow parents to eat lunch with their children. We will review this policy throughout the year and adjust as necessary.

- Virtual meetings will be available.
- Visitors and employees will maintain physical distancing for meetings in smaller conference areas.

### **Cleaning & Disinfectant Protocols**

- Cleaning and disinfecting will occur daily in every classroom, restroom, commons area and on high-touch surfaces.
- Custodians will wear masks and gloves during work hours.
- Teachers will limit the use of shared supplies. Any shared items will be sanitized between use.
- A second round of daily disinfection will take place during each school day in common areas by teachers.

### **Additional Cleaning Measure for Covid-19 Positive Cases on Campus**

- If a classroom or facility is closed due to COVID-19 spread, CDC-approved disinfectant will be used to clean.
- Custodial staff will disinfect classrooms, restrooms, and additional areas in the entire building.

### **Instructional Commitment**

We are asking families to commit to either on campus, in-person instruction or virtual (remote, at-home) instruction for each child attending Mt. Enterprise ISD for the 2020-2021 school year for the first 6 weeks of school. Each family will fill out and submit a commitment form for each child attending MEISD for the 2020-2021 school year by August 10 by 5:00 p.m., to assist the district in planning for the school year. MEISD will default to in-person instruction for individuals who do not submit a commitment form. For any questions, please email [lmcderrmand@meisd.org](mailto:lmcderrmand@meisd.org) or call 903-822-1303.

### **General Health and Safety Guidelines**

- MEISD will require employees and students to stay home, if ill.
- Campus staff will be trained in COVID-19 safety protocols.
- Medical-grade disinfectants will be used for deep cleaning of campus.
- Students, teachers, staff and essential campus visitors/volunteers will be instructed to sanitize and/or wash their hands frequently.
- Physical distancing and safety signage will be added throughout school facilities.
- MEISD will prevent any individual who fails the health screening criteria from being admitted to the campus, until they meet the criteria for re-entry to the campus.

### **Hand Washing and Hand Sanitizers**

- Students and employees will be trained in proper hand washing protocols to prevent COVID-19 and the spread of germs.
- Alcohol-based hand sanitizer will be available throughout the campus.
- Employees will be instructed to regularly wash or sanitize their hands.
- Teachers will supervise student hand washing for 20 seconds throughout the day; in addition students will be required to wash hands after using the restroom and before eating.

### **Health Pre-Screening for Staff and Students**

- Students will have their temperatures taken daily before coming into the building. Anyone with a fever of **100 degrees Fahrenheit or higher** will **NOT** come into the building.
- Teachers are expected to take their own temperatures daily before arriving. Anyone with a fever of **100 degrees Fahrenheit or higher** should **NOT** come into the building.
- Students and teachers will be prescreened for any of the following COVID-19 symptoms prior to coming into school:
  - Feeling feverish or a measured temperature greater than or equal to 100 degrees Fahrenheit
  - Loss of taste or smell
  - Cough
  - Difficulty breathing
  - Shortness of breath
  - Headache
  - Chills
  - Sore throat

- Shaking or exaggerated shivering
- Significant muscle pain or ache
- Diarrhea
- Teachers will monitor students and contact parents if symptoms are present.
- MEISD will have access to a touch-free, forehead thermometer to check/verify temperatures and will immediately send anyone with a **100 or higher** temperature to the school health clinic for a temperature verification and parents will be contacted.
- Teachers and students will be required to report to the principal if a) they have come into close contact with an individual who is lab-confirmed with COVID-19; or b) they themselves have COVID-19 symptoms.
- MEISD will pre-screen all contracted employees and essential visitors/workers before they are allowed entrance on campus.

### **Commit to an Option for Learning**

Mt. Enterprise Elementary commits to providing the following learning options for families, as we go into the 2020-2021 school year:

1. Your child can return to school and receive in-person instruction.
2. Your child can receive virtual, at-home learning instruction.

While our school is offering two options, our families will have to **commit to choosing one of these options for the First Six Weeks**. Both of these options will continue to require students to use digital tools within learning. There will be a grace period for those that choose remote and decide to change to in person.

We will continue to evaluate the progress of our return to school for MEISD and will monitor the impact COVID-19 has on our district as the year begins. This will allow our school to make recommendations for learning for the Second Six Weeks and review what instruction may look like then.

### **Information for Families to Consider Prior to Choosing an Option**

#### **Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Practices**

##### **Our School will provide the following:**

- All learning will be provided by highly qualified, MEISD teachers.
- There will be a focus on high levels of rigor within instruction, alignment of skills/standards, equitable access to learning, accountability standards concerning attendance, opportunities for feedback and interactions, and aligned grading expectations.
- There will be a focus on specific support for social and emotional needs of students and staff.
- The district will use a variety of formative and summative assessment tools to document and measure academic and social emotional student growth.
- Students/Families will have the option of changing from-or-to either option of in person or virtual at home learning at the end of the 6 week grading period. If your child becomes ill or needs to be quarantined during this time, you will need to contact MEISD for further guidance. The child may continue with virtual, at-home learning during this time and will be in attendance for school.

### **Flexibility Due to Health and Safety Needs - COVID-19**

MEISD families must also understand we are bound to county, state and federal law/health guidelines and will follow any directives or specific recommendations that will benefit the health and safety of our students and staff.

This could mean that our school may need to move temporarily to a full, at-home virtual learning (students having instruction taking place only at home) during the 2020-2021 school year.

We will continue to closely monitor the needs of our MEISD teachers, students and families, as well as taking guidance and next steps from the state and the Texas Education Agency (TEA) as we go into the school year.

### **Intervention Services (Special Education/504/etc.)**

MEISD will continue to work with families so that students with disabilities have access to a free and appropriate public education (FAPE). We will continue to work with families so that, to the greatest extent possible, each student with a disability can be provided the educational and related services identified in the student's individualized education program (IEP) or Section 504 Plan.

### **Health and Safety**

- Intervention Services staff will be trained in COVID-19 safety protocols.
- Additional PPE for staff as well as additional sanitization procedures will be in place to support students in classrooms.
- Students will be taught good hand washing techniques and provided frequent opportunities to wash their hands with prompting when necessary.

### **Instruction**

- Students will continue to be supported consistent with their IEP/504 Plan. Students who receive the majority of their services through the general education setting will continue to receive access to their IEP goals, accommodations and modifications provided by special education and general education staff. Students served in a special education setting will continue to receive individualized, modified and/or alternate curriculum as appropriate.
- Students served through Section 504 will continue to receive accommodations and services identified in their Individual Accommodation Plan.
- Small group instruction and interventions will be provided either in person or through virtual at home learning. In-person instruction will occur with proper safety precautions, limited group size and sanitation protocols. Virtual Interventions will include direct access to the interventionist as well as access to relevant individualized digital resources to reinforce the target skill.
- Virtual, at home intervention will be scheduled in advance with the teacher. Students will be expected to be available at their assigned intervention or small group time for synchronous learning.

### **Dyslexia Services**

- Students will have a scheduled time according to his/her individualized plan. Students will be expected to be available at their assigned service time.
- Dyslexia services will be provided both in-person and virtually.
- Small group instruction and interventions will be provided either in-person or virtually, at home. In-person, face-to-face instruction will occur with proper safety precautions, limited group size and sanitation protocols. Virtual Interventions will include direct access to the teacher as well as access to relevant individualized digital resources to reinforce the target skill.

### **Specialized Services**

- Direct Related and/or Instructional Services (speech therapy, occupational therapy, direct psychological services, and/or vision services) will be provided in person or via virtual platform and may include a combination of virtual lessons and activities. In-person instruction will occur with proper safety precautions, limited group size and sanitation protocols. Virtual services will include direct access to the therapist, facilitator, or interventionist as well as access to relevant individualized digital resources to reinforce the target skill.
- Consultative Services may occur through parent training, teacher training, observation and feedback as well as access to online resources.

### **ARD/504 Meetings**

- We may continue to hold required ARD/504 Meetings using a virtual platform to allow for meaningful participation and collaborative decision making.
- If at any time you have questions about your child's IEP/504 Plan or services and wish to convene an ARD/504 meeting to discuss, please contact your child's teacher or principal.
- IEP/504 Plan amendments may be considered on a case-by-case basis to align virtual, at home instruction.
- TEA has provided a guidance document on compensatory strategies and services.
- Consideration will be given to each individual student's progress on his or her IEP/504 Plan. Baseline data and acquisition of skills will determine if students are in need of additional Covid response services.

### **Evaluations**

- We will continue to provide Full and Individual Evaluations and 504 evaluations to the maximum extent possible.
- Remote data collection, physical distance observation, teacher and parent interviews and checklists can be conducted remotely.
- The administration of a standardized test in a non-standardized way affects the validity of the assessment. For that reason, critical components of the evaluation may not be completed remotely in order to come to an eligibility determination.
- Safety precautions will be taken when in-person assessment is required for eligibility determination. Safety precautions include clear barriers, face masks/shields, hand sanitizer and cleaning protocols.

### **Lunch Safety**

- Mt. Enterprise Elementary plans to utilize cafeteria for student meals.
- Cafeteria aides/workers will be trained in COVID-19 safety protocols.
- Aides/workers will be wearing masks/face shield and gloves while serving students.
- The classroom tables and high-touch areas will be disinfected before lunch is served.
- Supervised handwashing will take place prior to lunch service. Hand sanitizers will be located near the lunch tables and serving area.
- No parents/visitors during lunch at this time.
- Microwaves will not be available.

### **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and Masks**

- All MEISD employees will wear PPE, to include gloves, face coverings, masks or shields, as needed.
- Desk dividers may be used as necessary in classrooms to protect students in close proximity to other students.
- The Texas Education Agency will provide PPE for use as needed, including disposable masks, reusable masks, gloves, thermometers, hand sanitizer and adult face shields.

### **Masks**

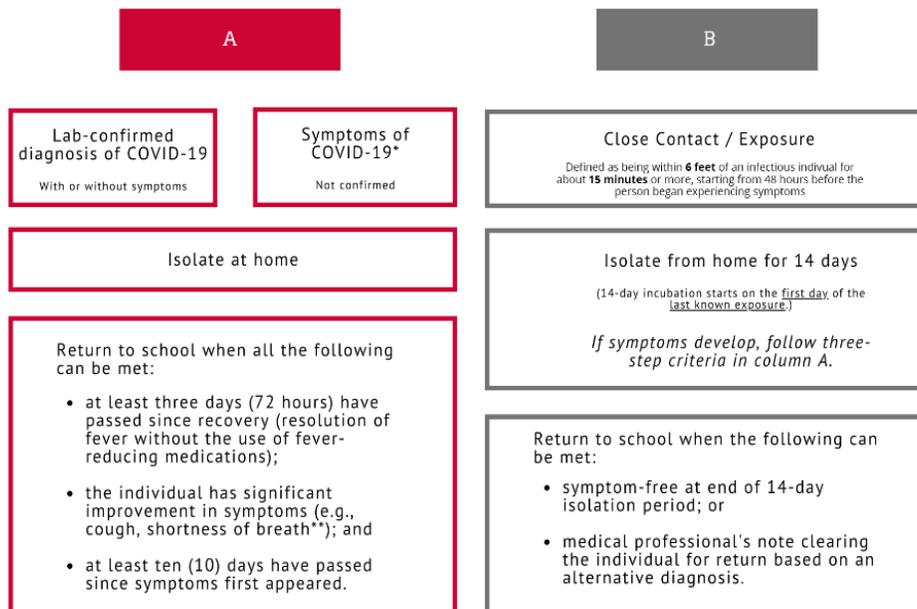
The use of face coverings will be determined by the rate of community transmission of COVID-19 and the health recommendations associated with each level. The district will rely on guidance from the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) and local health agencies, as well as, any executive orders or directives from Governor Greg Abbott or MEISD.

- **School employees must wear face coverings.**
- **Students must wear face coverings, as feasible, especially when physical distancing is difficult, including in classrooms.**
- **Parents of students with health issues preventing the wearing of a face covering, will provide written documentation to the principal/504 coordinator.**
- Implement increased physical distancing measures

## Student with Symptoms/ Possible Covid-19/Confirmed Positive Case

- Any student who shows Covid-19 symptoms while at school must be immediately separated.
- Call secretary and send to school health clinic with medical form specifying Covid-19 symptoms, or have child stay at home if not at school.
- Nurse/secretary will confirm Covid-19 symptoms and call the parent to pick up an ill student.
- Parents should be prepared to pick up ill students within 30 minutes of notification.
- Parents picking up ill students will wait outside the front doors. Staff will accompany students to the Lobby and check out students per established protocol. Parents will receive a COVID-19 information sheet with recommendations and return to school guidelines.
- Administrator will inform the Environmental Health Safety and Risk Management Department to initiate the deep cleaning process.
- Administrator will generate parent email notification of possible Covid-19 exposure.
- Teacher and secretary will follow up with email to check on student well-being and share the email with campus administration.
- A student will counted in attendance by meeting the virtual learning engagement requirements outlined in the Attendance section.
- School will follow the CDC guidance below for return to school.

### MEISD will follow CDC guidance for individuals confirmed/exposed to COVID-19:



### **Physical Distancing**

- Teachers and students will be trained in proper physical distancing.
- Signage will be provided to help assist teachers and students with physical distancing in common spaces and hallways.
- Physical Distancing becomes a personal responsibility of each individual attending school or coming to our MEISD facility. Anyone causing a disruption or unwilling to follow MEISD safety protocols will be asked to leave the premises immediately.
- Whenever possible throughout the day, teachers and students will remain six feet apart. NOTE: it may not be unrealistic that teachers and students can maintain six feet of physical distancing at all times, especially in classrooms.

### **Social-Emotional Support/Mental Wellness**

- MEISD counselor will be trained in COVID-19 safety protocols.
- Our counselor must wear a mask or face shield when meeting in-person with students.
- The counselor will develop strategies and support for students, families and school members.

### **Technology**

- Pre-Kindergarten-5th Grade students will have access to campus technology devices for in-person instruction.
- MEISD staff will be available to assist teachers and students with technology support.
- Technology items will be sanitized before the devices are distributed to students.

### **Classroom Environments**

- Desks or tables will be physically distanced as much as instructionally possible.
- Group or partner work can be implemented while maintaining physical distancing. Facial coverings will be worn during group gatherings.
- The use of outdoor space for learning will be considered when possible. Classroom groups working outside will maintain physical distance from other classroom groups.
- Students will be allowed to bring a water bottle (labeled with name) each day already filled with water. Water fountains will not be used.
- The recommended procedures will be applied to classroom settings, including special education services locations, when possible and appropriate. Students' individual needs will be addressed on a case-by-case basis.

### **Common Areas**

- Common areas include spaces that are used for meetings and collaboration. This includes flexible spaces, campus libraries, conference rooms, and other meeting rooms.
- Teachers and students will be required to travel hallways staying to the right side. Use of common areas will be scheduled with areas sanitized between use.
- The use of virtual meetings will be considered, when possible.
- In-person meetings will maintain physical distancing and facial coverings will be required during in-person meetings.

### **Restrooms**

- Proper hand washing techniques will be taught to students and consistently reinforced.
- After a restroom break, students will be required to wash their hands before returning to the designated work area.
- MEISD will comply with health agency recommendations and physical distancing as it relates to restrooms.
- Visual reminders will be added to all restroom and hand washing areas.

### **Transitions**

- Where possible, one-way traffic throughout campus corridors will be established.
- Walking pathways throughout the building will be designated “stay to the right.” This includes the entrance and exit doors.

### **Recess**

- Playgrounds will be limited to one to two grade levels at a time with classroom groups scheduled to areas. Staggered schedules can be used when needed.
- Students and teachers will be required to use hand sanitizer or wash their hands before entering the playground and upon exiting the playground.
- “Mask breaks” will be implemented as needed.

### **Specials**

- Students will be provided their own art supplies.
- Music equipment will be sanitized and wiped down after each use.
- Specials will be provided in the classroom or outdoors.

### **Physical Education**

- Whenever possible, physical education classes will be held outside to allow for maximum physical distance between students.
- Any activities bringing students into close physical contact will be avoided.
- Equipment will be disinfected after each use.
- Activities requiring multiple students to touch or handle the same equipment will be avoided.
- Sanitizing areas and access to hand washing will be provided.

### **Administrative Spaces: Offices, Conference Rooms, Reception**

When possible, meetings will be conducted virtually. However, if the need arises to meet in person, participants will follow campus guidelines:

- Facial coverings or masks must be utilized.
- Visitors will use a designated spot for physical distancing at the reception desk.
- Hand sanitizer will be provided in front office spaces.
- Employees will disinfect all shared machines/materials between use, within the workroom and kitchen area.
- Distances of six feet will be provided between occupied seats and workspaces.
- Office area will be limited to office personnel unless an emergency arises. Teachers should contact office members through email or phone.