



2020 - 2021

RETURN-TO-SCHOOL PLANS:

STRONG START – District Commitment

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SURE START – Learning Options

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STRONG START: District Commitment

Dear Doss CCSD Families, Students, and Community,

The Doss School team is excited about a **STRONG START** for our new year!

We look forward to seeing students on Monday, August 24th for the first day of school. We are experiencing a time like no other and because of this, we want to reassure you that we remain committed to student and staff safety. We understand and acknowledge the varied levels of uncertainty families may have regarding the pandemic and sending their children back to school, so we are encouraging communication and feedback.

STRONG START – District Commitment

As an education institution, we are committed to health, education, and welfare. The safety of students and staff is paramount, so we will continue to be in contact with the Texas Education Agency (TEA), elected officials, and state and local health authorities. Therefore, following guidance from TEA regarding public health and school instruction, we will be offering two learning options: on-campus and at-home.

SURE START – Instructional Plans

Results from family and employee surveys were used to design two options for student learning. A second survey will be released to parents/guardians in early August for the official selection of a learning plan for students. The survey will reference a working draft of our return-to-school plan for a strong start, sure start, and safe start. We ask parents to read this carefully.

With the return of all surveys and selections, administrators and teachers will plan details for both of the aforementioned learning options. These details will be released closer to the start of school. Doss CCSD has six grading cycles in a school year. Selections for the chosen learning option will be for the full grading cycle. Parents will have the opportunity to switch between on-campus and at-home learning by submitting a request at least five school days prior to the beginning of a new grading cycle.

SAFE START – Safety Protocols

Considering health and safety guidance, we have identified safety practices for daily activities in the classroom, on the playground, in common areas, on the bus, et cetera. These have all been included in the return-to-school plan, which may potentially be modified over time. We ask that you review these new procedures and reach out to us with any questions or comments.

Regardless of the learning option that you choose for your child(ren), our goal is to support your decision and provide great instruction and an excellent education. Although the pandemic reality will prevent the planning and hosting of some of our much-loved regular events, we will strive to maintain the vision of Doss School, which is to inspire curiosity, respect tradition, and embrace excellence.

We hope your student is excited for a **STRONG START!**

Stay safe, Pam Seipp, Administrative Consultant

VISION: Curiosity, Tradition, and Excellence

SAFE START: Safety Practices

INTRODUCTION

This SAFE START plan has been developed to aid the district in creating a return to school where employees, students, and families feel safe and to reduce the impact of COVID-19 conditions upon returning to the district. While it is not possible to eliminate all risk of furthering the spread of COVID-19, this guidance document contains information on practices that attempt to minimize the likelihood of viral spread.

The guidelines referenced in this plan are based on guidance from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), American Academy of Pediatrics, the Texas Department of State Health Services, and all applicable federal, state, and local agencies. Regular updates will be made, and modifications may be necessary based on public health and governmental directives and advancing scientific knowledge on the transmissibility of COVID-19.

SAFE START PRACTICES

1. **PROVIDE NOTICE:** Doss CCSD will provide notice to parents when necessary.
2. **PREVENT:** Doss CCSD will implement practices to the best of our ability to prevent the virus from entering the school.
3. **RESPOND:** Doss CCSD will respond to a lab-confirmed case in the school according to guidelines set forth by the state of Texas.
4. **MITIGATE:** DOSS CCSD will implement prevention and mitigation practices to the best of our ability to reduce the likelihood that an outbreak occurs on campus.

CLOSE CONTACT

This document refers to “close contact” with an individual who is lab-confirmed to have COVID-19. Close contact is determined by an appropriate public health agency. For clarity, close contact is defined as:

- a. Being directly exposed to infectious secretions (e.g., being coughed on while not wearing a mask or face shield); or
- b. Being within 6 feet for a cumulative duration of 15 minutes, while not wearing a mask or face shield; and
- c. Either (a) or (b) defines close contact if it occurred during the infectious period of the case, defined as two days prior to symptom onset to 10 days after symptom onset. In the case of asymptomatic individuals who are lab-confirmed with COVID-19, the infectious period is defined as two days prior to the confirming lab test and continuing for 10 days following the confirming lab test.

AT HOME / BEFORE SCHOOL DAILY SCREENING

Parents/guardians are expected to screen their students for COVID-19 symptoms each day prior to sending their students to school. We need parents' cooperation in not sending children to school who are exhibiting COVID symptoms, especially if they are running a fever. If symptoms or a confirmed case is present, parents should opt to receive at-home learning until the conditions for re-entry have been met. Parents may also opt to have their child receive at-home learning if their child has had close contact with an individual who is lab-confirmed with COVID-19 until the 14-day incubation period has passed.

Have they recently begun experiencing any of the following way that is not normal for them?

- Feeling feverish or a temperature greater than or equal to 100 degrees Fahrenheit
- Loss of taste or smell
- Cough
- Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
- Fatigue or Headache
- Chills, shaking, or exaggerated shivering
- Sore throat, congestion, or runny nose
- Significant muscle pain
- Diarrhea, nausea, or vomiting

Doss CCSD employees must report if they themselves have COVID-19 symptoms or are lab-confirmed with COVID-19, and, if so, they must remain off campus until they meet the criteria for re-entry. All Doss employees will be trained appropriately and use a standardized screening tool for all students and visitors. A *COVID-19 Screening* document will be posted.

VISITOR RESTRICTIONS

At this time, visitors and volunteers will be limited. While parent involvement is important to our district, it is our top priority to keep our students and staff safe and reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19 and other potential infections during these uncertain times. Parent meetings with teachers and administration, including ARD meetings, 504 meetings, and general parent conferences will take place via telephone or virtually.

BUS / TRANSPORTATION

Parents who have the option of dropping off and picking up their child should opt to do so until COVID-19 ceases to be a threat. This will allow for better spacing on the bus. Prior to boarding the bus, the temperature of every child will be taken. Children with a temperature greater than 100.0 degrees will not be allowed to attend on-campus learning. All children will be required use sanitizer upon boarding and will be required to wear a mask, regardless of age. Buses will be cleaned and disinfected before and after each use. Windows will be kept open to allow for better ventilation when it is feasible.

ARRIVAL AT SCHOOL

- Avoid early drop-offs in the morning. Please do not bring your children to school prior to 7:45 am. The first bell to go to class will be at 7:55 am. The tardy bell will be 8:15 am.
- Upon arrival and prior to entering school, the temperature of every child will be taken. Children with a temperature greater than 100.0 degrees will not be allowed to attend on-campus learning.
- Parents/Guardians will NOT be allowed to leave their cars when dropping off students. Parents will NOT be able to walk students inside the building, including the first day.
- When possible groups of students will not enter together. Students will go straight to the designated areas set by the teacher.
- Hand sanitizer will be available at the main entrance to the campus, in classrooms, in the cafeteria and in common areas throughout the district.

DISMISSAL

- Sanitizer will be encouraged as students exit the buildings.
- In the car pick-up line, please be on time and stay in your vehicle.
- Please do not pull out of line and park to walk over and pick up your child.
- Children will be escorted to parked parent vehicles as soon as the bus departs.
- Parents picking up students during the day will call ahead to make arrangements.

MASKS / FACE COVERINGS

In accordance with executive orders or mandates from regulatory agencies, masks / face coverings will be required for all students age 10 and above, as well as all adult employees. Students younger than 10 are encouraged to wear masks for the safety of themselves and others. Should cases increase in our area, younger students may be required to wear a mask.

At the beginning of each semester, all students will be provided a reusable mask. If students arrive to school with no face covering, a disposable mask will be provided for them. Please ensure that your child is trained on proper use of their facemasks in order to eliminate unnecessary classroom disruptions. Students will be guided in the safe removal and storage of masks.

CLASSROOM PROTOCOLS

- Teachers will monitor all students and refer them to office staff if symptoms are present.
- Teachers will distance students to the extent possible within the space allowed.
- Hand sanitizer stations will be available in classrooms and common areas.
- Teachers will require hand hygiene before and after all group activities.
- Teachers and staff will limit the use of shared supplies when possible.
- Surfaces will be disinfected in a room when new groups of students enter.
- Teachers will establish student responsibilities to clean personal areas and materials/supplies with disinfectant wipes and other self-cleaning products.

ISOLATION PROTOCOLS

- When a student has displayed symptoms of COVID-19, the teacher or school office will provide a clinical assessment to determine if and when a student needs to be sent home.
- Students who are ill will be separated from their peers and given a face mask. They should be picked up within 30 minutes and no later than 1 hour from the time the campus contacts the student's parent/guardian.
- Sanitizing and disinfection will take place in all areas where the student was present to the extent possible.

COMMON AREAS AND TRANSITIONS

- When transitioning between classes, students will walk as far to the right as possible.
- Traffic patterns will be established to separate individuals or groups of students.

WATER

- Students will need to bring their own reusable water bottle for use throughout the day and expected to take water bottles home daily to be cleaned.
- Teachers will demonstrate how student should fill water bottles from the bottled water dispensers. No water fountains will be used by students or staff.

CAFETERIA / MEAL TIMES

- Students will eat in a designated area and will be distanced to the extent possible.
- Students will use proper hand hygiene and hand sanitizer stations will be available.

RECESS AND FREE PLAY

- Recess times will be staggered so that smaller groups are on the playground at one time.
- Children will sanitize / wash their hands at the beginning and the end of recess.

FACILITIES CLEANING

The safety of our employees and students is our priority. Upon reopening, our schools have been completely cleaned and disinfected and we will continue to adhere to all necessary safety precautions. Doss CCSD will institute more frequent cleaning practices, including additional cleaning/sanitizing by custodial staff, as well as provide the opportunity for children to clean their own spaces before and after they are used, in ways that are safe and developmentally appropriate. Various deep cleaning and disinfection protocols will be used according to public health guidance in the event of positive or suspected COVID cases.

STRONG START – Instructional Plans

INTRODUCTION

Doss CCSD has chosen to use asynchronous instruction to deliver at-home learning to those students who choose this learning plan. A device and reliable internet service are required in order to enroll in this option. A school issued device is available upon request.

Asynchronous instruction refers to self-paced instruction with intermittent teacher interaction. Instruction could consist of a combination of pre-recorded videos of instruction, interactive lessons, live/online meetings with teachers, written work, etc.

While the lessons are not “live”, or in person, students will still be required to complete and turn in assignments and engage in their learning on a daily basis in order to be counted “present” for each school day.

The grading policy will be consistent with those used on-campus for all assignments and assessments, and the time commitment will be similar to that of students who are on campus. Details for assignments and grading will be detailed in each teacher’s syllabus.

ATTENDANCE AND ENROLLMENT

- Per Texas Education Code TEC, 25.092, students must attend 90% of a course in order to be awarded credit for the course and/or to be promoted to the next grade level.
- Given the public health situation, student attendance may be earned through the delivery of virtual instruction, either on a full-time basis or in the event of a school-wide closure.
- Due to the scheduling complexities inherent in the remote learning option, parents will be asked to make a commitment for at least a full grading period cycle.
- Moving back and forth between online and in-person instruction will not be allowed unless there is a health/COVID-related reason.
- Special circumstances that affect a family will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

DOSS CCSD COMMITMENT

- All students will be provided instruction via on-campus or at-home learning.
- All families will be provided with communications about expectations and support.
- All curriculum is fully aligned to the TEKS and designed to ensure coverage.
- The instructional calendar and schedule meet the minimum requirements.

PARENT / GUARDIAN COMMITMENT

- Create a designated learning space for your child at home to learn comfortably.
- Daily monitor and ask for evidence that your child is on track with assignments.
- Daily visit the District Website to ensure that work is being completed and submitted.
- Provide your child assistance as needed on their day-to-day activities except for designated independent work/assessments.
- Assist in supporting your child's needs by establishing and managing the daily schedule communicated by the teacher and the campus.
- Maintain communication with your child's teacher by phone, email, and/or online meetings to create a learning partnership.
- Allow your child to struggle; it is allowed and encouraged. Do not help too much. Becoming independent takes lots of practice.
- Ensure that school-issued devices are treated with care. Parents will be responsible for the cost of damages or replacement.

STUDENT COMMITMENT

- Follow the designated schedule communicated by your teachers.
- Participate DAILY in scheduled learning activities for ALL courses.
- Take responsibility for asking for help and asking questions as needed.
- Turn in schoolwork daily and/or at the direction of the assigned teacher.
- Be responsible for and take good care of school-issued technology devices.
- Use proper etiquette online; dress appropriately when attending live meetings.

ELEMENTARY

PK - 5th Grade	<p>It is expected that elementary-aged students will require a little more adult assistance than students at the secondary level. It is important that students are developing academic independence during this time. Parents are expected to assist when needed but also help to cultivate independent work skills as the school year progresses.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There must be daily progress and assignments are due as directed by the teacher. • The rigor of coursework and time commitment will be like that of students who are on campus.
Fine Arts (Music and Art)	There will be a weekly assignment posted for music and/or art, consisting of no more than one hour each week for music and art combined.
Physical Education	The Texas Education Agency requires students to have 135 minutes of physical activity per week. Classroom teachers will provide instructional assignments for students to meet this requirement.
Dyslexia / 504 / Special Education	Students learning at home will continue to receive instruction and teacher assistance to accommodate their individual learning needs. Special programs teachers will be reaching out to these students to provide necessary support.

MIDDLE SCHOOL

6th - 8th Grade Core Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students will be enrolled in the same number of courses as their on-campus peers with the same level of rigor and academic expectation.
Electives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elective courses will have the same expectations for remote learning as all other core courses.
Physical Education	The Texas Education Agency requires students to have 135 minutes of physical activity per week. Classroom teachers will provide instructional assignments for students to meet this requirement.
Dyslexia / 504 / Special Education	Students learning at home will continue to receive instruction and teacher assistance to accommodate their individual learning needs. Special programs teachers will be reaching out to these students to provide necessary support.

TECHNOLOGY TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Device pick-up for at-home learners **ONLY** will be scheduled and parents will be contacted. On-campus learners will receive and begin using a learning device during the first week.

PARENT / COMMUNITY RESOURCES:

<p>Resource List Prepared by</p> <p>Texas Department of State and Health Services (DSHS), Region 8</p> <p>Region8COVID-19@dshs.texas.gov</p>	
<p>Center for Disease Control (CDC)</p> <p>CDC Guidance Documents</p>	<p>https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/guidance-for-schools.html</p> <p>https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/guidance-for-schools-h.pdf</p>
<p>CDC Checklist for Schools</p>	<p>https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/community/School-Admin-K12-readiness-and-planning-tool.pdf</p>
<p>TEA Public Health Planning Guidance (08-04-2020)</p>	<p>https://tea.texas.gov/texas-schools/health-safety-discipline/covid/coronavirus-covid-19-support-and-guidance</p> <p>https://tea.texas.gov/sites/default/files/covid/SY-20-21-Public-Health-Guidance.pdf</p>
<p>TEA 20-21 School Operational Guidebook (7-28-2020)</p>	<p>https://tea.texas.gov/sites/default/files/covid/SY-20-21-Public-Health-Operational-Guidebook.pdf</p>
<p>FAQ for School Administrators, Teachers, and Parents (CDC)</p>	<p>https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/schools-faq.html</p>
<p>Family Checklists for Going Back to School (CDC)</p>	<p>https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/parent-checklist.html</p>

PAGES RESERVED FOR ASYNCHRONOUS PLAN