



# Big Spring ISD 2022-2023 Return to School Plan

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Big Spring ISD is excited to welcome everyone back to school beginning August 24, 2022. BSISD will follow TEA Guidance as we plan for and implement the reopening of school for the 2022-2023 school year.

## Instructional Options

Big Spring ISD will begin ON-CAMPUS instruction for the 2022-2023 school year beginning Wednesday, August 22, 2022. Remote learning enrollment will not be available for the 2022-2023 school Year.

**ATTENDANCE:** TEA has made it clear that ALL students must adhere to the 90% attendance rule whether attending in-person or online. The 90% rule is a provision in the Texas Education Code (TEC) that applies to a student in any grade level from kindergarten through grade 12. TEC Section 25.092 provides that a student may not be given credit or a final grade for a class or be promoted to the next grade level unless the student is in attendance 90% of the days the class is offered regardless of the reason for the absence.

## Registration Guidelines for 2022-23 School Year

Registration:

PK/Kindergarten: Monday, August 1 – Friday, August 5

1st-8th grades: Monday, August 1 – Friday, August 5

12<sup>th</sup> grade: Enrollment verification–August 11 (11:00am–6:00pm)/Schedule pick up August 17 (8:00am-11:00)

11<sup>th</sup> grade: Enrollment verification–August 15 (11:00am–6:00pm)/Schedule pick up August 17 (1:00pm-6:00)

10<sup>th</sup> grade: Enrollment verification–August 16 (11:00am–6:00pm)/Schedule pick up August 18 (8:00am-11:00)

9<sup>th</sup> grade: Enrollment verification–August 17 (11:00am–6:00pm)/Schedule pick up August 17 (6:30pm)

Parents of students new to BSISD may print enrollment packets from the BSISD website located at

<https://www.bsisd.esc18.net/cms/lib/TX50000558/Centricity/Domain/213/2022-23%20Registration%20Packet%20English.pdf>

A Spanish version maybe found at

<https://www.bsisd.esc18.net/cms/lib/TX50000558/Centricity/Domain/213/2022-23%20Registration%20Packet%20Spanish.pdf>

Parents may print and return the completed packet to their child's campus OR pick up a new enrollment packet at the campus on the date of registration listed above.

## School Supplies:

In response to community needs as evidenced by the recent economic downturn, BSISD will once again provide all school supplies (except a backpack) for all students in grades PK-8th. HS students will receive their teacher-specific school supply list during the 1st week of school.

## Instructional Efforts for the 2022-2023 School Year

Big Spring ISD is committed to ensuring that students have an equitable experience and access to high quality instruction and will be able do the following:

- Demonstrate mastery of concepts using traditional methods as well as assessments emphasizing application over memorization
- Follow a schedule that provides consistency throughout the learning day
- Have teacher-led small group and individualized instructional opportunities that foster collaboration and mastery of learning
- Offer supplemental instruction/tutoring opportunities for all students who did not perform satisfactorily on the 2022 state assessment as mandated by HB 4545.

## Health/Safety Efforts for the 2022-2023 School Year

- Big Spring ISD will continue to follow Texas mandates and TEA guidelines in order to ensure the health and safety for all of our students and staff (subject to change as announced by Governor Abbott and/or TEA).
- Communal water fountains are not to be used. Parents are encouraged to send a water bottle WITH the student's name on it to school every day. Unlabeled water bottles left at school will be thrown away.
- There will be hand sanitizer at each entrance and students, teachers, and staff are encouraged to use it whenever they enter the building.
- There will be hand sanitizer in every classroom, and students and teachers will be encouraged to use it frequently.
- Elementary students will engage in frequent hand washing in addition to washing hands after using the restroom and before eating.
- Janitorial services will thoroughly clean the building after each school day.
- Throughout the day additional cleaning and disinfecting of surfaces that are touched in common throughout the day will be frequently cleaned by janitorial staff and campus staff (door handles, restrooms, etc)

### HEALTH SCREENING (Updated Aug. 22, 2022)

Health screening is important in supporting safety and physical health when accessing district facilities.

### **What happens if a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19?**

In accordance with the Aug. 1, 2022, updated guidelines released by TEA and the DSHS

<https://dshs.texas.gov/covid19readmission/>

#### Staff Members who test positive for COVID-19:

- If symptomatic, these staff members may return after 5 days have passed since the first symptoms occurred, are fever free, and other symptoms have improved.
- For those with no symptoms (asymptomatic), at least 5 days after the day they tested positive.

#### Students who test positive for COVID-19:

- If symptomatic, these students may return after five days have passed since the first symptoms occurred, are fever free, and other symptoms have improved.
- For those students with no symptoms (asymptomatic), at least five days after the day they tested positive.

### SOCIAL, EMOTIONAL, OR MENTAL HEALTH CONCERNS

#### **How will you address social, emotional, or mental health concerns?**

- Counselors are available on all campuses to support students academically, socially, and emotionally and can provide mental health support or resources for families who may be struggling emotionally. Counselors at the K-4 campuses visit classrooms regularly to provide Guidance and Character lessons. BSISD partners with Region 18 to provide counselors with appropriate SEL training throughout the year as available.
- BSISD has an MOU with Texas Tech University Health Science Center to provide psychological and psychiatric services (including grief) to our students in need, free of charge. The link can be found on the BSISD website and includes:
  - CATR:** On-campus support for students in grades 4 -12 struggling with changes in behavior, mood, relationships, or experiencing thoughts of suicide or self-injury.
  - Child Psychiatry Access Network:** Off-campus support for students in grades K-12 who may be dealing with anxiety, depression, autism, ADHD, grief, abuse, or other mental/behavioral health concerns. If a student needs to schedule a counseling session, please contact your child's home campus.
- Additionally, BSISD uses ARP ESSER III funds to partner with *Communities in Schools of the Permian Basin* to provide an Outreach Coordinator for both BSJH and BSHS to help address students' social, emotional, or mental health concerns.
- BSISD purchased and uses *Go Guardian* as part of its technology management plan providing a robust and flexible alerting system based on screenshots, the phase of suicide and self-harm ideation, historical activity, and highlighted text in order to bring in the right school responders, help notify parents after hours, and even provide students directly with resources.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### General Questions – On-Campus Instruction

#### **1. What precautions will be in place on campus?**

- BSISD will implement increased signage around campuses promoting disease mitigation strategies, increased cleaning and sanitation practices, as well as frequent reminders of good hygiene.
- BSISD will comply with all health and safety mandates established by the state health departments and the Texas Education Agency.
- BSISD will not require the use of masks or face shields but will allow students and staff to provide their own personal protection equipment, as they feel comfortable. Facial masks/shields must be worn correctly over both the nose and the mouth or users will be asked to remove them entirely.

**2. Will students and staff be REQUIRED to wear masks?**

- Big Spring ISD will NOT require face coverings for the 2022-2023 school year and will follow updated state guidelines as announced by TEA and Governor Abbot.

**3. Will students have recess or the ability to play and socialize with other students?**

- BSISD will allow students to have recess and socialize with other students. BSISD asks parents to monitor their students for flu-like symptoms and not to send their child to school should students exhibit multiple symptoms or run fever.

**4. Will BSISD still have “Meet the Teacher Night,” “Open Houses,” Assemblies, Music Programs, or Concerts?**

- BSISD reopened its doors to large group gatherings such as music assemblies and awards as of April 2021. We have not seen a resurgence in Covid cases at this time and will maintain an open-door welcome to our community. BSISD encourages all visitors to self-screen for COVID-19 symptoms and refrain from entering our buildings if symptoms are present.

**5. What precautions will be in place for athletics, fine arts, and other extracurricular activities?**

- Safety guidelines have been developed for conducting workouts, rehearsals, and practices. BSISD will continue to follow all mandated guidelines provided by UIL, TEA, and the state of Texas.

**6. Will buses run?**

Yes, transportation will continue for eligible bus route students.

Additionally:

- All Big Spring ISD buses will be equipped with hand-sanitizer stations, and all riders will be encouraged to use hand sanitizer upon boarding a bus.
- Buses will be thoroughly cleaned after each bus route, focusing on high-touch surfaces.

**7. Will visitors be allowed on campus?**

- BSISD is open to all visitors who check in appropriately with the office at the time of their arrival.

**Attendance Questions –**

**8. Will the 90% minimum student attendance for class credit rule be in effect for the 2022-2023 school year?**

- YES. The minimum attendance for class credit rule of TEC, §25.092, will be in effect for the 2022–2023 school year, and TEA will not be issuing waivers for LEAs

to exempt themselves from the rule. Students are required to attend at least 90% of their classes (regardless of the reason for the absence) to receive credit and be promoted.

**9. Will truancy laws be in effect during the 2022-2023 school year?**

- Truancy laws will apply to students who fail to attend school including withdrawing from BSISD but failing to enroll with another district.

**10. Will students be required to take the STAAR/EOC?**

- ALL students are required to take ALL state assessments.
- EOC graduation guidelines remain in place.