



MABANK ISD

Safe Return to In-Person Instruction
& Continuity of Services Plan

School Year Guidance

PLEASE NOTE: The details in this document are subject to change as directives are provided by governing authorities and/or health officials or as environmental conditions change.

Rationale and Purpose

During the 2020-2021 school year, Mabank Independent School District implemented both Face-to-Face and Virtual Instructional models in response to the COVID pandemic. Given the success of in-person instruction during the 2020-2021 school year Mabank Independent School District opened the 2021-2022 school year with in-person instruction as the sole option for all students and will continue to do such moving forward.

The purpose of this document is to outline operational protocols and procedures that will allow for the continued safety of students and staff during Face-to-Face instruction while mitigating the spread of COVID-19. This plan is a requirement of accepting and utilizing ESSER III funding provided by the federal government through the US Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. This plan serves as a reminder of our mitigation policies that may be implemented if cases and/or quarantine numbers rise during the school year.

Student & Staff Safety Protocols

The following is organized to meet the four governing areas released from TEA in response to COVID-19

Provide Notice: Parental and Public Communications

- Broad general notices, such as this one, including any updates and/or amendments will be made available through our District website www.mabankisd.net.
- Specific case information will be communicated personally to the family involved as well as the local health department and Texas Department of State Health Services.

Prevent: Practices to prevent the virus from entering the school

- Staff will be required to self-screen for COVID-19 symptoms prior to reporting to work each day.
- Parents/guardians are expected to screen their students for COVID-19 symptoms each day prior to sending their student to school.
- Teachers will monitor students and refer to the nurse if symptoms are present.

Respond: Practices to respond to a test confirmed case in schools

- When an individual student or staff member is believed to have COVID-19, the individual will immediately be isolated and the school nurse will determine if and when the individual needs to be sent home.
- Students and staff who have COVID-19 will be required to stay home and must not return to school until symptoms have improved, they are fever free for 24 hours without fever suppressing medications and 5 days have passed from the onset of symptoms. If the individual is A-symptomatic, the 5 day exclusion period will begin the day they received COVID positive test results.
- Any area confirmed to have a COVID-19 positive case will be thoroughly sanitized prior to continued use.

- Any absences associated with COVID will require a lab confirmed positive test result to be excused as such.

Mitigate: Practices to reduce potential spread in schools

- Traditional cleaning protocols will be enhanced to increase cleaning frequency in high traffic areas as well as include a sanitation response to a confirmed COVID-19 case.
- Staff will have access to disinfectant to sanitize working surfaces and shared objects after each use and during breaks in instruction.
- Alcohol-based hand sanitizer will be available at the entries to the campus, in classrooms, in the cafeteria and in common areas throughout the campus.
- Staff and students will be expected to regularly wash or sanitize their hands specifically upon return from outdoors, before eating, following restroom breaks.
- Although not required given Governor's order GA-36, masks are acceptable for those that wish. Partitions may be in place in certain locations to offer increased barriers to COVID-19 transmission.
- Social distancing practices will be employed to the fullest extent possible to include video conferencing, classroom/seating arrangements, entry/exit and hallway practices, staggered use of common areas in addition to the use of outdoor space where applicable.
- Measures will take place to reduce the sharing of any instructional supplies. Any communal supplies will be sanitized between use.
- Recommended procedures will be applied to all settings, including special education service locations when possible and appropriate. Students' individual needs will be addressed on a case-by-case basis.

Continuity of Services

MISD will ensure continuity of services for students by offering a traditional return to full in-person instruction beginning August 18, 2021. Despite the challenges presented by COVID-19, MISD will continue to provide an excellent education to our students. MISD will maintain the academic and non-academic services required to successfully educate our students and ensure educational decisions support all student populations with an emphasis on student progress, student comprehension of the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS), and the continuation of learning.

Mabank ISD Key Priorities:

1. MISD will partner with parents to support students' academic and emotional wellness.
2. MISD will provide all students and families with quality educational materials aligned to the TEKS and supports necessary to access those materials.
3. MISD will empower educators to design learning experiences to meet the individual learning needs of each student.
4. MISD will provide support and encouragement to all staff and students to ensure success.

Addressing Academic Learning Loss

In MISD, the system for tracking academic progress to inform instruction and provide regular feedback to students on their progress remains unchanged. Clear expectations exist for formative and summative assessments in the classroom as well as providing feedback to students. Diagnostic assessments will be utilized at all grade levels to identify strengths as well as students in need of interventions or accelerated learning so that evidence based instruction can be purposefully designed for the students. During the school year, available resources will be utilized and additional supports will be available to all students through various instructional delivery models.

Administrators and teachers engage in data meetings at all campuses as a process for consistent and constant monitoring of student progress. To assist in addressing specific learning loss, Math and Reading Specialists are available to support students in need of remediation and accelerated learning. These supports include additional learning times (intervention class, ESY, tutoring, compensatory services, etc).

The district will continue to provide targeted summer instruction to close learning gaps due to COVID disruptions from the 2020-21 school year. During summer instruction, teachers will provide whole group, small group, 1:1 using high quality instructional materials, direct instruction, interventions, etc.

Social and Emotional Support

MISD counselors are available to support students academically, socially and emotionally. Counselors are prepared and ready to provide mental health support and resources for families who may be struggling. Resources are available through the Counselor's page on the District website at <https://www.mabankisd.net/page/counseling>

Periodic Review and Revision of the Plan

During the period in which ESSER III funds are available, MISD will review and revise the plan at least every six months. These revisions will take into account parent and community feedback, as well as updated guidance from the Texas Education Agency.

ESSER III Proposed Funding Allocations

- A. Payroll *** - Allowable Costs in the amount of \$2,325,000 over the next 3 academic years (31% of total award) will be used for the continuity of teaching and instructional support positions and added positions needed for counseling, teacher support, and attendance/truancy.
- B. Professional and Contracted Services *** - Allowable costs in the amount of \$291,701 over the next 3 academic school years (4% of total award) will be used to provide allowable professional support and training for administrators, teachers, and parents by applying funds to address the academic impact of lost instructional time through the implementation of evidence-based interventions. This category includes services for addressing academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs of all students.
- C. Supplies and Materials (Including Technology) *** - Allowable costs in the amount of \$1,000,000 over the next 3 academic school years (13% of total award) will be used to provide allowable technology supplies and researched based instructional materials for teachers and students by applying funds to address the academic impact of lost instructional time through the implementation of evidence-based interventions.
- D. Other Operating Costs (Facilities/Indirect Cost)** - Allowable costs in the amount of \$ 3,975,975 over the next 3 school years (52% of total award) will be used to cover the cost of facility improvements, ventilation system upgrades, and indirect costs not associated with the grant.

*** required 20% set-aside funds for learning loss totaling a minimum of \$1,500,000**
Total ESSER III Funds Allocated to Mabank ISD = \$ 7,592,676

Guidance Documents and Resources

During the development of the plan, needs were prioritized based on district priorities, health and social and emotional wellness of staff and students, and instructional continuity. A staff, student, parent and community survey was open for input of the ESSER III funds from May 22, 2021 through May 28, 2021. All input from the survey was considered in the development of the plan. The draft was presented to the public for feedback from July 14, 2021 through July 20, 2021.

Public Information:

MISD Safe Return to In-Person Instruction & Continuity of Services Plan is available to families and the community at the following link:

https://www.mabankisd.net/page/dis.title1_esser?tab=ESSER%20III

Additional guidance regarding ESSER funds can be found at the following links:

- <https://tea.texas.gov/finance-and-grants/grants/elementary-and-secondary-school-emergency-relief-esser-grant-programs>
- <https://oese.ed.gov/offices/education-stabilization-fund/elementary-secondary-school-emergency-relief-fund/>