



ODEM-EDROY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

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COVID-19 Prevention, Mitigation, & Response Procedures at Odem-Edroy ISD Update

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Dear Parent/Guardian,

On September 10, Odem-Edroy ISD will begin **Phase 2** of our Safe School Opening Plan at which time we welcome our first group of students for Face-to-Face Instruction (F2F) since closing in March. We recognize that this continues to be an unusual school year, but we remain committed to supporting your student's learning, as well as his or her safety.

This document outlines the procedures our campuses will have in place to prevent or mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and to respond if a positive case is identified. We hope this transparency helps you to make a decision about your student's on-campus attendance at Odem-Edroy ISD.

The virus that causes COVID-19 can infect people of all ages. That said, research from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), among others, has found that while children do get infected by COVID-19 and some severe outcomes have been reported in children, relatively few children with COVID-19 are hospitalized or have severe symptoms. For many children, there are distinct benefits to attending school in person, including instructional, social, and safety benefits. For these reasons, the [American Academy of Pediatrics](#) has made a statement supporting on-campus instruction for students in the coming year.

While it is not possible to eliminate all risk of furthering the spread of COVID-19, the current science suggests there are many steps schools can take to reduce the risks to students, teachers, staff, and their families significantly. The Odem-Edroy ISD strategy for opening and operating is outlined below. Please use the following link to review a copy of [Odem-Edroy ISD – Safe School Opening Plan](#).

Prevention

To prevent COVID-positive individuals from entering our campuses, your student's school will have the following COVID-19 symptom screening procedures in place:

- OEISD staff will be screened daily.
- Staff Health Attestation Form Completed
- Required Face Coverings – all OEISD staff members
- Students will be screened daily using a thermometer.
 - Prior to drop-off
 - Prior to boarding the bus
 - Prior to entering school facilities
- Student Health Attestation Form Completed
- All students in grades 3-12 will be required to wear face coverings, except when participating in activities that cannot be conducted with a mask on, such as eating, or unless it is not developmentally appropriate for the student to wear a face covering.
- Face Coverings for students in grades PK-2 are recommended and encouraged, but not required.
- Parents are asked to proactively identify when their student exhibits COVID-19 symptoms or has been exposed and to keep them home.

- Symptoms Include:
 - Feeling feverish or a temperature equal to 100.0 °F or greater
 - Loss of taste or smell
 - Cough
 - Difficulty breathing
 - Shortness of breath
 - Fatigue
 - Headache
 - Chills
 - Sore throat
 - Congestion or runny nose
 - Shaking or exaggerated shivering
 - Significant muscle pain or ache
 - Nausea or vomiting
 - Diarrhea
- Follow all TEA, local, state, and federal agencies guidelines

Information collected in these screens will not be retained if the screening is passed. If a parent indicates that a student is demonstrating COVID-19 symptoms, the school will retain that information until the student meets the criteria for return to school.

Criteria for Return to School

Conditions for return to school after an individual showed symptoms or has a positive test result:

All conditions must be met:

- 72 hours with no fever, without the use of fever-reducing medications; and
- Symptoms Resolved; and
- 14 days have passed since symptoms first appeared
 - Remote instruction available to students while in quarantine
- Students must be cleared by District Nurse prior to returning to school
- Staff members must be cleared by Human Resources prior to returning to school

Mitigation

Our district will be taking the following steps across each of our campuses to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

- Daily Screening of all OEISD staff members
- Required Face Coverings – all OEISD staff members
- Daily Screening of Students
 - Prior to drop-off
 - Prior to boarding the bus
 - Prior to entering school facilities
- Students with any of the following symptoms will be sent home:
 - Symptoms Include:
 - Feeling feverish or a temperature equal to 100.0 °F or greater
 - Loss of taste or smell
 - Cough
 - Difficulty breathing
 - Shortness of breath
 - Fatigue
 - Headache
 - Chills
 - Sore throat
 - Congestion or runny nose
 - Shaking or exaggerated shivering

- Significant muscle pain or ache
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea
- All students in grades 3-12 will be required to wear face coverings, except when participating in activities that cannot be conducted with a mask on, such as eating, or unless it is not developmentally appropriate for the student to wear a face covering. Face Coverings for students in grades PK-2 are recommended and encouraged, but not required.
- Social Distancing – 6’ – when feasible and appropriate
- Increased hand hygiene and hand washing
- Daily Cleaning & Sanitizing: classrooms, restrooms, and commonly shared areas
- Disinfecting Mist – Regular Application
- Controlled access to campuses and district facilities
- No visitors – Limited public access by appointment only
- In-person Instruction will be Phased-In per [San Patricio County Health Order](#)
- Transportation will be limited while in-person instruction is Phased-In:
 - Screening prior to boarding bus – students with symptoms will not be allowed to board
 - Hand sanitizer upon boarding bus
 - Social Distancing - assigned seats
 - Buses sanitized after each route
 - Routes may be staggered to meet social distancing compliance
 - Parents encouraged to transport their student
- Follow all TEA, local, state, and federal agencies guidelines

Response

In the event of a COVID-positive case on campus, the campus will take the following steps:

- District nurse will evaluate student or staff member
- Student or staff member will be isolated
- Immediately Notify Parents – Student must be picked up within 30 minutes
- All areas used by the individual will be closed off until disinfected.
- Immediately Notify Anyone – considered to have been in “close contact”
- Student/Staff quarantined 14 days at home until cleared to return by District Nurse/HR
 - Remote instruction available to students while in quarantine
- Public notification of confirmed COVID-19 case; local health department; TEA

In the event of a student or staff member with COVID-19 symptoms on campus, the campus will take the following steps:

- District nurse will evaluate student or staff member
- Student or staff member will be isolated
- Immediately Notify Parents – Student must be picked up within 30 minutes
- All areas used by the individual will be closed off until disinfected
- Immediately Notify Anyone – considered to have been in “close contact”
- Student/Staff quarantines 14 days at home until cleared to return by District Nurse
 - Remote instruction available to students while in quarantine

We hope that this information gives you confidence in our systems and our ability to stop the spread of COVID-19 on our campuses. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to District Nurse Lisa Perez at (361) 368-8121, Ext. 238 or by emailing her at perezl@oeisd.org.

While this will be a challenging year, we believe it can also be a great one, and we look forward to supporting your student in his or her learning journey. For parents who have already made the decision to return Face-to-Face Instruction in Phase 2 your student’s assigned campus will be contacting you with more information.