

**WESTBROOK ISD'S RIPICS PLAN**  
**2022-2023**  
**RETURN TO IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION AND CONTINUITY OF SERVICES**  
**Updated August 2022**

---

**Stakeholder Statement:**

LEA initially sought stakeholder input through an email survey, two stakeholder town meetings, and an opportunity for public comment at school board meetings in May, June, and July, 2021. Stakeholders included employees, special program directors, school principal and other administrators. Additionally, input opportunities were provided to teachers, school staff, students, parents, employees with mental health backgrounds and school board members.

Adjustments were made to our plan, including adding small outside field trips and other opportunities to go outside and get fresh air, while spacing out. We also continued use of Zoom / Virtual conferencing, where feasible.

**UPDATE:** Westbrook ISD reviewed its plan and funding sources in December 2021 and again in June 2022. WISD posted an online survey on at least three social media sites as well as hosted a public meeting in June 2022 to discuss use of ESSR funds and our instructional plan.

In this plan, you will find the most up to date information at this time for WISD. The details in this document are subject to change as directives are provided by governing authorities and/or healthy officials or as environmental conditions change. Please visit [WWW.WESTBROOKISD.COM](http://WWW.WESTBROOKISD.COM) for any future revisions or updates.

As always, the safety and security of WISD students, families, teachers, and staff is our top priority. We cannot wait to see our students and look forward to a successful school year.

**Plans to Address Continuity of Services**

**Counseling**

- Provide a counselor to work with students and teachers to address social / emotional deficiencies caused by long-term remote instruction due to the pandemic.

**Mental, Social, and Emotional Health Intervention**

- Westbrook ISD will provide interventions responding to academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs of all students, K-12, particularly underserved groups with the purchase of a character education service (SEL). This effort began during the 2021-2022 school year. These services will continue through 2023 and beyond.

- UPDATE: 2022-2023: Westbrook ISD has prominently placed an online anonymous bullying report form for students/parents to report any instance of bullying or other SEL needs directly to our counselor.
- UPDATE 2022-2023: Westbrook ISD has recently signed a MOU with Texas Tech University Health Science Center to provide psychological and psychiatric services (including grief) to our students in need, free of charge. All that needs to be done initially is to start the referral process and obtain parent permission.

### **Additional Tutoring and Instructional Opportunities Provided**

- WISD will provide after school and Saturday school tutoring opportunities in order to help students recover learning loss due to the pandemic. We will utilize an evidence-based student / teacher ratio, as required by HB 4545. Additionally, we will provide after school and Saturday school tutoring stipends to staff to promote staff consistency, morale, as well as student outcome continuity.
- UPDATE 2022-2023: Westbrook ISD offered a robust summer school program in June 2022 for students who were not academically successful during the 21-22 school year.
- UPDATE 2022-2023: Westbrook ISD has adjusted its master schedule to include a 45 minute W.I.N. (What I Need) period for students needing to meet HB4545 requirements as well as double blocking math and reading periods (90 min/day) in grades 3-7.

### **Evidence-Based Interventions**

- Westbrook ISD will maintain the purchase of student devices, interactive boards for the classroom, teacher devices and CTE computers to be used for the engineering courses.
- Provide interventionists and paraprofessionals to work in small groups with students at risk of failing due to learning loss caused by the pandemic; equip school staff with professional development, instructional materials and subscriptions in order to help struggling students close gaps caused by the pandemic.
- LEA will hire additional teacher for small group interventions and individualized instruction in order to reduce class sizes. The opportunity to receive more individualized support could address learning loss caused by the pandemic.
  - UPDATE 2022-2023: Westbrook ISD has hired an elementary Reading Interventionist with federal funds to help close reading gaps.
- Tutorials during school day through tutors & instructional supplies; PD in leadership, & core subject areas; Provide instructional coach to support teachers in order to improve instruction; College/career prep activities (prep courses for ACT/SAT/TSI; expansion of dual credit offerings, supplies for career fair); instructional materials; contracted Art teacher for Elementary students; field trips to provide enriching activities and foster relationships between students and community due to lack of experiences because of quarantine.
- Provide special programs teacher to provide accelerated instruction and support to help minimize learning loss caused by the pandemic.
- Provide interventionists and paraprofessionals to work in small groups with students at risk of failing due to learning loss caused by the pandemic; equip school staff with professional development, instructional materials and subscription(s) in order to help struggling students close gaps caused by the pandemic.

### **Activities for Parents / Families**

- Materials for “Academic Nights” to help families support student academic growth through parent engagement.

### **General Summarizing Statement**

- These activities will help support students’ social/emotional needs, in particular those living in poverty as these student populations were especially impacted during the pandemic.
- All of these activities will help support student learning to close academic gaps caused by the pandemic.

### **Other Continuity Strategies:**

- Buses: Improved ventilation/social distancing to prevent spread of COVID
- Contract with ESC to receive enhanced technical support for ESSER III
- Stipends to encourage staff to teach before and after school hours.

### **Continuity of Educational Services/Instructional Information**

- **Face-to-Face Instruction and Remote/Virtual Learning**

WISD will no longer offer parents the option for either face-to-face or remote/virtual learning. All students will be required to attend school Face-to-Face and attend school according to compulsory attendance laws. All COVID protocol will still be followed if a student is tested positive or is a close contact to another positive COVID case.

- Face-to-Face Instruction – Students attend school daily and follow safety, sanitation, and social distancing expectations.
- Remote/Virtual Learning (only will be used if designated by school administration) – Students participate in classroom instruction via remote/virtual learning and are expected to complete and submit assignments as communicated by the remote/virtual learning teacher(s).

### **Daily attendance**

- District funding and resources are linked to attendance. Attendance will be taken each day to ensure that students are actively engaged. In addition, per Texas Education Code (TEC), §25.092, students must attend 90% of the days a course is offered to be awarded credit for the course and/or to be promoted to the next grade.
- Buses will be thoroughly cleaned after each bus trip, focusing on the high-touch surfaces such as bus seats, steering wheels, knobs, and door handles.

## **Definition of COVID-19 Symptoms**

In evaluating whether an individual has symptoms consistent with COVID-19, consider the following question: Have they recently begun experiencing any of the following in a way that is not normal for them?

- Feeling feverish or measured temperature greater than or equal to 100 degrees F
- Loss of taste or smell
- Cough
- Difficulty breathing
- Shortness of breath
- Fatigue
- Headache
- Chills
- Sore throat
- Congestion
- Runny nose
- Shaking or exaggerated shivering
- Significant muscle pain or ache
- Diarrhea
- Nausea and vomiting

### **Westbrook ISD's On-Going Mitigation Strategies Include:**

● Stands - Parent and community engagement is pivotal, especially at a Title I school. Currently, COVID-19 protocols allow for large crowds as long as it is outdoors and social distancing is in place, limiting the amount of participants. Increasing seating capacity will increase the ability to social distance and increase parent engagement.

Summarized: increase seating capacity to enable social distancing in response to pandemic

● A/C Units on buses - Currently, students are required to wear face coverings on all school buses due to the inability to socially distance. These school buses do not have AC, and increased air flow and circulation would decrease the ability for COVID-19 to spread. Summarized: increased air flow and circulation would decrease the ability for COVID-19 to spread.

● Touchless water fountains - Bottle water fountains allow for students to fill their individual water bottles. Water fountains have not been in use this past year due to the fear of spreading COVID-19 among students. Allowing students to fill and refill their individual water bottles allows for a healthier environment.

Summarized: Reduce risk of spreading COVID when students refill water bottles.

Summarized: Reduce spread of COVID for STEM classes to continue with healthy air quality.

## **In accordance with TEA's Public Health Planning Guidance**

### **Mitigation Strategies**

- Provide each classroom with hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes.
- Hand sanitizing stations located at every entrance, hallway locations, cafeteria, fieldhouse and gymnasium
- Provide campus with no-touch thermometers
- Modify daily cleaning schedules to ensure each space is sanitized and disinfected multiple times a day; and deep cleaning of campuses once a week
- Each classroom and restroom will be cleaned and disinfected regularly throughout the day.
- Work areas will be sanitized after each class. Students will be taught and encouraged to clean their own work areas, as feasible, custodians will clean workstations on a scheduled basis.
- Students are to bring their own refillable water bottles, clear bottles only, as water fountains will not be accessible.

UPDATE 2021-2022: WISD has updated water fountains to refill water bottles thus eliminating the need for students to access water by placing their mouth close to the dispenser.

- As of June 5, 2021, since Governor Greg Abbott's Executive Order No. GA-36 relating to the prohibition of governmental entities and officials from mandatory face covering or restricting activities in response to the COVID-19 disaster, no one is required to wear a mask (masks are optional), but masks will be allowed at the discretion of the staff member, student, parent, or local physician.
- Athletics and extracurricular activities will be conducted in alignment with UIL guidelines.
- Staggered lunch schedule will be implemented for students to limit cafeteria capacity

### **Reporting:**

- Teachers and staff must report to the school system 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 as noted below.
- Parents must ensure they do not send a child to school on campus if the child has COVID-19 symptoms, as listed below, or is lab-confirmed with COVID-19.

## **Response: UPDATED AUGUST 2022**

Practices to respond to individuals confirmed or suspected with COVID-19-----

1. What happens if a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19?

In accordance with the **AUGUST 2022** updated guidelines released by TEA and the DSHS

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

As provided in this Department of State Health Services (DSHS) Rule, school systems must exclude students from attending school in person who have or are suspected of having COVID-19, and must immediately notify parents if this is determined while on campus.

## **Campus Re-entry Criteria**

As noted in the rule, exclusion shall continue until the conditions for re-entry are met:

- For children or staff with symptoms, at least **5 days** have passed since symptom onset, and **fever free**, and other **symptoms have improved**.
- Children or staff who test positive for COVID-19 but **do not have any symptoms** must stay home until at least 5 days after the day they were tested.
- CDC recommends that those who return to school or work after **5 days** wear a high-quality mask; however, WISD will continue to make masks optional at the discretion of the parent or physician.

## **Exposure or Close Contact:**

In support of the August 11, 2022 update, for those who are exposed or were in close contact of an individual diagnosed positive with COVID-19, the CDC is recommending the following:

- Consistent with the general guidance, the CDC no longer recommends quarantining for people exposed to COVID-19 in the school setting.
- The CDC continues to promote the importance of being up to date with vaccination to protect people against serious illness, hospitalization, and death. Protection provided by the current vaccine against symptomatic infection and transmission is less than that against severe disease and diminishes over time, especially against the currently circulating variants. For this reason, it is important to stay up to date, especially as new vaccines become available.
- The CDC is recommending (not requiring) that instead of quarantining if you were exposed to COVID-19, you wear a high-quality mask for 10 days and get tested on day 5.
- **WISD will allow staff and students to continue coming to school if exposed to COVID-19 as long as the staff or student remains symptom-free. Masks will continue to optional and at the discretion of the parent or physician.**

**Notice:**

WISD's Communication Plan for Parents and the Public

- Westbrook ISD website ([www.westbrookisd.com](http://www.westbrookisd.com))
- Westbrook ISD Remind Notification System

Contacts for concerns or questions: 325/644/2311

- WISD administrators— 325/644/2311
- Front office secretary— Cristina Morris

\* WISD's Reopening Task Force, staff, and community members will be continuously reviewing this document and other possible structures for students safely returning to in-person instruction and the continuity of services no less frequently than every six months.

---