

SISD Board Meeting 8/28/2023

Erin Seale, RN Health Services Coordinator

## **2023-2024 COVID Update**

Board members,

COVID is an unwelcome guest, that continues to linger. We have seen only a handful of cases in our district since school started, but we continue to observe precautions to prevent the spread of this illness and others.

TEA has not updated their guidelines since August 2022, when they released a letter regarding public school protocols (attached). We adopted this updated guideline as our own protocol last fall.

At this time, SISD will continue to observe our current protocol which is as follows:

- Any staff member or student who is diagnosed with COVID-19 will stay home for 5 days from the onset of symptoms. The first day of symptoms is day “zero” and they may return on the 6<sup>th</sup> day as long as they have been fever free for 24 hours and have seen improvement in symptoms.
- Any staff member or student who tests positive but has no symptoms will stay home for 5 days from the date of testing.
- Families are not required to do household quarantine- only the family members who are ill will stay home.
- A negative test is NOT required to return to school or work.

In the way of proactive action, each campus will be equipped with hand sanitizer, masks will not be required but will be made available, and each campus nurse will observe all students and staff visiting her office for symptoms and communicate with parents as appropriate.

Our finance department has this in mind as well, and is ensuring that we have supplies needed to keep hands and surfaces clean.

At this time, we are not provided COVID testing at school. Tests are available at most pharmacies and clinics.

We will continue to monitor TEA guidelines and update our plan as changes are made.

Thank you,

Erin Seale, RN