

To TAS Parents and Students,

RE: Re-Opening Plans of Taylor County Accelerated School SY 2020-21

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with our detailed reopening plans to ensure that we have taken all safety precautions to protect our teachers, students, and staff during 2020-21 school year.

As you are all aware, the Taylor County School District will reopen all schools on August 24, 2020. Covid-19 has brought unprecedented times and presented many schools with unique challenges to educating our students. Our school district, in collaboration with administrators, teachers, and staff worked together to come up with a foundational plan for re-opening this Fall.

The following is what we will implement in our reopening plans. It will provide our detailed protocols and drastic changes that we expect to be followed by all teachers, students and staff in our efforts to reopen. This plan was developed with considerations for best practices, health and safety of students and staff, and providing a safe learning environment. Therefore, parents, teachers, and students will need to be flexible as we progress throughout the 2020-21 school year.

We established protocols that will provide protection and will keep us COVID19 free as possible:

TAS Operation while under COVID19

- TAS students will arrive between 7:30 a.m.-7:55 a.m. enter the main building
- Student bookbags will be prohibited
- Student's cell phones will be collected and stores in a lock room
- Water fountains will be converted with "Retrofit Bottle Fillers" for water bottle use ONLY. Students will be to use water bottle provided the school system
- All students must sanitize their hands prior to entering building, then proceed to the cafeteria for breakfast
- During lunch, all TAS students and ISS students will attend at stagger time frame.
- Teachers and Staff will attend their lunch at same as TAS students attend their lunch period
- We will use a staggered rotation classroom schedule between two Computer labs and two classrooms for students to include desk arrange at 6th apart
- We construct two computers labs to manage the anticipates numbers students at "Brick & Mortar"
- We will use different entrance and exit points per class whenever possible
- For class changes – the teacher moves rather than the students, whenever possible. Staggered break times between classes
- Teachers & Students will receive COVID19 safety training

Enrollment Options:

- APEX will be used as our curriculum web-based learning platform
- 20 TAS students has acknowledged that they will use TEC as their choice of learning. APEX digital platform will be use by these students as well.
- All TEC (APEX at HOME) must attend class each via video conferencing thru Microsoft Outlook TEAM

COVID19 Protocols:

- 6 feet social distance, whenever possible
- Masks to be worn when social distancing is not possible. However, mask will not be required for the students. If they desire a mask the school will provide a mask.
- Students who feel sick should stay at home until symptom free for one (1) day. Depending on the symptoms, students may need to be evaluated, and possibly tested before returning to school
- Students/Faculty/Staff out due to positive results and/or contact quarantine will be required to distance learn as prescribed by TAS Administration Staff.
- We have provided our teachers and staff with face shield to include Plexiglas for each of their desk
- We will provide social distancing decals and signs such Wash your Hands, 6ft social distancing signs, etc.
- Teachers and staff will submit to check temperatures each morning (anyone with a fever of 100.0 or higher is sent home and cannot return until they are fever free for 24 hours without the use of medicine)
- Students will be required to sanitize their work areas several times during the day.
- Hand sanitizer in every room (we just installed touchless stations as well)
- Classrooms sanitized (Lysol, wipes) at the end of each session and all areas sprayed with the sanitizer from the district (we call it the citrus stuff) each afternoon
- Lysol (or Lysol-like product) in each faculty restroom to be used to spray hard surfaces by each user
- Restroom cleaning will conduct daily, and a record must establish each day for each week

We have learned the following important details from other schools that we were info to practice. They are follows:

- a. Close contact (contact of less than 6 feet for 15 minutes or longer) - which we learned Friday was cumulative - with someone testing positive. These individuals must quarantine for 14 days after their last contact with a person who has COVID-19.
- b. Household contact (contact with someone they live with) who has tested positive. These individuals must quarantine for 14 days from the date the positive result was received.
- c. Student/Faculty testing positive - These individuals must follow Health Department guidelines and be out at least 10 days since symptoms started

In the event a TAS students and/or teacher tests positive, depending on the symptoms exhibited, the TAS will follow TCSB policy regarding a mandatory self-quarantine period as prescribed by the Health Department. Our students will be required to participate in distance learning via APEX distancing learning platform for that time period.

We understand the impact these decisions will have on your family and children we serve. While we do not know for certain what the Fall will bring, we do know that it will take all of us to contain the spread of Covid-19 by following state and local health guidelines. Parents, teachers, and students will need to be flexible as we progress throughout the 2020-21 school year.

Sincerely,

Mr. Edward L. Harvey Sr
Dean of Students at TAS