



Top 10 Things You Need to Know ~ Back to School



1. Start of School ~ We are excited to welcome everyone back! This year will be altered in ways that may be hard to accept; let's resolve to find the opportunities hidden in the challenges, to embrace the endless possibilities, and to model for our students a grace under pressure that will serve as an inspiration to them for the years to come.

The schedule for the first week of school is as follows:

- **September 8, 9, 10, 11** will be an early release day for all learners. This will give students a learning opportunity for safety protocols and get acclimated to our new normal.

Meet the Teacher, Open House and Student Orientations

- **Meyer Elementary:** September 1 (virtual)
- **Wools Intermediate:** Virtual Meet the Teacher ~ recording will be available on the campus website and the campus Facebook page beginning Tuesday, August 25
- **McDowell Middle High:** Virtual 6th Grade Boot ~ recording will be available Monday, August 24, Virtual Meet the Teacher - TBA
- **High School:** Virtual Freshman Orientation ~ recording will be available on Monday, August 31

2. Face Coverings ~ All students (grades Pre-Kindergarten to 12th Grade) will wear a face covering. Hondo ISD will be providing each student a lanyard to secure the face coverings during instances where the student may remove them (i.e., lunch).

3. Remote Learning ~ We have 59% of students returning face to face and 41% who will be starting the year remotely. We have outlined all of the details about Remote Learning for you below.

4. Dress Code ~ Please reference dress code rules in student handbooks. No changes have been made from previous year.

5. Bus Rules ~ We highly encourage parents to provide transportation if at all possible given that it will be difficult to social distance on our buses. We are thankful for those that are able to do so. **All students (Pre-K - 12th grade) choosing to ride a bus will be required to wear a face covering for the duration of the trip. Temperatures will be taken at the time of boarding. Students with a temperature of 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit or higher will not be allowed to board the bus. Parents will be asked to take them home. Students qualifying for and choosing to ride the school bus may no longer have the option to easily change their method of travel to/from school without adequate notice (same day is longer possible). Due to social distancing and the use of seating charts changes cannot be guaranteed, and therefore cannot be honored.** Registration forms can be found online under the *Custom Forms* menu in Skyward. A Bus Rider Safety Handbook can be found at www.hondoisd.net/operations.

6. Social Distancing ~ This is one of the most common questions we are asked . . . "How will you social distance?" Although we will make every effort to establish 6 feet of space, it may not be possible all of the time. We will be thoughtful about large gatherings, but anticipate regular class sizes in Pre-K – 12th grades.

7. Health & Safety Protocols ~

- **Arrival:** Parents will not be allowed to accompany students to classrooms. Drop off times and areas are as follows:
 - Meyer** – Drop off is at 7:30 a.m. Vehicles move through parent lanes on Avenue Q. Students who walk to school will enter through the main office on 24th Street. All students will be in the building no later than 7:50 a.m. Students will report directly to the classroom and may order breakfast at that time.
 - Woolfs** – Drop off is at 7:30 a.m. Students who walk, ride a bike, or are dropped off will enter through the canopy on Avenue Q.
 - McDowell** – Drop off is at 7:30 a.m.. The 7th and 8th graders will be dropped off between gym and band hall; 6th graders will be dropped off between the art room and gym. Both drop off locations will be utilizing separate drive through areas.
 - High School** – Drop off is at 7:45 in the front loop by the flag pole. All students will be dropped off in the same area; no drop off is permitted on 27th Street. Entry to the high school is only through the main entrance at the flagpole. Upon arriving, students will report to their first period class.
- **Passing Periods:** For secondary campuses, students will be asked to move in one direction. Middle school will stagger release times. Elementary campuses will rotate teachers not students.
- **Lunch:** All campuses will have a closed campus for lunch. Students will be allowed to bring a lunch from home, but no deliveries will be accepted throughout the morning. We will decrease the number of students per table and increase the spacing between tables.
 - Meyer** – Depending on the number of students who choose face-to-face learning, students will either eat in the classroom or space out in the cafeteria.
 - Woolfs** – Students will eat lunch by grade level. Tables are set six feet apart facing one direction with two students per table. There will only be one entrance and one exit. Heightened sanitation protocols will be followed.
 - McDowell** – Lunches will be assigned by splitting the grade levels in half (6A/6B, 7A/7B, 8A/8B) while maintaining social distancing and sanitation protocols at all times.
 - High School** – Students will be divided into three lunch groups. Students will be allowed to eat in the cafeteria, the amphitheater outside the cafeteria and in the Activity Center to accommodate social distancing.
- **Dismissal Times:**
 - Meyer** – 3:30 p.m. daily – Parents will be issued a card that they will keep in their vehicle. Parents will remain in vehicles at all times. Staff member will escort child(ren) to vehicle. If child will ride the private bus to a daycare facility, communicate with the counselor or the assigned teacher.
 - Woolfs** – 3:30 p.m. daily – Bus riders will dismiss from 27th Street. There are three parent pick-up areas: 3rd grade - canopy on Avenue Q; 4th grade - sound end of campus outside the cafeteria; 5th grade – south end of campus outside the cafeteria, closer to the playground. Parents will enter the cafeteria parking lot from Avenue Q and exit onto 30th Street. More information can be found on the campus website.
 - McDowell** – 3:45 p.m. daily – Students who utilize private or district-provided transportation will be picked up in the same area as the morning drop off. Students who walk home will leave in the same manner they entered school.
 - High School** – 3:55 p.m. – Students who are riding the bus will be socially distanced in the cafeteria until their bus arrives.

8. Friday Night Lights ~ We will kick off the football season at Pleasanton on August 28. Our first home football game will be on September 11 against Uvalde.

For football, attendance to home games will be limited as follows: four tickets will be provided to each senior varsity football player, marching band member and cheerleader; two tickets will be provided to all other

varsity football players, high school marching band members and varsity cheerleaders. No season tickets will be sold, so seating for those with a ticket will be on a first-come, first-serve basis and social distancing will be required. The band and cheerleaders will not be traveling to out-of-town games.

For volleyball, attendance to home games will be limited as follows: four (4) tickets will be provided to each freshman, junior varsity and varsity player. Freshman will play in the Activity Center; junior varsity and varsity will play in the new gym. The gym will be cleared after the junior varsity game at which time the varsity parents will be allowed entry. For out-of-town games, tickets will be limited to two tickets per player. Middle school volleyball will follow similar guidelines.

For freshman and JV football, attendance to home games will be limited as follows: four tickets will be provided to each player. The stands will be cleared after the freshman game at which time the junior varsity parents will be allowed in. For out-of-town games, tickets will be limited to two tickets per player. Middle school football will follow the similar guidelines.

All tickets will be sold online.

9a. Quarantine ~ Who goes home when? Here are the basics . . .

- If you test positive, a minimum quarantine of 10 days (additionally, you must be fever free for 24 hours)
- If you had “close contact” (within 6 feet for 15+ minutes with no face covering), the quarantine is a minimum of 14 days

How can you protect yourself from being asked to quarantine?

- Wash your hands often.
- Wear a face covering.
- Cover your mouth when you cough or sneeze.
- Keep 6 feet of space when possible.

How will we determine who needs to quarantine? Our district Safety Officer will work with campus administration to investigate every positive case. Every meeting space (including classrooms) will have seating charts and a determination will be made as to who has been impacted. We will also work with our local public health authorities to assist with determinations. Click [HERE](#) for our Student Quarantine Protocol.

9b. Notification ~ How will I know if there is a case? We will notify the campus administration if someone tests positive on that campus. We will not disclose identifiable information about that student or staff member. However, you will be contacted personally if your child has been determined to have been within close contact with someone who tests positive.

10. Adaptability ~ is the watch word!! *The most important factor in survival is neither intelligence nor strength but adaptability.* Things are going to change and we will respond and adapt. We will keep a close pulse on our school community to help make decisions. As always, we are here to answer your questions or address concerns. For campus specific issues, contact the principal.

General Face-to-Face Learning Information

- Attendance is required daily, following the 2020-21 calendar (revised 8/3/20).
- Daily instructional start time for each campus is listed above. Students must be in their classroom by this time each morning.
- Parents and guardians will be responsible for monitoring their child’s temperature daily. Children may attend school if they are fever and symptom free. Children must be fever free without the aid of a

fever reducer for at least 24 hours. Please do not send your child to school if their temperature is 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit or higher.

General Remote Learning Information

- Remote Learning is based on the state curriculum standards (TEKS) and is aligned to the scope & sequence of our Hondo ISD classes to allow students to transition between in-person and remote learning as needed.
- Remote learners are allowed to participate in extracurricular activities.
- Students may transition to / from remote learning every 6 weeks. Remote learners will be given an additional opportunity at the 4-week mark to transition to In-Person learning.
- Students must log in to the remote learning platform every day, Monday-Friday, and show progress in order to be marked “present” and earn credit for that day of learning.
- *Information regarding device availability is coming soon!*
- Students will need internet access, technology devices, parental guidance and supervision to complete remote learning activities.

Student Expectations for At-Home Learning

- Spend the required minutes in the learning platform daily (M-F).
- Make daily progress in each course according to progress expectations.
- Advocating for yourself so we know how to support you.
- Participate in virtual meetings with classroom teacher.
- Track progress in each course according to progress expectations.
- Check email daily.
- Become familiar with your Learning Management System (Canvas).

Parent Expectations for At-Home Learning

- Facilitate academic support and encouragement as a learning partner to motivate and guide your child throughout the school year.
- Ensure your child is on track with assignments and coursework.
- Ensure your child is reaching out to their teacher.
- Assist in supporting your child’s needs by establishing and managing the daily schedule.
- Consider creating a designated learning space for your child at home to learn comfortably and with minimal distractions.
- Maintain communication with your child’s teacher by phone, email messages, and/or online meetings to create a learning partnership with the school.
- Help your child own their learning.
- Provide support and encouragement, and expect your children to do their part.
- Become familiar with your student’s Learning Management System (Canvas).

**Adapt
ability**
The Art of
Winning in an Age
of Uncertainty