

May ISD Return to School Newsletter

July 23, 2020

OVERVIEW

May ISD administration is in the final planning stages for what a return to school this fall will look like for students and staff. Current federal and state guidance continues to change weekly. We fully expect plans to evolve and adapt over the next few weeks as further guidance becomes available. May ISD plans to start on August 17 as our school calendar indicates with face-to-face instruction and an option for remote instruction. **This is our first draft and a summary of our plans, as well as an effort to keep our parents on the same page with us. This is not comprehensive and the final plan will be released within the next two weeks.**

Steps May ISD will take to avoid loss of instruction:

1. Each student will be issued a chromebook or laptop the first day of school so that we can easily transition to remote (if need be).
2. Our teacher will use Google Classroom the first day of school even for in-person so we can transition to remote easily (if need be).

Face-to-Face Instruction

- Students will return to a normal school day following health guidelines as stated below.

Remote Instruction

There are two important definitions for remote learning below that the Texas Education Agency has provided and the parents must be familiar with:

Asynchronous Instruction refers to self-paced instruction with intermittent teacher interaction.

- May ISD will only use this method for grades PK-2nd.
- Preassigned work with formative assessments that may include pre-recorded videos with guided support.
- Regular grading policies apply.
- Attendance will be based on daily progress and assignment completion.

Synchronous Instruction refers to live, scheduled, interactive instruction.

1. May ISD will use this remote learning method for grades 3rd-12th grade
2. Live, scheduled, interactive classes in real time, teacher-supported work time with scheduled, timed, online tests.
3. May ISD will use Zoom as our primary platform for live classes.
4. Students will be held to the same standard as students attending in-person.
 - a. Students will attend each class via Zoom as a normal class day.
 - b. Cameras must be on, students must be sitting up at a desk, or table.
 - c. Dress code and all school policies apply.
5. Regular grading and attendance policies apply the same as students attending in-person.

Health and Safety

The health and safety of our students, staff, and their families is our highest priority. We've taken the following steps to ensure that we've created a safe, healthy environment for our district.

1. Cleaning protocols:
 - a. Sanitization stations provided in each classroom and students are encouraged to use hand sanitizer when they enter and leave the classroom.
 - b. TEA is sending 25 gallons of sanitizer
 - c. Handwashing after using the restroom and before eating.
2. Masks:
 - a. TEA will provide shields for teachers and 3,000 disposable masks for students
 - b. Once a student enters the classroom, they can remove the mask if they can maintain 6 feet of social distance.
 - c. Students 10 years and younger are not required to wear a mask.
 - d. Social Distancing:
 - i. Desks will be placed 6 feet apart, as possible.
 - ii. Hallways will be marked showing the appropriate traffic flow.

May ISD will follow all health guidance and recommendations from TEA as outlined in the following document:

<https://tea.texas.gov/sites/default/files/covid/Covid-19-SY-20-21-Public-Health-Guidance.pdf>

We're Looking Forward to a GREAT Year!!