FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

INSTRUCTION

1. Q. When does school start?
   A. The first day of school is Tuesday, August 25. The first 4 weeks (Aug. 25 – Sept. 22) of school will be 100% distance learning. The district has applied for a waiver for an additional 4 weeks of distance learning and is awaiting response from TEA.

2. Q. Can my child participate through distance learning the whole year?
   A. Families may continue to request distance learning for the entire semester or school year.
      • A family who commits to distance learning, may not return to Traditional (face to face) instruction until the end of the six weeks period.
      • Students who attend Traditional (face to face) learning, may choose to move to remote/distance learning also at the end of the six weeks period.

3. Q. Can I decide to change the mode of instruction during the school year?
   A. Yes. You will need to contact one of the Administrators and submit your decision in writing. Changes can be made at the end of the six weeks only.

4. Q. How will the lessons be delivered?
   A. Families have the option of three different modes of instruction.
      • Traditional (Face to Face) Instruction: Students will physically attend school from 8:05 – 3:15pm. This option is available for PK3 – 5th grades after possibly September 22nd.
      • Synchronous Learning (Distance/Remote Learning): Live instruction with the classroom teacher. This is a set schedule from 8:05 – 3:15pm. This is an option for 3rd – 5th grades.
      • Asynchronous Learning (Distance/Remote Learning): Pre-recorded lessons. Students will complete the daily assignments via a Learning Management System or telephone. The classroom teacher will make daily contact with the child. This is an option for PK3 – 5th grades.
5. Q. What are the requirements for Synchronous (Distance/Remote) Learning?
   A. The requirements include:
      - Students must log on at least 5 minutes before class starts.
      - The child is in a well-lit area and away from noise or distractions. NO bedrooms/beds, please.
      - The ideal area is: facing away from TVs/electronics, room away from where family business is occurring.
      - The child is wearing appropriate and comfortable clothing (no pajamas).
      - Minimize the need of breaks by having your child with a cup of water and have them use the restroom beforehand.
      - Parent is welcome to sit beside their child to support them. Please do not give them the answers or worry about their performance. They are here to learn and are not expected to do everything correctly.

6. Q. How will attendance be monitored?
   A. To be considered “present” and not be marked absent students must meet one or more of the following learning requirements.
      - Participate via Seesaw or Google Classroom and complete independent reading or work assignments.
      - Interact with their teacher virtually via Seesaw or Google Classroom as part of a live or small group instruction.
      - Complete and submit assignments via Seesaw or Google Classroom.

When unable to submit via the Learning Management System, students can submit assignments via emails, photos, phone conference or other forms of documentation. Students who have not met at least one of these requirements by 3:15 PM will be marked absent. The student’s absence can be resolved if the student is able to complete one of the three requirements listed above by 11:59 PM on that same day.

MEALS

7. Q. Will meals be provided to students learning remotely?
   A. All elementary campuses will offer curbside meals from 10:00am to 1:00pm. Students will not need to be in the vehicle. BISD FNS can ONLY feed BISD enrolled students during the school year. Parents must bring their enrolled child’s barcoded ID letter provided by the school district. The barcodes must be prominently displayed on the windshield to allow FNS to scan each barcode to verify enrollment and provide contactless meals to the parent or guardian. Curbside service will be provided through the first gate by the bus pick up and drop off area.
8. Q. May I drop off lunch for my child?
   A. No. We are trying to limit the amount of visitors to campus during the COVID-19 pandemic. Please assist us in limiting transmission of exposure. Please have your child bring their lunch with them in the morning.

9. Q. May I pick up my child to have lunch with them?
   A. No. We are trying to limit the amount of visitors to campus during the COVID-19 pandemic. Please assist us in limiting transmission of exposure.

10. Q. May I send my child with a snack?
    A. Yes. Please send only individual size snacks. To avoid transmission, students will not be allowed to share their snacks. Please send snacks that the child can open on their own. Students will be required to open their own milk carton, juice box, etc…

11. Q. Should my child take his/her own bottle of water?
    A. Yes. Please send your child with their own bottle of water. Water bottles should be labeled with their name. All water fountains on campus have been disabled to avoid transmission.

12. Q. Will lunch and PE settings change?
    A. Yes. Social distancing will be implemented in lunch and PE setting to ensure the health and safety of students.

**CELEBRATIONS**

13. Q. Will awards assemblies be held?
    A. No. We are trying to limit the amount of visitors to campus during the COVID-19 pandemic. At the completion of the each six weeks, teachers will recognize students in their classroom (virtually or face to face). Students will still receive ribbons for A Honor Roll/AB Honor Roll and certificates for Perfect Attendance.

14. Q. Will we be able to celebrate my child’s birthday by bringing in cupcakes, juices, a gift, etc.?
    A. No. We are trying to limit the amount of visitors to campus during the COVID-19 pandemic. The birthday girl/boy will be allowed to wear their “Sunday Best” on the day of their birthday. Teacher and class will recognize (virtually or face to face) the child.

15. Q. May I send a gift (flowers, balloons, etc…) to my child for Valentines, birthday, etc…?
    A. No. We are trying to limit the amount of visitors to campus during the COVID-19 pandemic.

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FACEMASKS

16. Q. Will facemasks be required?  
   A. Yes. A mask is required.

TECHNOLOGY

17. Q. Who can I contact if I am having problems with a district issued device?  
   A. Mr. James Houghtaling, our Technology Support Teacher, will be available to assist you. Please call the campus at (956) 574-5582 so we can direct your call.

MISCELLANEOUS

18. Q. Should we request the family number?  
   A. It is highly recommended that you do so especially if your child will be participating in the Traditional (Face to Face) delivery of instruction. Please visit the Paredes website to request your number.

19. Q. Do we have to purchase the school uniform?  
   A. No. If your child is attending school (Traditional/Face to Face), they need to wear either a royal blue, white or black t-shirt. The t-shirt must be plain without logos. If your child is attending school (virtually), they need to be dressed appropriately. No pajamas, please.

20. Q. Will visitation to schools be limited?  
   A. Yes. The CDC recommends limiting non-essential visitors, volunteers, and activities. The CDC recommends school districts pursue virtual activities and events in lieu of field trips, school-wide parent meetings, and other activities possible.

21. Q. If my child has a doctor’s appointment, may I pick him/her up from school?  
   A. Yes, please advise the school ahead of time. No child will be released after 2:15 PM. All visitors are to ring the doorbell and state their business. Office personnel will take the release card to the parent for signature and check their identification at the front entrance. Parents are to wait in their car and the child will be escorted to the vehicle.

22. Q. Will there be STAAR testing this year?  
   A. Yes. TEA has announced that STAAR testing will be required this year.

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