

SENT TO FAMILIES via School Messenger on August 23, 2021

Dear WISD families,

The health and safety of our students, young children, families and staff has always been at the center of all our planning and decision-making, but this is especially true during the pandemic.

Our primary goal this year is to provide consistent in-person instruction and services to students, young children, and families in a way that is safe for them and our staff.

After careful consideration, we want to inform you that we will be adding an additional health and safety layer this school year. **WISD will require that all WISD staff be fully vaccinated OR complete weekly antigen testing beginning the week of August 30, 2021. Contractors and interns who interact with students, families, and staff, or are at WISD facilities on a regular basis, must also adhere to this policy.**

As a reminder, WISD will maintain the following health and safety measures for all students, families and staff, regardless of vaccination status:

- Wearing a face mask in classrooms and common spaces, as well as during home visits, if able.
- Completing a daily health screener and if experiencing any symptoms:
 - Keeping students home, OR
 - Rescheduling home visits or requesting a virtual home visit.
- Maintaining physical distancing as much as possible.
- Practicing good hygiene habits like regular handwashing and covering sneezes.

The district will also request the vaccination status of students in our student programs. Providing this information will be **optional**, but will greatly assist the district should contact tracing be necessary for your student.

Vaccination remains the best protection we have to minimize the spread of COVID-19 and protect our WISD community against severe illness, hospitalization, and death, especially when layered with our other protocols. We strongly encourage all who are old enough to get vaccinated. You can learn more about getting vaccinated [here](#).

I am grateful to our entire WISD community for the care we have all taken to keep each other safe. I hope this extra layer in our health and safety protocols will not only help our families and staff *feel* safer, but will truly keep everyone as safe and healthy as possible.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact us by using [Let's Talk](#).

Sincerely,

Naomi Norman
Interim Superintendent