

Back to School FAQ

Safety

1. What is in place to ensure safety for my child if I choose face-to-face instruction?

- Face-to-face instruction features the most robust support for students. Particular attention to health and safety will be addressed by multiple protocols, including:
 - Sanitizing practices, such as frequent cleaning of high touch point areas, desks and chairs
 - Expanded service from GermBlast in addition to our regular cleaning schedule
 - No sharing of student supplies or resources
 - Hand sanitizing stations throughout the buildings
 - Adults required to wearing masks
 - Students older than age 10 will wear face masks, and when appropriate for younger students
 - Social distancing, including development of schedules that limit large groups and modified transportation
 - Screening protocols for staff, students, and visitors
 - Limited face-to-face staff meetings and professional development

2. **Micro closure procedures will be enacted for students/staff who come into “close contact” with a person who contracts COVID-19. A microclosure is a short shutdown between 1-5 days, during which deep cleaning procedures will be administered on the campus. During this microclosure, students will be taught online by their teachers.**

- Close contact is defined as:
 - being directly exposed to infectious secretions (e.g., being coughed on while not wearing a mask or face shield); or
 - being within 6 feet for a cumulative duration of 15 minutes, while not wearing a mask or face shield;
 - if either occurred at any time in the last 14 days at the same time the infected individual was contagious.
 - Individuals are presumed infectious at least two days prior to symptom onset or, in the case of asymptomatic individuals who are lab-confirmed with COVID-19, two days prior to the confirming lab test.

3. **If there's 50% capacity in the cafeteria, are they also 50% in classrooms?**

- The measure is not 50% capacity the measure is 6 feet of social distancing at all locations.

4. **How will 6 feet be maintained in the classroom? Most classrooms are full so I'm curious how this will be accomplished? Will desks be separated?**

- The same way it is currently maintained in summer school. Teachers measured each student's desk. If necessary, all additional furniture will need to be removed from the classroom in order to ensure 6 feet of space between desks.
- 5. What defines "when appropriate" for a mask wearing under 10? Did I understand correctly that kids get to choose? How will you handle that, as those not masking are exposing those that are?**
- Strongly recommend the use of masks for all students.
- 6. Will they be accessing the library books? How do they sanitize books?**
- Yes, there will be access to library books
 - When students return library books, the edges and front and back covers need to be wiped off and they need to be set aside for 24 hours before they can be reshelved
- 7. I might have missed this but do we buy a certain color mask?**
- No, but ensure it is an appropriate mask.
- 8. Will the kids be required to be wearing face masks during PE?**
- Awaiting clarification from the district.
- 9. Is it safer for the kids to wear masks and shields or just masks?**
- Shields are an added layer of protection.
- 10. I think that micro closure should be specific to that class who had the exposure.**
- The campus will not have to make the decision for a closure. That information will come from our central office district nurse. She will follow the guidelines and contact the Health Department to determine what or how much needs to be closed.
- 11. Hello! So temp checks for all every day ? And teachers during instructional time - masks ? Or face shield so the face can be seen more clearly ? And did you say we need to make a choice by July 22...**
- Currently, temperatures are taken daily. Teachers wear masks all day, every day.
 - Parent survey needs to be completed by July 22nd.
 - Online registration needs to be completed by August 3rd. (*This is where you will choose face-to-face or virtual learning*)
- 12. Will the teachers be given additional cleaning supplies to use in the classroom? I know lots of teachers have anxiety about coming back, how can we best show support or what can we assist them with?**

- Yes all staff will be provided with additional cleaning supplies. We will ask teachers what needs they have.

13. Are you going to provide kids with masks or face shields?

- The district has purchased one cloth face mask for each LISD student.

14. Will immersion teachers be wearing masks or face shields during instruction? I would think face masks would make it difficult for students to hear proper enunciation.

- All teachers/staff will be wearing masks. Thus far during summer school, our children are becoming excellent listeners.

Instruction

15. Will technology be provided for students?

- All Pre-K and kindergarten students will have an **iPad** to take home each day.
- All first- through 12th-grade students will have a **Chromebook** to take home each day.

16. What will visits to the campus look like?

- In order to **limit the number of people in our school buildings**, we are asking parents and guardians to **remain outside** of the building during **drop-off** and **dismissal**.
- We are currently developing arrival and dismissal plans to ensure a safe and smooth transition at the beginning and end of the school days.

17. What will Open House look like?

- Campuses are working on an **appointment open house** for our PreK and Kinder students and families. You will also be able to make appointments to visit with teachers, counselors, and administrators as needed.

18. What do we know about virtual school?

- Virtual instruction will be provided to any student and family who prefers this learning option.
- Virtual instruction has a daily time requirement for students to be engaged in school work.
 - Elementary: **180 minutes daily**
 - Secondary: 240 minutes daily
 - Students will be expected to turn in work **every day** and communicate with their teachers.
- Grading guidelines for virtual school will follow the same Lubbock ISD grading guidelines utilized for students enrolled in face-to-face instruction.
- Students who select virtual instruction will remain in the virtual classroom for a full nine-week grading period. For example, if families select virtual learning for their student, they cannot transition back to face-to-face until the grading period ends.
- A variety of educational platforms will be utilized for the virtual classroom including but not limited to Edgenuity, Google Classroom, Canvas, and Seesaw. Students will be required to navigate the platforms and submit assignments virtually through those platforms.

- Families of younger students will be expected to assist them to access the device, get started daily, and stay on task.
 - Lubbock ISD is providing electronic devices. The State of Texas is working on a plan to provide internet access for families who need it. In the meantime, Park-N-Learn sites are available at all Lubbock ISD middle and high school campuses.
 - Students who opt for virtual learning will receive instruction in core subjects. The decision to participate in UIL and extracurricular activities while they are enrolled in virtual instruction will be made by Lubbock ISD no later than July 31.
19. **In light of our current situation, can I safely assume that we will cancel this year's Tears and Cheers event?**
- Yes and ALL fall events.
20. **Is everything on track for the Spanish Immersion program?**
- Yes, we are ready for ALL of our special programs at Ramirez including our IB.
21. **What about Spanish Immersion? Is that still an option for virtual learning until we are comfortable returning to campus for face to face.**
- Yes
22. **Do lessons need to be viewed live, or will they be recorded?**
- Lessons will be recorded. Strongly recommended to view live.
23. **If immersion children are out due to an exposure will they have access to classwork during that time?**
- All children will have access to classwork during an absence.
24. **Are we locked into the decision we make on the initial survey due Wednesday as the COVID situation continues to evolve between now and August 17th?**
- Yes. Families are able to change from face to face and vice versa at the end of each nine weeks.
25. **So if we decide to start with face to face instruction, we have to commit to that for 9 weeks? If after a week or two, we are not comfortable with face to face, we can't switch to online instruction?**
- Correct. As of today, we must commit to the 9 weeks.
26. **Even in pre-k/kinder, when they are new to Spanish instruction? How will that work?**
- Need clarification regarding this question.
27. **Are GT services still provided virtually?**
- Have not received information from Advanced Academics.
28. **Are students still able to advance grade levels?**

- Have not received information from Advanced Academics.

29. What are classroom limits?

- Same classroom teacher pupil ratio. This has not changed.

30. With the IB component missing from virtual instruction, does this mean our students won't be able to graduate with the IB distinction because they missed some IB instruction?

- The continuity of IB learning will continue once this virus passes. This should not affect their IB graduation distinction.

31. What is the process for opting out of face to face during the school year?

- Each 9 weeks parents will have the ability to change the mode of instruction.

32. At the school board meeting last week, they indicated online K-2nd grade would have a flexible learning schedule with only intermittent interaction with teachers. Please explain what this will mean at Ramirez?

- Buddy system is when a student from school supports a student virtually.

33. We are trying to imagine a daily schedule. Minutes considered are both synchronous and asynchronous.

- Remote due to a micro closure:
 - Pre-K-5th Grade require 180 minutes per TEA
- Remote due to quarantine:
 - Pre-K-5th Grade require 180 minutes per TEA
- Select to attend school remotely:
 - Pre-K -2nd per learning criteria
 - 3rd - 5th Grade 180 minutes per TEA

34. Will my child's lunch account balance from the spring rollover for the fall?

- Yes, it should be in his account.

35. If we opt out of F2F and virtual to homeschool will we lose our spot in the Spanish immersion upon return?

- No child will lose their spot at Ramirez.

36. What is the specific drop off process?

- To be determined.

37. When will parents get to talk to and see teachers?

- To be determined.

38. If they start virtual can they switch to face to face learning?

- At the end of the nine weeks.

39. Will there be a teacher or administrator at drop off to help the younger kids find their classrooms in the morning in the beginning?

- Yes, there will be teachers and/or administrators will be at the drop off locations.

40. How can we do virtual LIVE/Recorded when we have 6 students at home to work at the same time?

- The virtual instruction will be recorded.

41. At the school board meeting they explained a "buddy" system, can you elaborate on what that means exactly?

- A student at school will virtually support a student who is currently under quarantine. Ex. notice when the student has a question through chat.

42. Do we only have one fifth grade SI teacher? Will all the kids be able to be in that one classroom if so?

- If the classroom size is not conducive to the 24 students, we will locate another room.

43. Is the supply list the same as posted on the LISD website?

- Yes, the current list is on our Ramirez webpage.
<https://www.lubbockisd.org/Domain/3451>

44. Is there a chance the spanish immersion students that go virtual learning for the upcoming year will not be able to get back into the spanish immersion program?

- All students who select virtual instruction will return to their various programs.

45. Is it possible to have the lectures recorded (asynchronous) to make sure parents can monitor their children's learning (especially for those with multiple children)?

- Instruction will be recorded.

46. If we already order school supplies through school, will that be ready when school starts?

- Supplies were delivered to the school on Monday, July 20th. Mrs. Brittsan will provide details regarding pick up.

47. Will students opting for virtual learning be issued a chromebook as well?

- Yes

48. Can you give us a picture or visual as to how the classroom will look with 20 students before we decide to commit?

- Desks will be placed 6 feet apart.

49. My son was a fifth grader last year... Do we return his chromebook?

- No, they will take their device with them to middle school.

50. Will there be playground time?

- To be determined.

51. Our kids are new students who have opted for virtual learning. When can we pick up the Chromebooks?

- Students who choose virtual learning will be contacted by the district regarding pick up of devices
- 1:1 Devices
 - Students in PreK and Kinder will be issued an iPad to use in class daily and take home nightly for at home use.
 - Students in 1st - 12th grade **will be** or have been issued a chromebook for students to use in class daily and take home for at home use.

(Lubbock ISD is a 1:1 District. Devices will be provided to students on the first day of school)

52. With no open house the kids will not meet their teacher until the 1st day of school?

- To be determined

53. Sorry, one more question. Since we're new, we still aren't on the email list. How do we do that? We've been getting all the info from a friend.

- Login and ensure you have filled out every field when registering your child, even if it does not have an asterisk
- Ensure you include your email

54. Will the children be able to virtually meet their teachers if we choose in person before the 1st day of school?

- Excellent idea, to be determined.

55. Is there any change in times for school , I mean is it still 7.30 to 3.15 pm

- To be determined

56. What happens if we start F2F and after a few weeks feel uncomfortable and want to move to remote learning? Will we be penalized for not committing to the entire 9 week period?

- As of now, we must commit to the 9 weeks.

57. Can the kids wear the neck gaiters as their face mask?

- Yes

58. Do you know if Y-care aftercare will still be offered this school year? From their website, it looks like it is being offered, but I wanted to check with the school as well.

- Yes, Y-care is still available. They too will follow the safety protocols.

59. If we decide that Spanish Immersion virtual kindergarten is difficult/challenging for our family after trying for several weeks, can we transfer to virtual English kindergarten in the middle of the semester or year? Or do we need to make that decision now?

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