

SCC Campus Reps Q & A

Questions Received the Week of 11/30–12/3

Walker Creek ES

1. **May we begin a research and development committee to learn how other districts implement alternative placements for general education students who would benefit from intensive behavior intervention for a short period?** (Ex. A two-week program)
 - A. Conducting a research and development committee during COVID is probably not feasible. However, sending out a survey to other districts is something we could easily do. Most districts do not have a separate behavior facility for short-term placement of general education students, especially elementary students. As we continue to learn from studying the research on social emotional learning, many of the acting out behavior issues we see manifesting themselves in classrooms are the result of trauma and a combination of multiple at-risk factors that have deeply impacted such students. No doubt, these behaviors, and the root-causes of these behaviors, have changed the nature of classrooms. Combining SEL with strong counseling support is what the research would suggest as best practice. As a district, we certainly want to be better prepared to support our children who are exhibiting such behaviors, as well as our classroom teachers who work with these students.

Haltom High

2. **As a District of Innovation, why can't BISS have an online high school like some other districts have?**
 - A. The TEA is no longer allowing school districts to apply to have an online school such as what Grapevine ISD has.

West Birdville ES

3. **Will you consider having Kinder-2nd grade (or any grade level not testing) students not attend school F2F on STAAR days so we can maximize our staff to ensure all students can test in their appropriate situations?** Those students can take their Chromebooks home to work asynchronously from home. Likely, our specialized teachers will be pulled to test remote learners leaving campuses with even less staff to help with test administration.
 - A. We can certainly consider this. The conversation needs to include multiple stakeholders and we will need to weigh the advantages versus the disadvantages. Then, it is a matter of cost versus benefit to determine if this is truly a viable option. However, thank you for bringing this idea forward.

Birdville ES

4. Now that the CDC has changed their Quarantine time for close contact ... will BISD alter the days as well?

- A. Beginning Friday, Dec. 4, Birdville ISD began following new CDC recommended quarantine guidelines (Released Dec. 2, 2020). These guidelines are:
- Quarantine can end after Day 10 without testing and if no symptoms have been reported during daily monitoring.
 - Quarantine can end after Day 7 if a diagnostic specimen tests negative and if no symptoms were reported during daily monitoring. (Proof of a negative test must be provided to the school.) The specimen may be collected and tested within 48 hours before the time of planned quarantine discontinuation (e.g., in anticipation of testing delays), but quarantine cannot be discontinued earlier than after Day 7.

View Full CDC Text - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/more/scientific-brief-options-to-reduce-quarantine.html>

If you have questions, please contact your campus administrator.

Watauga ES

5. Are there certain criteria that would have to happen in order for the school to go back to virtual learning only? Specific number of COVID cases, number of staff out, etc.?

- A. Ultimately, the superintendent decides if we continue face-to-face learning. He uses a variety of sources including our internal number of absences for both staff and students, Tarrant County Public health guidance, TEA's guidance and rules from the CDC. In addition, we collaborate with our surrounding districts to evaluate trends similar across the DFW area. Since we know that face-to-face learning offers the best education to our students, it is our preferred learning platform. However, we are trying to deliver this learning platform in a manner as safe as possible for both our students and our staff, during unprecedented times—during the pandemic. If there comes a time when we need to go back online, the superintendent will not hesitate, but this decision will not be made without consulting all of our resources. There is not a number or percentage that triggers action. As each school is different in size and/or needs, the decision must be made for each campus individually, until it needs to be made for the District as a whole.