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Welcome

Back to School



After the COVID-19 pandemic abruptly moved all school activities and instruction to remote learning, teachers and staff at Elgin ISD found creative ways to connect with their students (LEFT), celebrate the end of the year (TOP RIGHT) and provide breakfast and lunch (BOTTOM RIGHT).

Welcome

back to school

Elgin!

Good luck

and have a

great year!

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all parents,

teachers and

students the

best of luck

this school

year!

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Elgin ISD Return to Learn Plan

Updated August 3 - Subject to Change

Elgin ISD is committed to providing rigorous, TEKS-based instruction to all students whether they attend school in-person or select a remote instructional setting. We recognize that this may be a challenging year, but we are embracing the opportunity to expand and maximize learning for all students. Toward that end, we will offer two options for all students for the 2020-21 school year:

- 100% remote instruction (no paper packets)
- 100% face-to-face instruction, or hybrid schedule (high school only)

Please note, all students will be provided a device from PK-12th grade. PreK-2nd grade students will receive an iPad to support in-person and learning, depending on what families choose. 3rd-12th grade students will receive a Chromebook to support in-person and virtual learning, depending on what families choose. AT&T wireless hotspots will also be available for checkout for families who do not have Internet access at home.

Once parents select a model, the student must remain in that setting until the end of the nine-week grading period before a change can be made from the initial choice. Notice of any change to the instructional method

must be made in writing to the campus Principal no later than two weeks prior to the end of the nine weeks grading period.

All students, remote or in-person, must still register. Elgin ISD utilizes online returning student registration in our TxEIS Ascender Parent Portal. Online registration must be completed for each returning student in the district prior to the start of the new school year. The process typically takes only a few minutes per student, and allows you to verify that all of your student’s data is correct and provide updates for any important information that has changed, such as contact phone numbers, emergency contacts, and student health history. Returning student verification must be completed before students receive schedules or homeroom teacher assignments for the upcoming school year.

Reminder: The first day of school is Monday, August 24. Elgin ISD will open schools in a 100% remote setting for the first four weeks of school. (Students who do not have access to a device and/or the internet will have the option to attend school in person, based on requirements of the Texas Education Agency.) Beginning Monday, September 21, in-person instruction will begin for those students who have indicated that as their method of choice.

See **ELGIN ISD**, Page 5B

Elgin ISD School Supply List

Elgin ISD is purchasing all needed school supplies for all students in grades Pre-Kinder-garten through 6th for the 2020-2021 school year. Parents opting for in-person instruction for their child should only send a backpack with their student.

School Supply List for Grades 7th and 8th:
Due to COVID-19, students will keep all school supplies in their backpacks throughout the day. There will be no sharing of school supplies.

Students will be expected to wear a mask/shield when on campus. Students are encour-

- aged to carry their own personal hand sanitizer.
- 1 pack of 150-sheet notebook paper
 - 2 jumbo glue sticks
 - 12 pencils
 - 1 pack of map pencils
 - 1 pack of highlighters
 - 1 pack of black or blue pens
 - 1 1½ inch 3-ring binder
 - 1 pack of dividers (will need 8)
 - If student is taking PE: they must have athletic shoes.
 - If student is taking Dance: they must have black leggings and a black of purple shirt.
- All backpacks must be clear or mesh.

Applications open for free Elgin ISD lunches

Press release, Elgin ISD Child Nutrition Department

Children need healthy meals to learn. Elgin ISD offers healthy meals every school day. Breakfast costs free for all; lunch costs Elgin Elementary School \$2.50, Elgin Intermediate \$2.75, Elgin Middle School \$2.75 and Elgin High School \$3.00. Your children may qualify for free meals or for reduced-price meals. Reduced price is free for breakfast and \$.40 for lunch. If you received a notification letter that a child is directly certified for free or reduced-price meals, do not complete an application. Let the school know if any children in the household attending school are not listed in the letter.

The questions and answers that follow and attached directions provide additional information on how to complete the application. Complete only one application for all the students in the household and return the completed application to Elgin Child Nutrition Department, 805B West 10th Street, Elgin Texas 78621. If you have questions about applying for free or reduced-price meals, contact 512-281-9755, Elizabeth Guajardo eguajardo@elginisd.net. Apply online at school lunchapps.com.

WHO CAN GET FREE MEALS?
Income: Children can get free or reduced-price meals if a household’s gross income is within the limits described in the Federal In-

Income Eligibility Guidelines for Determining Free and Reduced-Price Benefits										
Effective from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021										
Family Size	Annually		Monthly		Twice per Month		Every Two Weeks		Weekly	
	Free	Reduced	Free	Reduced	Free	Reduced	Free	Reduced	Free	Reduced
1	\$16,588	\$23,606	\$1,383	\$1,968	\$692	\$984	\$638	\$908	\$319	\$454
2	\$22,412	\$31,894	\$1,868	\$2,658	\$934	\$1,329	\$862	\$1,227	\$431	\$614
3	\$28,236	\$40,182	\$2,353	\$3,349	\$1,177	\$1,675	\$1,086	\$1,546	\$543	\$773
4	\$34,060	\$48,470	\$2,839	\$4,040	\$1,420	\$2,020	\$1,310	\$1,865	\$655	\$933
5	\$39,884	\$56,758	\$3,324	\$4,730	\$1,662	\$2,365	\$1,534	\$2,183	\$767	\$1,092
6	\$45,708	\$65,046	\$3,809	\$5,421	\$1,905	\$2,711	\$1,758	\$2,502	\$879	\$1,251
7	\$51,532	\$73,334	\$4,295	\$6,112	\$2,148	\$3,056	\$1,982	\$2,821	\$991	\$1,411
8	\$57,356	\$81,622	\$4,780	\$6,802	\$2,390	\$3,401	\$2,206	\$3,140	\$1,103	\$1,570
9	\$63,180	\$89,910	\$5,266	\$7,493	\$2,633	\$3,747	\$2,430	\$3,459	\$1,215	\$1,730
10	\$69,004	\$98,198	\$5,752	\$8,184	\$2,876	\$4,093	\$2,654	\$3,778	\$1,327	\$1,890
11	\$74,828	\$106,486	\$6,238	\$8,875	\$3,119	\$4,439	\$2,878	\$4,097	\$1,439	\$2,050
12	\$80,652	\$114,774	\$6,724	\$9,566	\$3,362	\$4,785	\$3,102	\$4,416	\$1,551	\$2,210
For each additional family member add:										
	+\$5,824	+\$8,288	+\$486	+\$691	+\$243	+\$346	+\$224	+\$319	+\$112	+\$160

come Eligibility Guidelines.

Special Assistance Program Participants: Children in households receiving benefits from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Food Distribution Program for Households on Indian Reservations (FDPIR), or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), are eligible for free meals.

Foster: Foster children who are under the legal responsibility of a foster care agency or court are eligible for free meals.

Head Start or Early Head Start: Children participating in these programs are eligible for free meals.

Homeless, Runaway, and Migrant: Children who meet the definition of homeless, runaway, or migrant qualify for free meals. If you haven’t been told about a child’s status as homeless, runaway, or migrant or you feel a child may qualify for one of these programs, please call

or email Homeless liaison 512-281-3434 ext. 1900 and Migrant coordinator 512-281-3434 ext. 1234.

WIC Recipient: Children in households participating in WIC may be eligible for free or reduced-price meals.

What if I disagree with the school’s decision about my application? Talk to school officials. You also may ask for a hearing by calling or writing to Chief Financial Officer, 1002 North Avenue C, Elgin Texas 78621, 512-281-3434.

My child’s application was approved last year. Do I need to fill out a new one? Yes. An application is only good for that school year and for the first few days of this school year. Send in a new application unless the school has told you that your child is eligible for the new school year.

If I don’t qualify now, may I apply later? Yes. Apply at any time during the school year. A child with a parent

or guardian who becomes unemployed may become eligible for free and reduced-price meals if the household income drops below the income limit.

What if my income is not always the same? List the amount normally received. If a household member lost a job or had hours/wages reduced, use current income.

We are in the military. Do we report our income differently? Basic pay and cash bonuses must be reported as income. Any cash value allowances for off-base housing, food, or clothing, or Family Subsistence Supplemental Allowance payments count as income. If housing is part of the Military Housing Privatization Initiative, do not include the housing allowance as income. Any additional combat pay resulting from deployment is excluded from income.

See **LUNCH**, Page 5B

New student registration available online

Registration and returning student (Kinder-12th) information can be found on the Elgin ISD web site under the Latest News section or at www.elginisd.net/Domain/877.

New student registration can be completed 100% online without a need for a face-to-face process. New student registration is available online starting July 20, 2020 for Pre-Kinder through 12th grade. Parents are able to upload all necessary registration documents electronically. Families that need assistance registering or uploading required paperwork may call the campus registrars for assistance. Families having trouble registering online, may schedule an appointment for in-person support during the week.

As a reminder, due to COVID-19 there are some precautions and requirements that must be fol-

- lowed:
- Stay home if you have COVID-19, have been exposed to COVID-19, or you are exhibiting COVID-19 like symptoms.
 - LIMITED ACCESS. Only one (1) person per family will be allowed in the building. No children, students, or other family members will be allowed in the building.
 - All visitors MUST wear face coverings throughout the registration process.
 - All visitors MUST practice social distancing (maintaining 6 feet separation from others at all times).
 - All visitors will be required to complete and sign a COVID-19 Health Screening Form prior to being admitted into the facility.
- Elgin ISD will not be requiring parents and guardians of students currently enrolled in Elgin ISD to come in to verify enrollment information and complete enrollment paperwork. Starting on Monday, July 20, 2020, parents/guardians of returning students (those who attended

Elgin ISD during the 2019-2020 school year) will be required to update their student’s information and complete important forms entirely online through their Parent Portal account. It is extremely important to keep your student’s information current so that the District can contact you and keep you informed of school changes and/or situations. If you need assistance creating or accessing your Parent Portal account, or have trouble uploading required documents, please call or email the campus registrar at your child’s school. Required documentation may also be emailed directly to the registrar. In addition, according to Elgin ISD Board Policy, returning students in grades 3, 6, and 9 are required to provide current proof of residency in Elgin ISD. Elgin ISD will not allow these students to attend school without proof of residency. Basic proof of residency must include one of the following:

- Utility bill (such as electric, gas, or water within the last 35 days)
 - Mortgage
 - Lease agreement
- CAMPUS REGISTRARS:**
- BTW Elementary School: Angela Ramirez-Deciga, (512) 281-3411 ext. 1403, aramirez@elginisd.net
 - Elgin Elementary School: Vanessa Griffin, (512) 281-3457 ext. 1303, vanessa.griffin@elginisd.net
 - Neidig Elementary School: Vera Moore-Rivers, (512) 281-9702 ext. 1603, vera.rivers@elginisd.net
 - Elgin Intermediate School: Lynnet Schwartz, (512) 281-9701 ext. 1703, lschwartz@elginisd.net
 - Elgin Middle School: Kristen Hinz-Mathis, (512) 281-3382 ext. 1503, kristen.hinze@elginisd.net
 - Elgin High School: Mary Rico, (512) 281-3438 ext. 1103, mary.rico@elginisd.net
 - Phoenix High School: Alicia Woehl, (512) 281-9774 ext. 1904, awoehl@elginisd.net

Wishing everyone a safe, successful 2020-21 school year!



from



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Best Wishes To All Students, Teachers and Staff Members!

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding...”
- Proverbs 3:5 NIV

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Elgin ISD welcomes new teachers to each school

Press release
Elgin ISD

The start of this school year is different from any we've ever faced before, but that doesn't hinder the excitement of Back to School or the heart-felt welcome extended to the new staff joining Elgin ISD for the 2020-2021 school year.

The district is delighted to welcome this talented and dedicated group of teachers from across the state, out of state, and even fresh from a teaching assignment in Turkey! In addition, we are welcoming back several former Elgin ISD employees and are especially delighted to have three

"Grow Your Own" teachers who have earned their teaching credentials while also working for the district in para-professional roles. Each new hire brings in their teacher toolkit not only their educational background, but also a wealth of experience. The common theme throughout every interview is that these teachers are committed to making a difference and that they want to do so in Elgin ISD.

Please join us in welcoming the teachers featured here—and following safety protocols—to not only the district, but the community. Together we are: One Town. One Team. One Family.

Photos courtesy of Elgin ISD



Booker T. Washington Elementary School
Front row, left to right: Erin Koehne (3rd grade), Jessica Astorga (2nd grade), Angie Fisher (1st grade). Second row: Victoria Ramirez (1st grade Bilingual), Haley Moore (1st grade), Patricia Esquivel (2nd grade Bilingual), Amy Duplant (Interventionist). Back row: Denise Guerrero (504/Campus Testing Coordinator), Christine Hernandez (Kindergarten), Raylynne Deleon (4th grade).



Elgin Middle School
Bottom row, left to right: Trekeshelia Caine (Special Education), Brian Thomas (College & Career Readiness). Middle row: Kelly Smith (English/Language Arts), Michael Morel (Math), Alexandra Guzman (English/Language Arts). Top row: June Carnahan (Social Studies), Taylor Pokorny (Math), Abbey Messler (Science), Jaime Hopkins (Special Education).



Elgin Elementary School
New teachers Abby Callazo (PreK), Faith Visintainer (PPCD-PreK3), Sylvia Krywacz (PreK) and Kiala Hernandez (4th grade). Not pictured: Leticia Arroyo (Special Education).



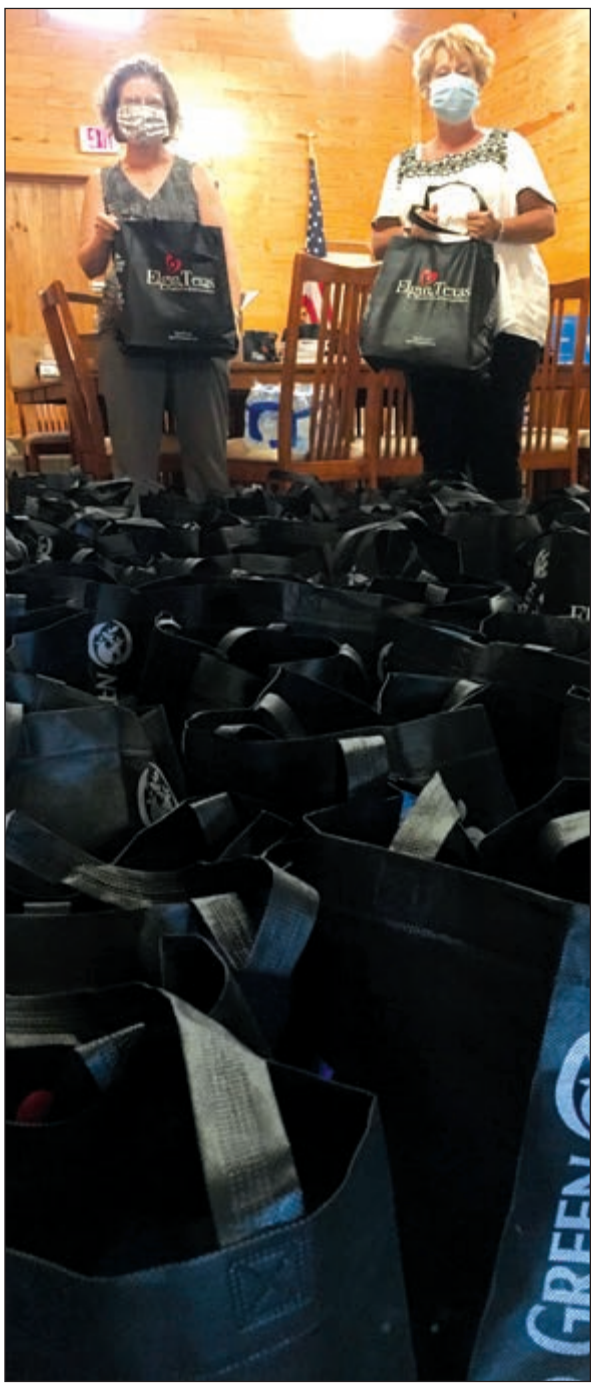
Elgin Intermediate School
From left to right: Theresa Eureste-Torres, Misty Simpson, Dominick Vences, Rachelle Thorpe, Joanne Brown, Lanell Waley, Johnny Jones, Chris Prindle, Ryan Westrup, Conwell Spears, Amy Wierzbowski, Brieanne Vinson, Ashley Herrera, Sara Garcia.



Neidig Elementary School
From left to right: Joshua Feldpausch (Music), Margarita Almazan (1st grade Bilingual), Katherine Kopalchick (2nd grade). Not pictured: Ursula Robledo (2nd grade).

- Elgin High School**
Shanice chedi
Athletic Trainer
Virginia Corpus
Nurse (RN)
Nathan Douglass
Auto Tech
Brennan Duran
Science
Stephanie Evans
English/Language Arts
Mark Garcia
Social Studies/Coach
Carla Gilmore
Classroom Aide/
Special Education
Lance Hamilton
Special Education/
Coach
Paul Heintze
Social Studies/Coach
Clay Hill
Science
John Howie
Coach/Social Studies
Jane Worswick
Math
- Heather Kalenak**
Science
Cheyenne Martinez
English/Language Arts
Denise Mertz
Administrative Assistant
to Athletic Director
Nicholas Miget
Math
Gabriela Perez
Classroom Aide/
Special Education
Jimmy Prinz
Math
Jiirah Rodriguez
MAPS
Julio Rodriguez
Spanish
Kaitlyn Steck-Garcia
Reading
Dawn Stratton
CTE Science
Andrew Vanduren
Science/Coach

Chamber gifts goody bags to new EISD teachers, staff



Gena Carter (right) and Amy Miller (left), Community Services Director for the City of Elgin.

The Elgin Chamber of Commerce handed out 80 goody bags for new teachers and staff at Elgin ISD. Bags were filled with items from 50 Elgin businesses, along with brochures and flyers. The items included candy, pens, notepads and sanitizer.

"We want to welcome them to the community and introduce them to all the business and organizations in Elgin," said Gena Carter, Elgin Chamber Director. "As you can imagine, it is a challenging time for all staff as they prepare to start the year virtually and many changes in this school year. We want to show our support by providing items and stuffing their bags with goodies"



May every teacher become
a mentor, every classmate
become a friend, and every
lesson taught to enrich you.

**BEST WISHES AS YOU
NAVIGATE THROUGH
THE NEXT CHAPTER OF
YOUR JOURNEY!**



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McDade ISD Asynchronous Learning Plan

The goal of this plan is to provide ongoing rich and robust TEKS-based instruction while maintaining instructional delivery that furthers student academic success, as well as to advance learning by progressing through the state standards. We realize that learning will be modified in a remote and digital environment. McDade ISD will provide access, resources, and academic learning opportunities for all students in the remote setting through an asynchronous model.

Asynchronous instruction refers to self-paced instruction where students engage in the learning materials on their own time, interacting intermittently with the teacher via the computer or other electronic devices or over the phone. For students engaged in the day, they would be marked as present. Engagement is defined as progress in the Learning Management System (LMS) made that day; Progress from teacher to student interaction made that day; Evaluating the completion and understanding of assignments that day. McDade ISD will use both Google Classroom and Edgenuity as their LMS.

Students and teachers will have time to interact and build a community of learners in both on-campus and remote pathways. Students in remote settings will have schedules provided that matches or exceeds the following daily minimum across all grade levels. While we understand this schedule is dependent upon the percentages of remote learners and the evolving confirmed cases in our county, the proposed schedules are a guide for planning purposes. The implementation model provided is subject to change.

In the event that circumstances change in our community, all MISD teachers will quickly pivot to remote learning if needed. From the beginning of the school year, all teachers will design lessons in our LMS for on-campus learners, remote learners, and intermittent learners. There is likely to be student movement across models, and we at MISD are prepared to make this as seamless as possible.

Kindergarten through third grade students will receive 240 minutes of instruction and assignments, fourth through sixth grade students will receive 275 minutes, and seventh through 12th grade students will receive 385 minutes.

CLASSES WILL FOLLOW THE FOLLOWING STRUCTURE:

- A 5-minute warm-up at the beginning of class to answer the daily essential question for attendance purposes.
- All students in seat or on-line will be graded on the same work.
- The teacher will record a direct teaching lesson between 5 and 20 minutes, depending on the class and grade level, then upload the completed recording to McDade YouTube Channel.
- Between 5 and 40 minutes of small group/independent work, depending on the class and grade level. Students need to complete assignments daily.
- All students in the seat and online must complete the same assignments for grades being recorded in the grade book.
- By the end of the class, instructional videos will be uploaded to the McDade ISD Youtube Channel.
- Recorded instructional videos for the day will be posted and available at the end of each class daily.

Students will access assignments, including assessments, projects, and communication through Google Classroom. Students are expected to complete assignments on a daily basis to receive attendance for the day. In addition, assignments are to be completed daily. Students will not be allowed to complete all of their assignments on one given day. Assignments are to be submitted daily for completion and credit for enrolled courses.

Office Hours: Link to Campus Master Schedule and Teacher Conferences. Teachers will include a link in their Google Classrooms and will also communicate using DoJo for grades K-6 and Remind for grades 7-12.

Additional Support for Students with Learning Needs: For students with disabilities, MISD will work with students and families to minimize barriers the student may experience in a remote setting.

As the situation of COVID-19 changes in our community, we are prepared to support the needs and have planned scheduling and teaching space to allow for social distancing, student and teacher safety. We will be offering three pathways to meet the needs of our students, families and unpredictable health conditions that face our community.

- Option 1: In Seat Learning. Smaller number of students would allow the classroom teacher to use the classroom resources and capture lessons using the Promethean board. Students would access content assignments through the LMS on designated district-provided devices.

- Option 2: Remote Learning. Families have the option to keep students at home to work remotely. These students would be responsible for turning in assignments daily for each class in order to meet attendance requirements. Parents would be responsible for communicating their needs, to make remote learning work, to the administration of the schools in order to plan for successful remote learning.

- Option 3: Remote Learning Required. In the event of a health authority order requiring public institutions to restrict students on campus and require engagement in unlimited virtual classes, activities and events,

See PLAN, Page 6B

McDade ISD Learn Safe Protocols 2020 - 2021

The details on this document are subject to change as directives are provided by governing authorities and/or health officials or as environmental conditions change.

The McDade Independent School District will hold in-school instruction with safety and COVID-19 prevention measures in place.

Although there are no strategies to completely eliminate transmission risk in schools, we are committed to keep transmission as low as possible in order to safely continue school.

SCREENING PROTOCOLS

Staff will be required to self-screen for COVID-19 symptoms when reporting to work each day. Parents must not send a child to school on campus if the child has COVID-19 symptoms or is lab-confirmed with COVID-19.

All students will be screened for COVID-19 symptoms regularly and individuals who present with symptoms will be separated and sent home.

ISOLATION PROTOCOLS

When a student has displayed symptoms of COVID-19, the school health aide will provide an assessment to determine if and when a student needs to be sent home.

Schools must immediately separate any student who shows COVID-19 symptoms while at school until the student can be picked up by a parent/guardian.

Other students will be removed from the classroom and taken to an alternate location on campus so that the classroom can be disinfected.

District communication will be provided to the parents of students who came in contact with a COVID-19 positive student or staff member.

The District will establish a dedicated space for symptomatic individuals who are waiting to go home. The designated space will accommodate social distancing for multiple individuals if needed.

Each campus will ensure that symptomatic students who are waiting to be picked up remain under the visual supervision of a staff member and social distancing is observed.

Both the symptomatic student and the supervising adults should wear a face covering or a surgical mask.

INDIVIDUALS CONFIRMED OR SUSPECTED WITH COVID-19

Students who have tested positive for COVID-19 will be required to submit a letter of good health from a physician's office prior to returning to school.

Students who come into close contact with a COVID-19 positive individual will be asked to self-quarantine for 14 days and may not return to campus during that time.

FACE COVERINGS

Students and staff will wear a face mask/covering when entering a MISD facility, in common areas such as buses, hallways, and the cafeteria (when not eating, and when social distancing is not possible).

MISD is developing schematics for classrooms to achieve social distancing for students and teachers however that may not be possible in all classrooms. When social distancing is not possible, students and teachers must wear a face covering at all times.

CAMPUS VISITORS

To minimize foot traffic in the buildings, and to allow for adequate physical distancing for students, no visitors are allowed in buildings.

Parents must drop off their students without entering the building or getting out of vehicles.

HAND WASHING/ SANITIZING EXPECTATIONS

Alcohol-based hand sanitizer will be available at the main entry to the campus, in classrooms, in the cafeteria, and in common areas throughout the campus.

Students will be expected to regularly wash or sanitize their hands.

DAILY CAMPUS CLEANING

Each classroom and restroom will be disinfected daily.

All high touch areas will be disinfected daily.

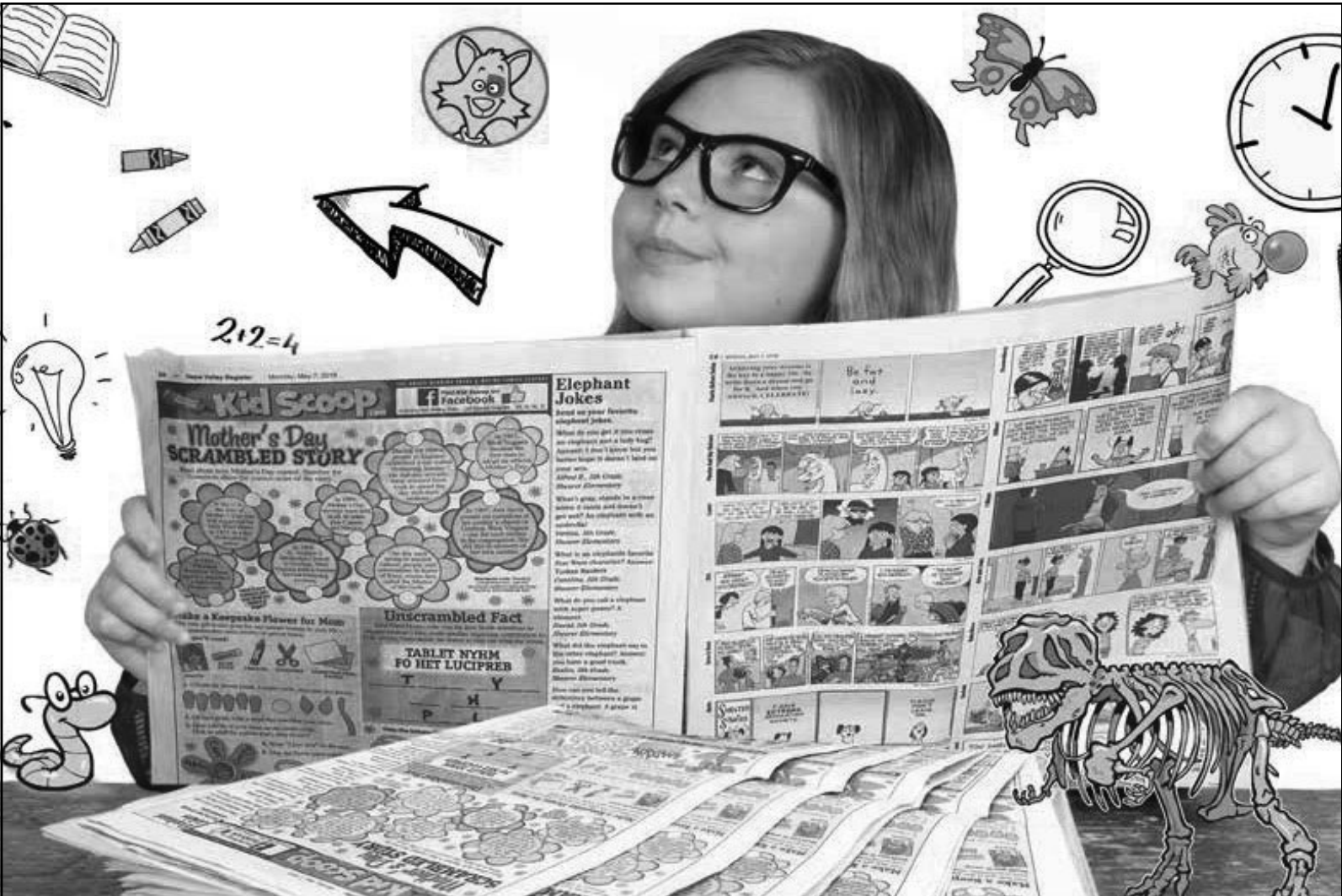
Staff will have access to disinfectant to sanitize working surfaces and shared objects after each use and during breaks in instruction.

BUS TRANSPORTATION

When possible, the district encourages families to drop students off, car-pool, or walk with their student to school to reduce possible virus exposure on buses.

Each person entering the bus will be required to apply hand sanitizer as they board the bus.

Drivers will check each student's temperature using a no-touch, forehead thermometer upon boarding the bus every day on the morning route. Students with a temperature over 99.7 degrees will be separated on the bus with other students. The front seats of the bus will be cleared, the student will be required to put on a mask, and the



AWAKEN THE MAGIC OF READING

DID YOU KNOW?

66% of fourth graders read below grade level. These kids are more likely to drop out of school. They struggle to succeed. The good news is that sparking a love of reading in elementary school boosts reading scores. In short, the more kids read, the more they succeed.

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See SAFE, Page 6B

ELGIN ISD ...

From Page 2B

REMOTE LEARNING
Elgin ISD will utilize Asynchronous instruction as our model for remote learning.
Asynchronous instruction refers to self-paced instruction with consistent teacher interaction. Assignments are made in Google Classroom. Students will also submit work on a daily basis and take assessments via Google Classroom. Teachers will provide pre-recorded teaching videos and post in Google Classroom as a means for providing instruction to students. Teachers will also be available to assist students during remote office hours. The same grading policies apply to remote learning and face-to-face instruction and will remain the same as they were prior to school closure in the spring of 2020.

Students must:
• Follow the designated schedule communicated by your teacher and attend remote meetings with the teacher during asynchronous learning.
• Complete and submit daily asynchronous activities and assignments at the direction of your teacher.
• Participate daily in scheduled learning activities, including intervention and tutorials, as required by your teacher.
• Use proper etiquette during online learning.
• Take responsibility for asking for help, asking questions, and taking advantage of tutorial sessions.
Parents/guardians must:
• Monitor and ask for evidence that your child is on track with assignments and coursework.
• Check the district homepage for assistance with accessing teacher lessons.
• Provide your child with assistance on their day-to-day activities with the exception of designated independent work.
• Assist in supporting your child's needs by establishing and managing the daily schedule communicated by the teacher and the campus.

• Create a designated learning space for your child at home to learn comfortably.
• Maintain communication with your child's teacher by phone, email messages, and/or on-line meetings to create a learning partnership.
• Allow your child to struggle; it is allowed and encouraged! Don't help too much. Becoming independent takes lots of practice.
In core areas and many elective classes, students will receive Asynchronous Instruction.
Daily student attendance is earned through daily engagement measures: daily progress via teacher-student interactions focused on supporting or monitoring student academic progress and/or daily completion and submission of assignments.
The teacher will schedule one-on-one tutorials and intervention time as needed.
Grading policies and attendance requirements for Asynchronous Instruction are the same as face-to-face instruction, and will remain the same as they were prior to school closure in the spring of 2020.
For dual language in elementary school and for 5th-graders, the student must be able to complete and/or submit assignments on a daily basis in English and Spanish, and appropriately certified teachers will provide instruction.

For elementary students and 5th graders in intermediate schools, we will not provide direct instruction for music, art, PE, and gifted and talented classes, but the teachers will provide activities for these areas. Students will have access to these activities via Google Classroom.
The physical education teacher will provide instructional videos for the classroom teacher to post. The Texas Education Agency requires students to have 135 minutes of physical activity per week.
Beginner Band will be offered to 6th grade students committing to remote learning. Students will have access to band

instruments, and will also be able to meet with the EIS Band Director during scheduled office hours outside of the regularly scheduled school day.
For high school, all general elective courses will be available via Google Classroom with lessons developed by Elgin High School teachers.
CTE courses are available both in-person and online using each Pathways Industry-Based curriculum resources.
The following CTE courses require in-person learning: Advanced Floral Design, Auto Tech I & II, Adv. Auto Tech, all Welding classes, including P-TECH Welding classes, and Law Enforcement II & Practicum classes.
For dual credit and ECHS classes, if the pandemic permits, ACC will slowly scale-up in-person classes and support services, remaining focused on courses that require some component of face-to-face instruction such as technical hands-on programs (welding, automotive, nursing, etc.). In-person classes will require new protocols. All other courses will remain online and the majority of employees will be asked to continue to work remotely.
Counseling Services: Counselors will provide face-to-face instruction, check in at least biweekly with students receiving remote instruction, provide information on social emotional learning and college/career readiness, and provide opportunities for students to connect with each other virtually.
Food Services: Families who select remote instruction may pick up breakfast and lunch at a designated site. We are awaiting further guidance from the Texas Education Agency. Once this is received, we will update families on the process for meals for our remote learners.
Parent Technology Support: Elgin ISD's Technology Task Force is in the process of developing High-Quality Family Training for all remote learning tools including

student learning devices, hotspots, Google Classroom, etc. These training modules will be provided in English and Spanish. We will provide training via in-person or virtual sessions, or pre-recorded video training modules posted on the district website.
IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION: DISEASE MITIGATION GUIDELINES FOR PARENTS, STUDENTS, AND STAFF
The key to returning to successful, sustained in-person instruction will be our commitment to health and safety guidelines. In-person instruction will resume on Monday, September 21, 2020.
While it is not possible to eliminate all the risk of furthering the spread of COVID-19, these are the steps that Elgin ISD is taking to reduce the risks to students, teachers, staff and families.
CONTACTS FOR COVID-19 RELATED CONCERNS
Elgin High School: Jesse Perez, jesse.perez@elginisd.net, 512-281-3434 Ext. 1112
Phoenix High School: Michelle Ruthven, michelle.ruthven@elginisd.net, 512-281-3434 Ext. 1275
Elgin Middle School: Theresa Colunga, theresa.colunga@elginisd.net, 512-281-3434 Ext. 1511
Elgin Intermediate School: Conwell Spears, conwell.spears@elginisd.net, 512-281-3434 Ext. 1711
Booker T. Washington Elementary School: Linda Tamez, ltamez@elginisd.net, 512-281-3434 Ext. 1411
Elgin Elementary School: Megan Wehrle, megan.wehrle@elginisd.net, 512-281-3434 Ext. 1311
Neidig Elementary School: Steven Payne, steven.payne@elginisd.net, 512-281-3434 Ext. 1611
District Level Contact: Al Rodriguez, arodriguez@elginisd.net, 512-281-3434
At-home screening: Parents/guardians are expected to screen their students for COVID-19 symptoms each day prior to sending their students to school. Parents should not send their children to school if they are exhibiting COVID symptoms, especially if they are running a fever. Staff will be required to self-screen for COVID-19 symptoms

prior to reporting to work each day.
Arrival and dismissal: Students will arrive by walk-up, car drop-off, or school bus but parents/guardians will not be able to leave their cars. Campuses may designate staggered dismissal groups.
Protocols for Disinfecting and Hand Sanitizing: Alcohol-based hand sanitizer will be available at the main entry to the campus, in classrooms, in the cafeteria and in common areas throughout the campus. Staff and students will be expected to regularly wash or sanitize their hands.
Face coverings: Students in Pre-K through 2nd grade will be required to wear face coverings in the building and while riding the bus to and from school; the District will provide one face shield and one reusable cloth mask per student in grades PreK-2nd. Students in 3rd through 12th grade will be required to wear face coverings each day, including in classrooms and on buses; five masks will be provided by the District to the student. All District employees will be required to wear face coverings. The District will provide all staff with a face covering. All visitors and contractors to campuses and facilities will be required to wear face coverings.
Daily campus and building cleaning: Each classroom and restroom will be disinfected routinely throughout the day. All high touch areas will be disinfected routinely throughout the day. Staff will have access to disinfectant wipes to sanitize working surfaces and shared objects after each use and during breaks in instruction. Desks or tables will be socially distanced as much as instructionally possible.
Isolation protocols for students or staff displaying COVID-19 symptoms: When a student has displayed symptoms of COVID-19, the school nurse will provide a clinical assessment to determine if and when a student needs to be sent home. Students who are ill will be separated from

their peers and should be picked up within 30 minutes and no later than one hour from the time the campus contacted the student's parent/guardian. Other students will be removed from the classroom and taken to an alternate location on campus so that the classroom can be immediately.
Breakfast and lunch: Students will be required to have meals in the classrooms. Meals will be packaged as "grab and go" to ensure ease of pick up and transport to eating locations or they will be delivered to classrooms by food service staff.
Recess: Playground equipment will be sanitized during the day. Recess schedules and routines will limit the number of students outside to help maintain safe distances.
Visitors: All campus visits must have an educational purpose. TEA guidelines restrict school visits to those essential to school operations. Campuses and Departments will utilize virtual meetings and phone conference options to limit visitors.
Transportation: Student pre-screening for COVID-19 symptoms must be performed at home before heading to the bus stop. Every student must wear a face covering before boarding the bus and while riding on the bus or any other school district vehicle. Students will be assigned seats and must sit in their assigned seat at all times. EISD Transportation Department will be using a three step process to ensure buses are thoroughly cleaned and disinfected after each route.
Extracurricular and athletics: All extracurricular and athletic events will follow participation guidelines set by the UIL (University Interscholastic League).
Fine arts: Large group practice sessions, sectionals, and rehearsals will adhere to social distancing guidelines provided by an authorized entity, such as Elgin ISD, TEA or UIL.
Find the entire Elgin ISD Return to Learn Plan at www.elginisd.net.

LUNCH ...

From Page 2B

May I apply if someone in my household is not a U.S. citizen? Yes. You, your children, or other household members do not have to be U.S. citizens to apply for free or reduced-price meals.
Will application information be checked? Yes. We

may also ask you to send written proof of the reported household income.
My family needs more help. Are there other programs we might apply for? To find out how to apply for other assistance benefits, contact your local assistance office or 2-1-1.
Can I apply online? Yes! The online application has the same requirements and will ask you for the same in-

formation as the paper application. Visit www.elginisd.net to begin or to learn more about the online application process. Contact Lupita Martin, 805B West 10th Street, gmartin@elginisd.net 512-281-9755 if you have questions about the online application.
If you have other questions or need help, call Elizabeth Guajardo 512-281-9755.

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PLAN ...

From Page 4B

McDade ISD will follow the rules and regulations required by the Health Authority Order. During times students are limited in part or in whole on campus, McDade ISD will engage in remote learning activities adhering to the guidelines provided above.

With the closure from March to May, we are expecting skill deficiencies. Although the teachers and learning coaches (parents/guardians or other adults in the home) may have taught the lessons, the depth of the concepts and expectations within the units may not have been met by all students. In order to support the foundational understandings of the concepts taught during the last 9 weeks, we are implementing a COVID-19 Implementation Gap Plan. This gap plan is outlined in four main areas: Data Collection, Lesson Design, Interventions and Enrichments, and Support for Students, Teachers, and Families.

- **Data Collection:** McDade ISD teachers will leverage or adapt and administer standards-aligned, leveled pre-assessments to collect data to be used as

a starting point. Using the assessment data, personalized learning pathways will be developed. We will use formative assessments to gauge student progress and to adapt curriculum to support student learning.

- **Lesson Design:** McDade ISD believes that there is no one-size-fits-all approach that will work for every student, class, subject, or grade level. Instead, we will focus on high-quality lessons that are focused on individual student needs and on the state standards. MISD will create a modified scope and sequence-based on the intentional alignment of standards missed as a result of lost instructional time.

- **Academic Interventions and Enrichments:** McDade ISD will serve students in daily small group instruction during scheduled times to provide students with “What I Need.” Data will determine the level of support and placement in the groupings. Study plans and student conferences will be used to provide a personalized approach to each student.

- **Educator, Parent and Student Support:** Classroom teachers, students, and administrators need on-going supports during this time. Campuses will

create an On-Site or Virtual Professional Learning team by combining the expertise of the District directors, Campus Directors and IT Director to support the campus staff and families of remote learners and the students on-campus. Administrators will create videos and provide office hours availability for Parent/Learning Coach support. In addition, social and emotional well-being will be provided by campus administrators and our mental health liaison to students, staff, and families. We will maintain strong communication with the families of students in special populations, continuing to gather feedback and to support students and their families.

Parent Meeting: When a student goes from on-campus learning to remote, a virtual meeting will be scheduled to review the expectations of remote learning with both the parent and the student. Discussion points will include - completing and grading of assignments, who and how to contact support, and attendance requirements for promotion and graduation.

Identifying Internet Providers and Getting Connected: The district is working with the Texas Education Agency to part-

ner with internet providers to assist in providing free or a reduced-price service during the pandemic crisis. Family surveys have been conducted to determine families in need of assistance. During registration, families will complete the Connectivity Survey to determine more individualized information to the district in order to deploy devices and possible internet access to homes.

- STUDENT ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**
- Establish daily routines for engaging in the learning process.
 - Identify a space in home where you can learn and study comfortably.
 - Regularly check Google Classroom for assignments.
 - Complete assignments with integrity and academic honesty.
 - Communicate with the school when you need assistance. We are here to help.
 - Submit assignments daily. Assignments cannot be completed all in one day. They must be completed and turned in each day for attendance and credit for the day.
 - Attend live instruction appropriately dressed in accordance to HISD dress code.

- PARENT/LEARNING COACH ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES.**
- Establish partnership with classroom teachers to ensure a smooth transition with on-campus and remote learning.
 - Establish routines and expectations.
 - Assist your student in locating a space in the home that is ideal for learning.
 - Monitor communication from teachers and school.
 - Monitor completion and submission of class assignments daily.
 - Take an active role in helping your child process their learning.
 - Attend district/campus training for implementation supports.
 - Use teacher office hours to help strength asynchronous learning.
 - Contact teacher, administrators, and counselor for additional needs and supports for student learning.

CONTACT

For assistance regarding a course, assignment, or resource: The relevant teacher

For assistance regarding a technology-related problem or issue: The MISD technology department. Cliff Spurlin at cliff.spurlin@mcdadeisd.net

For a personal, academic or social emotional concern: school administrators:

- Elementary - Amanda Hankemeier at amanda.hankemeier@mcdadeisd.net
- Secondary - Gina Sanders at gina.sanders@mcdadeisd.net
- District - Heather Stidham at heather.stidham@mcdadeisd.net
- SPED, 504, Dyslexia, ESL or GT - Codi Kadlecek at codi.kadlecek@mcdadeisd.net

For other issues related to distance learning: District Leadership

- Superintendent - Barbara Marchbanks at barbara.marchbanks@mcdadeisd.net
- Elementary - Amanda Hankemeier at amanda.hankemeier@mcdadeisd.net
- Secondary - Gina Sanders at gina.sanders@mcdadeisd.net
- District - Heather Stidham at heather.stidham@mcdadeisd.net
- SPED, 504, Dyslexia, ESL or GT - Codi Kadlecek at codi.kadlecek@mcdadeisd.net

Find the entire McDade ISD Asynchronous Learning Plan, McDade ISD Learn Safe Plan and frequently asked questions at www.mcdadeisd.com.

SAFE ...

From Page 4B

student will be transported to school where the student will be taken to our isolation room while guardians are being contacted to pick them up from school.

It is recommended that all students (for whom it is developmentally appropriate) wear a mask on the bus.

Buses will be thoroughly

disinfected after each route. Windows will be left open throughout the day in between runs for additional ventilation.

BREAKFAST AND LUNCH

To minimize foot traffic in the building and to allow for adequate physical distancing for students during eating periods, no outside food deliveries, even by parents, will be accepted and there will be no visitors allowed in classrooms

or in the buildings. All meals will be eaten in the classrooms.

ARRIVAL, DISMISSAL AND TRANSITION

Parents are asked to assist campus staff in the implementation of arrival and dismissal plans. When transporting or walking children to school, please follow all signage, drop off and pick up children at the appropriate locations, and quickly exit the parking lots.

Transition time of students will be limited during the school day.

CLASSROOM CONFIGURATIONS AND PROCEDURES

Each classroom will have visual reminders of distancing requirements in all classrooms, marking off areas for common spaces and distancing best practices; access to alcohol-based hand sanitizer; desks or tables will be socially distanced as much as instructionally possible; and supplies will not be shared.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Extracurricular/Co-curricular activities, practices and competitions will be conducted following safety protocols provided by MISD, University Interscholastic League (UIL), and the Texas Education Agency (TEA).

Extracurricular and Sports activities will not begin until September 14, 2020.

A student who voluntarily participates in an all-remote instructional method shall not be permitted to participate in any

extra-curricular activity, practice, or performance.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Whenever possible, physical education classes will be held outside to allow for maximum social distancing between students.

Students will be placed in smaller, appropriate groups for instruction and activities for appropriate social distancing.

Any activities bringing students into close physical contact or requiring multiple students to touch or handle the same equipment will be avoided.

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Our Voice

An Elgin Elementary School student newspaper



Students from Elgin Elementary School, with the help of ranchers from Down Home Ranch, help beautify the Elgin Public Library and the Elgin Chamber of Commerce buildings.

File photos

Elementary student council receives state, national awards

To recognize their recent service work at Elgin Elementary School (EES) and within the Elgin community, the Elgin Elementary School (EES) Student Council was given two awards during the 2019-2020 school year.

They were one of 63 student leadership teams recognized with the Texas Elementary Principals and Supervisors Association (TEPSA) Student Leadership Award, and they were one of only 19 schools given the American Student Council Association School of Excellence Award from the National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP).

The application process involved sharing details on each fundraiser or service project, a letter of recommendation from the principal, and a letter of recommendation from a student council officer.

“Through some successful achievements, it has been a true honor leading the Elgin Elementary School Student Council as president,” said Student Council President Kayleen Lopez, who wrote the student council officer letter of recommendation. “This experience has taught me



so much. But the experience I learned the most from was the importance of being involved and helping your community. We are really like one big family.”

Projects in the 2019-2020 school year included beautification of the Elgin Public Library with the help of Down Home Ranch, beautification of the Elgin Chamber of Commerce, picking up litter around campus, fundraising and spreading positivity amongst students and staff.

“Our student council knocked it out of the park this year!” said Kaitlynn Scoville, one of the council’s advisors along with Megan Wehrle. “They took initiative, worked cooperatively, and always

had a positive attitude. They truly were role models for their classmates and the community, and I’m so glad they are being recognized for their hard work!”

Although COVID-19 began and prevented us from completing scheduled service projects in our community, our student council still had meetings and discussed future plans. Many of our officers and representatives will be attending Elgin Intermediate School next year, but they hope to be part of the student council there.

“The Elgin Elementary Student Council is a relatively new program on our campus,” said EES Principal Sara Juarez-Farias. “With the guidance of

their advisors, Kaitlynn Scoville and Megan Wehrle, and the support of their families, they have donated time and materials to our campus and the Elgin community. In addition to their beautification projects, they have been the voice of our scholars. They advocate for their peers and are a model of culturally responsible cit-



izens. In their two years as a council, they have been recognized with the TEPSA Student Leadership Award, an honor bestowed upon Student Councils in Texas that

demonstrate excellence. I am especially proud of them this year as they have been recognized for the NAESP Student Council Excellence Award, a national recognition.”



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Athletic practices scheduled to return Sept. 7

On July 21, the University Interscholastic League (UIL) released modifications to the 2020-21 UIL calendar for athletics and band activities. The modifications differ by activity and conference; for example, schools in Conferences 1A through 4A could begin volleyball and football practice on August 3.

“This plan provides a delay for schools in highly-populated metro areas ... while providing schools in other areas ... an opportunity to start seasons on schedule,” the July 21 press release from UIL says.

For Conference 5A schools, such as Elgin ISD, volleyball and football athletes may return to practice on September 7, with the first day for volleyball games on September 14 and the first day for football

games on September 21. The first day for schools of all conference levels to begin marching band show curriculum is September 7.

At Elgin ISD, the athletics program plans to start practices the week of September 7 as outlined by UIL, according to Athletic Director Jens Anderson; they hope to be able to begin in-person strength and conditioning training, as well as sport-specific skill work, before September 7, but have not yet received that clearance from local health authorities. In the meantime, coaches have been in direct contact with fall sports athletes about practices and virtual workouts.

Visit www.elginwildcatathletics.com for the most up-to-date information.



Above, from left to right: Elgin Elementary School teachers wave goodbye to their students at the end of the year during a reverse parade. First National Bank provided gift cards to the graduating 2020 seniors. Community members decorated their homes and businesses to support graduating seniors in the midst of the pandemic. Right: Staff members from Elgin ISD and McDade ISD provide meals and schoolwork packets to their students.

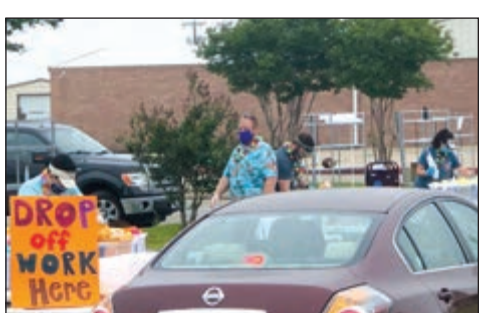
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