TASK FORCE MEMBERS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Eugene Salazar, Chair ................................................................. HISD Interim Chief Operations Officer
Julia Dimmitt .................................................................................. HISD Chief Human Resources Officer
Yolanda Rodriguez ........................................................................ HISD Chief Academic Officer
Catosha Woods ............................................................................. HISD Deputy General Counsel
Alexis Licata ................................................................................ HISD Business Logistics and Purchasing Officer
Alishia Jolivette ........................................................................... HISD Facilities, Maintenance, and Operations Officer
Lisa Blackmon-Jones ................................................................. HISD Health and Medical Services Director

COMMITTEE CHAIRS
Yolanda Rodriguez, HISD Chief Academic Officer ............................................ Campus-Based
Rick Cruz, HISD Chief Strategy and Innovation Officer ................................ Extracurricular Activities – Student Groups
Andre’ Walker, HISD Athletics Director ...................................................... Extracurricular Activities – Athletics
Alishia Jolivette, HISD Facilities, Maintenance, and Operations Officer ........ Facilities Management
Betti Wiggins, HISD Nutrition Services Officer .............................................. Nutrition
John Wilcots, HISD Transportation Services General Manager ..................... Transportation
Silvia Trinh, HISD Chief Of Staff ................................................................. All Other Departments

COMMITTEE MEMBERS — CAMPUS-BASED
Yolanda Rodriguez ........................................................................... HISD Chief Academic Officer
James McSwain ............................................................................. HISD West Area Superintendent
Stacy Taylor .................................................................................. HISD North Area Superintendent
Lisa Blackmon-Jones ........................................................................ HISD Health and Medical Services Director
Madison Taylor ................................................................................ West Briar Middle School Social Worker
Lara Hulin .................................................................................... Bellaire High School Social Worker
Katherine Strempel ........................................................................ Travis Elementary School Teacher
Erica Lopez .................................................................................. Blackshear Elementary School Teacher

COMMITTEE MEMBERS — EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES-STUDENT GROUPS
Rick Cruz .................................................................................... Chief Strategy and Innovation Officer, Chair
Catherine O’Brien ......................................................................... HCC Associate Vice Chancellor of College Readiness
Jonnelle Hollins ........................................................................... HISD Afterschool Programs Manager
Kevin Hattery ............................................................................. Boys & Girls Club Of Greater Houston President/CEO
Adeeb Barqawi .......................................................................... Proniutas Inc. President/CEO
Joshua Martin ........................................................................... Frost Elementary School Teacher
Meghan Grout ............................................................................. Burbank Middle School Teacher
COMMITTEE MEMBERS — EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES-ATHLETICS

Andre’ Walker ....................................................... HISD Athletics Director, Chair
Rosa Hernandez ..................................................... Welch Middle School Principal
Susan Monaghan .......................................................... Westbury High School Principal
Laurel Williams .......................................................... Baylor College of Medicine Associate Professor
Twila Carter ........................................................... Astros Foundation Executive Director
Sonia Rodriguez ...................................................... North Houston Early College High School Teacher
Victoria Moore .......................................................... Hartman Middle School Teacher

COMMITTEE MEMBERS — FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

Alishia Jolivette ..................................................... HISD Facilities, Maintenance, and Operations Officer, Chair
Cesar Martinez ........................................................... HISD Northwest Area Superintendent
Christina Reed ...................................................... Baylor College Of Medicine Placenta Accreta Spectrum Care Team Operations Director, HISD Parent
David Terrell .......................................................... Frost Elementary School Principal
Felecia German .......................................................... HISD Educational Consultant
Barry Taylor .......................................................... HISD Custodial Operations Senior Manager
Rebecca Busse .......................................................... Bush Elementary School Teacher
Brittany Corprew .................................................... Patterson Dual Language & Literature Magnet School Teacher
Johnny King .......................................................... Elrod Elementary School Nurse

COMMITTEE MEMBERS — NUTRITION

Betti Wiggins .......................................................... HISD Nutrition Services Officer, Chair
Geovany Ponce .......................................................... HISD East Area Superintendent
Gwendolyn Hunter ..................................................... Pleasantville Elementary School Principal
Maria Solis ............................................................. Farias Early Childhood Center Principal
Zeph Capo .............................................................. Houston Federation Of Teachers President
Heather Kohn .......................................................... HISD Nutrition Services Quality Assurance Manager
Kimberly Fletcher .......................................................... Wisdom High School Teacher
Lisa Tauser .............................................................. HISD Parent

COMMITTEE MEMBERS — TRANSPORTATION

John Wilcots ............................................................. HISD Transportation Services General Manager, Chair
Nicole Moore .......................................................... South Area Superintendent
Ross McAlpine .......................................................... Jordan Career Center Principal
Cesar Maldonado .......................................................... HCC Chancellor
Cheryl Fulmer .......................................................... River Oaks Elementary School Nurse, HISD Parent
Sonya Crawford .......................................................... Coop Elementary School Teacher
Rebecca Hiatt .............................................................. Baylor College of Medicine Biotech Academy at Rusk Teacher
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In May 2020, the Houston Independent School District established a Communicable Disease Plan Task Force — a working group made up of key employees, educators, parents, community members, and healthcare officials.

The 61-member task force was charged with reviewing guidance from local, state, and federal health and education officials, as well as feedback from HISD parent and teacher surveys, and then providing recommendations that prioritize health and safety.

The group worked diligently through June to identify ways HISD could return students and teachers to classrooms and employees to office workspaces while following public health guidelines and mitigating transmission of COVID-19.

The HISD Communicable Disease Plan outlines its recommendations — as well as accompanying procedures, protocol, challenges, and needs — for all facets of the country’s seventh-largest district. The information below provides a high-level summary of the plan.

The task force expects all procedures outlined in this document to be implemented upon reopening of district schools and buildings.

Because of changing conditions, this plan is considered a living document. The task force expects HISD administrators to continually monitor health conditions and review procedures and protocols, making adjustments as needed to ensure compliance with public health guidelines and local, state, and federal law.

General Safety Protocols

Before buildings reopen, employees, students, and community members will be notified about and trained on new safety and screening protocols. New protocols include requiring all HISD employees, students, and visitors to undergo entry screenings, wear masks, wash hands regularly, and practice physical distancing.

The district will provide enough hand soap, paper towels, tissues, hand sanitizer, and disinfectant to accommodate frequent cleaning of high touch areas.

Campus Management

Classrooms will be reconfigured to ensure at least 6 feet of space between desks. Students may have staggered schedules and alternate between in-person and virtual learning to accommodate physical distancing. Student assemblies will be held virtually.
All campus-based employees and students must follow infection and high-touch area protocols. Schools should limit visitors and assign a team to notify their communities of the updated visitation procedures.

Campuses must establish isolation areas for students and adults who become sick during the school day.

**Extracurricular Activities and Athletics**

Extracurricular activities will follow the same safety practices employed on school campuses during the school day. School-based extracurricular activities will resume when in-person instruction begins. Masks must be made available to and worn by students and teachers during all extracurricular activities.

Student sporting events are tentatively scheduled for the fall, but HISD Athletics will adjust plans as COVID-19 conditions change.

**Fine Arts**

Fine arts will require physical distancing and reorganize classrooms to ensure desks are spaced 6 feet apart. Students will not be allowed to share personal belongings, equipment, or other items, including computers, instruments, costumes, and uniforms.

**Facility Management**

Facilities, Maintenance, and Operations employees will follow the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines regarding the cleaning, sanitation, and disinfection of district facilities. FMO employees will adhere to physical distancing and sanitation guidelines regarding work orders, rentals, and building use.

**Student Meals**

Nutrition Services will provide breakfast, lunch, snack, and afterschool at-risk supper in classrooms for students engaged in in-person learning. Curbside meals will be available for students enrolled in virtual learning. Employees will continue to accommodate student health, medical, and special dietary needs, as well as allergy concerns.

Department employees will follow public health hygiene recommendations and enhance custodial cleaning and surface disinfection. Additionally, Hattie Mae’s Café will reopen to customers in alignment with state-mandated health protocols.

**Bus Transportation**

Transportation Services will enhance cleaning protocols and implement physical distancing for all buses and buildings. Because physical distancing drastically reduces bus capacity, only special education and homeless students will be transported when in-person instruction resumes. Additionally, priority will be given to certain student populations based on the district’s phased in return plan.

The department also will implement contingency plans for responding to student bus riders and bus drivers who develop a presumed or confirmed case of COVID-19. Touch time clocks will be phased out to eliminate additional high-risk surface contacts for employees.

**12-Month District Employees**

All non-campus, 12-month employees will return to normal operations in phases. Employees will receive prior to their return to work clear communication about phased timelines, as well as educational information and online training related to best practices for returning to office workspaces. Additionally, employees must follow public health hygiene recommendations and HISD procedures and protocols for building visitors and facility and district closures.
HISD COMMUNICABLE DISEASE PLAN
REOPENING FACT SHEET

EMPLOYEES
• Review educational information and complete online training
• Follow public health guidelines
• Talk to supervisor for health issues and workplace concerns
• Stay home when sick
• Wear masks
• Adhere to physical distancing

• Follow directional signage
• Undergo daily screening and temperature check
• Wash hands regularly
• Hold meetings virtually
• Don’t hold face-to-face meetings unless absolutely required — 10 person max

STUDENTS
• Stay home when sick
• Wear masks during school and extracurricular activities
• Adhere to physical distancing

• Follow teacher instructions
• Undergo daily screening and temperature check
• Don’t share classroom supplies or books

SCHOOLS
• Reconfigure classrooms to ensure at least 6 feet of space between desks
• Minimize movement and contacts by keeping class in designated area

• Implement no-contact student pick-up and drop-off with extended and staggered times
• Don’t allow parents or visitors on campus unless absolutely necessary

SCHOOL BUSES
• Adhere to physical distancing
• Stay in seat and sit by the window
• Wear masks

• Use hand sanitizer
• Follow bus driver instructions
• Don’t share seats