

# Remote Conferencing

As provided in the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) Rule, school systems must exclude students from attending school in person who are actively sick with COVID-19 or who have received a positive test result for COVID-19.

The Texas Education Agency has added flexibility to support these students using Remote Conferencing. During the exclusion period, Midland ISD will deliver remote conferencing and count the student in attendance provided that the student meets criteria.

## **What is remote conferencing?**

Remote conferencing is a setting where qualified students who are at an off-campus location are able to engage in daily facilitation of instruction through virtual platforms. Midland ISD may provide remote conferencing to a student provided the following requirements are met:

- The student is unable to attend school because of a temporary medical condition.
- The total amount of remote conferencing instruction does not exceed more than 20 instructional days over the entirety of the school year.

In addition, one of the following must be met:

- The student's temporary medical condition is documented by a physician licensed to practice in the United States. The documentation must include a statement from the physician that the student is to remain confined to their home or to a hospital.
- The student is being excluded from on campus attendance because of a test result, formal diagnosis, or suspicion of having a communicable condition, as outlined in 25 TAC§97.7, and the conditions for readmission outlined therein have not yet been met.
- The student has been identified as a close contact for COVID-19 either by public health, by the school, or by the parent.

## What does this mean for my child?

**Pre K - 5th grade students** will be able to virtually participate and receive support in two core areas: English Language Arts and Math.

- Synchronous Instruction
  - Students will log in remotely to receive support for 2 hours each school day from 8:00am-10:00am.
- Asynchronous Instruction
  - Asynchronous instruction consists of instruction completed at the student's own pace using Google Classroom.
  - Students will log in at their own time to complete assignments and activities posted on Google Classroom for 2 additional hours each school day.

**6th-12th grade students** will be able to virtually participate and receive support in four core areas: English Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies.

- Synchronous Instruction
  - Students will log in remotely to receive support for 4 hours each school day from 8:00am-12:00pm for elementary 6th grade and 8:40am-12:40pm for secondary schools.
- Asynchronous Instruction
  - Asynchronous instruction consists of instruction completed at the student's own pace using Google Classroom.
  - In the afternoon, students will complete assignments and activities posted on Google Classroom at their own pace.
  - In addition, high school students will log into Google classroom at their own pace to complete assigned work on their other scheduled classes.

- Participation in remote conferencing does not prohibit course work in areas outside of those listed above from being required to be completed by the teacher.

**Attendance:** To be counted present, the student must be virtually “present” according to the following guidelines:

- Pre-K to 5th grade students: must receive the equivalent of two hours of instruction each school day. The remote conference teacher must actually see student’s faces in order to count them as “remote present” at specific times during remote conferencing.
- 6 - 12 grade students: must receive the equivalent of four hours of instruction each school day. The remote conference teacher must actually student’s faces in order to count them as “remote present” at specific times during remote conferencing.

**What will my child need?**

Students will need access to a device and wi-fi access. Please contact your child’s campus to check out these items, if needed.