



12/18/2020

Parents of Santa Fe ISD students,

The Texas Education Agency has recently provided Texas schools with the autonomy to require virtual students who are failing and/or not actively participating in class to be moved from virtual instruction to face-to-face instruction. In accordance with guidance provided by the Texas Education Agency, Santa Fe ISD will be transitioning qualifying virtual students back to face-to-face learning in January. Each campus will also provide updated grading requirements and testing expectations for all learners in the spring semester.

In the fall, an agreement was provided for families specifying the home environment requirements and academic commitments necessary for a student to be successful in virtual learning. In order for virtual/remote learning to be impactful, it requires skills and responsibilities of the learner to fully engage in online learning. Students experiencing struggles in their virtual learning environment often need the support and assistance of face-to-face instructional time to make meaning of what they are learning. Instructional time and learning time in a face-to-face environment includes hands-on practices, group problem solving, and impromptu connections made through experiences within the classroom environment.

Our goal is to provide first-rate support for all SFISD learners and to enhance the quality of their learning. Campus and district personnel have assessed the needs from our first semester plans and refined practices, procedures, and expectations for all of our students.

On January 6th, 2021, Santa Fe ISD will require the following:

ALL SFISD learners in virtual learning- Spring Grading Requirements to receive daily credit for grades and attendance:

- **Grades 3-12:**
 - **Video cameras** are to be turned on throughout the lesson during the regularly scheduled, live class time. A student will be required to show his/her face throughout the regularly scheduled, live lesson.
 - **Student Activity**- A virtual student is required to participate in daily learning through verbal participation and interaction with the class during instruction. This is required for students to receive credit for the daily assignment and to be counted present for attendance purposes.
 - **Assignments**- Assignments due within the live class period should be electronically posted within CANVAS or any additional electronic methods a teacher prefers to submit an assignment.
 - All students in virtual or face-to-face learning will adhere to the grading guidelines.
 - Students are encouraged to review each campus's guidelines on late work.

ALL SFISD in Virtual and Face-to-Face Learners and Testing:

The following tests will be required to be taken at the student's campus in a classroom setting:

Grades PK-1: Benchmark Assessments and Progress Monitoring in Reading and Math

Grades 2-5: Interim tests, Middle of the Year (MOY) exams, and STAAR

Grades 6-12: Interim tests, Middle of the Year (MOY) exams, STAAR/EOC exams, nine-week exams, and semester exams

**Notes:*

- *Campuses will send out information on how they will organize a schedule to administer these exams.*
- *Teachers may make arrangements for students to take other types of assessments at school, if necessary.*
- *All students will be required to take assessments in person and on campus or will receive an "I" until the test is administered on campus.*

ALL SFISD Face-to-Face Learners and Absenteeism:

Students participating in face-to-face instruction may only receive an excused absence for illness and documented health care appointments. There will be no alternating between learning environments unless quarantined.

Failing Virtual SFISD Learners meeting the criteria listed below will transition back to campus for face-to-face learning on January 6th, 2020:

Grades PK-1: Students performing 2 or more levels below in Reading and Math on benchmark exams for progress monitoring.

Grades 2-5: Students with a first or second 9-week course average of 69 or below in one or more core area (Reading, Writing, Math, Science, Social Studies)

Grades 6-8: Students with a first or second 9-week course average of 69 or below in any core course and/or high school credit elective.

Grades 9-12: Students with a first or second 9-week course average of 69 or below in any course.

**Notes:*

- *A form will be made available online for students meeting the medical exemption requirements for high risk in contracting COVID-19. A healthcare provider's signature will be necessary before the form is submitted.*
- *3rd 9-week performance will be monitored for those remaining in the virtual learning environment.*

Should you have any questions, please contact your child's campus. Thank you!