

Holmes County Consolidated School District



School District Re-Entry Plan

2020 - 2021

Holmes County Consolidated School District
Guidelines for Reentry for the 2020-2021 School Year
(revised March 11, 2021)

The Holmes County Consolidated School District is Connected for the Success of Every Child, Every Classroom, Every Day! Our Recovery and Re-Entry is developed for the safety of all considering the current pandemic due to the COVID-19 virus. The district's plan will likely evolve to reflect the latest expert guidance from national, state, and local authorities.

The Holmes County Consolidated School District will begin the 2020-2021 school year in a virtual learning environment, through the end of the 1st nine-week grading period. To make this return to the workplace as safe as possible for our school and district employees, we will adjust to new health and safety guidelines. The virtual learning environment will begin for students on August 24, 2020; teachers and other instructional support staff will report to work beginning August 17, 2020. A decision will be made in late September, after a review of pertinent data in regards to the prevalence of COVID-19 within the Holmes County community, as to whether or not students will remain in the virtual learning environment or transition to the physical learning environment for the 2nd nine week grading period. For more information about teaching and learning within our virtual environment, please visit the district's webpage at holmesccsd.org for more information.

To begin the 4th nine week grading period, schools will re-open for in-person learning. Schools have identified, based on an in-house survey conducted on parents, those students that will return for in-person learning. Schools have also identified students with connectivity issues, as well as students exhibiting poor performance in the classroom. Those students will be targeted for a return to in-person learning.

Considering the different grade levels, school population sizes, and campus layouts of the 9 schools in our District, a detailed plan of action for re-entry will be developed by each school based on the guidelines below.

Traditional Instructional Model

The District is working hard to incorporate many safeguards to help keep our students and staff as safe as possible while implementing a traditional instructional model. This document is based on the latest guidance from the CDC, the Mississippi Department of Health, the Mississippi Department of Education, and other authorities. A summary of these safeguards is available below, following an explanation of the hybrid and distance instructional models which may be implemented should the impact of COVID-19 necessitate these alternate models at any point in the school year.

Hybrid Instructional Model

If the impact of COVID-19 makes the traditional instructional model impracticable, the District will be prepared to move into a hybrid model. Students will be divided into two groups with an alternating A/B Schedule, alternating face-to-face and virtual instruction during the week.

Virtual Learning Environment

If parents chose to keep students in a virtual learning environment at this time, the Holmes County Consolidated School District will:

- Implement a robust distance teaching and learning plan:
 - Develop distance learning curriculum in line with the district's instructional management plan
 - Train teachers on instruction in a virtual environment
 - Develop and deploy virtual trainings for parents/families (video vignettes).
 - Provide access to virtual lessons for students and parents.
 - Establish teaching schedule/office hours and communicate the plan to parents.
- Distribute printed instructional packets/materials and District/school communications along with meals; designate and communicate collection/drop off points

General Guidelines to Prevent the Spread of Illness

- Parents/guardians should perform an assessment of their child(ren)'s health before leaving home. If your child feels unwell, or has any of the following symptoms, please do not allow him or her to come to school and contact your healthcare provider. People with these symptoms may have COVID-19: fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and/or diarrhea.
- Students, faculty, and staff will wear face coverings and/or face shields at all times practicable while on school campuses. Face coverings should adhere to dress code standards established in the student handbook.
- Students, faculty, and staff should socially distance, i.e., remain six feet apart, to the extent practicable. Seating and desks should face the same direction and be distanced apart to the extent practicable.
- Students, faculty, and staff should stay home when they are sick, when they have a temperature of more than 100.4°F (38°C), or when they do not pass the daily at-home screening examination. In an effort to encourage sick individuals to stay home, attendance policies and related exemptions will be modified and will be available for reference in the 2020-2021 student handbook.
- Students and staff who live with anyone diagnosed with COVID-19 should stay home from school until the risk of transmission has passed.
- Persons with COVID-19 should isolate for 14 days and be free of fever for three consecutive days before returning to school. A negative COVID-19 test or note from a medical professional should be submitted to the school prior to return to campus.
- Everyone should practice good hygiene measures such as handwashing often with soap and warm water for 20 seconds and covering coughs and sneezes.
- Faculty and staff temperatures will be taken daily. Students' temperatures will also be taken daily, in the event a decision is made about returning students to the physical learning environment. Faculty and staff will assist in monitoring students for symptoms and will refer anyone with symptoms to the school nurse/school designee for evaluation.

- Parents will be encouraged to bring their students to and from school in their own automobiles.
- Hand sanitizer will be on all buses, in hallways, classrooms, bathrooms, and at school entrances and exits. Hand soap and paper towels shall be in all restrooms.
- Stations/areas will be set up to quarantine students with symptoms.

Process for Fulfillment and Resupply of PPE for schools

- Prior to the start of school, the District is providing each school with cleaning supplies and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).
- Each school will have:
 - 60% alcohol or higher hand sanitizer for each classroom and office space
 - Disinfectant spray for each classroom and office space for disinfecting surfaces
 - Disinfectant wipes for each classroom and office space for disinfecting surfaces
 - Back up face masks for faculty, staff, and students (including child sized masks for K-5)
 - Face shields for teachers
 - Hand sanitizer dispensers at the main entrance of each school
- Schools will be provided with additional PPE and cleaning supplies as needed

Regular Cleaning of School Buildings

- High-touch areas of classrooms will be sanitized by faculty and staff between classes or as often as practicable. Halls and bathrooms will be sanitized throughout the day by custodial staff.
- Employees will be advised in cleaning and safety protocols at each school site.
- A regular cleaning schedule will be established for daytime and afterhours sanitation of school buildings by school custodians, janitorial services, and/or contracted professional cleaning services. Each school will be sanitized after each school day. Schools will be deep-cleaned consistent with District directives.

Visitors

- Visitors to campus should go directly to the school office area
- No classroom visits allowed until further notice
- Necessary visitors (vendors) will be required to have temperature checks upon arrival to the building and will wear a face covering while on campus.

When Someone Becomes Sick at School

- Each school will have a designated separate sick/isolation room for suspected COVID cases, keeping those students, faculty, and staff away from other types of illness or injury cases that may be seeking treatment or care.
- School nurses and other designee will use standard precautions and transmission-based precautions when caring for sick people.
- Sick staff members and students should not return until they have met criteria to discontinue home isolation.
- Persons with COVID-19 should isolate for 10 days and be free of fever for three consecutive days before returning to school. A negative COVID-19 test or note from a medical professional should be submitted to the school prior to return to campus.
- Schools will report daily to District officials the students, faculty, and staff who have been diagnosed with COVID-19. Central Office will report such information to the State Department of Health.
- In the event that a student or staff member is diagnosed with COVID-19, the parents/guardians of students who have been in direct contact with that individual will be notified.
- Students and staff who live with anyone diagnosed with COVID-19 should stay home from school until the risk of transmission has passed.
- The District will follow the guidelines of the Mississippi Department of Health concerning when it is appropriate for students who may have been exposed to enter self-quarantine.

Food Services

- To begin the school year, meals will be provided to students in the virtual learning environment via school bus delivery.
- Conduct cleaning of cafeterias and high-touch surfaces throughout the school day
- In the event students are asked to return to the physical leaning environment, schools will employ the following serving models for meals:
 - Serving meals in classrooms, to every extent possible.
- Follow the District's specific protocols for communication in the event of confirmed cases of cafeteria staff.

Transportation

- All students and drivers shall wear face coverings.
- Social distancing will be employed to the extent possible on each bus but cannot be guaranteed.
- Parents and guardians are encouraged to bring students to school in order to reduce the number of bus riders.
- Hand sanitizer will be provided for students and bus drivers.
- Drivers will be screened daily for symptoms of illness.
- Field trips are suspended until further notice.
- High-touch surfaces will be sanitized frequently.
- Buses will be aired out between uses.

Entering and Leaving School Buildings

- Each campus will implement standard operating procedures while taking preventative measures to include, but not limited to:
 - Provide hand sanitizer for students, faculty, and staff
 - Eliminate unnecessary congregations of students, faculty and staff
 - Implement social distancing
 - Designate entrance and exit flow paths
 - Post signage in classrooms, hallways, and entrances to communicate how to stop the spread of COVID-19 and its symptoms, preventative measures (including staying home when sick), good hygiene, and school/District specific protocols
 - Establish a protocol for students, faculty and staff who feel ill or experience symptoms when they come to school
 - Isolate and send home individuals who are ill, experience symptoms, or have a temperature of over 100.4°F (38°C)
 - Adhere to District protocols regarding school visitors (see Visitors section above)
 - Establish a protocol for student pick/drop off: staggered entry and release (by grade, class, or bus numbers), marked spacing for pickup
 - Isolate and send home if student or staff temperature is over 100.4°F (38°C).

Transitioning from Class to Class

- Each school will implement standard operating procedures while taking preventative measures to include, but not limited to:
 - Require all students, faculty and staff to wear face coverings at all times, to the extent possible.
 - Provide additional time for transitions and class changes.
 - Implement staggered class changes, e.g., by hall, odd/even room numbers, grade or subject to decrease numbers in halls at one time.
 - Limit mixing of students to extent possible.
 - Keep students static and move faculty to limit interactions to extent practicable.
 - Conduct cleaning of hallways and high-touch surfaces throughout the school day (see Regular Cleaning of School Buildings above)
 - Designate areas of the hallway (i.e. lanes) to keep students separated to the extent practicable.

Groups and Large Gatherings

- Eliminate congregation of students in parking lots and common areas
- Stagger schedule for group gatherings such as recess and meals
- Use multiple large spaces such as gyms, auditorium, outside spaces as weather permits for social distancing during mealtimes and other gatherings
- Follow MHSAA guidelines for events and practices

Guidelines for Supporting Teaching and Learning

- Implement standard operating procedures while taking preventative measures to include, but not limited to:
 - Use the master schedule to balance class numbers as much as possible and remove unused desks and furniture in classrooms to maximize social distancing.
 - Clean classrooms and high-touch surfaces often and provide hand sanitizer, tissues, etc., for proper hygiene.
 - Limit physical interaction by curtailing partner or group work.
 - Establish distance between the teacher's desk/board and students' desks.
 - Identify and utilize large spaces (i.e. gymnasiums, auditoriums, outside spaces – as weather permits) for social distancing
- Social and Emotional Support
 - Provide teacher training to help recognize signs of anxiety, concerns with coming back to school
 - Provide training for counselors on appropriate interventions and supports.
 - Develop strategies at each campus to help students within the virtual learning environment
- Establish an academic baseline
 - The district will develop a plan to administer formative assessments within the virtual learning environment.
 - Conduct meetings with teachers to identify where students are academically behind.
- Discuss the shared experience
 - Help children and teachers cope with changes.
 - Plan best ways to talk to children about COVID-19.
- Target interventions and supports
 - Provide additional instructional supports to:
 - students at-risk of not graduating on time
 - students with disabilities (compensatory services)
 - students who struggled in the prior distance/remote learning environment (i.e. early grades, English Learners, etc.)
 - other students identified by teachers and parents as being behind academically.
 - Identify essential concepts/skills/grade levels and provide access to enrichment.
- Address learning loss
 - Help students catch up/get ahead.
 - Provide extended learning opportunities.
- Prepare for potential future distance/remote learning by increasing current blended learning:
 - Develop a digital learning plan
 - Integrate distance learning practices
 - Provide distance learning-specific professional development for educators

Guidelines for Arts and Athletics (recess, physical education, and extracurricular activities)

- Develop protocols to maintain health and safety during arts, chorus, band, and athletics and activities, utilizing the guidelines included throughout this document.

FAQ

ACADEMIC PROGRAMMING

- 1. What is the school district's plan for scheduling instructional delivery students when school opens?**

The Holmes County Consolidated School District will provide instruction utilizing a virtual schedule to begin the 2020-2021 school year. Students in Pre-K through 12th grade will be provided with 240 minutes of instruction in a virtual environment through the end of the 1st nine-week grading period. A decision will be made in late September in regards instructional delivery for the 2nd nine-week grading period and beyond.

- 2. Briefly describe the school district's contingency plan for scheduling instructional delivery to students should the district or school(s) have to close due to an outbreak?**

The Holmes County Consolidated School District will provide instruction utilizing a virtual schedule, in the event employees are restricted to teleworking due to a stay at home order. The district is in the process of supplying each child with a tablet and or laptop to enhance teaching and learning in the virtual environment. The school district is also surveying the needs of parents and issuing hotspots and other means of assistance to ensure wi-fi capabilities exist throughout each child's learning environment.

- 3. How does the district plan to ensure mastery of content for Carnegie credit courses? [NOTE: The district's plan to address this requirement must be approved by the local school board and posted on the district website no later than September 30, 2020.]**

Carnegie credits will be earned utilizing a hybrid model for instructional delivery. Students will be assigned courses in Edgenuity, receiving direct instruction from appropriately certified, endorsed teachers. Students will follow a virtual learning schedule, which will ensure 240 minutes of instruction is provided daily.

- 4. How will the school district take attendance in a hybrid or virtual schedule? Mark all that apply.**

Attendance will be taken within the district used learning management system, as well as with one-on-one teacher/student contact, within the virtual learning environment. Once individual students have been notated as being either present or

absent, district support staff will appropriately code students daily in the district's student information system.

5. Provide a link to the LEA-defined policies being used to meet the criteria for reporting students present in a virtual learning environment.

Link: www.holmesccsd.org

OPERATIONS

6. How will the school district provide transportation?

To begin the school year, students will be provided instruction within the virtual learning environment. Once a decision has been made to have students report to the physical learning environment, transportation will be provided to students via district school buses. Plans will be developed to ensure social distancing is in place while students are on buses. A detailed cleaning schedule will be utilized to ensure school buses are routinely sanitized and appropriately cleaned at the end of each route.

7. Where will the school district provide meals to students?

To begin the school year, students will be provided instruction within the virtual learning environment. Within the virtual learning environment, the school district will provide breakfast and lunch to all students, with door to door delivery service being provided to each home within the district. Once a decision had been made to have students report to the physical learning environment, meals will be provided in classrooms, reducing the risk of spread of the virus.

8. What are the planned start and end dates for students?

The planned start and end dates for the 2020-2021 school year are as follow:

- a. start date for fall semester: 08/24/2020
- b. end date for fall semester: 12/18/2020
- c. start date for spring semester: 01/05/2021
- d. end date for spring semester: 06/07/2021

HEALTH AND SAFETY

9. Does the district plan to require masks of students and adults while being transported and on campus?

Due to the prevalence of spread throughout the Holmes County community, mask will be required of all individuals throughout all school district campuses, to the extent possible. Staff and students will be asked to report to school with masks that meet CDC guidelines for preventing the spread of the virus. The school district will provide masks in the event individual employees and students do not report to campus with a mask. Face Shields will also be provided to teachers, in the event a decision has been made to have students report to the physical learning environment.

10. If requiring masks of students, what ages / grade levels will be required to wear a mask?

All students in grades Pre-K through 12th grade will be required to wear a mask, in the event a decision has been made to have students report to the physical learning environment.

11. Which of the following cleaning and sanitation topics are addressed in the district's comprehensive plan?

The below-mentioned areas are included in the district's comprehensive plan.

- Buildings, classrooms, and common areas
- Food and nutritional service areas
- Transportation (buses, service areas, and equipment)
- Areas associated with cocurricular or extracurricular events

12. How will the district identify and address the needs of students and staff with underlying health conditions?

To begin the school year, students will be provided instruction with the virtual learning environment. In the event a decision is made to return students to the physical learning environment, families will be afforded the opportunity to present appropriate medical documentation to the district, in accordance with CDC guidelines, as well as state and local policies for attendance.

13. Who is responsible for overseeing health and safety within the district?

Name / contact information:

- Benjamin G. Torrey, II, Special Assistant to the Superintendent – btorrey@holmesccsd.org
- Dr. Jason Sargent, Director of Testing, Enrollment & Accountability – jason.sargent@holmesccsd.org
- Alonzo Washington, Supervisor, Maintenance & Custodial Services – awashington1@holmesccsd.org
- Comona Davis, School Nurse – cdavis@holmesccsd.org
- Janet Washington, School Nurse – jwashington@holmesccsd.org

14. How does the district intend to ensure safety of students, staff, and spectators involved in cocurricular and extracurricular activities (athletics, band, choir, etc.)?

The school district will ensure a safe environment for students, staff and spectators, in accordance with CDC guidelines, as well as guidelines from the Mississippi High School Activities Association. Students will be required to wear masks, to the extent possible, maintaining social distancing guidelines, to the extent possible. Specific sports guidelines will be provided to parents and students, to aid in minimizing the risk of spread of the virus.

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT

15. How will the district provide technology and academic support to families?

The district will provide all students in grades Pre-K through 12th grade with a device, to be utilized in the virtual learning environment. Families will be surveyed to determine internet access, and will be provided assistance, as needed.

COMMUNICATIONS

16. How will the district communicate its comprehensive plan regularly with families?

Point of contact: Benjamin G. Torrey, Special Assistant to the Superintendent

Hotline or phone number: 662-834-2175

Dedicated email address: btorrey@holmesccsd.org

Dedicated website address: www.holmesccsd.org

17. How will the district communicate with families should there be an outbreak that necessitates immediate closure?

To begin the school year, students will be provided instruction within the virtual learning environment. In the event of an outbreak that necessitates immediate closure, the school community will be notified via the district's website, all social media platforms, as well as through Blackboard, via phone and email transmission.



Rev. Anthony Anderson, President District A
 Louise Winters, Vice-President District B
 Earsie Simpson, Secretary District C
 Elder William Dean, Jr., Member District D
 Rayford Horton, Member District E

Benjamin G. Torrey, II, Special Assistant to the Superintendent

Connecting for Success: Every Child, Every Classroom, Every Day

2020-2021 Instructional School Day

Arrival	7:30 – 8:00
Instructional Day	8:00 – 12:30
Dismissal	12:30 – 1:00

Staff Work Day – 7:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
 School Administrative Work Day – 7:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Pre-K – 3rd Grade Instructional Day
 240 instructional minutes

Arrival/Morning Preparation/Attendance	7:30 – 8:00
ELA Block with Embedded Social Studies	8:00 – 10:00
Mathematics Instruction	10:00 – 11:00
Lunch	11:00 – 11:30
Science Instruction	11:30 – 12:30
Dismissal	12:30 – 1:00

4th – 12th Grade Instructional Day
 240 instructional minutes

Arrival/Morning Preparation/Attendance	7:30 – 8:00
Block 1/5	8:00 – 9:00
Block 2/6	9:00 – 10:00
Block 3/7	10:00 – 11:00
Lunch	11:00 – 11:30
Block 4/8	11:30 – 12:30
Dismissal	12:30 – 1:00