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# **NEWS RELEASE**

CLAYTON COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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June 22, 2020

### CCPS Unveils Four Instructional Models for 2020-2021 School Year

School System will Implement Instructional Model-C to Start New Academic Year

JONESBORO - During the combined Clayton County Public Schools (CCPS) Board of Education's Board Meeting and Work Session, held on Monday, June 22, CCPS Divisions of School Leadership and Improvement as well as Curriculum Instruction and Assessment, presented to the Board, the Re-Opening Plan which includes four Instructional Model Options (IMO) for the 2020-2021 school year. Utilizing data from local, state, and national health agencies, the four IMO's include IMO-A [Low Risk]: Traditional Face-to-Face: all students return to a regular face-to-face schedule at school; IMO-B [High Risk]: Virtual: all students engage in all virtual learning at home; IMO-C [Moderate Risk]: Blended (virtual and face-to-face): all students engage in face-to-face at school and virtual learning at home utilizing an A-Day (Monday & Wednesday), B-Day (Tuesday & Thursday) schedule allowing all students to participate in at-home virtual learning days on Friday; IMO-D: Virtual Learning Academy (VLA): full-time enrollment in at-home virtual learning for at least one full semester. This option is based on district criteria, readiness checklists, parent preference, and the availability of seats. For details regarding the VLA enrollment process, please see the enrollment steps at the bottom of this announcement. The application for VLA will be available in July.

As part of the reopening plan presentation, Superintendent Beasley and staff shared the efforts to implement IMO-C and also presented the adjusted 2020-2021 school year calendar citing current risk factors and available Coronavirus (COVID-19) spread data. To view the full Reopening Considerations for the School Year 2020-2021 PowerPoint, and 2020-2021 School Year Calendar please click the following link: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/CCPSReopeningDocs">https://tinyurl.com/CCPSReopeningDocs</a>. Please note the 2020-2021 academic calendar brings the school year calendars of all Clayton County Public Schools and Elite Scholars Academy into alignment as approved by the Board of Education on May 4, 2020.

"We are proud to present to the Board a reopening plan that takes into account a comprehensive assessment of the current COVID-19 data as we work to begin the 2020-2021 school year in a way that provides our students and employees, what we believe, is the safest and most effective model of providing/receiving instruction," said Superintendent Beasley. "While we will continue to monitor the data, this plan provides us the opportunity to pivot as the data changes, for the better or worse, as to cause minimal disruption to the educational process of our students. I am thankful that our Board understands and supports the plain as shared. In addition, I could not be more proud of the masterful job done by the team to create these options for our school system and community."

In addition to the Reopening Considerations PowerPoint and adjusted calendar, the Board also received the Reopening Resource Guide for the 2020-2021 School Year. This document is designed to provide parents/guardians, district, and school stakeholders with a comprehensive document consisting of detailed explanations of the IMO's, collaborative resources, safety guidelines, and more. To view the

Reopening Resource Guide for the 2020-2021 School Year, please visit the following link: <a href="https://drive.google.com/file/d/1CEm-RQjDnYSkTp0EJT8yxXvTxQM3U8N3/view?usp=sharing">https://drive.google.com/file/d/1CEm-RQjDnYSkTp0EJT8yxXvTxQM3U8N3/view?usp=sharing</a>.

"As we continue to make decisions regarding our school system, we believe that by providing our stakeholders with critical information, we can empower them to make informed decisions that are in their own best interest," said Dr. Beasely. "This resource guide goes into great detail about district operations specific to each Instructional Model Option as well as the COVID benchmark data used to create them. We have every intention of communicating openly and transparently to our stakeholders as we make considerations for their children. I believe this document allows them to do the same with clarity of the school systems' process."

Please be reminded that Superintendent/CEO Dr. Morcease J. Beasley will host three virtual meetings to update all school stakeholders. The first Superintendent Live Address is scheduled to take place in June and two additional live messages will occur in July. The first of these series will be held on **Tuesday**, **June 23**, **2020**, at **1:00** p.m and can be accessed via the Clayton County Public Schools Youtube Channel (www.youtube.com/ccpsnews). These sessions will share critical updates relative to the Reopening Guidelines, the process for Virtual Learning Academy, School Choice, CCPS Graduations, and information concerning a recent Parent Perception Survey.

### **Virtual Learning Academy Enrollment Process**

**Step One- Register for the CCPS Virtual Learning Academy:** Parent(s)/Guardian(s)/Caretaker(s) will register for the CCPS Virtual Learning Academy by completing the Online Registration application through the Parent Portal. They will be required to provide all required documentation for registration. Please note: Prior to the creation of the line of enrollment, all required documents must be submitted. Also, parents will complete a readiness checklist to confirm that their students have the necessary supports for full-time at-home virtual learning.

**Step Two- Online Registration CCPS Virtual Learning Academy Application Review:** The CCPS Virtual Learning Academy application and all corresponding documentation will be reviewed. Email accounts must be reviewed on a regular basis to receive the ongoing notifications advising of the application status and the need, if any, for additional documentation to complete the registration and enrollment process. Parent(s)/Guardian(s)/Caretaker(s) should check their email accounts regularly for notifications on the status of their virtual school application.

**Step Three- School Counselor Review of Academic History:** School counselors will review the student's academic history to determine grade level and course placement. Parent(s)/Guardian(s)/Caretaker(s) will be required to confirm consistent access to technology and the internet to ensure their student's success.

Step Four- Confirmation of Enrollment in the CCPS Virtual Learning Academy: Parent(s)/Guardian(s)/Caretaker(s) will be asked to review their proposed student's schedule communicated in the email notification and to confirm their intent to enroll in the CCPS Virtual Learning Academy. Important: Final enrollment decisions will be contingent on the district's available resources, staff, and virtual seating capacity.

#### **About Clayton County Public Schools**

Clayton County Public Schools (CCPS) is fully accredited by AdvancED – Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Council on Accreditation and School Improvement. The district offers a focused world-class program based on a challenging curriculum which is taught from pre-kindergarten through 12th grade. Serving over 55,000 students, Clayton County Public Schools is ranked among the 100 largest school districts in the U.S. and is the fifth largest school system in Georgia.