



Frequently Asked Questions - District's Reopening Plan

As of October 26, 2020

***This date will change as new information is added.**

As we continue daily instruction in a virtual environment, Clayton County Public Schools (CCPS) is working to respond to questions being raised by our students and their families as well as our employees regarding a return to face-to-face instruction. We ask that you please use this Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document related to CCPS students and staff returning to our facilities and face-to-face instruction. Questions are organized by General Questions and specific Departments.

General Questions

When are staff and students returning to facilities?

The district presented an update to its Reopening Plan to the Board of Education Monday, October 26, 2020. Students will continue in a virtual learning environment for Semester One (August 10, 2020 to December 18, 2020). All communication methods will be used to notify staff, families, and community members as information becomes available and new decisions are made.

What is the protocol if someone tests positive for COVID-19?

When a positive case is confirmed, the District's COVID Response team, in consultation with School Leaders and District Level Leadership, will determine next steps. District personnel will implement contact tracing, as well as, initiate the next steps for cleaning and sanitizing.

What protocol will be in place if a student or staff member has symptoms of Covid-19?

If staff or students become ill, they will be quarantined (isolated) in a designated area at their facility. They will remain in that area until they can be picked up by a parent/guardian/other. If a staff or a student experiences symptoms he/she must be screened for COVID-19 and may return to work/school with a negative test.

How will social distancing occur during highly populated areas (e.g. lunchroom, hallways, bathrooms, loading and unloading areas)?

Students will social distance when they report to areas outside of the classroom, such as when they report to the cafeteria to pick up breakfast and lunch to take back to their classrooms for consumption. Each school will implement a supervised entry and dismissal process. Additionally, schools have signs/markings that remind staff and students to social distance.

Curriculum and Instruction

How will students receive instruction in an A-Day/B-Day hybrid teaching model?

In an A-Day/B-Day model, students will report to schools on alternating days. The A-Day students will report to school on two days out of the week, and the B-Day students will report to school on a different set of two days. On Fridays, all students will remain at home for virtual learning. Throughout the week, students will receive a combination of live (synchronous) and independent (asynchronous) learning to support students' mastery of the standards.

How will the district support the learning of students who remain at home for the Virtual Learning Academy?

The district is finalizing its plan for the Virtual Learning Academy (VLA) now that parents have been given the option to confirm or opt out. During the opt-out process, parents were given additional details, and more details will be provided as schools finalize their instructional model. The follow up details will address common questions regarding: how students will receive instruction (live vs. independent), how frequently they will receive live instruction, if they will maintain their current teacher(s), etc.

Will students continue with the same teachers if they are selected for the Virtual Learning Academy?

The goal is to provide students with their same teacher since students will still be enrolled in their home school; however, the final decision is contingent on the final student numbers, the selected teaching model, and other school-related resources.

Will the district provide the Virtual Learning Academy option for the remainder of 2020-2021?

Yes, the district plans to provide the Virtual Learning Academy option for the remainder of 2020-2021.

Will I be able to change my mind if my child is enrolled in the Virtual Learning Academy?

The district is encouraging parents to allow their children to remain in the Virtual Learning Academy for at least one full semester (1st Semester: until December 18, 2020 or 2nd Semester: until May 25, 2021). Parents are asked to follow-up directly with their child's principal (or his/her designee) if there are questions regarding opting out or opting into the Virtual Learning Academy. All students will remain in virtual learning for Semester One: August 10, 2020 to December 18, 2020.

How will parents be notified of their child's schedule?

Parents will be notified of their child's schedule in the Infinite Campus Parent Portal.

How will students in the Virtual Learning Academy check out books from the library or receive other relevant hardcopy/print materials?

Media Center Service Guidelines were developed to ensure a safe environment is maintained for staff and patrons while continuing to provide media services. These guidelines will be updated as needed throughout the school year. Schools have specific guidance to allow a Media Specialist and Administrators to work together to select the model that best fits district and local guidance as well as consider the CDC guidelines for safety protocols (e.g., cleaning, disinfecting, social distancing).

How will performances (e.g., fine arts) and extracurricular activities be conducted when students return face-to-face to ensure safety measures?

All fine arts performances will be school-based decisions following CDC guidelines for social distancing and research from various health organizations. The district will determine if patrons will be allowed in order to ensure safety measures can be followed.

Safety and Security

Is wearing a face covering required to attend school Face-to-Face?

Yes, face masks are required unless there is a health-related issue that prevents a student or staff from wearing one; other safety practices will be instituted for these individuals.

What will be the protocol when parents bring their child to school sick and cannot return to pick them up?

If a student becomes ill, they will be quarantined in a designated area at their facility. They will remain in that area until they can be picked up by a parent/guardian/other. The District will make every effort to connect with the parent/guardian in these situations. Each case will be dealt with on an individual basis.

Will the district support discipline or removal of students that refuse to comply?

The Student Code of Conduct, item 8J, requires all students to follow established health, and/or safety rules while on school property, or participating in a virtual class or extending learning beyond the classroom. The initial discipline responses will include parental contact, involvement of school social worker or school counselor to address the issue and engage the student in an empathic dialogue. Additional responses will be deployed as needed since this code section carries a level 1-4 consequence.

Will each teacher, counselor, and staff member be supplied with adequate and ample disinfecting supplies?

All classroom and offices have been supplied with spray bottles filled with disinfectant solution. There are ample supplies of disinfecting solution and spray bottles for individual use.

How will classrooms be outfitted and designed to support safety and social distancing?

Students will be spaced out to conform with social distancing guidelines through alternate and designated seating based on the seating layout of the classroom.

Nutrition Services**How will students receive breakfast, lunch, and snacks?**

Whether students are face-to-face or remote learning they will receive school breakfast, lunch and snack meals.

Face-to-face Learning Meal Service:

- Students will pick up breakfast from the cafeteria and consume in classrooms M-Th or in the cafeteria (Principal or designee establishes meal time hours)
- Students will pick up lunch and snacks in the cafeteria and consume in the classrooms M-Th or in the cafeteria (Principal or designee establishes meal time hours)
- Students will receive meals on Fridays curbside and/or distributed along school bus routes in the community.

Remote/Virtual Learning Meal Service:

- Curbside meals will also be provided at schools for remote learners from 10:00 - 12:00 noon
- Remote learning on Friday's require breakfast, lunch and snack to be delivered to students in the community from 9:00 - 12:00 noon
- A/B Days - students will be given meals to take home on virtual learning days

Will meals be provided for the students in the Virtual Learning Academy? If so, how will meals be provided to students in the Virtual Learning Academy?

Yes, meals for students in VLA will be offered curbside and distributed along school bus routes in the community. School buses will only target VLA communities.

Transportation**How will transportation operate during Face to Face?**

The Transportation Department will transport students using our pre-existing routes.

How will you ensure safety and social distancing on school buses?

Most students are present at the stops prior to the bus arriving; therefore, we seek support and assistance from the community to have students social distance at bus stops when feasible. It is difficult to social distance on buses based on our current student population. We will make adjustments as needed to ensure our ridership counts are safe and efficient. We ask that students wear masks and/or face shields to limit possible spread of the virus and will support any established process for loading/unloading students at schools. Our buses have sufficient ventilation. As an

added measure, we can let windows down for more ventilation while transporting when the weather permits.

Human Resources

What are my options as an employee if I do not feel comfortable returning?

The Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) requires certain employers to provide their employees with Emergency Paid Sick Leave (EPSL) and Emergency Family and Medical Leave (EFML) for specified reasons related to COVID-19. [Here](#) is a link to applicable leave provisions under FFCRA and EPSL.

Georgia law provides liability coverage for organizations who reasonably adhere to the CDC guidelines. Please know that CCPS is taking all practical steps to institute the recommended safety precautions and minimize the risk to staff, students and public.

How will substitute teachers be handled throughout the district to ensure staff and student safety?

Substitute teachers are employees of the district; therefore, they will be provided the same information and safety protocols as all other employees.