

Calhoun County School District

Reopening Plan

Darryl Taylor, Jr.
Superintendent of Schools
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CALHOUN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT REOPENING GUIDELINES

COVID-19 closed our school buildings in the Spring of 2020 and forced our schools, educators, students, and families into uncharted territory. Everyone responded by pulling together and doing what was needed to take care of our students. Since that time, we have developed guidelines that take into account the need to resume educating our students while realizing the need to mitigate the spread of illness. This is not a one-size-fits-all approach. We understand that our schools are different and that each site might have different specific methods of providing safety measures that best fit their situation.

The information in this document is subject to change and will be reevaluated as often as necessary.

EDUCATIONAL OPTIONS

Traditional

In the traditional option students will return to normal instruction at school campuses beginning August 12, 2020. This plan allows for instruction to be delivered five days per week in all available courses and related services. All classes are taught by Florida certified teachers employed by the Calhoun County School District and all learning occurs in traditional classrooms with modifications that promote social distancing to the extent possible. Instruction is teacher-led with district-led pacing guides with a full range of courses Pre-K – 12. Should circumstances change or specific needs arise, instruction will be delivered to students in a hybrid distance learning format. Calhoun County School District teachers will utilize Google Classroom as their platform to deliver hybrid instruction during temporary school closures or individual student absences.

Virtual

In the virtual option, students will participate in all online instruction away from all school campuses. All classes are taught by Florida certified teachers with a full range of courses K – 12. If school campus closures were to become necessary, all students enrolled in the Calhoun Virtual Instruction Program would not be affected. Instruction is mostly self-paced and students determine their personal schedule, but must meet minimum requirements.

Students who enroll in the Calhoun Virtual Instruction Program must remain enrolled in virtual school for a complete semester. This is to ensure that grades are posted and credits awarded as completely as possible before a change back to traditional “brick and mortar” school.

Students who initially choose the traditional “brick and mortar” option but then opt for the Calhoun Virtual Instructional Program may do so at any time BUT can do so only once per semester and must remain at the Calhoun Virtual Instructional Program through the end of the semester.

Parents are encouraged to reach out to the Calhoun Virtual Instruction Program at 850-674-8734 ext 221 to find out more about their program if interested.

STUDENTS ON CAMPUS

The most effective means of mitigation is social distance and limitations to exposure. For the protection of everyone, it is imperative that parents monitor their child's health. Parents must keep children at home if they present symptoms such as:

- persistent fever 100.4 or higher
- persistent cough and/or shortness of breath
- sore throat
- loss of sense of taste or smell
- diarrhea
- flu-like symptoms

Parents should also have open communication with their child's school. If a parent, student, family member, or anyone else that a student has had direct contact with, has been exposed to, or tested positive for COVID-19; please contact your school administration to discuss your particular circumstances. As a reminder, it is recommended that parents communicate with their child's doctor to make sure that he/she is up to date with recommended vaccinations and vaccinations required for school and overall good health prevention.

Parents of Students with Disabilities, who are medically fragile, have a compromised immune system or underlying health conditions may contact his/her child's school to discuss any concerns.

Should a child exhibit signs or symptoms of COVID-19 while present at a school campus, the individual will be isolated from other students and the student's parent/guardian will be contacted for the student to be picked up. Students who exhibit symptoms of COVID-19 must stay out 5 days. A student must be fever free for 24 hours before returning to school. If a student has been exposed to someone who tested positive for COVID-19 and is asymptomatic, then they can stay at school.

If an individual is found to test positive for COVID-19, the local health department, in conjunction with the Florida Department of Health, will assist the school district in implementing the proper steps to prevent further exposure or transmission of COVID-19.

An affected COVID-19 positive individual or person with direct contact with a COVID-19 positive individual will follow the COVID-19 Symptomatic Decision Tree.

Information about students who have tested positive from COVID-19 will be kept as confidential as possible. HIPAA and FERPA guidelines will be followed.

UPDATED COVID-19 GUIDANCE

STUDENT OR EMPLOYEE TESTS POSITIVE FOR COVID-19


RETURN TO SCHOOL AFTER

5
DAYS IF THEY ARE FEVER-FREE FOR 24 HOURS.
NO ADDITIONAL TESTING IS REQUIRED.

STUDENTS OR EMPLOYEES WHO DO NOT TEST POSITIVE FOR COVID-19 OR DEVELOP SYMPTOMS SHOULD NOT BE REQUIRED TO QUARANTINE.

EMPLOYEES ARE NO LONGER REQUIRED TO WEAR FACIAL COVERINGS

CHILD CARE FACILITIES SHOULD NEVER FORCE CHILDREN TO WEAR MASKS

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Social Emotional Learning

Teachers and administrators will identify, discuss, and plan for students who may require additional support. Stakeholders must acknowledge the impact of the school closures and validate differing experiences. Faculty, staff, and administration will establish routines that welcome students each day and increase their sense of safety. In addition, staff, will teach and reteach expectations and routines while avoiding punitive approaches when managing physical distancing.

Sanitization and Safety Protocols

- Signage to include reminders for good prevention of illness and overall wellness will be posted and standardized across all departments and schools.
- Regular hand washing upon entering school, and during periods of student transition from one location to the next, will be taught and stressed.
- Hand sanitizing stations will be available in high traffic areas such as offices, gymnasiums, and cafeterias, auditoriums, and media centers.
- Hand sanitizer will be available in all classrooms.
- Students should not share personal items such as hygiene items, school supplies, or food/drink. School buildings will continue to be cleaned daily. High traffic areas will be cleaned throughout the day as student occupancy dictates.
- Restrooms sink faucets, door handles, desktops, cafeteria lines, railings, and tables will be cleaned at increased frequency.
- Student social distancing will be observed in all areas as allowed by available space.
- During school occupancy cleaning and disinfection procedures will be conducted. As an added precaution, frequently touched surfaces will be cleaned periodically throughout the day utilizing disinfectants listed for use on COVID-19.
- In the event of a possible exposure, related area will remain unoccupied until area can be disinfected.

TRANSPORTATION GUIDELINES

Masks are optional. Bus drivers will provide masks to students that request one if students do not have their own. Students will sit in assigned seats. Hand sanitizer will be on all buses. School buses seats and handrails will be cleaned regularly with a general-purpose cleaner. Seating charts will be kept for all students riding the bus daily.

FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICES

Lunchroom workers will utilize a district approved food safe disinfectant in the kitchen and serving areas. Serving lines will be wiped down between each lunch period. Kitchen prep areas will be wiped down, cleaned and disinfected at the end of each school day. In keeping with requirements set by the local health department, all lunchroom workers will wear gloves anytime food is handled. Lunchroom workers will continue the practice of wearing gloves and will change gloves frequently throughout the day and between tasks. This includes both as meals are prepared as well as when serving meals to students.

Hand sanitizing stations will be at the entrance to each serving line for all students to use. The hand sanitizers will be wiped down between classes and monitored to ensure availability for all students.

Students will not key in their lunch number. When students go through the lunch line, students, faculty and staff will provide their name at the point of sale.

The number of students allowed in the lunchroom will vary at each school. Administrators will develop meal schedules to allow for students to social distance in the lunchroom. Some students will be allowed to eat in alternate locations to foster social distance.

Lunch:

Elementary

- Students sit with classroom cohort and are distanced from other cohorts
- Alternative seating areas utilized when needed
- Hand sanitizer available at entrances
- Tables will be cleaned between lunches

Secondary

- Alternative seating areas utilized to promote social distancing options
- Hand sanitizer available at entrances
- Increased point of sale locations during lunch periods
- Tables will be cleaned between lunches

HUMAN RESOURCES

Staff members, who exhibit signs or symptoms of COVID-19 will be sent home. If an individual is found to test positive for COVID-19, the local health department will assist the school district in implementing the proper steps to prevent further exposure or transmission of COVID-19.

Information about employees who have tested positive for COVID-19 will be kept as confidential as possible. HIPAA guidelines will be followed. Contact tracing will be conducted by the local health department. Contact Dr. Debbie Williams, Director of Human Resources, if any employee informs you that they have tested positive for COVID-19 at 850-674-8733 ext 21.

If an employee may have been exposed to COVID-19:

- Call your administrator or supervisor immediately.
- Notify employees who were potentially exposed by an individual who tested positive for COVID-19.
- Exposed employees who have symptoms of COVID-19 should self-isolate for 5 days. Employees must be fever free for 24 hours before returning to school. If an employee has been exposed to someone who tested positive for COVID-19 and is asymptomatic then they can stay at work.
- Staff who have been fully vaccinated do not have to quarantine if asymptomatic.
- Staff who are asymptomatic and who have had a confirmed positive, do not have to quarantine for 90 days from their positive test result.

CLEANING AND DISINFECTION PROCEDURES

Custodians will wear the proper PPE upon entering the area to be cleaned. In classrooms, media center, offices, workrooms, student restrooms, weight rooms and locker rooms, multi-purpose rooms and hallways, hard nonporous surfaces will be cleaned with general purpose cleaner. The custodians will have access to an electronic mister, to spray all surfaces with disinfectant.

Athletic Directors, coaches, and associate trainers will assume the responsibility of cleaning and disinfection protocols of athletic areas and equipment.

Each classroom, workroom or public reception area will be supplied with disposable wipes, hand sanitizer, disinfectant spray bottles. The custodians will fill the bottles and replenish the wipes and hand sanitizer as needed.

All custodians will receive training on proper disinfecting procedures for the school. The training will be documented and will at a minimum include the following:

- Proper cleaning and disinfecting techniques.
- Proper use and disposal of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).
- Safe product usage guideless (chemical safety).
- Proper methods to empty and dispose of trash.