



JONES COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM

Pandemic Response Plan

The following plan is based on information within ***Georgia's Path to Recovery for K-12 Schools***, which focused heavily on the health and physical requirements necessary for reopening school buildings. This plan is not intended to be an exhaustive or detailed list of expectations, but rather provide an overview of alterations that have been made to accommodate students remaining in schools. This plan is built upon the guidance and recommendations of health officials; it is strongly aligned to the guidelines provided by our state and federal leaders; and it is designed to help prioritize the health and safety of students and staff as we continue to deliver instruction for the 2021-2022 school year.

We know how important it is for our students and staff to remain in school. We also understand that we remain in the midst of a pandemic and realize that some families need our Virtual Learning Option. Both the traditional and virtual models are extremely important to our school district, and we will keep the safety of our students and staff at the forefront of all our decisions. The partnership between the school and students' families is more important now than ever before. By supporting one another and maintaining communication, we can make the best decisions for our students, staff, and community.

The principal and the school nurse will be the school's main COVID-19 point of contact. Students and staff with COVID-19 symptoms or a temperature of 100.4°F and above will be immediately isolated and sent home. The Jones County Safety Coordinator and the School Nurse Coordinator will coordinate the notification of health officials immediately for guidance on next steps, including closures. Measures will be taken to ensure student and staff privacy.

SCREENING BEFORE LEAVING HOME	PROCEDURE
<p data-bbox="199 175 558 240">All Students/Staff Prior to Departure from Home</p> 	<ul data-bbox="730 199 1976 505" style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff and students are expected to take temperature prior to leaving home. • If temperature is at or above 100.4°, staff or student should not report to school. • Staff and students are asked to self-report to school nurse or other school designee (e.g. homeroom teacher, school nurse, school secretary, attendance clerk) • If staff or student have exhibited symptoms within the 24 hours prior to the student leaving for school, staff or student should remain at home. • Proper hygiene measures are taught, reinforced, and encouraged (i.e. proper and frequent hand washing, frequent use of hand sanitizer, properly covering coughs and sneezes, keeping hands away from mouths).
TRANSPORTING TO SCHOOL	PROCEDURE
<p data-bbox="220 618 537 683">Transporting Students (Bus)</p> 	<ul data-bbox="730 643 1976 984" style="list-style-type: none"> • Students and bus drivers are encouraged to use provided hand sanitizer. • Students and bus drivers are asked to wear face masks (provided as needed). • If a student appears symptomatic, bus drivers are supplied with thermometers to assess the student's temperature. If a child getting on the bus is sick, driver or dispatch will contact the student's parent/guardian. He/she will be taken back home when possible. • Guardians are encouraged to drop off/pick up students. • Field trips will be limited and optional for student participation. • Frequently touched surfaces on the bus are cleaned and disinfected at least once daily. • Protocols have been established for bus stops and loading/unloading students to minimize congregation of children from different households.
<p data-bbox="191 1105 567 1138">Car Riders/Student Drivers</p> 	<ul data-bbox="730 1130 1976 1333" style="list-style-type: none"> • Students are reminded of proper hygiene measures to follow throughout the day. • Students are reminded to use hand sanitizer stations as they enter the building. • Once parked on campus, student drivers are to exit the vehicle and report to their designated areas in the building. • Student drivers will need to be aware of any passenger's potential exposure to COVID-19 and limit the number of passengers traveling with student to school.

SERVING MEALS	PROCEDURE
<p data-bbox="151 175 604 207">Serving Meals (Lunch/Breakfast)</p> 	<ul data-bbox="739 198 1986 717" style="list-style-type: none"> • Students are encouraged to wash hands before and after meal service. • Hand sanitizer is provided in serving lines for students and staff. • Disposable plates, utensils, etc. are used if meals are served outside the cafeteria. • Utensils are distributed to students to avoid multiple people touching utensils. • Serving lines and entrances are marked with spacing indicators and flow path direction. • Seats in cafeteria are marked or arranged to promote physical distancing. • Cafeterias and high-touch surfaces are cleaned throughout the school day. • Alternating groups may be served in the cafeteria and the classroom to decrease the number of students in the cafeteria at any given time and allow more physical distancing; when necessary, students may be served in the cafeteria and return to the classroom to eat. • Non-essential visitors are not served meals. • Meal times may be flexible to reduce numbers of students waiting in line at the same time. • Barcode scans are used for meal counts to reduce surface contact. • Face shields are provided for each cashier. • Food service staff will wear face coverings at all times.
ENTERING SCHOOL BUILDINGS	PROCEDURE
<p data-bbox="130 821 634 854">Staff/Students Entering the Building</p> 	<ul data-bbox="739 847 1986 1042" style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to the building during the instructional school day is restricted to essential personnel and students. • “Stop the Spread” signs have been placed inside and outside the office lobby and other key entrances. • Temperature checks will be conducted as needed. • Office areas are sanitized periodically throughout the day.

VISITORS	PROCEDURE
<p style="text-align: center;">Visitors</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Virtual meetings and phone conferences are encouraged. • Specific waiting areas are designated for essential meetings/visitors, and temperature check may be required upon arrival. • Parents/Visitors must have an appointment to meet with the principal or other staff member. • Masks are recommended for all visitors. • Visitors are not allowed in the building unless they have previously scheduled an appointment. • Parents are not permitted to walk students to class. • Non-essential visitors, volunteers, and activities involving external groups or organizations are very limited.
PRACTICING PREVENTION	PROCEDURE
<p style="text-align: center;">General Preventative Measures</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proper hygiene measures are taught, reinforced, and encouraged (i.e. proper and frequent hand washing, frequent use of hand sanitizer, properly covering coughs and sneezes, keeping hands away from mouths). • Hand sanitizing stations and no-touch door openers are provided throughout the school, focusing on high-traffic areas. • Signage is posted in classrooms, hallways, and entrances, and PSA's will be delivered to communicate how to "Stop the Spread", recognize COVID-19 symptoms, implement preventative measures (including staying home when sick), practice good hygiene, and other school/district specific protocols. • Frequently touched surfaces are cleaned and disinfected throughout the school day. • Students and staff are permitted to bring hand sanitizer and facemasks/coverings from home. • Deep cleaning of schools will continue. Periodic cleanings may be scheduled during weekends or school holidays/breaks as necessary. <p>Handwashing COVID Signs https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/communication/print-resources.html?Sort=Date%3A%3Adesc https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/hand-hygiene.html</p>

Restrooms



- Restrooms are deep cleaned frequently.
- Restrooms are properly stocked with hand towels, toilet paper and hand sanitizing soap.
- Automatic flush valves have been added to all restrooms.
- Restroom protocols have been modified to encourage social distancing.

Cleaning and Disinfecting

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/disinfecting-building-facility.html>

Water Fountains



- Water fill stations have been installed in place of traditional water fountains. These stations are sanitized regularly.
- Disposable cups have been provided. Students are encouraged to bring water bottles.

Clean / Disinfect



Frequently touched items are cleaned/disinfected throughout the day:

Frequently Touched Areas such as:

- Doorknobs
- Tables
- Light Switches
- Countertops
- Handles
- Desks
- Toilets
- Faucets/Sinks/Water Filling Stations
- Technology (e.g. Touch Screens, Computer Monitors, Copy Machines, Keyboards, Telephones)

Cleaning and Disinfecting Guidelines

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/reopen-guidance.html>

Cleaning and Disinfecting Technology

<https://ehs.yale.edu/sites/default/files/files/covid-19-cleaning-computers-electronics.pdf>

Face Coverings



- Masks are encouraged for all students and staff members and are provided as needed.
- Teachers/staff will maintain 3-ft safe zones where masks may be removed to teach and work.
- All masks must adhere to the current dress code outlined in the student's handbook.
- Administration and teachers will provide instructions for proper use of face covers and/or masks.
- Signage and PSA's will be established to promote mask use.

CDC Guidance Wearing a Mask/Face Covers

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover-guidance.html>

SUPPORTING TEACHING AND LEARNING	PROCEDURE
<p>Classroom Setting</p> 	<p>The Jones County School System offers a choice of two instructional models. Digital learning is an integral part of student learning in any instructional setting, and training and support are provided for all stakeholders to ensure student success at all levels.</p> <p>OPTION 1: TRADITIONAL FACE-TO-FACE CLASSROOM INSTRUCTIONAL MODEL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The master schedule is used to balance class numbers as much as possible –unused desks and furniture removed from classrooms; social distancing maximized (to the extent practicable). • Distance between all seating has been increased to the extent possible. • Seating charts are maintained for all classes and remain accessible to administration. • Students are permitted to carry their personal belongings and use their own learning supplies, rather than shared supplies. • Use of digital platforms will continue to enhance traditional instruction for all students (Grades K-2: SeeSaw; Grades 3-12: Microsoft Teams). • Staff schedules may be altered to support additional needs. <p><u>TEMPORARY DISTANCE LEARNING</u> (If Face-to-Face is not Possible, students transition to Distance Learning.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teacher-led online instruction takes place through an online platform (Grades K-2: SeeSaw; Grades 3-12: Microsoft Teams). • Participation is mandatory. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Assignments are graded. ○ Attendance is recorded. • Interaction between teachers and students is expected. • Progress is monitored, and feedback provided. • Free wi-fi is available. Locations are listed on district and school websites. <p>OPTION 2: AT-HOME VIRTUAL LEARNING THROUGH JONES COUNTY VIRTUAL ACADEMY (JCVA) INSTRUCTIONAL MODEL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st – 12th Instruction is delivered through online curriculum programs. • Internet access is required to access the JCVA curriculum. • Learning is supported by a Learning Coach provided by the family. • JCVA Teachers monitor student attendance and progress according to requirements detailed in the JCVA Student Handbook.

TRANSITIONING	PROCEDURE
<p data-bbox="199 175 562 240">Transitioning (class change / departure)</p> 	<p data-bbox="697 175 861 207"><u>Elementary</u></p> <ul data-bbox="739 214 1953 454" style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional time is allocated for travel within the building. • Multiple entrances are used for student drop off. • Students are dismissed by grade level, and car pick up stations are designated to promote distancing. • Flexible breakfast options are offered. • Staggered lunch schedules have been implemented. • Bathroom schedules have been modified to promote social distancing. <p data-bbox="697 516 991 548"><u>Middle / High School</u></p> <ul data-bbox="739 555 1986 896" style="list-style-type: none"> • Bell schedules are altered to reduce numbers of students in hallways. • High School drivers should not arrive prior to 7:30 a.m. • Hallway traffic flow paths are followed during transitions. • Flexible breakfast options are offered. • Alternating groups may be served in the cafeteria and the classroom to decrease the number of students in the cafeteria at any given time and allow more physical distancing. • Middle school students are allowed access to lockers during designated times. • High School students do not use lockers. • Bathroom schedules are modified to promote social distancing. • Locker room access for PE classes is limited.
<p data-bbox="220 977 541 1010">Recess/Student Breaks</p> 	<p data-bbox="688 993 850 1026"><u>Elementary</u></p> <ul data-bbox="739 1032 1848 1136" style="list-style-type: none"> • Reasonable distancing is promoted between classes. • Classes will use assigned areas for recreation. • Staggered scheduling is used to limit the number of students in recreational areas. <p data-bbox="688 1169 892 1201"><u>Middle School</u></p> <ul data-bbox="739 1208 1764 1273" style="list-style-type: none"> • Reasonable distancing is promoted. • Staggered scheduling is used to limit the number of students in break areas.

CONDUCTING LARGE GROUP GATHERINGS	PROCEDURE
<p data-bbox="142 214 619 279">Large Group Gatherings at School (PTO / Booster Clubs/ PLC's, etc.)</p> 	<ul data-bbox="739 235 1978 474" style="list-style-type: none"> • Large gathering opportunities will be limited and modified to accommodate social distancing. • Virtual meetings are encouraged to limit large-group meetings, including Professional Learning Communities. • Clubs and student organizations will follow CDC guidelines, adhering to school health and safety guidance for after-school meetings. • Jones County School System will adhere to the Governor's executive order as it pertains to any student recognition event.
<p data-bbox="220 506 541 539">Open House/Transition</p> 	<ul data-bbox="739 532 1969 662" style="list-style-type: none"> • In-person, schoolwide events or large gatherings will be scheduled on a limited basis. • Elementary, Middle, and High schools will conduct virtual Open House events, with the exception of "transition" years (Pre-K, Kindergarten, 1st, 6th, and 9th) and students new to the district.
<p data-bbox="319 857 445 889">Athletics</p> 	<ul data-bbox="739 880 1780 945" style="list-style-type: none"> • School District will adhere to Georgia High School Association Guidelines. • Jones County Athletics will implement electronic tracking of ticket purchases.

PROTECTING VULNERABLE POPULATIONS	PROCEDURE
<p>Protecting Vulnerable Populations</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jones County School System provides a virtual learning option through Jones County Virtual Academy for qualified students 1st – 12th grade. • Medical documentation is required from staff considering themselves vulnerable. • Jones County School System will continue to adhere to FERPA/HIPAA requirements. • Jones County School System recommends social distancing, face covers, and PPE to the extent possible for employees and students considered vulnerable. • Considerations are made for students for reasonable accommodations from wearing a face covering in accordance with Jones County School System policies and procedures and all applicable local, state, and federal laws.
WHEN SOMEONE BECOMES SICK	PROCEDURE
<p>When a Student, Staff Member, or Visitor becomes sick at school</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Isolation rooms or areas have been established to separate anyone who exhibits COVID-like symptoms. • School nurses use <i>Standard and Transmission-Based Precautions</i> when caring for sick people. • Local health officials, staff, and families are notified immediately of a possible case while maintaining confidentiality. <p>CDC Guidance https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/basics/standard-precautions.html https://www.cdc.gov/infectioncontrol/basics/transmission-based-precautions.html</p>

For additional information, go to

www.jones.k12.ga.us