

# **ALLEN PARISH SCHOOL BOARD**

**2021-2022**

## **RETURN TO SCHOOL PLAN**

Our vision is that every student in Allen Parish is taught by excellent teachers and supported by effective leaders. We are committed to creating productive members of society who will compete in the global marketplace by laying a strong foundation through high-quality education.

## PLANNING FOR FALL 2021

As we prepare for the start of the 2020-21 school year, we must make some important decisions and consider a variety of scenarios. The Allen Parish School Board Supervisory Staff is using the following core set of principles to reflect our highest priorities:

- 1. The health and safety of students and staff.**
- 2. The need to continue to address and close the gap in learning that occurred as a result of our interrupted school the past 2 years.**
- 3. The social and emotional needs of our students and staff.**
- 4. Equitable access and opportunity for all students and the need to be flexible during these uncertain times.**

---

### TRANSPORTATION GUIDELINES

- All students must wear a face covering unless there are medical restrictions.
- All bus drivers must wear a face covering.
- Each bus will be sanitized after completing bus routes.
- A seating chart will be developed for each bus route.
- Families will sit together as much as possible on all buses.
- Buses will be allowed to operate at 100% capacity at this time.

---

### FOOD SERVICE GUIDELINES

- Breakfast - students will enter the cafeteria and keep 3 feet of distance between students in the serving line and while seated in the dining area.
- Lunch - principal will establish a schedule for each class to enter the cafeteria. Students in static groups will pick-up meals in the serving line and sit within their static group, seated every other seat in a zig-zag pattern with 3 feet of distance between groups. Students in non-static groups will pick-up meals in the serving line and sit every other seat in a zig-zag pattern or take their meals to other designated areas on campus.
- In all circumstances, students will maintain the recommended social distancing protocols to the maximum extent possible.
- Students will wash or sanitize their hands before and after meals.
- Cafeteria staff will properly clean and sanitize tables and seating surfaces between feeding groups in the dining hall.

- Breakfast will be either a hot meal or a breakfast to-go bag. For lunch only one hot meal option may be offered.
- Students will pass the point of service, where cafeteria workers will account for the meal by students scanning their sanitized finger.
- Cafeteria staff will wear proper personal protective equipment including masks.
- Students/employees will not be allowed to share food or beverages.
- Food waste will be discarded in various garbage receptacles located throughout the campus, and cafeteria staff and custodians will assist with bringing the trash to the dumpsters.

---

## FACE COVERINGS

- All adults and students in Kindergarten through 12th Grade are mandated to wear face coverings to the greatest extent possible while inside the school facility.
- Face coverings will be provided by the Allen Parish School Board.
- Face coverings should have no graphics or wording that will cause a distraction in school and preferably a solid color.

---

## HEALTH AND HYGIENE

- Students will be taught and reminded about proper handwashing and cough covering.
- Field trips will not be allowed until further notice.
- We require that all visitors wear masks and maintain physical distance of 6 feet from others. We plan to limit any non-essential visitors, volunteers, and activities involving external groups or organizations as much as possible.
- Shared materials (such as computers) will be cleaned after each use.
- Rooms visited by multiple groups of students throughout the day will be sanitized between each group of students.
- School facilities will be cleaned and sanitized twice each day.
- Students are encouraged to bring their own water bottles from home. Refillable bottle stations will be placed at each school.
- For any student arriving at school exhibiting symptoms of, cough, fever, shortness of breath, body aches, nausea, etc., guardians will be contacted and asked to take the student home.
- An isolation area will be designated for students exhibiting symptoms while they wait on a guardian to arrive.
- School nurses may conduct temperature checks and well-being checks as deemed necessary throughout the school day.
- Mental health support will be available for students on each campus.

---

## BASIC PROCEDURES FOR COVID-19

*The following guidelines will be followed by the Allen Parish School Board. These guidelines have been established after guidance from the COVID-19 task force from the Allen Parish Hospital and our Regional Medical Director Dr. Lacey Cavanaugh. \*\*\*Please keep in mind these guidelines are subject to change as we continue to receive updated information. Also, given the high level of COVID in our communities, schools should plan for and expect that some students will get the COVID virus during the school year.*

### **1. Employees/Students who contract the COVID-19 virus.**

- Employees/students who are sick are always asked to stay home or will be sent home if already at school. If at any time employees/students exhibit any of the following symptoms (coughing, fever, shortness of breath, body aches, nausea, etc.) they will be sent home and asked to see a physician for possible testing.
- Employees/students who go home with COVID-19 symptoms must stay home for 10 days and be symptom free for 24 hours in order to return to school.
- Employees/students do not need a doctor excuse or negative test result in order to return to school as long as they are symptom free the last 24 hours of the 10-day isolation period.

### **2. Employees/Students who have been “In-Close Contact” to someone who has the COVID-19 virus.**

- The definition of **Close Contact**- Being within 6 feet of someone who has the COVID-19 for at least a 15-minute time period within a 24 hour time period or direct physical contact with an infected person.
- **Close Contacts** should be encouraged to seek testing immediately. **Option 1**-If the test is negative they should be tested again after 5 days of exposure. If the test is again negative they may return after 7 days. **Option 2**- If no test is done after 5 days, student may return on Day 11 of exposure and wear mask and social distance until day 14. **Option 3**- Close contact can choose to stay out of school for 14 days.

### **3. Close contacts who meet all of the criteria of being fully vaccinated, do not need to quarantine but should seek testing, watch for symptoms of COVID-19 for 14 days following an exposure, and follow all prevention guidance.**

**\*\*\*If both the contagious case and the close contact were engaged in consistent and correct use of a well-fitting face mask and were within 3 to 6 feet of each other, then close contacts do not need to quarantine.**

The Center for Disease Control (CDC), the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH), and local health officials have all recommended that persons within school buildings wear masks, including students aged 5 and above in grades K-12. The Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) has made a similar recommendation, and the Governor has now mandated such face coverings until September 1, 2021 in his recent executive proclamation.

The Board is obligated to comply with the Governor's Proclamation. Students who refuse to wear masks will not be allowed to attend classes, unless they have documented medical conditions that prevent the wearing of face coverings.

We hope you will work cooperatively with us to do what we can to stem the spread of COVID-19.

The only exceptions:

- 1) Any individual who will not come in contact with any other individual (outside of their immediate household members) or who will be able to maintain strict social distancing of six feet apart from any other individual (outside of their immediate household members);
- 2) Any child under the age of five not enrolled in a kindergarten program, however all children between the ages of two and five years old are strongly encouraged to wear a face covering in accordance with Subsection (A) of this Section;
- 3) Any individual with a medical condition that prevents the wearing of a face covering;
- 4) Any individual who is consuming food and drinks;
- 5) Any individual seeking to communicate with someone who has or is suspected of having a communication disorder;
- 6) Any individual giving a speech for broadcast or to an audience;
- 7) Any individual temporarily removing his or her face covering for identification purposes; or
- 8) Any athlete participating in organized athletic activities.

---

## TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS

- Allen Parish School Board will discontinue travel to conferences and workshops until further notice, unless pre-approved by the Allen Parish School Board and Superintendent Kent Reed.

## COMMUNICATION

Parents, employees and community members can access the most up to date information regarding our re-opening processes through:

- Allen Parish School Board website
  - Allen Parish Facebook
  - Individual School Website
  - Individual Parent Contact
-

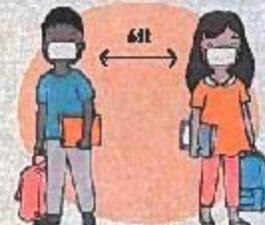
## THREE KEY PRINCIPLES



**1** Wash Hands Often



**2** Wear a Face Covering



**3** Practice Social Distancing

## WHAT ARE THE STEPS WHEN A STUDENT IN SCHOOL TESTS POSITIVE FOR COVID-19?

- 1** If a school becomes aware of a presumptive positive or positive case of COVID-19, the child should not attend school until determined to be non-infectious by their doctor.
- 2** Parents may be notified by the Office of Public Health if their child may have been exposed to the case of COVID-19, along with any next steps.
- 3** If it is determined that a school was the focus of infection for COVID-19, the school superintendent, in consultation with the Office of Public Health, will determine if the school should remain open or close for a period of time. A positive case of COVID-19 does not necessarily warrant classroom or school closure.