

NOXUBEE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

COVID-19 Student Protocols

2021-2022 School Year *Revised January 21, 2022* Washington Cole IV, Ed.D. Interim Superintendent

COMMUNICATIONS

The Noxubee County School District (NCSD) remains in regular contact with local, state, and federal health officials for the latest information and recommended practices regarding mitigating the spread of COVID-19. The NCSD will continue to provide updates to the district community when they become available. Important information regarding COVID-19 can be found below:

RETURN TO SCHOOL PLAN SY22

The Noxubee County School District returned to school on August 5th, 2021 in a traditional format. We will continue to monitor local health guidelines from the Mississippi Department of Health and will update this plan accordingly. The safety of our students and staff members remains our top priority.

Mask & Health Protocols

- 1. Masks will be required for students and visitors inside NCSD buildings.
- 2. Signage will be placed throughout all NCSD campuses reminding students and personnel of best health and safety practices, including hand hygiene.
- 3. Hand sanitizer will be provided by the district to every teacher and placed throughout buildings for easy access and use.
- 4. There are standardized sanitation protocols that will be completed based on COVID exposure.
- 5. Any student exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 will be referred to the school nurse immediately.
- 6. Students, teachers, and staff should stay home when they have signs of any infectious illness and be referred to their healthcare provider for testing and care.
- 7. Upon a positive COVID-19 test result, parents are strongly urged to contact their child's principal immediately.

High-Traffic Areas

- 1. Teachers and administrators on duty will encourage students to move through areas of congestion as quickly as possible to minimize congestion.
- 2. Students should bring water bottles from home. Water fountains have been disconnected and bottle filling stations have been installed in all buildings.
- 3. Hand sanitizer will be available in high-traffic areas. The custodial staff will complete routine cleaning and sanitization of our high-traffic areas.

Classroom Instruction

- 1. Students and teachers will continue to maintain 3 feet of physical distancing in the classroom when possible.
- 2. Routine cleaning and sanitizing of classrooms by custodial and designated staff will take place throughout the school day.
- 3. Students will be encouraged to wash hands or use hand sanitizer routinely.
- 4. All grade levels will utilize Schoology and/or Microsoft Teams, an online learning management system, to ensure students who miss school have access to materials online.
- 5. The NCSD has a 1:1 student/device ratio, meaning every student has an assigned laptop to use throughout the school year.

PPE Supplies

- 1. PPE Requests will be available for teachers to from the building level administration.
- 2. Masks will be available at each site for those in need of one.

Bus Transportation

- 1. Masks will be required for all students and drivers.
- 2. Buses will be sanitized between routes.

Cafeteria & Child Nutrition

- 1. Tables & lunch lines will be sanitized between classes.
- 2. All students will be encouraged to eat breakfast and lunch, wearing masks before and after eating.

If a Student is Exposed to COVID-19

- 1. Complete the <u>COVID-19 exposure form</u> on the district website.
- 2. If students are a close contact and not exhibiting systems, they may report to school. If students exhibit symptoms, have the student tested and follow the advice of your medical provider. If positive isolate for 5 days.
- 3. Students who are isolated will be required to attend class virtually via the virtual classrooms set up by the teachers. The students will be required to attend classes for the entire school day.
- 4. The NCSD highly recommends all exposed students to get tested after confirmation of close contact, or if symptoms appear.

If a Student Tests Positive for COVID-19

- 1. Complete the <u>COVID-19 exposure form</u> on the district website.
- 2. The student's school will notify close contacts of potential exposure. The NCSD will never release the name or the results of a student or staff member who has tested positive.
- 3. The student will be required to quarantine for 5 days. If symptoms persist after 5 days the parents will need to inform the school that a longer quarantine time will be needed.
- 4. If a student tests positive and provides proof of results to the NCSD, their absence will be documented as a "sick day." Documentation from a medical provider is required. The documentation should include the results of the testing and the date the student may return to school.
- 5. Students who test positive are encouraged to attend classes virtually but are not required if the symptoms do not permit virtual class participation.

For Updated Information & Further Communication

- 1. The NCSD will continue to use Alert Now, www.ourncsd.org, and our school social media accounts to release information as it becomes available.
- 2. The NCSD will continue to monitor local health guidelines from the MSDH, and will update procedures as necessary.
- 3. The NCSD will continue partnerships with the Macon General Hospital and the Emergency Management Agency to encourage and offer vaccination opportunities for students.