

HATTIESBURG PUBLIC SCHOOLS

2021 Safe Return Plan

BUILT FOR GREATNESS

Revision #4: Dated January 11, 2022



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VISION

To create a model teaching and learning environment that graduates **EVERY** student prepared for success in life, college, and the workforce.

MISSION

To educate **ALL** students to become productive citizens of a dynamic, global community.



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The Hattiesburg Public School District is committed to its mission of educating all students to become productive citizens in a dynamic, global community. The safety and wellbeing of our students, staff, and families are the foundation of fulfilling that mission. When developing the plan for a safe return to school, the Hattiesburg Public School District consulted with parents, teachers, students, health officials, and community stakeholders to better understand their concerns and ensure we were taking the necessary precautions. We have developed and will continue to refine our Safe Return Plan. The plan will be reviewed and revised as necessary. The Hattiesburg Public School Safe Return Plan includes:

Virtual learning will not be an option for students, except for:

- Students with medical limitations that require a virtual setting OR
- Cases where the administration has determined virtual instruction is the best option for the student at the time (to include, but not limited to quarantine or isolation).
- The administration will establish procedures for virtual learning option approval.

SAFE RETURN GOALS

1. Utilize Mississippi Department of Education (MDE), Center for Disease Control (CDC), and Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH), and American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) guidelines and recommendations to ensure the safety and wellbeing of staff and students.
2. Assess academic gaps and provide accelerated catch-up growth opportunities.
3. Evaluate the social and emotional needs of our students and staff.
4. Keep schools open all year without having to endure school closure.

MITIGATION AND SAFETY PROTOCOLS

- 1) All eligible students, teachers, and staff should receive COVID-19 vaccination.
- 2) All students, teachers, and staff who have symptoms of any infectious illness, regardless of vaccination status, should stay home from school and be evaluated by their healthcare provider.
- 3) Each school site will establish procedures for temperature checks.
- 4) Staff, students, and visitors **are required to wear masks** indoors and when in the presence of others.
- 5) Surfaces will be cleaned daily and disinfected frequently.
- 6) Social distancing guidelines will be followed to the maximum extent possible.
- 7) Hand sanitizer stations will be available throughout campuses.
- 8) Campus visitation will be limited visitors must schedule visits through the building administration.
- 9) Parent/guardian (or employee) must notify the principal (or supervisor) immediately upon receiving positive test results.
- 10) The District will isolate and exclude COVID-19 infected students/staff and continue contact tracing to identify exposed individuals for quarantine and exclusion from the school setting.
- 11) Ongoing analysis of school data to determine appropriate learning mode.
- 12) Administration may transition individual(s), school(s), class(es), or grade(s) to virtual learning as deemed necessary.

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SHARED RESPONSIBILITIES

TOPIC	FAMILY RESPONSIBILITIES	HPS RESPONSIBILITIES
PPE & Supplies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launder/clean face coverings. • Replace unserviceable face coverings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have face coverings available for all students. • Provide hand sanitizer, soap, gloves, and disinfectants to custodial teams.
Health Checks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check your child's temperature each morning. • Keep your child at home when sick. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct periodic temperature checks of staff and students.
Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide internet connectivity for child's device OR indicate the need for support with connectivity. • Inspect student device daily and alert school of damage or loss. • Keep your device charged overnight. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide an internet-ready device for all HPS students. • Provide technical support to parents.

ACADEMIC SUPPORT

All students will attend school for face-to-face in-person instruction as the primary mode of instructional delivery. Any parent requesting virtual option beyond quarantine or isolation requirement must be approved by the Superintendent or his designee.

Length of School Day

	Breakfast	Start Time	Dismissal
Burger Middle School	7:00-7:20	7:20	2:45
STEAM Academy	7:00-7:25	7:25	2:40
Lillie Burney Learning Center	TBD	7:30	2:35
Hawkins Elementary	7:20	8:00	3:00
Grace Christian Elementary	7:20	8:00	3:00
Rowan Elementary	7:20	8:00	3:00
Thames Elementary	7:30	8:00	3:00
Woodley Elementary	7:30	8:00	3:00
Hattiesburg High	8:00-8:25	8:30	3:55

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Notes:

1. All dual enrollment students will follow the assigned schedule of the post-secondary institution.
2. Intervention and remediation will be offered through the academic school year.
3. Summer remediation and enrichment will be offered to address the academic needs of students (as applicable).
4. Students placed in quarantine or isolation may attend classes virtually until it is safe for them to return to school.
5. Chromebooks are available for checkout for student use at home/school.

TRANSPORTATION

1. Students will be required to wear masks while riding the bus.
2. Students will be given assigned seats.
3. Buses will be sanitized according to safety guidelines.

BREAKFAST AND LUNCH

1. Breakfast/Lunch protocols may differ from school to school, based upon school population and cafeteria size.
2. Social distance practices will be implemented to the maximum extent possible.
3. In the event school(s) transition to virtual learning mode, meals will be available for pick-up at each school between 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. daily (subject to change).

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

1. Extracurricular activities and sports are subject to the same mitigation protocols as our physical school buildings. Therefore, if a student cannot attend school in person because of concerns for transmission of COVID-19, they cannot participate in these activities for the same reason.
2. Community transmission rates will be considered to determine which activities are appropriate.
3. Spectators, nonessential visitors, and nonessential activities may be limited or prohibited.

DISTRICT-ISSUED TECHNOLOGY (EQUIPMENT)

Both the parent/guardian and the student are responsible for properly using and caring for technology and equipment. District-issued technology and equipment are to be used following school board policies. If a student intentionally causes damage or loses either the device or any other issued equipment, the parent/guardian will be responsible for all fines. District-issued technology (equipment) must be returned to the school immediately upon request.

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Loss, Damage, or Neglect	Estimated Repair/Replacement
Broken screen or keyboard	\$50.00
Power adapter/cord	\$25.00
Lost, stolen, replacement due to irreparable damage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less than 1-year-old full replacement cost • 1 year up to 2 years old 70% of replacement cost • 2 years up to 3 years old 50% of replacement cost • 3 years up to 5 years old 30% of replacement cost

SCHOOL CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have a question about assignments or need to communicate with a teacher, contact the teacher through the Learning Management System, email (firstname.lastname@hattiesburgpsd.com), or contact the school administration.

<u>School</u>	<u>Principal Name</u>	<u>Email</u>
Grace Christian	Dr. Vanessa Lofton	vanessa.lofton@hattiesburgpsd.com
Hattiesburg High	Dr. Victor Hubbard	victor.hubbard@hattiesburgpsd.com
Hawkins	Dr. Taneka Lett	taneka.hawkins@hattiesburgpsd.com
STEAM Academy	Mrs. Tekeica Chapman	tekeica.chapman@hattiesburgpsd.com
Lillie Burney Learning Center	Dr. Virginia Young	virginia.young@hattiesburgpsd.com
N. R. Burger	Mrs. Carol Jones	carol.jones@hattiesburgpsd.com
Rowan	Mrs. Jaronda Allen	jaronda.allen@hattiesburgpsd.com
Thames	Dr. Christie Moss	christie.moss@hattiesburgpsd.com
Woodley	Mrs. Felica Morris	felica.morris@hattiesburgpsd.com

For any other assistance, please refer to the HPSD website at www.hattiesburgpsd.com or reference the [HPSD "Who Do I Contact For" Information List](#).

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VIRTUAL LEARNING REQUIREMENTS

The Virtual Learning is only for students with medical limitations that require a virtual setting, or cases where the administration has determined virtual instruction is the best option for the student at the time (to include, but not limited to quarantine or isolation). To participate in virtual learning, parents and students (if age-appropriate) shall sign a commitment that acknowledges receipt, acceptance of, and commitment to virtual learning requirements. The student must meet the requirements below, and the District reserves the right to revoke any student's virtual learning permission if he/she fails to meet any of the listed requirements. The student will be required to return to face-to-face in-person instruction immediately. To participate in virtual learning, a student must:

- 1) Maintain good grades (maintain a "C" average or higher in all classes);
- 2) Comply with the District's student code of conduct and discipline policies;
- 3) Maintain attendance by attending all classes (no more than three (3) unexcused absences).
- 4) Complete and submit all assignments as given by their teachers by the specified date and time;
- 5) Have access to a reliable internet connection;
- 6) Abide by any other responsibilities approved by the Board of Trustees or the Superintendent.

Additional Guidelines and Requirements:

- ☐ The grading system and promotion/retention policy utilized for on-campus students will also apply to virtual students.
- ☐ Adheres to academic honesty guidelines. Examples of academic dishonesty include, but are not limited to:
 - ☐ The unauthorized representation of another's work as one's own (plagiarism).
 - ☐ Borrowing from print or electronically published material, either directly quoted or paraphrased, without including proper citations.
 - ☐ Knowingly providing work to another student who then copies or presents the work as their own.
 - ☐ Using materials or electronic devices not approved during tests, quizzes, and other assessments.
- ☐ Parents/guardians will be responsible for all costs and expenses necessary to provide reliable internet service and computer equipment.
- ☐ Students who accumulate five or more unlawful absences will be reported to the truancy officer.
- ☐ All assessments are required to be taken on campus.
- ☐ Attendance requirements during virtual learning are the same as in-person classes. However, if a course requires a virtual student to be on campus (ex. To give a speech or present a project), that student will be required to be physically present on campus to meet that requirement.

Parents who seek the virtual learning option for their child must schedule an appointment with the building administrator to complete the Virtual Learning **Commitment Form.** The administration reserves the right to approve/deny any virtual learning request.

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Future Considerations

The primary purpose of this plan is to provide our families and community information regarding how we seek to preserve in-person learning and reduce the transmission of COVID-19 through phased mitigation and safety efforts.

Three indicators will be measured bi-weekly to determine the school district's transmission level. When a minimum of two (2) indicators occurs simultaneously within a phase, coinciding mitigations strategies will be enacted. The administration will have the authority to move within phases on the criteria being met. The indicators are as follows:

1. Indicator 1: Staff Positivity Rate
2. Indicator 2: Student Positivity Rate
3. Indicator 3: Quarantine Rate

Transmission Levels	Indicators	Mask Levels/Restrictions
Low	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Staff positivity rate 1% or below 2. Student Positivity rate .5% or below 3. Staff/Student Quarantine Rate is less than 5% 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mask recommended • No restriction related to large indoor gatherings, field trips, or class settings
Moderate	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Staff positivity rate between 1% – 2.5% 2. Student Positivity rate between 0.6% – 1% 3. Staff/Student Quarantine Rate is between 5% - 8% 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mask required when indoors AND in the presence of others • Minimal restrictions to large gatherings and classes (i.e. eating in alternative locations, reduced seating capacity, one-directional seating, etc.)
High	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Staff positivity rate greater than 2.5% 2. Student Positivity rate greater than 1% 3. Staff/Student Quarantine Rate is greater than 8% 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mask required at all times. • Large gatherings require the approval of the superintendent/assistant superintendent (i.e., field trips/travel restricted; eating in alternative locations, etc.)