SAFE RETURN TO IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION AND CONTINUITY OF SERVICES PLAN FOR 2021-2022

Leake County School District believes that face-to-face instruction offers the best academic instructional model. However, we will continue to follow the guidance of Mississippi Department of Education, Mississippi Department of Health, and from the office of the governor. As a requirement of the American Rescue Plan: Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARP/ESSER III) fund, school districts (LEA’s) receiving funds must develop a plan for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services. The questions listed below are our guiding questions from Mississippi Department of Education.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMMING

1. How will the district ensure continuity of services for academic needs of students? Leake County School District will continue to offer traditional in-person learning and virtual instruction to all students until we are instructed to do otherwise.

2. What is the school district’s plan for safely scheduling face-to-face instructional delivery students when school opens? The current plan in place requires temperature checks before entering the school, mask mandates for everyone in a school, spaced seating, identified floor markers to ensure safely moving in hallways, meals delivered to the classroom, available hand sanitization stations, assigned seating on the bus and in the classroom (for contact tracing if needed).

3. What is the school district’s contingency plan for scheduling instructional delivery to students should the district or school(s) have to close due to an outbreak (i.e., COVID-19, influenza)? Leake County School District is a one-to-one district with WIFI hotspots installed on buses and placed strategically throughout our district. All of our teacher have been trained in Google Classroom and have been teaching virtually all year to students.

4. How will the school district monitor student progress at the elementary, middle, and secondary level, for both in-person students and students who may be receiving virtual instruction due to an underlying medical condition? Benchmark Assessments are given 3 times a year as well as diagnostic
assessments. Formal and informal assessments are given weekly.

5. How will the school district ensure continuity of staff observation and feedback cycles, for both in-person and virtual instruction? Feedback will be gathered through parent surveys, parental contact, emails, grade-level meetings, departmental meetings, and observations. In-person observation will be conducted at a safe distance to ensure safety of all. Virtual observations will entail administrators observing live teaching and checking posting Google Classroom lesson posted online.

OPERATIONS

6. What is the school district’s process for student arrival and dismissal? Parent transportation: Arrival- students will be dropped off in a separate location on the school campus. Each student will be observed daily for having the proper PPE in addition to having a temperature check by a faculty member before entering the school. Car Rider Dismissal: Upon departure, staff members will escort students to car-rider area and ensure students maintain a safe distance until they are picked up. This process will continue until instructed otherwise. School Buses: School bus drivers will pick up students at their perspective addresses. Prior to admittance on the school bus, the driver will check the temperature of each student daily. Upon departure, staff members will escort students to buses and ensure students are maintaining a safe distance.

7. How will the school district provide transportation? Leake County School District will continue to offer bus transportation for all students.

8. Where will the school district provide meals to students? Meals will be picked up by grade-level or assigned wings and consumed in the classrooms. Food will not be shared among students.


FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT

10. How will the school district provide academic support to families? Every effort will be made to host in-person and virtual family nights, continued virtual training for parents who need help with technology, and individual parental conferences to provide academic support.
COMMUNICATIONS

11. How will the school district communicate regularly with families to promote healthy behaviors to reduce spread? Communication is posted on our district website, district facebook page, and transmitted through Google Classroom, SchoolStatus, and mass emails.

12. How will the school district communicate health and safety issues or necessary changes to the district’s regular operating schedule? Same answer as #11

HEALTH AND SAFETY

13. What specific policies has the district adopted regarding CDC safety recommendations? Mask mandates, hand sanitizing, temperature checks, social distancing for in-school and for out-of-school events.

14. How will the district address the social, emotional, mental health, and other needs of students and staff? All certified personnel have received professional development on Social and Emotional Learning. Each campus has a SEL plan in place and this plan was implemented this semester (spring semester 2021).

15. Does the school district plan to conduct temperature checks for staff and students upon arrival? Yes, until instructed otherwise.

16. Does the school district plan to require masks of students and adults while being transported and on campus? Yes, until instructed otherwise.

17. If requiring masks of students, what ages / grade levels will be required to wear a mask? K-12

18. What is the school district’s comprehensive plan for regularly cleaning? All rooms will be sanitized and fogged daily by our custodians and an outside cleaning company hired. Equipment, desks, tables, etc. will be sanitized by teachers before and after usage.
19. How will the school district identify and address the needs of students and staff with underlying health conditions? Students with underlying health conditions have been given the option of working virtually this year. This procedure will continue until we are told otherwise.

20. Who is responsible for overseeing health and safety within the school district? The Superintendent, our school nurses, administrators, teachers, and maintenance.

TECHNOLOGY

21. How will the district utilize technology to enhance in-person learning and support remote learning for students as needed? Same answer as #3.

22. How will the district identify the professional learning needs of staff in utilizing technology to enhance in-person learning and support remote learning? Our staff has been trained in Google Classroom, Canvas, and other instructional programs that have been instrumental in achieving the desired academic outcome for this past school year.