

2023-24 RETURN TO IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION AND CONTINUITY OF SERVICES PLAN

OVERVIEW:

1. Description of Maintaining Health and Safety

Keeping students and staff physically and emotionally safe is the number one priority of Aiken County Public Schools (ACPSD). The traditional 5-day, face-to-face schedule adheres to the current guidelines from CDC, DHEC, and SDE to the greatest extent possible. The current guidelines strongly recommend social distancing when possible, preventative health measures, and frequent cleaning of high touch surfaces (door handles, handrails, light switches, etc.).

Health & Safety Protocols for Staff

1. The Nursing Supervisor will ensure that all school nurses remain abreast of the symptoms that could indicate COVID-19 as the CDC and DHEC update these symptoms.
2. All employees should screen for any COVID-related symptoms prior to leaving for work each day. If employees exhibit symptoms that are related to COVID-19, they should not report to work and should any

5. Before and after eating, employees should wash their hands thoroughly with soap and water.
6. Schools should continue to promote common disease prevention strategies.
7. Custodians will implement enhanced health and safety protocols for cleaning and disinfecting surfaces in shared areas.

2. Universal and Correct Wearing of Masks

After considering Governor McMaster's Executive Order to lift the mask mandate in South Carolina's public schools and State Superintendent Spearman's rescission of her mask policy, ACPSD has determined that masks will be optional for faculty, staff, and students in our school buildings or on school buses.

3. Modifying Facilities to Allow for Physical Distancing (e.g., use of cohort/podding)

The school district will monitor cases of COVID-19 and will respond accordingly if the need arises to reinstitute strict social distancing protocols. All classrooms will have hand sanitizer and Morning Mist disinfectant available for staff to sanitize desks. Classroom doors

objects/materials.

5. Cleaning and Maintaining Healthy Facilities, Including Improving Ventilation

Custodians will disinfect high touch surfaces

Each teacher, therapist, and staff member will be reminded regularly to adhere to the following health and safety protocols:

- Wash hands often with soap and water. If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Remember to supervise students when they use hand sanitizer to prevent ingesting alcohol.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces.
- Cover cough and sneezes with a tissue and dispose of tissue immediately and wash or sanitize hands.

Support Hand Hygiene and Respiratory Etiquette with students by doing the following:

- Teach and reinforce handwashing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and increase monitoring to ensure adherence among

Feeding a

participate through Moodle. Students who participate in 4K Child Development classrooms or HeadStart or Early Head Start programs will receive instruction through hard copy packets and/or through a Teams virtual classroom.

Social, emotional, and mental health services will be provided through universal supports in those areas through SEL-focused curriculum at each level. Counseling services will be available to students as well as staff through school-based counselors and an employee assistance program. The district will continue to provide targeted supports for students who have experienced trauma or who have significant needs through school counselors, special programs counselors, or mental health counselors.

The District will ensure availability and accessibility of breakfast and lunch meals for any student wishing to receive on normal school days and during summer programming. Full-time virtual students will have the option of picking up "to go" style meals at school sites. When/if necessary, in-school dining arrangements will be modified to ensure social distancing. In the event of food service staffing shortages at a site(s) due to illness or other factors, food service employees may

called board meeting and post plan revisions (if needed) by the following dates:

November 24, 2021

May 24, 2022

November 24, 2022

May 24, 2023

November 24, 2023

May 24, 2024

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