



LEE COUNTY SCHOOLS

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A Tradition of Excellence - A Vision for Tomorrow

TENTATIVE PATH TO REOPENING SCHOOLS

DISCLAIMER:



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GENERAL GUIDANCE



This document is devised with five principles serving to guide the decision making processes for the opening of the 2020-2021 school year.

1. We will be transparent. We will share what we know when we know it.
2. We will do what we think is best for students, families and employees.
3. We will listen and adapt as circumstances change.
4. We will always make safety a priority.
5. We will be decisive.



We are focused upon three critical areas: wellness, operations and facilities, and delivery of instruction. In each of these areas, we have devised, been issued, or been provided: essential expectations such as governmental order, guidance of researched based best practice, or considerations from practical experiences.

STATUS DETERMINATION

The Alabama State Department of Education has recommended the use of the Alabama Department of Public Health's map to determine the status of schools.

RED LEVEL IV	Widespread outbreak is growing with many undetected cases
ORANGE LEVEL III	Many cases exist, including community spread, with undetected cases likely
YELLOW LEVEL II	A moderate number of cases exist with most cases from a known source
GREEN LEVEL I	Cases are rare and contact tracing can be used to control the virus

WELLNESS



Lee County Students and Employees with COVID 19



If a student or employee is diagnosed positive for COVID-19, the parents or guardians of any student with risk may be contacted by the Alabama Department of Public Health or a local health care provider to be assessed and given further directives.

A student or employee with a positive COVID-19 diagnosis will be subject to a 14-day quarantine and will follow the guidance of their healthcare provider and the Alabama Department of Public Health. Written notice from a healthcare provider that states the person has a negative COVID-19 test and is symptom free at the end of the 14-day quarantine measured from the date of the last exposure is required for return. These guidelines are based on current information provided by the Alabama Department of Public Health and may be amended during the school year as these guidelines change.



THE PERSON CAN RETURN TO SCHOOL OR WORK WHEN:

- 1. The person has a negative COVID-19 test and is symptom free at the end of the 14-day quarantine, or**
- 2. The person has been symptom free during the 14-day quarantine, or**
- 3. The person has been cleared by a physician and is symptom free.**

Students in quarantine will continue to receive assignments from classroom teachers using an online learning management system. In the case of a large group quarantine or a school closure, students will still receive instruction and assignments from the traditional learning model's classroom teacher(s). The rigor and pace of learning will continue through quarantine or closure and be supported by classroom teachers.

Close Contact Rule (6/15 Rule)

Close contact is defined as contact within six feet of the individual for a total time of more than 15 minutes. After a two week period, asymptomatic persons may be allowed to return to school activities.



Tracing on LCBOE Properties

All contact tracing will be facilitated by and the responsibility of the Alabama Department of Public Health or a licensed healthcare provider.

Home screening

The first point of screening and preventing the spread of infection is in the home. Parents and families should be able to identify symptoms and keep students at home if any of these symptoms are evident:

- * **Fever of 100.4 or higher**
- * **Cough, runny nose, or sinus congestion**
- * **Trouble breathing or persistent pain or pressure in the chest**
- * **Abdominal pain or stomach ache**
- * **Diarrhea or vomiting**

Face Coverings

Recommendations regarding face coverings differ based on the level of community spread. Information is provided to staff, students, and families on proper use, removal, and washing of cloth face coverings. Our procedure regarding face coverings is sensitive to the needs of students and staff with medical issues that make the wearing of a face covering inadvisable (CDC Face Coverings). Lee County Schools strongly recommends the use of facial coverings for everyone on campus, and requires masks to be worn by all on any Lee County Schools bus.



Face shields will be provided for all employees.

Face shields will be provided for all students in grades Kindergarten through 3rd grade.

Masks will be provided to all employees.

Masks will be provided for all students.

OPERATIONS AND FACILITIES





Hand Sanitizer

Each Lee County Schools facility will be provided hand sanitizer.

Clean and Disinfect Facilities

Each Lee County Schools facility will be provided disinfectant.

Water Fountains

Touchless bottle fillers have been installed in each school cafeteria. Each student is encouraged to bring his/her own personal water bottle.



Large gatherings on school campus

Based on models provided by the Alabama Department of Public Health, be advised that large group gatherings on Lee County Schools property will be subject to amended participation, postponement, or cancellation. Multiple agencies and organizations will be consulted by Lee County Schools leadership to make an informed decision.

RED LEVEL IV	Events may be cancelled/postponed or have strict limitations
ORANGE LEVEL III	Events may be cancelled/postponed or have strict limitations
YELLOW LEVEL II	Limited attendance to promote physical distancing
GREEN LEVEL I	To be determined by school and CO leadership. Normal operations may be considered.

Extracurricular Activities

Additional guidance may be forthcoming as athletic seasons progress.

- * Students are encouraged to self-report to administrators, sponsors, or coaches if they have been exposed to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. The student will then need to abide by applicable protocols.
- * All athletic teams, band, cheer, academic clubs will follow guidance as applicable during meeting, practices, transportations, competition and other organized activities provided by the AHSAA, ADPH, ALSDE and Lee County Schools.
- * Only essential personnel should be directly involved on sidelines or club-based practices, competitions.

Concessions

All concession stands will follow guidance issued by the Alabama Department of Public Health and the Alabama Health Inspector Office. This may include any rules enforced upon local restaurants.



Guests on Lee County Schools Facilities
During the School Day



RED LEVEL IV	Widespread outbreak is growing with many undetected cases. No visitors allowed into the main areas of campus. Essential business may be conducted by virtual media, teleconference only.
ORANGE LEVEL III	Many cases exist, including community spread, with undetected cases likely. No visitors are allowed to the main areas of campus. Essential business may be conducted virtually or by appointment.
YELLOW LEVEL II	A moderate number of cases exist with most cases from a know source. No visitors allowed into the main part of campus. Essential business may be conducted virtually or by appointment only. Face coverings and physical distancing must be used.
GREEN LEVEL I	Cases are rare and contact tracing can be used to control the virus. Consideration will be given and conversation will begin relative to less stringent protocol.



Lockers

Lockers will not be rented this academic year.

Quarantine Room

Each school site has a designated area where students who are showing symptoms of illness will be isolated until the parents can be contacted. The room will be outfitted with chairs and flooring that can be easily sanitized, as well as contain an air purifier.

Signage

Signs will be provided to each school to identify items such as occupancy, traffic flow, social distancing expectations, and mask usage.

Desks and Tables

Social distancing, to the extent possible, along with sanitation practices of all desks and tables will be a daily practice.



Transportation

Given current conditions, parents should consider transporting students by private vehicle.

* Should students choose to be transported via school bus, please realize the first point of screening and preventing the spread of infection is in the home. Parents and families should be able to identify symptoms and keep student at home if any of these symptoms are evident:

- Fever of 100.4 or higher
- Cough, runny nose, or sinus congestion
- Trouble breathing or persistent pain or pressure in the chest
- Abdominal pain or stomach ache
- Diarrhea or vomiting

* School busing operations proceed normally unless otherwise indicated.

* It is a requirement that students who ride the bus wear face covering.



Transportation continued

- * Visible signage to communicate COVID-19 symptoms and students who should not be riding the bus will be displayed.
- * Students should face forward and not lean across seats.
- * Eating on the bus is prohibited by federal and state regulations. Because of the pandemic, this rule will be strictly enforced.
- * All students will have an assigned seat. Consideration to students in the same household will be given priority.
- * Students participating in extra-curricular activities will have an assigned seat. Consideration will be given to household and specialized groups who have worked in close proximity for a period of time (i.e. positions, sections).
- *The driver will spray common touch points inside the bus with a disinfectant spray prior to the start of a route, between routes and immediately following the completions of a route. The task will be performed for the morning and afternoon routes, and will include the transportation of students for extra-curricular activities.



Child Nutrition Program

- * All meals will be picked up in the cafeteria and taken back to the classroom to be eaten.
- * Students and staff will enter into the same door and stay on 6 foot markers as they come through the line.
- * Breakfast and lunch will be grab and go style. There will be no self-serve allowed.
- * All students and staff will be given a laminated name badge with a barcode that will be scanned for payment. No one will be allowed to type in their lunch number on the keypads. Teachers will also be given a barcode for the entire class in case a student does not have their name badge with them.
- * Trash cans will be in the hallways for trash disposal.
- * Water will be available in the cafeteria, but students must bring their own water bottles to be refilled.
- * Parents may not bring food into the school building. This includes items for the student and/or the entire class or group of students.



Transition Procedures

Level II and Greater (Yellow, Orange or Red levels)

- * All students will transition on one side or the other of the hallway or in one direction. Social distance when feasible. Students will be instructed to walk along the walls without touching the wall.
- * Transitioning to exploratory classes may be canceled at the elementary level. These instructors (art, music, library and counselor) will travel to each classroom.
- * PE classes will be divided by PE Teachers. Each PE Teacher will take their designated class to a different location on campus.
- * Tier 3 Intervention, Special Education, Speech and EL Students
 - Teachers may pick up students from classrooms and have a very small group in their classroom. Social distancing applies.
 - After each group, the teacher will disinfect the area before getting the next group of students.
 - Teachers will encourage hand washing often.
 - Teachers will disinfect classrooms at the end of each day.



Excuses for Absences

Email student's excuses for absences to the school designee when possible rather than coming inside the building.

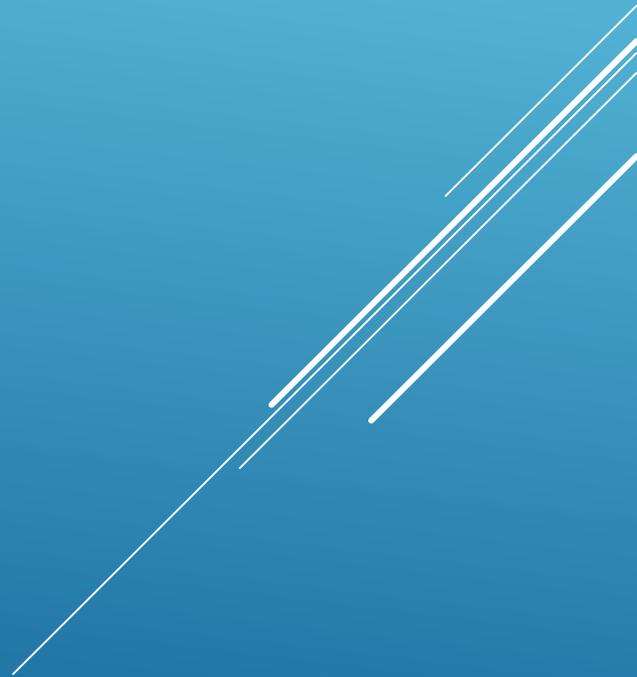
Dismissal Procedures

Each school will determine school dismissal procedures to allow for social distancing to the extent feasible.

Code of Conduct

The Lee County Board of Education's Code of Conduct is in effect.

INSTRUCTION



Remote/Virtual Learning



The Virtual Classroom works much like a traditional public school, with the exception that students work from an off-campus site. Like in traditional physical school, classes start in August and end in May. Teachers will assist in working through course content with a mix of interactive and independent assignments. Grades K-8 will use Google Classroom suite as the management platform. A Lee County Schools Teacher will manage and deliver the content. Grades 9-12 will use Edgenuity, ACCESS, or a combination of both. A Lee County Schools Teacher will be assigned to manage, monitor, and communicate with each student in the Virtual Classroom. A certified teacher outside of Lee County Schools will teach ACCESS courses.

- * The virtual student will follow the school board approved academic calendar.
- * Students will be assigned to a Lee County Schools teacher and considered enrolled at their base school.
- * Best practices for virtual learning will be employed to include rigorous instruction, high expectations of student performance, and meeting all grade-level standards.
- * Students participating will be considered “in attendance” as they complete work on a daily basis to stay on track with the traditional course schedule.
- * Reliable internet access at home is necessary.



Remote/Virtual Learning continued

- * Expressing intent to participate constitutes a commitment to virtual learning.
- * There will be an opportunity to transfer from full-time virtual to the traditional school classroom setting at the beginning of each quarter.
- * Students in grades K-8 will use the district-approved learning management platform, Google Classroom.
- * Lee County Schools will provide each student with a Chromebook (pending adherence to posted guidelines)
- * Students can be required to be on campus for certain events such as specific class meeting, state testing, or other activities designated by the school principal.
- * Extracurricular Activities- Students must meet the same extracurricular activity eligibility requirements as students enrolled in the traditional program, including, but not limited to, any applicable Alabama High School Athletic Association (AHSAA) requirements.
- * All elective courses may not be offered to full-time virtual program students.
- * Child Nutrition Program services will not be offered to virtual classroom students.



Remote/Virtual Learning continued

Grade Level Time Requirements:

<u>GRADE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>Day/Class</u>
Kindergarten	30 - 90 minutes	Per day
First and Second Grade	45 - 90 minutes	Per day
Third – Fifth Grades	1 – 3 hours	Per day
Sixth – Eighth Grades	15 – 30 minutes	Per class per day
Ninth – Twelfth Grades	20 – 45 minutes	Per class per day

Parent Professional Learning

Lee County Schools will provide parents with the following:

- * Explicit directions on how to submit assignments via Google Classroom
- * Explanation of expectations as far as platforms and avenues of communication
- * Google Suite and G Suite information
- * Professional Learning with digital textbooks as requested
- * Monthly informative videos for parents (school created- relevant to the grade level)

Traditional Learning-Blended Learning



Lee County Schools plans to open the doors to welcome students on August 12, 2020. Lee County Schools is committed to providing safe, supportive, equitable environments. To the extent feasible, we will make accommodations to lessen the risk of exposure to an infectious disease. Please recognize that as conditions change, so may the protocols for traditional learning change. We are focused upon three critical areas: wellness, operations and facilities and delivery of instruction.

Students who opt for the traditional learning option will be expected to adhere to recommended guidelines based on the state of affairs as outline by the Alabama Department of Public Health and guidance from local health officials as communicated by Lee County Schools personnel.

Blended learning for a single student, group of students, or an entire school will be incorporated when a need arises for isolation, quarantine, or an extended approved absence. Students will remain on the assigned teacher roster. Students will be expected to complete daily assignments via Google Suite. Teachers will include all course/class content in Google Suite. In the event of a school closure, the principal will develop an alternate daily schedule for teaching and learning to continue. Teachers will be expected to report to the building unless specific directions are given otherwise.

Virtual/Remote students will remain a separate group.

Special Education

For students with an IEP, an amendment to the IEP may be written based on the individual needs of the student as a learner in a remote setting. All services described in the IEP will be provided.



Formative and State Required Assessments

All students will participate in all formative assessments and state testing required by law. These assessments may require attendance in the school building.

Extended Day Programs

- * Level II or Greater- All schools will adhere to guidance.
- * After school programs may close pending severity of pandemic.

Field trips

RED LEVEL IV	No field trips
ORANGE LEVEL III	No field trips
YELLOW LEVEL II	No field trips
GREEN LEVEL I	Field trips may be approved per consideration of educational value and other considerations