

## Montgomery Public Schools COVID-19 Response Guide

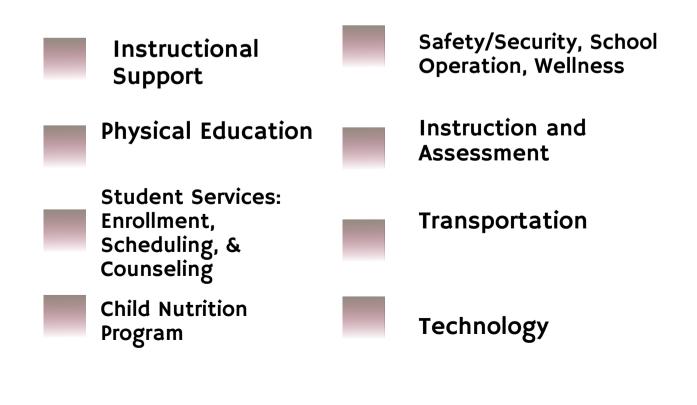
Moving Forward...Together





## Welcome Back MPS!

Welcome back to the 2021-2022 School Year! Classes will reopen in a face-to-face format and masks are required for students, staff and visitors. We have missed seeing your smiling faces!



## Overview

Montgomery Public Schools will reopen in-person for the 2021-2022 school year. Although we plan to return to some sense of normalcy, we realize that the pandemic is far from over. While this plan outlines the specifics, it is not designed to be viewed as all inclusive. Implementation of the plan will be monitored and revised as needed. The Superintendent will monitor and assess local conditions as well as use the updates provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to make the best decisions for students and staff. If for some reason cases start to increase and the governor issues an order that requires us to change our protocol, MPS will adjust the procedures accordingly.

We are committed to the health and safety of our students and staff. To that end, all eligible staff and students are encouraged to get vaccinated to maximize the safety of the staff and students.

Note: MPS reserves the right to modify the plan as dictated by situational changes as it relates to the pandemic.



### MPS INSTRUCTIONAL APPROACH FOR 2021-2022

This section will describe the instructional model that will be used during the 2021-2022 school year. Based on guidance provided by state agencies, medical and mental health professionals, MPS will return to face-to-face teaching and learning to best support the needs of our students. This instructional approach will be maintained as long as it is safe to do so per local, state and national health protocols.

MPS will utilize a multi-pronged process to respond to COVID-19 occurrences. Decisions regarding COVID-19 will be made by a team comprised of the building administrator, nursing staff, associate superintendents, chief academic officer, and superintendent. The overall goal will be to keep all students and staff in a healthy and safe learning environment.

COVID-19 Procedures will be as follows when notification is made regarding a positive case:

Step 1: The building administrator notifies the assigned nurse who will assist with contact tracing. The administrator notifies the Nursing Coordinator that a COVID-19 investigation is in process.

Step 2: The nursing Coordinator will confirm the status for the school with the Associate Superintendent of Student Services. Step 3: Associate Superintendent of Student Services, Associate Superintendent of Human Resources, and the Chief Academic Officer will make a recommendation of action to the Superintendent.

Step 4: Superintendent makes a decision and notifies the Board of Education and senior leadership.

Special Note: Parents will be notified immediately for a child who exhibits COVID-19 symptoms. The student will be quarantined on campus until the parent picks up the child. Parents are advised to report to campus as soon as possible. Students that must be quarantined will be provided temporary remote teaching and learning.

# PHYSICAL EDUCATION (PE), DRIVER'S EDUCATION, AND ATHLETICS

- Students will be required to participate in physical education daily.
- Students will not dress out for PE.
- MPS staff will adhere to guidance from AHSAA and City Ordinances regarding sporting events. Masks and social distancing will be required at all events held inside. Events held outside will follow city ordinances.
- Practices will be limited to students and essential staff.
- Concessions will be sold during sporting events, but items must be prepackaged.
- Band, cheerleaders, and dance teams will perform adhering to social distancing guidance.
- Tickets for all games will be sold via GOFAN.
- Students will be required to wear masks when driving during their driver's education class. If schools are closed, driving will not be allowed.

# STUDENT SERVICES: ENROLLMENT, SCHEDULING, & COUNSELING

 MPS families will continue to use the online registration portal for new and returning students.

- Schedules will be provided to students on the first day of school.
- The Student Conduct Manual will be accessible via the registration portal and the district website. Translated copies are available upon request.
- Schools will collect number counts during the first week of school.
- Teachers will take attendance daily beginning the week of August 23, 2021.
- Students who are required to quarantine will be marked with the appropriate COVID attendance code. (Makeup work will have to be completed but these days will not be counted toward chronic absenteeism.)
- School counselors, district social workers, and behavioral support staff will be readily available to assist students as needed.
- The referral process to access services for students will continue to be utilized.
- A social emotional learning (SEL) curriculum will be taught throughout the district.

#### CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAM (CNP)

• MPS will continue to use the grab-and-go style of breakfast and lunch to meet the CDC social distancing guideline.

• No food or beverage may be brought from the outside to share with other students or staff due to the inability of monitoring the preparation and handling of the food or drink items.

• Parents of students who have to be quarantined will be able to work with the school administration to continue to receive meals.

 CNP remains committed to ensuring that students are fed a nutritious meal if schools close. If a particular school shuts down, virtual learners can pick up meals from the identified school pick-up site. Meal distribution for virtual learners will be on Tuesdays

(7:30-11:30). Parents/Students will be given 7 days' worth of breakfast and lunch.

 We encourage parents to be proactive in reducing risk of COVID-19 by not congregating at school sites and utilizing social distancing once meals have been distributed.  Visitors will be allowed in school buildings, utilizing the appropriate screening protocols, wearing masks and social distancing.

• Social distancing dots and other important signage will be utilized and posted in prominent places on school grounds.

• Student temperatures will not be taken each morning, but thermoscans will be in the lobby to screen visitors coming into the building.

• Each school has been given a designated, clearly marked personal protective equipment (PPE) cabinet with an adequate number of reusable masks and supplies.

Chemicals for the sanitizing sprayers will continue to be provided by Logistics. Custodians will clean common areas throughout the school day. If there is a positive COVID case in the school building, affected areas will be cleaned and sanitized.
Water fountains may not be used. Currently, MPS has installed at least 1 bettle filling station per fleer in every school. Also, the

at least 1 bottle filling station per floor in every school. Also, the lunchrooms can provide water throughout the day following the Health Department guidelines.

It is strongly recommended that students bring their own refillable bottles for the bottle filling stations or lunchroom.

#### **INSTRUCTION AND ASSESSMENT**

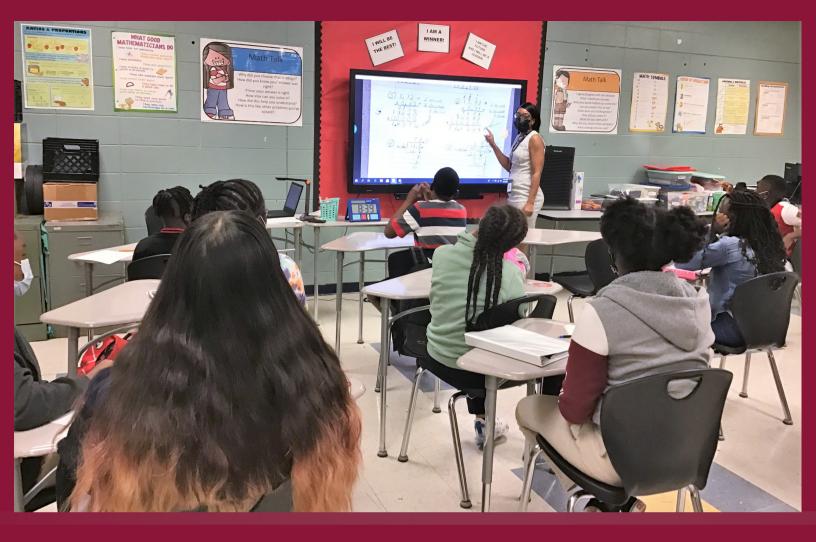
- Instruction will be provided face-to-face.
- Students will participate in all assessments as outlined in the MPS Assessment Calendar.
- Clever will be used to access district applications.
- Fieldtrips will be allowed for the 2021-2022 school year, per CDC and ADPH guidance.
- MPS will continue to develop, monitor, and revise educational programs (IEPs or 504 plans) as required by law.
- Classroom teachers will provide opportunities for students to develop and submit assignments in Schoology as a part of the instructional routine.
- Students who receive related services (OT, PT, ST) may participate via other electronic platforms.
- If a student is quarantined, daily face-to-face instruction can be accessed via Schoology. Teachers will record lessons and upload them to Schoology.
- Classwork and homework assignments will be uploaded to Schoology for student access weekly.

### TRANSPORTATION

- Bus drivers will be required to wear a face mask.
- Students will be required to wear a mask while being transported on the school bus.
- Buses will be sprayed daily with sanitizing chemicals.
- Good behavior is required on school buses.

### TECHNOLOGY

- MPS will continue with the one-to-one initiative, checking out devices for each student.
- Students will use their devices at school at the direction of their teacher.
- Parents must take care of devices and report lost, damaged, and stolen devices to the school administrator immediately.
   Replacement devices may not be readily available. Students who repeatedly lose or damage devices may not be reissued a new device.



# THANK YOU MONTGOMERY