

July 21, 2020

Dear Jacket Family,

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, and at the direction of Governor Brian Kemp, Calhoun City Schools closed on March 13, 2020. Only certain, essential personnel maintained a presence in the schools and facilities after that time, yet we have continued to serve our students in a number of ways. As you know, the system immediately moved to provide social and emotional support to employees, students and their families. School nutrition continued operations to provide meals to students. Online instruction and professional development were provided. Chromebook computers and mobile hotspots were deployed. As the school year concluded, plans were made for the collection and return of school and student-owned materials. Throughout this time staff have maintained a number of operations, communications, mail and copy services, facilities maintenance and repairs.

We are now preparing for the next phase - the reopening of schools for the 2020-2021 school year. That process has begun, and continues to be a collaborative effort with stakeholders, community members and public health officials. Planning is comprehensive, systematic and multi-faceted. At its core is the safety and health of students and staff. The plan is flexible, responsible, adaptable, and most importantly, safety-focused.

There continue to be questions and concerns related to the reopening of schools in light of increased testing and confirmation of COVID-19 cases. Please know that our first priority is the safety and health of all students and staff. We are making every effort to provide the safest environment possible, knowing that there will be challenges, but we must trust each other to make sure we are diligent in our efforts. We continue to monitor COVID-19 data and seek the counsel of the Department of Public Health and COVID Task Force. There is still much to be accomplished before our planned first day for students on August 12th. We know that no plan

will be perfect or please everyone; however, our plan is reasonable, measured, adaptable and flexible. (Please note that this may change based on information prior to this date.)

Please take time to review the attached guidance in *Georgia's Path to Recovery for K-12 Schools* provided by the Georgia Department of Education. We have participated in several conference calls and webinars over the past several weeks and have found Governor Kemp, State School Superintendent Woods and Department of Public Health Commissioner Dr. Toomey to be very responsive. We continue to work with our District and Local Health Departments, Gordon County Emergency Management Agency, AdventHealth and other health care providers on school reopening plans. Weekly or bi-monthly COVID Task Force meetings continue to be held.

Schools are a part of the larger community, so both community spread and specific cases in schools will be considered in re-opening and operational decisions. In the Plan A model, traditional face-to-face instruction will be paired with in-class virtual learning. This way, students will become more familiar with working online should face-to-face instruction be interrupted due to school closures.

Calhoun City Schools has always set out to maintain a tradition of excellence while making things as personal as we can for our students, families, employees and other stakeholders. Please note that schools will look and operate differently during the pandemic to keep everyone safe. Please be supportive of all of the new procedures as we work together to create the safest environments possible.

As superintendent, I appreciate everyone who has shared their thoughts and prayers. I appreciate those who have provided feedback in many forms. We have read each and every text, message, email, comment, suggestion, and answer to our survey questions. As a community, while we may not always agree on decisions that are made, we all want what is best for our children.

Our reopening plan has options for all families. Right now, our goal is to come back to school on August 12th so our teachers can meet their students. It would be most difficult to launch the new year without this opportunity. We also know that with this evolving situation, we may be required to pivot to Plan B or Plan C if there is substantial community spread of COVID-19. We will be prepared to support our students and staff in the safest and best way possible. Please continue to keep those who have been impacted by the virus and those on the front lines caring for the sick in your thoughts and prayers. Also keep all of our students' families and our Jacket staff close to your hearts.

Sincerely,
Michele Taylor, Superintendent

CALHOUN CITY SCHOOLS

RETURN TO SCHOOL INFORMATION



- Establish and maintain communication with neighboring school districts, local and state Department of Public Health officials, CDC guidance, local and state Emergency Management Agencies, local hospital representatives, and local law enforcement.
- Post signage in classrooms, hallways, and entrances to communicate how to stop the spread. Signage to include: COVID-19 symptoms, preventative measures (including staying home when sick), and good hygiene.
- Consider and implement ways to accommodate needs of children, staff and families at higher risk for severe illness and/or students/staff who feel ill and/or experience symptoms when they come to school.

PRACTICING PREVENTION



Teach and reinforce good hygiene measures such as handwashing and covering coughs.

Provide hand soap, hand sanitizer, and no-touch trashcans in all bathrooms, classrooms, entrance areas and other frequently trafficked areas.

Clean / disinfect frequently touched surfaces and shared objects.

Allow students and staff to bring hand sanitizer and face masks / coverings.

ENTERING SCHOOL BUILDING



Implement standard operating procedures based on CDC, public health officials and State DOE guidance.

School guidance for visitors: limit visitors to the building; screening upon check-in; optional use of face coverings / masks.

CONDUCTING LARGE GATHERINGS

Limit unnecessary congregations.

Students will be spaced out in holding areas during school arrival and dismissal.

Masks will be expected in holding areas.



TRANSITIONING

Conduct cleaning of hallways and high-touch surfaces throughout the school day.

Signage for directional traffic in hallways will be posted.

Masks will be expected during transitions.



SERVING MEALS



Provide hand sanitizer for students and staff.

Cafeteria staff will wear PPE when working directly with students.

Conduct cleaning of cafeteria between each lunch shift.

Conduct cleaning of high-touch surfaces throughout the school day.

TRANSPORTING STUDENTS

Provide hand sanitizer for students and bus drivers.

Windows will be lowered to allow more air flow when weather allows

Bus drivers and students will be expected to wear face masks / coverings (appropriate for school).

Inspect buses as a part of a regular rotation.

Clean / disinfect frequently touched surfaces on the bus daily.

Air out buses when not in use.

Review routes and work to lessen number of students to be transported on buses.



WELLNESS SCREENINGS

Periodic screening, including random temperature checks, will be conducted.

Students and staff with COVID-19 symptoms or a temperature of 100.4 + will be isolated immediately and sent home.

All students and employees must stay home if they have COVID-19 symptoms, tested positive, or had prolonged close contact with a person with COVID-19.



WATER FOUNTAINS

Water fountains will be shut off. Students will be encouraged to bring water bottles from home.



CALHOUN CITY SCHOOLS REOPENING PLAN - START DATE: AUGUST 12TH

Visitor Protocols:

- No outside visitors will be allowed to enter the building without a scheduled appointment.
- Parents and visitors may call or email administrators and teachers as needed for questions, updates, etc.
- Anyone needing to speak directly with a staff member can schedule an appointment for an in-person meeting when calls, emails or virtual meetings are not possible.
- IEP, SST and 504 meetings will be held virtually or by phone conference. In person meetings will need pre-approval by the Principal. Priority will be given to scheduling during non-instructional times when possible.

Preparation of Facilities:

- Additional custodial staff will be on site during school hours to support cleaning efforts throughout the day. This includes regular cleaning of high traffic areas, restroom cleaning, trash pick up from classrooms, etc.
- Enhanced cleaning measures will also include the following:
 - [Cleaning Informational Video](#)
- Hand sanitizing stations have been mounted throughout school facilities and buses.
- Handwashing signs/reminders are posted in all restrooms.
- All water fountains have been disabled. The CDC recommends students and staff bring their own water bottles. Students may bring water from home or use bottle filling stations or classroom sinks to refill water bottles.
- To maintain safe and controlled access to buildings, as well as to prioritize cleaning and disinfecting, community use of school buildings will be limited to preexisting contracts and programs providing direct support to students.

Health Screenings:

- We are asking staff and students who exhibit any of the symptoms shared below to refrain from coming into the building:
 - Do not come to school if you are sick.
 - Do not enter the building if you have a cough or fever above 100.4.
 - Do not come to school if you have been in direct contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19.
- Wellness check-ins (touchless thermometer) may be conducted before staff, students and any visitor enters the building.
- The use of face masks or coverings will be expected when it is not possible to social distance. Masks will be provided for all students and staff as needed however, we ask that students always have a mask in their book bag or accessible.
- Students and staff shall maintain a minimum of a six-foot distance where possible.
- Students and staff will be reminded to sneeze into cloth/tissue or elbow.
- Students and staff will refrain from shaking hands or any unnecessary physical contact.
- Students and staff will refrain from sharing supplies and equipment.
- An emphasis will be placed on hygiene, reminding all to wash hands frequently and use hand sanitizer.

Classroom Care Kits:

Masks have been donated from Emergency Management and the DOE for all students and staff. Bottles of disinfectant and paper towels will be distributed to all classrooms. Hand sanitizer will be available for all classrooms. (We will encourage students to bring hand sanitizer as well.) We will also have access to gloves.

Developing Rituals and Routines the First Two Weeks of School:

The first two weeks of school will be critical to forming relationships with students, stressing rituals and routines, educating students on proper hygiene practices and the importance of wearing masks where social distancing is not feasible.

Desks will be spaced out, recognizing that it will not be practical at 6 feet. Classroom arrangement requirements include:

- Assigned seating in all classrooms (this assists with contact tracing)
- Arrange desks facing front of classroom with spacing for both front/side where possible
- If tables are used, partitions will be used as necessary
- Establish distance between the teacher's desk and students' desk
- Remove any unnecessary furniture from classroom

Sharing of Supplies - It is important that students not share individual supplies; pencils, crayons, glue etc. where possible. Several agencies have donated individual student supplies.

Physical interaction through partner or group work will be limited.

Expected use of masks during times where social distancing may not be feasible

- Riding on bus routes
- Hallway transitions
- Arrival/dismissal holding areas
- Other times / group work etc.

Contact Tracing and Follow Up Plan:

Several staff members have completed the John Hopkins University COVID-19 Contact Tracing course to help us better understand preventative measures and protocols in the event we must close classrooms or programs. We will notify the Department of Public Health when we become aware of any COVID case and follow the [School Decision Making Tree](#).

The following individuals will serve as CCS Leads to work with the District DPH on reporting and responding to case by case situations. Teachers / Principals will report each case to them and they will utilize the [School Decision Making Tree](#) from the DOE to formulate next steps

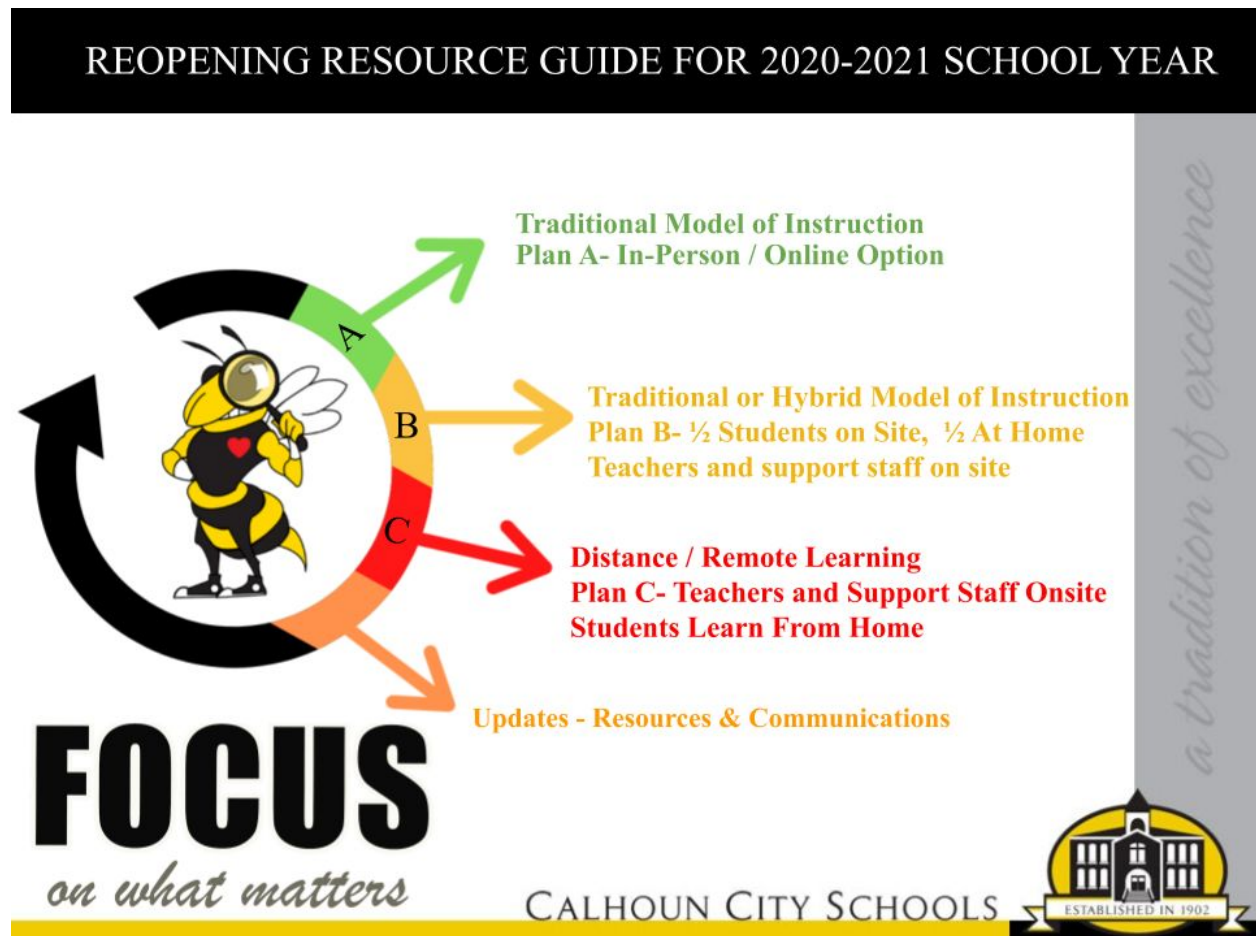
which will be communicated back to principals or school designees with a prescriptive course of action.

Amanda Schutz, Shirley Curtis and FEC will handle campus cases.

Abigail Ayers, Counselors and FEC will handle complex cases.

Brock Holley will handle student athletes.

Dr. Michelle Griffith will handle staff cases.



CCS is FOCUSED on PLAN A for the Return to School - Academic Expectations:

The following information outlines the plans at the Complex and for the 2020-2021 school year. Calhoun City Schools will implement the protocols below in coordination with the [Georgia Department of Education's Pathway to Recovery for K-12 Schools](#) to effectively navigate the reopening of schools. Staff will be trained to effectively support focus areas to ensure compliance with key safety measures. This information is subject to change and will be updated as needed based on the latest guidelines/recommendations.

COMPLEX (Prek-5) RETURN TO SCHOOL PLAN 2020-2021

To comply with the Governor's latest executive order, CCS will host a **virtual open house / orientation** on Monday, August 10, 2020, in lieu of the traditional open house. These will be conducted by the student's homeroom teacher and will be published to www.calhounschoools.org.

Drive Through Meet and Greets will be provided for our youngest Yellow Jackets to ease some anxiety and provide a fun and safe way to meet and greet their teacher.

DRIVE THROUGH MEET AND GREET

- A Drive Through Meet and Greet will be provided for our youngest Yellow Jackets to ease some anxiety and provide a fun and safe way to meet and greet their teacher.
 - PreK- August 11
 - 9:00-9:30 Jr. Jacket Academy, Teal Turtles
 - 9:30-10:00 Orange Tigers and Black Bats
 - 10:00-10:30 Rainbow Fish and Lime Lizards
 - 10:30-11:00 Red Dogs and Yellow Ducks
 - 11:00-11:30 Blue Cats and Brown Bears
 - 11:30-12:00 Copper Fox and Green Frogs
 - Kindergarten- August 10
 - 8:30-9:00 Tate and Robbins
 - 9:00-9:30 Adair and Gerry
 - 9:30-10:00 Pierce and Baker
 - 10:00-10:30 Swink and Smith
 - 10:30-11:00 Nesbitt and Akridge
 - 11:00-11:30 Bagwell and Renfro
 - 11:30-12:00 Irwin and Boston

CALHOUN CITY SCHOOLS



a tradition of excellence

PRE-K / KINDERGARTEN FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

PreK and Kindergarten parents who wish to walk their child to his or her classroom on the first day will need to plan to come at 8:15; park and walk their child to the teacher's exterior / outside door. Due to safety reasons, parents will not be allowed to enter the building. We ask that you please wear a mask if walking your child to the door.

For safety reasons, we must limit the number of non-essential people in our facilities. Thank you for understanding that we are erring on the side of caution and considering the safety of all students and staff.

CALHOUN CITY SCHOOLS



Any parent not comfortable with sending their child on-site for instruction may be enrolled in COLA Jr as a full-time student.

TRADITIONAL MODEL (PLAN A)

All students report to school on a regular bell schedule. Doors will open to students at 7:15 a.m. Students who are not in the building by 8:00 a.m. will be counted tardy. Dismissal begins at 2:50 p.m.

| Daily Logistics | PreK/CPS | CES |
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| <p>Morning Arrival- We are encouraging students who can be transported as a car rider or walker to take advantage of those opportunities to help alleviate numbers on school bus routes.</p> <p>Social distancing in holding areas will be observed where possible.</p> | <p>Bus Riders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bus riders will arrive on campus beginning at 7:15 am and report to their homeroom classroom hallway for a holding area until the transition to homeroom.• Buses will be equipped with hand sanitizer stations and touchless thermometers for screenings, as needed.• Students are expected to wear a mask on the bus as this is an area where students could be in closer proximity to others. <p>Car Riders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• PreK, 1st grade, and 2nd grade students in Rigney, McGill, Holbrook, Pinyan, Balliew, and Serritt will be dropped off in front of the CPS office.• Drop-off time officially begins at 7:15 a.m.• CPS car riders will report to their homeroom classroom hallway for a holding area until the transition to homeroom.• Students will be expected to wear face masks in all holding areas. <p>Car Pool:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Carpool will be dropped off in the back of the school. They will enter the building and report to their homeroom classroom hallway for a holding area until the transition to homeroom. <p>Walkers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Walkers should enter at the Media | <p>Bus Riders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bus riders will arrive on campus beginning at 7:15 am and report to their homeroom classroom hallway for a holding area until the transition to homeroom.• Buses will be equipped with hand sanitizer stations and touchless thermometers for screenings, as needed.• Students are expected to wear a mask on the bus as this is an area where students could be in closer proximity to others. <p>Car Riders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2nd grade students in Benton, Goodwin, Silvers, Woodman, Burns, Painter, and Adcock, and 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade will be dropped off in front of the CES office.• Drop-off time officially begins at 7:15 a.m.• CES car riders will report to their homeroom classroom hallway for a holding area until the transition to homeroom.• Students will be expected to wear face masks in all holding areas. <p>Car Pool:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Carpool will be dropped off in the back of the school. They will enter the building and report to their homeroom classroom hallway for a holding area until the transition to homeroom. <p>Walkers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Walkers should enter at the Media |

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| | Center and report to their homeroom classroom hallway for a holding area until the transition to homeroom. | Center and report to their homeroom classroom hallway for a holding area until the transition to homeroom. |
| Classroom Protocols | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Desks will be spaced out, recognizing that it may not be practical at 6 feet. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Assigned seating in all classrooms ◦ Student desks will be arranged in a configuration that encourages as much distance as possible with limited group configurations. • Teachers and students will be asked to use the last 5 minutes of each class each day to wipe down desks/work spaces. • Interior classroom doors will remain open to the inside hallways during the day to encourage more air circulation where possible. • Students will remain with their homeroom class throughout the day. • Special activities will take place within the homeroom grouping. • Special program and support staff will be pushed into classroom cluster groups to provide additional instructional support to students. • Restroom breaks will be scheduled throughout the day for homeroom cluster groups. • Homeroom cluster groups and their adjoining class will go to recess together to limit the number of students sharing playground equipment together. | |
| Class Transitions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transitions in the building will be limited to entry and dismissal. • Students will dismiss via their classroom exit door for recess. • Directional signs will be posted to encourage specific traffic patterns in hallways and to avoid congestion, and encourage distancing where possible. | |
| Lunch | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students will remain in their classroom for lunch to avoid large group gatherings in the cafeteria. • Lunches will be delivered to the classroom. • The school nutrition department is providing individually hot and cold packaged/wrapped meal choices each day. • Rosters will be in place, so that students do not have to use a shared keypad for payment. | |
| Afternoon Dismissal | <p>Bus Riders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bus riders will be escorted to their bus by their homeroom teacher. Students will be expected to wear face masks during this transition. • To avoid large congregation bus dismissal will be staggered. <p>Car Riders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PreK, 1st grade, and 2nd grade students in Rigney, McGill, Holbrook, Pinyan, Balliew, and | <p>Bus Riders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bus riders will be escorted to their bus by their homeroom teacher. Students will be expected to wear face masks during this transition. • To avoid large congregation bus dismissal will be staggered. <p>Car Riders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2nd grade students in Benton, Goodwin, Silvers, Woodman, Burns, Painter, and Adcock, and 3rd, 4th, |

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| | <p>Serritt will report to the main hallway on a staggered schedule.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students will be escorted to a colored square for loading. Students will be expected to wear face masks during this transition. <p>Carpool:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carpool students will report to the green hallway on a staggered schedule. Students will be escorted to the breezeway for loading. <p>Walkers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students who walk home in the afternoon will exit through the Media Center. | <p>and 5th grade will report to the gym on a staggered schedule.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students will be called via radio for loading. Students will be expected to wear face masks during this transition. <p>Carpool:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carpool students will report to the green hallway on a staggered schedule. Students will be escorted to the breezeway for loading. <p>Walkers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students who walk home in the afternoon will exit through the Media Center. |
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CAMPUS (6-12) RETURN TO SCHOOL PLAN 2020-2021

To comply with the Governor's latest executive order, CCS will host a **virtual open house** on Monday, August 10, 2020, in lieu of the traditional open house. Be on the lookout for a detailed building tour video and personalized teacher videos to be posted on the CCS website for all to view. These will be conducted by the student's homeroom teacher and will be published to www.calhouschools.org. Any parent not comfortable with sending their child on-site for instruction may be enrolled in OdysseyWare as a full-time student via COLA.

TRADITIONAL MODEL (PLAN A)

All students report to school on a [traditional bell schedule](#). Student devices are checked out/provided by the school for use at school and home.

| Daily Logistics | CMS | CHS |
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| <p>Morning Arrival- We are encouraging students who can be transported as a car rider or walker to take advantage of those opportunities to help alleviate</p> | <p>Bus Riders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bus riders will arrive on campus beginning around 8am and report to the CMS Gym (6-8) for a holding area until the transition to homeroom. Breakfast carts will be provided for students who need to eat breakfast. Buses will be equipped with | <p>Bus Riders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bus riders will arrive on campus beginning around 8am and report to the CHS Cafeteria (9-12) for a holding area until the transition to homeroom. Breakfast will be available in the cafeteria. Buses will be equipped with hand sanitizer stations and touchless thermometers for screenings, as |

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| <p>numbers on school bus routes.</p> <p>Social distancing in holding areas will be observed where possible.</p> | <p>hand sanitizer stations and touchless thermometers for screenings, as needed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Students are expected to wear a mask on the bus as this is an area where students could be in closer proximity to others. <p>Car Riders/Walkers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Car riders will be dropped off in front of CMS (6-8).Drop-off time officially begins at 8:00am, although we are encouraging car riders to come as close to start time (8:45am) as possible to avoid large groups in our holding areas.CMS car riders will report to the main hallway for a holding area until the transition to homeroom.Students will be expected to wear face masks in all holding areas. Breakfast carts will be provided for students who need to eat breakfast. <p>Walkers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Walkers should enter at the main entrance of CMS and report to the CMS Gym holding area. Those needing breakfast will have access to breakfast carts in the gym. | <p>needed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Students are expected to wear a mask on the bus as this is an area where students could be in closer proximity to others. <p>Car Riders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Car riders will be dropped off at the track side at CHS (9-12).Drop-off time officially begins at 8:00am, although we are encouraging car riders to come as close to start time (8:45am) as possible to avoid large groups in our holding areas.CHS car riders will report to the CHS Gym for a holding area until the transition to homeroom.Students will be expected to wear face masks in all holding areas. Breakfast carts will be provided for students who need to eat breakfast. <p>Walkers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Walkers should report to the CHS Gym holding area. Breakfast carts will be available. <p>Student Drivers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Student drivers who have a valid parking pass will park in their assigned spot and enter campus at the nearest location to their parking lot.Students that arrive before the homeroom transition bell (8:40am) will report to the CHS Gym holding area. |
| <p>Classroom Protocols</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Desks will be spaced out, recognizing that it may not be practical at 6 feet.<ul style="list-style-type: none">Assigned seating in all classrooms (alphabetically)Arrange desks facing front of classroom with spacing for both front/sideAssign seats by alphabet across the rows horizontally in ALL classesTeachers will visually scan/screen students as they enter the classroom. Any student who is visible flushed/feverish will have their temperature taken. If a | |

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| | <p>temperature is over 100.4, the student will be given a mask, isolated, and a parent will be called for pickup.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teachers and students will be asked to use the last 5 minutes of each class to wipe down desks/work spaces before the next group arrives. • Interior classroom doors will remain open to the inside hallways during the day to encourage more air circulation where possible. • Student desks will be arranged in a configuration that encourages as much distance as possible with limited group configurations. • Students will check-out their assigned chromebook device at the beginning of the year from their homeroom teacher. Students will be expected to bring their device back and forth to school each day and ensure that it is properly charged for use. Parents/students will sign an acknowledgement for device use and be given a cost menu of replacement/damage costs. | |
| Class Transitions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students will be expected to wear masks during class transitions. • Directional signs will be posted to encourage specific traffic patterns in hallways and stairwells, to avoid congestion, and encourage distancing where possible. • Traditional water fountains are disabled on campus. Students are encouraged to bring personal water bottles that they can refill throughout the day. | |
| Lunch | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students will remain with their classroom teachers for lunch to avoid large group gatherings in the cafeteria. Classes will rotate through the cafeteria to pick up food items and return to class to eat. A staggered schedule will be shared by administration. • The school nutrition department is providing individually packaged/wrapped meals for students to easily pick up from the serving line. • A new touchless charging system will be in place so that students do not have to use a shared keypad. | |
| Afternoon Dismissal | <p>Bus Riders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bus riders (6-8) will report to the CMS Gym at dismissal and sit spaced out in the bleachers by bus number. • Students will be expected to wear face masks in all holding areas. • Bus numbers will be called and students will exit the rear of the CMS Gym to load buses. <p>Car Riders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Car riders (6-8) will report downstairs to the main hallway at dismissal to wait for their vehicle. | <p>Bus Riders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bus riders (9-12) will report to the Cafeteria at dismissal and sit spaced out by bus number. • Students will be expected to wear face masks in all holding areas. • Bus numbers will be called and students will exit the side door of the Cafeteria and walk to the rear of the CMS Gym to load buses. <p>Car Riders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Car riders (9-12) will report to the trackside exit at dismissal to load into their vehicles. <p>Student Drivers:</p> |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students will be expected to wear face masks in all holding areas. Students will exit main entrance of CMS and load vehicles as names are called over the radio <p>Walkers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students who walk home in the afternoon will exit at the CMS main entrance and leave campus at the dismissal bell. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students drivers will exit the building at dismissal and report directly to their vehicles and leave campus unless they are staying on site for an approved activity. <p>Walkers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students who walk home in the afternoon will exit at the CHS main entrance and leave campus at the dismissal bell. |
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- If your child is not in attendance at school, please notify the attendance office at:
 - PreK- prekattendance@calhounschoools.org
 - CPS - cpsattendance@calhounschoools.org
 - CES - cesattendance@calhounschoools.org
 - CMS - cmsattendance@calhounschoools.org
 - CHS - chsattendance@calhounschoools.org

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS DURING COVID-19

Students / Parents

- **If a student does not feel safe returning to school, what are their options?**
 - Parents may opt to enroll their child in COLA Jr. or COLA to participate in online learning. Applications are due no later than July 31, 2020. Online applications can be found on the district website.
- **Do students/staff have to wear masks?**
 - Students are encouraged to bring their own masks. Students will be expected to wear masks in certain areas and at certain times, such as arrival/dismissal holding areas, transition between classes, on the bus, and when social distancing is not possible. It is our goal to educate our students on the importance of wearing masks to keep themselves and others safe. Masks will be made available for students upon request.
- **How will kids be able to social distance?**
 - Our goal is to educate students on how to appropriately social distance.
 - There are ways to keep students and staff safe when it is difficult to maintain distances. Sneeze guards, masks, face coverings or other temporary barriers can be used. Classroom arrangements will optimize available space.
 - Desks will be spaced out, recognizing that it will not be practical at 6 feet. Classroom arrangement requirements include:
 - Assigned seating in all classrooms (this assists with contact tracing)
 - Desks will face front of classroom with spacing for both front/side where possible
 - If tables are used, partitions will be used as necessary
 - Establish distance between the teacher's desk and students' desk
 - Remove any unnecessary furniture (extra desks and chairs) from classroom
- **What if I change my mind about my child being in COLA or being in school?**
 - We encourage parents to make the best decision for their child(ren) and commit to that as much as possible. Situations change, we understand. This is a challenging situation for everyone and we will be as flexible as possible. Transitions can be made; but please know that these take time. We appreciate your patience and support. We want to limit the amount of disruption for the students, teachers, staff and school as much as possible. Schools would encourage natural transition periods (9 week, semester, etc.) where possible.
- **Will hand sanitizer be available for my child?**

- Yes, hand sanitizing stations are mounted on buses and throughout school facilities. We also encourage students to bring hand sanitizer from home.
- **Will water fountains be available for my child?**
 - No, all water fountains have been disabled. The CDC recommends students and staff bring their own water bottles. Students may bring water from home or use bottle filling stations or classroom sinks to refill water bottles.
- **Will field trips be available this year?**
 - At this time, no non-essential field trips will be scheduled until further notice. The middle school Washington DC field trip from spring of 2020 was rescheduled for spring of 2021. Any updates to that trip will be communicated to families.
- **If I am a COLA student, how do I get help on my school work?**
 - COLA support staff will be available to support learners in a virtual setting.

General Questions:

- **What will be the screening protocols for teachers and students?**
 - Teachers and students should only enter school facilities when they are not exhibiting symptoms such as a cough or fever.
 - All teachers and staff will be asked to check in (in their assigned location) and have their temperatures taken daily.
 - Parents are asked to take their child(ren)'s temperature each morning before the student goes to school.
 - Teachers or school staff will take the temperature of students who share that they are hot or feverish or if the staff member suspects that a child might have a fever.
- **What steps will be followed if a teacher and/or student tests positive for COVID-19?**
 - If a parent/guardian reports that their child has a COVID-19 diagnosis, school officials will immediately communicate the information with the Department of Public Health (DPH).
 - Upon confirmation by DPH of a positive case, we will follow the Decision Making Tree outlined in [Georgia's Path to Recovery for K-12 Schools](#). This plan has been approved by the Department of Health. The complete plan can be found on our website as well as the Georgia Department of Education's website.
 - Notification will be made to parents of students who have had known direct exposure during the school day or at school functions, as determined by CDC guidelines, where possible.
 - Notification of a positive case (with specific information about quarantine periods and/or returning to school) will be made utilizing either phone, written or email correspondence. These notifications will be sent to the primary address(es), emails, and phone numbers that are on file in Infinite Campus.

- **If a COLA student wants to participate in extracurricular activities, what will be expected of them?**
 - Students would need to meet the expectations of that particular activity. Parents would have to communicate with the coach/sponsor on expectations and students would not be able to be dropped off before the event/practice start time.
- **What will be our class sizes?**
 - Class sizes may be reduced due to the number of students opting to participate in COLA or COLA Jr. Registration for COLA closes on July 31st and we will have a better idea of onsite enrollment numbers after this date.
- **What modifications will be made to students riding on buses?**
 - We will encourage families who can transport their children to school to do so. This will reduce the number of students on each bus.
 - Assigned seating will be required. It is not feasible to social distance at 6 feet on school buses.
 - Students will be expected to wear masks.
 - Hand sanitizer will be available on buses and buses will be disinfected and cleaned frequently.
- **Will we continue to offer KEEP, and if so, what changes will be in place?**
 - Yes, afternoon KEEP will be offered at the complex for PreK/JJA, CPS and CES. Morning KEEP will only be offered for Junior Jacket Academy students beginning at 7:15. See the Community Education website for more information.
- **How will we be able to social distance within the classroom?**
 - Desks will be arranged to allow for extra distances between each student; however, it is not feasible to social distance at 6 feet.
 - Tables used as desks may have a partition in place.
 - Rituals and routines will be established in each classroom to limit the amount of contact or touching of surfaces. For example, interior doors will be propped open so multiple hands are not touching doorknobs.
 - Students will not share supplies and are encouraged to bring their own. School supply lists are available on the website. Students in need of assistance with supplies can contact their school's family engagement coordinator.
- **How will we maintain sanitary conditions within the classroom?**
 - Disinfectant spray bottles and paper towels and/or disinfectant wipes will be available in each classroom.
 - Procedures will be put in place to have each desk / work area frequently cleaned.
 - Hand sanitizer will be provided in each classroom. Students are also encouraged to have their own sanitizer available.
- **What will be expected of teachers and students in regards to cleaning?**

- Teachers and students will share this responsibility to protect themselves and others. They will assist with wiping down desks. ABM custodians will continue with their regular cleaning responsibilities and enhanced cleaning procedures will also be employed which will include electro-static sprays on all furniture and surfaces.
- **How will students eat lunch while still social distancing?**
 - All students PreK-12 will eat lunch in their assigned classroom during their scheduled lunch period with their teacher and peers. More specifics regarding lunch procedures are detailed in the return to school plan.
- **Will students have to dress out for PE?**
 - Students will be asked to dress in athletic apparel for PE where possible; however, students may wear their regular clothes if able to participate in class activities in a safe manner.
- **Where will you isolate students and staff who are displaying COVID-19 symptoms?**
 - Each school will have specific locations identified for student and staff isolation should they present a fever or COVID-19 symptoms until they are able to safely leave the facility.
 - Students or staff who have had to isolate will be provided a mask to wear until they can leave the building. Students will be made to feel comfortable while they wait for their parent or guardian to arrive.
- **What will happen if we do not have enough substitutes to cater to staff absences?**
 - On-site staff will be used to cover for any absences in the event that a substitute teacher cannot be secured.
 - Community members with a desire to become a substitute teacher are encouraged to apply at www.calhounschoools.org.
- **Will my child's absences be counted as excused or unexcused if they are absent for COVID related issues?**
 - Any student qualifying for a COVID-19 related or other medical related absence will be considered excused with a parent or doctor note. If your child is not in attendance, please notify the attendance office that day at:
 - PreK- prekattendance@calhounschoools.org
 - CPS - cpsattendance@calhounschoools.org
 - CES - cesattendance@calhounschoools.org
 - CMS - cmsattendance@calhounschoools.org
 - CHS - chsattendance@calhounschoools.org
- **Does the AdventHealth clinic on-site at CHS test for COVID-19?**

- No, at this time the health clinic on-site at CHS does not conduct tests for COVID-19. Students and parents seeking a COVID-19 test should contact the Department of Public Health or their local healthcare provider.
- **What services does the on-site AdventHealth clinic at CHS provide?**
 - The health clinic located at 101 Yellow Jacket Drive at Calhoun High School provides care for the following ailments:
 - Asthma, allergies and hives
 - Broken bones and sprains
 - Cold, flu and common illnesses
 - Contusions
 - Disease management
 - Earaches
 - Elevated blood pressure
 - Food poisoning
 - Headaches and migraines
 - Minor cuts and lacerations (on-site stitches available)
 - Pneumonia
 - Rashes
 - Shingles
 - Stomach and digestive conditions
 - Tendonitis
 - Workplace injuries
- **What will attendance expectations be for students using an on-line platform?**
 - Students participating in on-line learning through COLA or COLA Jr are expected to participate in accordance with COLA attendance guidelines.
 - In the event of school closure and on-line learning for all students, attendance will be taken based on student participation in each class, as advised by their school.
- **How will we social distance in holding areas before and after school?**
 - Every effort will be made to separate students in areas where this is possible. Appropriate supervision will be provided for all holding areas to monitor and support social distancing. Parents are encouraged to utilize the car rider/walker option where possible.
- **What precautions are being taken to ensure that our children's food is safe to eat from the cafeteria?**
 - School nutrition staff follows all health department and CDC protocols to ensure the food is safe to be served and consumed.
 - Meals will be provided in pre-sealed containers for a grab-and-go pickup.
 - Touchless keypad entry will be utilized.
- **What will music and chorus classrooms look like in the fall?**

- At the complex, music along with all the other special area classes will continue as scheduled in the homeroom.
- At the campus, music and chorus classes in grades 6-12 will be provided with additional staff support as needed while maximizing available space throughout the campus.
- **Will we have sports this fall, and if so, will fans be able to attend events?**
 - At this time, we anticipate sports and extracurricular activities in the fall. Due to mass gathering guidelines, there may be modifications in the number of fans / spectators that may attend. CCS will share this information on websites and social media.
- **How often will classrooms and common spaces/restrooms, etc. be cleaned?**
 - Custodial staff will partner with students and staff to ensure that all classrooms and common spaces are cleaned on a frequent and consistent basis.
 - Additional custodial support will be provided during the school day. ABM (Custodial Service) will also provide enhanced cleaning to disinfect all areas of the school. This includes: A comprehensive site assessment, one-time deep cleaning and a recurring cleaning and disinfection program. Electrostatic spraying that goes beyond high touch point disinfection resets facilities with broader disinfection will be provided at periodic intervals.
- **What revisions will be made to emergency plans in light of COVID-19?**
 - Emergency plans will take into consideration all current protocols related to COVID-19 while maintaining student safety as the highest priority.
- **How will hallway and stairwell transitions look for the upcoming year?**
 - All students will be educated on how to best transition between classes.
 - Complex: Hallways will have specific signage to support movement and transitions at arrival and dismissal.
 - Campus: Hallways and stairwells at the campus will have specific signage and guidance to support transitions with limited student interactions.
- **How will schools govern the entry/exit to school buildings during the upcoming school year?**
 - Schools will limit entry points to each facility to maintain student safety. The main office of each school will be the main point of entry throughout the day with visitors requiring an appointment for entry.
- **As the fall brings illnesses such as the flu, etc. what modifications will be needed to differentiate between these illnesses and COVID-19?**
 - Since these illnesses can have similar symptoms, both will be treated with the expectation that students and staff remain fever free for 72 hours (without fever reducing medication) before returning to school.

- **How will Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) for special education students be met?**
 - ESS and general education teacher teams will provide accommodations for students and focus on IEP goals through differentiated instruction and specialized assignments.
 - Each ESS student will have a Distance Learning Plan that addresses their individual needs should there be a school closure that will be a side document to the IEP.
 - IEP meetings will be held virtually where possible to limit in person contact.
- **Many special needs students, students that need assistance with toileting, or wheelchair-bound students require hands-on assistance. How can a staff member safely assist these students without creating mutual risk?**
 - ESS teachers will be provided with disposable gowns, shields, masks and gloves. All safety protocols will be followed in addition to the increased cleaning protocols for the school.
- **How will technology be shared in classrooms without cross contamination?**
 - All students in grades K-12 will be provided with a personal device for school use.
 - At the complex, these devices will be stored in the classroom for daily use. In the event of a closure, complex student devices will be sent home.
 - At the campus, the student will be responsible for this device throughout the duration of the school year and will bring it with them to/from school daily.
 - Technology on campus that is shared will be cleaned and sanitized regularly.
- **What professional development will be provided to staff in the implementation of online learning?**
 - Calhoun City Schools has a full-time instructional technology specialist who will continue to lead and implement comprehensive professional development for staff across the district.
- **How will we meet the needs of our rising seniors with their postsecondary planning?**
 - Calhoun High School has a full time director of college and career programs, supported by skilled guidance counselors. These individuals collaborate with students to provide support for our seniors as they prepare for their transition to postsecondary and career opportunities.
 - Students will receive lots of information throughout the school year through their school email and grade level Remind.
- **At any point, will face masks be required? My children are very concerned that they would not be able to wear a face mask for an entire school day. This assessment is based on the fact that we wear face masks when in stores and other public places.**

- There may be instances where face masks are needed to protect students and staff, however, we do not foresee students wearing them for an entire school day. Students will be expected to wear masks in holding areas, during transitions and on buses.
- **What is the protocol for children who are sick but do not (for whatever reason) have the ability to stay at home?**
 - Children who are sick will be required to stay home. This will be a parental responsibility to provide care for them.
- **Will teachers in the regular classroom be utilizing the COLA software and curriculum in the event it becomes necessary for the school to transition to full-time online learning again?**
 - Teachers will have the autonomy to use the resources offered through COLA (using the Odysseyware/Edgenuity curriculum platform) or create their own assignments, videos, quizzes, and tests using the Canvas learning management system.
 - During school closures last spring (March, April, and May) several Middle/High School departments elected to customize the courses in Odysseyware and use those for course delivery. Other departments chose to use Canvas to create and design their online curriculum to deliver to students. CCS has site licenses for both Odysseyware/Edgenuity as well as Canvas so we will most likely see a healthy mix of the two platforms if our system chooses to go to full-time online learning again.
- **What protocols will be required for construction projects during the continued pandemic?**
 - The only construction projects planned for FY21 are the relocation of a metal building from Barrett Road to King Street and the construction of the Early Learning Academy at Barrett Road. Students and school staff will not be onsite for either of these construction projects. Construction management teams will follow the same safety protocols and procedures outlined by the CDC.
- **Will school facilities be reopened to public use on evenings and weekends? If so, what safety requirements will need to be put in place?**
 - Yes, but on a very limited basis. To maintain safe and controlled access to buildings, as well as to prioritize cleaning and disinfecting, community use of school buildings will be limited to preexisting contracts and programs providing direct support to students. Any facility use will mandate that safety protocols are implemented according to current school guidance.
- **How will we assess which students need academic support and remediation?**
 - Interventions are a priority and will be embedded into Tier 1 instruction. Progress monitoring and data collection are vital components of this process and will be

evaluated in November to provide guidance for next steps in academic planning. SST meetings will be scheduled in January of 2021 in order to provide the students adequate time to respond to interventions and adjustments to the new procedures.

- **In the event that we transition to at-home learning, will the school district address students with limited or no access to internet service at home?**
 - All students in grades K-12 will be provided with a device.
 - Information as it pertains to available WiFi access is also being provided to students and their families.
 - Where available, Ranger WiFi devices are being distributed throughout the community to provide access points.
- **Will education look fundamentally different post-pandemic, or will school systems revert to prior structures?**
 - Although we look forward to a time when we can return to many of the traditional practices of the PK-12 learning environment, we also recognize that we must learn from this pandemic to ensure that we are best prepared for any future situations that we will be presented.
- **Will Work-Based learning students still be able to participate in the community?**
 - Yes, students will report to work assignments where possible.
- **Will we still take GA milestones and NWEA MAP assessments?**
 - If the Georgia Department of Education is granted a waiver from the US Department of Education, Milestones will not be taken this year.
 - At this time, Calhoun City Schools plans to administer NWEA MAP.
- **Will students with perfect attendance have their attendance impacted by COVID-19?**
 - Attendance for the 2020-2021 school year will not be a factor for consideration when determining perfect attendance status upon graduation.
- **Will there be rewards/awards or punitive measures tied to student attendance?**
 - No. Attendance will not be tied to rewards and/or punitive measures due to COVID-19 for the upcoming school year.
 - Perfect attendance awards will be suspended for the 2020-2021 school year.
- **Will tuition be required for those out of district students who participate in COLA?**
 - Tuition will be required of out of district students. Students will still receive support from school staff during online instruction. Information can be found at <https://www.calhounschoools.org/new-families/tuition-payments>

****Please note this is an evolving situation and plans, protocols and procedures are subject to change at any time.***