



# **Rankin County School District**

## **Smart Restart Plan**

### **for**

## **2021-2022 School Year**

The Rankin County School District will begin the school year with all students on-campus and in person on Friday, August 6. We will return to traditional school procedures with enhanced hygiene and disinfection protocols.

\*The RCSD will continue to monitor and adjust plans for the health and safety of our students and employees throughout the summer and the school year. We will follow the original Smart Restart document, as needed, per guidance from the Mississippi Department of Health and any Governor Executive Orders.

# IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

## SCHOOL HOURS:

- Due to the Mississippi Department of Education ending the one-year waiver on minimum instructional minutes per day, there will not be reduced days on Wednesday during the 2021-2022 school year. Additionally, the Rankin County Schools bell schedules for the 2021-2022 school year will be closely aligned with bell schedules used prior to 2020. The bell schedules will be posted on school websites in July.



## HEALTH AND SAFETY:

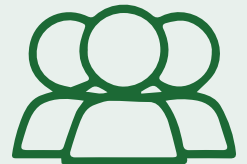
- Parents/guardians should perform an assessment of their child(ren)'s health before leaving home. If your child feels unwell, or has any of the following symptoms, please do not allow him or her to come to school and contact your health-care provider. People with these symptoms may have COVID-19: fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and/or diarrhea.
- A nurse will be assigned to every campus.
- The District plans to start the school year with optional face masks/coverings. (Masks may become necessary during the course of the school year depending upon state guidance due to the spread of the illness.)
- Students, faculty, and staff should stay home when they are sick, when they have a temperature of more than 100°F (38°C), or when they do not pass the daily at-home screening examination. For updated information concerning attendance policies and related exemptions, please refer to the 2021-2022 student handbook.
- Students and staff who live with anyone diagnosed with COVID-19 should stay home from school until the risk of transmission has passed.
- Everyone should practice good hygiene measures such as hand washing often with soap and warm water for 20 seconds and covering coughs and sneezes.
- Faculty and staff will assist in monitoring students for symptoms and will refer anyone with symptoms to the school nurse/school designee for evaluation.



- Hand sanitizer will be on all buses, in hallways, classrooms, bathrooms, and at school entrances and exits. Hand soap and paper towels will be in all bathrooms.
- Isolation areas will be set up to quarantine students with symptoms. \*\*Symptom free students and employees who are fully vaccinated are exempt from quarantine requirements.
- In the event that Covid case numbers necessitate alterations to standard operating procedures, schools will implement additional measures per the original Smart Restart document.

## ACTIVITIES/VISITORS:

- School assemblies, field trips, athletics, and other activities will return to traditional school procedures.
- Visitors to campus should go directly to the school office area.
- Classroom and lunchtime visits will be permitted on campuses following the school's guidelines.
- Visitors should be symptom free and follow all school guidelines concerning health and safety.



## TRANSPORTATION:

- The District plans to start the school year with optional face masks/coverings on the buses. (However, masks may become necessary during the course of the school year depending upon state guidelines due to the increased spread of illness.)
- Hand sanitizer is provided for students and bus drivers.
- Buses are disinfected following both the morning and afternoon routes, and buses.



\*Again, refer to the original Smart Restart 2020-2021 document for more information on adjustments that may be made throughout the 2021-2022 school year per the guidance of the Mississippi Department of Health and the Governor's Executive Orders.

\*\*Refer to the 2021-2022 Student Handbook for information on attendance, policies, etc.

\*\*\*If a student has a rare and serious extenuating health circumstance that prevents the student from attending school face to face, there may be a consideration for alternate services.