

CORINTH SCHOOL DISTRICT

BACK TO SCHOOL

REENTRY GUIDELINES

UPDATED - AUGUST 2, 2021

The Corinth School District is committed to providing a safe, caring and respectful learning environment for learners, teachers, staff, and parents.

The 2021-22 school year presents challenges to our schools from an operational perspective as we continue to address the issues related to a global pandemic. This plan will evolve and be updated over the school year. The latest guidance offered by the Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH), the Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) will be considered.



Corinth School District
1204 Harper Road
Corinth, MS. 38834

TABLE OF CONTENTS

BACK TO SCHOOL

Reentry Guidelines

COVID-19 RESPONSE.....	3
LEARNING MODELS.....	4
PREVENTING THE SPREAD OF ILLNESS.....	5
SCHOOL-BASED COVID-19 TESTING STRATEGY.....	6
TRANSPORTATION.....	7
FOOD SERVICE.....	8
SCHOOL DAY PROCESSES AND PROCEDURES: WHEN SOMEONE BECOMES SICK AT SCHOOL CONCENTRATION OF CASES	9

COVID-19 RESPONSE

Corinth School District experienced a successful 2020-2021 school year providing on-campus in-person learning for the entire school year. The District will begin the 2021-22 school year providing on-campus and in-person learning on July 26, 2021. We look forward to continuing to meet the needs of Corinth learners as everyone returns for this school year. The District will provide virtual learning opportunities for learners or families who have extenuating health circumstances that prevent them from attending in-person learning. Other academic and performance factors are in place as requirements for virtual learning.

With an increase in the Delta variant and other COVID-19 issues, the CSD is prepared to move to hybrid or virtual models of instruction should the need be. However, total virtual learning will only be implemented under the most severe instances.

Each of the schools has extensive plans for addressing COVID-19 issues during the 2021-22 school year, and those plans have been updated considering the latest guidance in this document. This guidance will be updated throughout the year based on the latest information from the MDE, MSDH, and CDC.



LEARNING MODELS

Traditional Instruction

The District will continue to incorporate identified safety measures to keep learners and staff as safe as possible while implementing a traditional in-person instructional model. This document is based on the latest guidance from the MSDH, MDE, and CDC. Safeguards in place will be detailed throughout this document. Hybrid and virtual learning models may be implemented at any time during the 2021-2022 school year should the impact of COVID-19 necessitate the change. Plans are in place for remote learning services to be available for learners and families with serious extenuating health circumstances that prevent them from attending in person learning.

Hybrid Instruction

Should the impact of COVID-19 make the traditional instructional model impracticable, the District will be prepared to move into a hybrid model. Learners will be divided into two groups with an alternating A/B Schedule, alternating face-to-face and virtual instruction during the week.

Virtual Learning

If the impact of COVID-19 makes the hybrid instructional model impracticable, the District will move into a complete virtual learning model. Teachers will provide learners with a robust instructional plan to continue to accelerate learning. This plan will be accomplished by:

- Developing virtual learning protocols and materials ahead of the time to facilitate the move to hybrid learning.
- Training teachers on instruction in a virtual environment.
- Developing and deploying training modules for parents/families to familiarize them with virtual learning.
- Providing access to virtual lessons to learners and parents.
- Establishing teaching schedule/office hours and communicate such to parents.

PREVENTING THE SPREAD OF ILLNESS

As we navigate these unusual times for our learners and staff, please be confident that the Corinth School District pledges the following:

- We are committed to meeting the needs of all learners in our District.
- We are committed to providing a safe and healthy school environment
- We are committed to supporting and encouraging your child throughout his or her educational career in our District.

As we work to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and protect learners and staff in our schools we ask you to partner with us during this school year by:

- Providing current working phone number(s) to the school in case we need to reach you during the day. Our nurses will be screening learners and employees throughout the school day and may find it necessary to contact you.
- Assessing your 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 healthcare 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.
- Learners, 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. Please watch the District website as this information will be updated throughout the 2021-2022 school year.
- Unvaccinated learners and staff who live with anyone diagnosed with COVID-19 should stay home from school until the risk of transmission has passed.
- The District plans to start the school year with optional face coverings, but masks may become necessary during the course of the school year depending upon local, state or national requirements, or increased spread of illness.
- The District strongly recommends unvaccinated learners and staff to wear masks while indoors.
- Learners riding buses to schools and activities will be required to wear a mask while on the bus according to CDC guidelines that are in place for public transportation. This mandate is set to expire September 14.
- Persons with COVID-19 should isolate for 10 days and be also be free of fever for 24 hours before returning to school
- Reinforce healthy behaviors that we will be practicing at schools. These behaviors include social distancing, covering coughs and sneezes, handwashing and face covering wearing as appropriate.
- Everyone should practice good hygiene measures such as handwashing often with soap and warm water for 20 seconds and covering coughs and sneezes.
- Faculty and staff will assist in monitoring learners for symptoms and will refer anyone with symptoms to the school nurse/school designee for evaluation.
- Hand sanitizer will be available in hallways, classroom, and at school entrance and exits. Hand soap and paper towels will be in all restrooms.
- Stations will be set up to quarantine learners with symptoms.

SCHOOL-BASED COVID-19 TESTING STRATEGY

With funding from the CDC and the MSDH the CSD is implementing **voluntary asymptomatic** screening testing for COVID-19 in Pre-K-through Grade 12, beginning June 1, 2021. The goal of this program is to slow the spread of COVID-19 in our school setting and maintain in-person education through the implementation of frequent serial testing of teachers, staff and learners. Consent forms and information will be sent home with each child at the beginning of the school year.

Voluntary testing of asymptomatic teachers, employees and learners who have not been vaccinated will be as follows:

- Weekly screening of all interested asymptomatic teachers, staff, or learners
- Weekly screening of learners (and teachers/coaches) participating in school sponsored extracurricular activities of any type, including sports, band and other extracurricular activities

Additional Considerations:

- Fully vaccinated learners and teachers/staff (2 weeks after completion of one-dose or two-dose COVID-19 vaccine series) do not require weekly asymptomatic screening.
- **Fully vaccinated learners and teachers/staff do not require quarantine or testing after contact to an infected person.**
- This screening program is not designed for symptomatic individuals. Any symptomatic learner or teacher/staff should continue to be excluded from school/school district and be evaluated by a medical professional.

VACCINATION STRATEGY

- The Corinth School District will partner with Magnolia Regional Health Center in holding vaccination clinics at Corinth Middle School and Corinth High School.

TRANSPORTATION

Bus Service

The Corinth School District Transportation Department will follow safety protocols as prescribed by local and state government, the MDE, MSDH, and CDC. Parents are key partners in helping make the school transportation safe and effective this year. The District is currently experiencing a shortage of bus drivers and at times routes may be combined so that all learners needing transportation can receive services. This may result in longer ride times.

The following procedures will apply:

- Learners riding buses will be required to wear a mask while on the bus according to CDC guidelines that are in place for public transportation. This policy is set to expire September 14. Drivers will be equipped to provide a District-supplied disposable face covering to any learner who has lost or forgotten to wear a face covering. Learners failing to wear a face covering will be reported to school administrators.
- Social distancing will be employed to the extent possible on each bus but cannot be guaranteed.
- When possible, windows will be open on school buses to aid in ventilation.
- Siblings or children living in the same household will be seated together or close when possible.
- Parents and guardians are encouraged to bring learners to school in order to reduce the number of bus riders and better enable social distancing among learners who do use the buses.
- As feasible, morning routes will load learners into assigned seats from the back of the bus to the front.
- Hand sanitizer is provided for learners and bus drivers.
- Drivers are asked to monitor for symptoms and stay home when feeling ill.
- Buses are sanitized following both the morning and afternoon routes, and bus aired out between uses as practicable.

FOOD SERVICES

Child Nutrition

- Provide learners handwashing/hand sanitizing before and after meal service.
- Lunch will be served in school cafeterias.
- Breakfast will be served as grab-and-go and eaten in the classroom.
- Mark spaced lines to enter the cafeteria and serving lines to the extent practicable and designate entrances and exit flow paths.
- Conduct cleaning of cafeterias and high-touch surfaces throughout the school day.
- Sanitize tables where learners have finished eating before the next group arrives.
- Schools may employ alternative serving models for meals when appropriate due to increasing COVID case numbers such as:
 - Serving meals in classrooms
 - Serving meals in cafeteria with spaced seating (utilize outside eating areas if possible)
 - Longer meal serving times for more staggered serving
- Serve meals in multiple socially distanced locations such as outdoors and gyms.
- Follow the District's specific protocols for communication in the event of confirmed cases among cafeteria staff.

SCHOOL DAY PROCESSES & PROCEDURES

When Someone Becomes Sick at School

- Each school will have a designated separate sick/isolation room for suspected COVID-19 cases, keeping those learners, faculty and staff away from other types of illness or injury cases that may be seeking treatment or care.
- School nurses and or other designees will use standard precautions and transmission-based precautions when caring for sick people.
- Symptomatic staff members and learners should not return to school until they have met the criteria to discontinue home quarantine.
- Persons with COVID-19 should quarantine for 10 days and also be free of fever for 24 hours before returning to school.
- Schools will report daily to District officials the learners, faculty and staff who have been diagnosed with COVID-19 and those who are quarantined. The school nurses will report such information to the Mississippi State Department of Health and the District will post on the District website.
- In the event that a learner or staff member is diagnosed with COVID-19, the parents/guardians of learners who have been in close contact with that individual or who have class with that individual shall be notified.
- Learners and staff who have close contact with anyone diagnosed with COVID-19 should contact the school nurse for guidance.
- The district will consider the guidelines of the MSDH concerning when it is appropriate for learners who have been exposed to enter self-quarantine.

When a Concentration of Cases Occurs

- The District will consider MSDH recommendations in determining when classes and schools should quarantine based on outbreaks within the schools.
- If three or more people within a class or activity group are diagnosed with COVID-19, which is considered a concentration of cases, the unvaccinated learners and staff will quarantine.
- If three or more concentrations of cases occur on a school campus, the campus will consider closing for a period of 14 calendar days. If a school closes, virtual learning will be implemented for learners at that school.

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