



Stephens County School System

2023-2024 COVID-19 Response Plan

The safety of our students, staff, and families is the top priority of our school system. Please see our COVID-19 Response Plan below. The district will continue to use local data to inform decision-making. We will adjust procedures if necessary and communicate those changes as they occur.

Prevention Practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• School nurses will be the main point of contact for COVID-19 at each school.• Parents/Guardians are asked to monitor the health of their child and keep children home if they are ill.• Parents/Guardians are asked to contact the school immediately if their son or daughter tests positive for COVID-19.• Encourage social distancing measures as much as possible.• Post signage in classrooms, hallways, and entrances to communicate how to stop the spread of COVID-19.• Hand sanitizer will be provided.• Masks optional.• Enhanced Cleaning and disinfecting will take place at all facilities.• Impacted areas/classrooms will be isolated and deep cleaned.• A protocol for students/staff who feel ill/experience symptoms when at school will be implemented.
Transportation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hand sanitizer will be provided on buses.• Frequently touched surfaces on buses will be cleaned after each route.• Buses will be sanitized after each route.
Support for Teaching and Learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Limit sharing of supplies.• Encourage social distancing.• Use of hand sanitizer in classrooms.• Clean/disinfect frequently touched surfaces.

Student/Staff tests positive for COVID	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Following DPH and CDC guidelines, it is recommended that those who test positive for COVID-19 stay home a minimum of 5 days, from the test date or onset of symptoms, AND be fever-free for 24 hours with other symptoms improving before returning to school/work. • Absences for positive students should be excused with a parent or doctor's note. • Staff members with COVID-19 are required to use sick leave.
Students/Staff who become sick at school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Symptoms will be evaluated by the school nurse, and based on this evaluation, staff members may be sent home. • Students will remain in isolation, with supervision, while parents are contacted to pick them up. • Students must be fever-free for 24 hours before returning to school.
Students/Staff exposed to COVID-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students/Staff who are exposed to someone who tests positive for COVID-19 should attend school/work as long as they are symptom-free. • Parents/Guardians who choose to isolate their student due to exposure to COVID-19 should provide a parent/doctor's note upon returning to school.

NOTE: This COVID Response Plan is subject to change at any time.

8/15/23