



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.

<p>Prevention Practices</p>	<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.• Parents/Guardians whose student exhibits symptoms and have chosen to have the student tested, SHOULD NOT send him/her back to school until they receive a negative test result. Students cannot attend school while they await test results.• 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.
<p>Transportation</p>	<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.
8/2/23