



ATHENS CITY SCHOOLS

PLAN FOR IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION AND CONTINUITY OF SERVICES



WE ARE READY

School in the time of COVID-19 is a unique challenge. Athens City Schools is committed to providing the best educational opportunities and experiences possible to every student, every day, no matter what.

WELCOME BACK!

Athens City Schools is excited to begin the school year! We know many challenges lie ahead, and we look forward to working through those with our school community and providing a safe and instructionally sound plan for in-person instruction.

This plan will be reviewed every three months and is organized into three main sections of information:

- **Maintaining Health and Safety**
- **Continuity of Services**
- **Communication**

The American Rescue Plan Return to In-Person Instruction & Continuity of Services is available both online and as a printable PDF.



Our mission

is to be a progressive, high-quality school system that connects students and their families to a caring, traditional community.



MAINTAINING HEALTH AND SAFETY



- Unless mandated by a government entity, facial coverings will be optional for students, faculty, staff and visitors.
- Classroom and common spaces will return to pre-COVID configurations and procedures.
- Athens City Schools will partner with parents in educating students on the importance of thorough hand washing and hygiene.
- Hand sanitizer will be provided throughout the buildings.
- School custodial staff will continue to clean and disinfect classrooms, bathrooms, cafeterias, and other high traffic areas using recommended sanitizing supplies.
- Parents should monitor children at home for fever and COVID-19 symptoms (please see the CDC list of symptoms).
- In the event students begin to show symptoms of COVID-19 while at school, they will be sent to a quarantine area until a parent picks them up.
- Students with a fever of 100.4 or greater should not come to school, and must be fever free for at least 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medications before returning to school.
- Teachers and staff who have symptoms should stay home and refer to their healthcare provider for testing and care.
- The Superintendent (or designee) will develop, and amend as necessary, procedures based on current guidance from local and state government and health officials.
- Athens City Schools will collaborate with local health officials to provide information related to free vaccination clinics as well as free COVID-19 testing sites.
- Appropriate accommodations for students and staff with disabilities will be made in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and other pertinent laws and safety policies.
- Food services will return to pre-COVID routines.
- Refillable water bottles are encouraged as some water fountains will be unavailable.



CONTINUITY OF SERVICES

- Students will attend school five days a week for in-person, face-to-face instruction at our traditional schools. Remote learning will not be offered at these schools.
- Students desiring remote learning must apply to Athens Renaissance School. Enrollment is not guaranteed.
- Athens City Schools will work diligently to provide after-school and summer services to ensure students have opportunities to master any standards they may have missed.
- Social emotional learning activities will be connected to the ACS Portrait of a Graduate.
- Grade level and content area meetings will be held in schools to look at student work and other data to assess the academic needs of students and adjust instruction.
- Professional learning opportunities will be provided that focus on the whole individual to empower students for success now and in the future.
- Students in PK-5th will have access to devices in every classroom.
- Students in grades 6th - 12th will have the opportunity to secure an iPad to utilize during school and at home.

COMMUNICATIONS

- The ACS In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Service Plan will be posted on the Athens City Schools District Website and communicated to students, staff, parents and the community via email, text, and social media.
- The ACS In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Service Plan will be reviewed every three months by the ILT to ensure it remains relevant and meets regulatory requirements. Revisions will be made as necessary.
- Public comment was sought and taken into consideration.
- The ACS In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Service Plan is provided in an understandable and universal format. This document can be provided in an alternative format as requested.



EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

Athens City Schools is an equal opportunity provider.

ACS NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

Regarding educational opportunities: It is the policy of the Athens City Board of Education not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, religion, or marital status in the education programs, activities or employment, and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following person has been appointed to coordinate compliance efforts: Title IX/Section 504/ADA – Mrs. Dimika Cummings 256.233.6600.

USDA NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English. To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027) found online at: http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, D.C., 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.