Breathitt County Schools

COVID-19 Operations Plan

Safe Return to In-Person Instruction Plan

"Graduates Prepared for College, Career, and Community"

In order to ensure the health and safety of our students, our employees, and their families during the 2026-27 school year, the Breathitt County School District will utilize guidelines set forth by the local health department, CDC, the Governor's office, and the Kentucky Department of Education.

Students benefit from in-person learning, and safely returning to in-person instruction is a priority. The first day for students was August 6, 2026.

The following procedures will be put into place to ensure the health and safety of our students, staff, and community:

- **SAFETY**
  - All eligible students, teachers, staff, and household members are encouraged to get a COVID-19 vaccination.
  - Students, teachers, staff who have a fever and/or symptoms of COVID-19 should remain at home.
  - Air purification systems are in place in all schools and classrooms.
  - Masks will be optional for all students and staff while indoors and on the bus.
  - Visitors to school facilities will follow the same masking guidelines as students and staff.
  - Masks are not required while outdoors.
  - While in classrooms, students will be seated 3 feet apart when possible.
  - Each school will follow procedures for cleaning and disinfecting the facility regularly.
  - Hand sanitizer will be readily available in all school facilities.
  - The schools and district will continue to work with the local health department to facilitate case investigation and contact tracing.

Due to the changing nature of COVID-19, it is possible that current plans related to a resurgence in cases may change. Updates will be provided throughout the year via our district webpage, district Facebook page, e-mail, and the ParentSquare calling service. If you have not updated your contact information at your child's school, please do so at your earliest convenience so that we can ensure that you receive the most current information.

Breathitt County Schools

Continuity of Services Plan

"Graduates Prepared for College, Career, and Community"

In the event of a resurgence of COVID-19 cases during the 2026-27 school year, the Breathitt County School District will utilize guidelines set forth by the local health department, CDC, the Governor's office and the Kentucky Department of Education.

In the event of a resurgence of COVID-19 cases that impact school in Breathitt County, the following procedures will be put into place to ensure the health and safety of our students, staff, and community:

- **SAFETY**
  - All eligible students, teachers, staff, and household members are encouraged to get a COVID-19 vaccination.
  - Students, teachers, staff who have a fever and/or symptoms of COVID-19 should remain at home.
  - Air purification systems are in place in all schools and classrooms.
  - Masks will be optional for all students and staff while indoors and on the bus.
  - Visitors to school facilities will follow the same masking guidelines as students and staff.
  - While in classrooms, students will be seated 3 feet apart when possible.
  - Each school will follow procedures for cleaning and disinfecting the facility regularly.
  - Hand sanitizer will be readily available in all school facilities.
  - The schools and district will continue to work with the local health department to facilitate case investigation and contact tracing.
- **INSTRUCTION**
  - Students will attend all classes using the Google Classroom and Google Meet platforms during intermittent district closures. (NTI day)
  - In the event that a resurgence of COVID-19 cases results in reduced capacity at the schools, students and families will have the following options:
    - **Virtual Learning Academy option** utilizing evidence-based digital programs. Students will receive online support from teachers with the virtual learning academy option. (Pending waiver approval by the Breathitt Board of Education.)
    - **Performance Based Virtual option** for grades 5-12 utilizing evidence-based digital programs. Students will receive online support from teachers with the virtual learning academy option.

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