

DEKALB'S ONWARD AND UPWARD STRATEGY TO RE-OPEN SCHOOLS 2020-2021

SEPTEMBER 14, 2020 COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MRS. CHERYL WATSON-HARRIS, SUPERINTENDENT



PURPOSE To describe when and how school will re-open considering the current health guidance and feedback from the community

 To present the strategic actions for ensuring the safety and well-being of staff, students, and families



OVERVIEW OF PRESENTATION

- I. Decision-Making Guidance
 - A. Guidance from Georgia Department of Education (GADOE) and Department of Public Health
 - B. Level of Community Spread Based on DeKalb Board of Health's Metrics
 - C. COVID-19 Trend Data
 - D. DSCD's Decision-Making Guidance Chart
- II. Phases I-V Plan for Re-Opening Schools Face-to-Face
- III. Plan for Re-Opening Schools Face-to-Face Updates from Task Force
 - A. Operations (Safety, Building Environmental, Cleaning, Transportation, and Classroom Layouts)
 - B. Food Nutrition (Meal Service Models)
 - Curriculum and Instruction (Resuming in-person Services for Exceptional Education, 504, and English Learners)
 - D. Information Technology
 - E. Student and Family Support
 - F. Human Resources
 - G. Athletics and (Including Marching Band, Auxiliary Groups, and JROTC)
- IV. Next Steps



COVID-19 RE-OPENING TASK FORCE (CRTF)

Mrs. Cheryl Watson-Harris, Superintendent

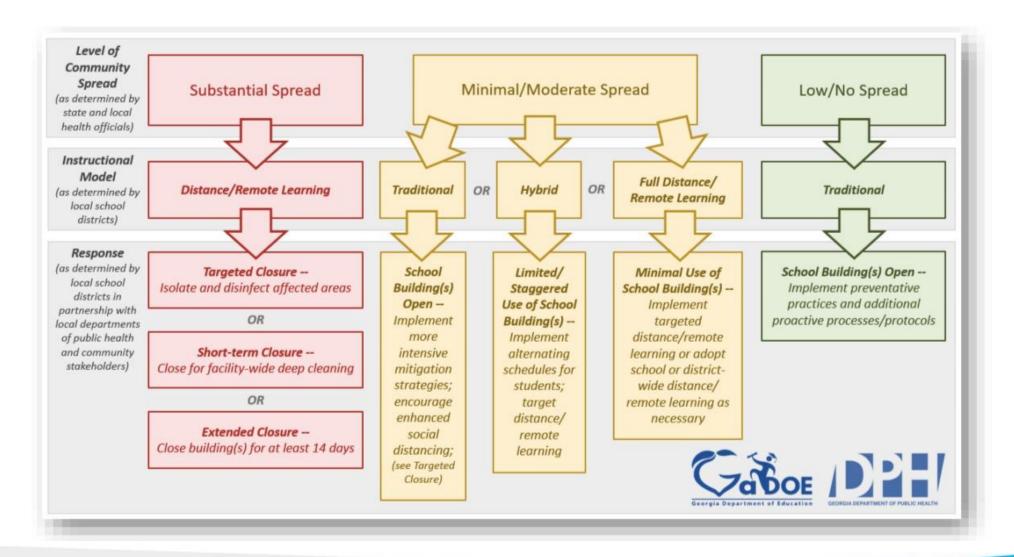
- Dr. Vasanne Tinsley,
 Student Support and
 Intervention
- Ms. Stacy Stepney,
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- Dr. Connie Walker, School Nutrition
- Ms. Monika Davis,Information Technology
- Mr. Noel Maloof,Facilities and Operations
- Dr. Linda Frazer,
 Accountability

- Mr. Antwyn Brown, Superintendent's Office/Communications
- Dr. Deborah Moore-Sanders,
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- Mrs. JoAnn Harris,
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SCHOOL DISTRICT DECISION TREE LEVELS OF COMMUNITY SPREAD AND LEARNING MODELS





LEVELS OF COMMUNITY SPREAD

DATA DESCRIPTION

Confirmed COVID-19 cases includes all cases of COVID-19 reported to DPH and confirmed with a molecular (PCR) laboratory test. As cases continue to be investigated and data quality checks are performed, the data in this report are subject to change.

County indicates case county of residence.

14-Day incidence rate indicates newly reported confirmed COVID-19 cases among county residents per 100,000 residents during the 14- day period indicated, using 2018 U.S. Census data to derive county population.

COVID-19 Transmission Levels

Substantial Spread: greater than 100 cases per 100,000 county residents

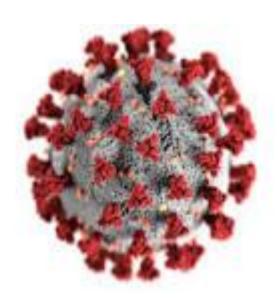
Minimal/Moderate Spread: 6-100 cases per 100,000 county residents

No/Low Spread: 1-5 cases per 100,000 county residents

Insufficient Data: rates cannot be accurately calculated for Counties with <5 cases. These counties may have low levels of transmission, but may be affected by other factors such as levels of COVID-19 testing. Counties in this category should consider other factors affecting the school district, including the transmission category of surrounding counties.

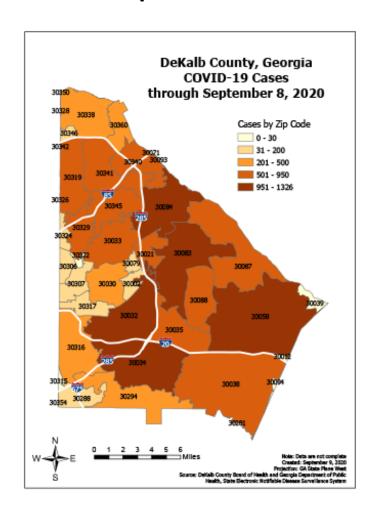


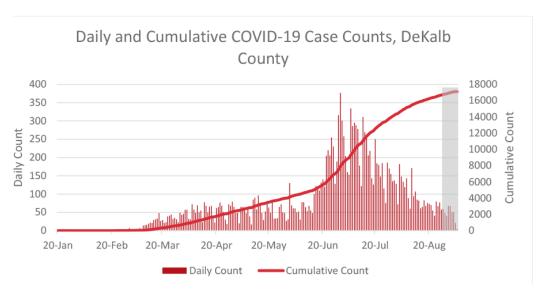
COVID 19: A GLOBAL PANDEMIC



- CDC recognizes the importance of returning to school
- Decisions have been carefully considered given the magnitude and gravity of COVID-19 and school closure since March 16, 2020
- Cross-divisional plans have been developed for a safe return to school
- Guidance from Georgia
 Department of Public Health and DeKalb Board of Health regarding reporting and quarantine

DEKALB COUNTY COVID-19 CASES (SOURCE: DEKALB BOARD OF HEALTH)





GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH/ DEKALB BOARD OF HEALTH

Georgia Department of Public Health's Data as of SEPTEMBER 12, 2020

- Confirmed Cases 17,477 (+9333 since July 11, 2020)
- Number of DeKalb County Residents 793,154
- Cases per 100,000 DeKalb County Residents 2203.48
- Cases per 100,000 for 14-day period 122
- Deaths per 100,000 DeKalb County Residents 42.2
- Total Deaths 335 (+154 since July 11, 2020)



GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH/ DEKALB BOARD OF HEALTH

Georgia Department of Public Health's Data as of July BOARD Meeting

- Confirmed Cases 8144 (+171 since July 10, 2020)
- Number of DeKalb County Residents 793,154
- Cases per 100,000 DeKalb County Residents 1026.79
- Deaths per 100,000 DeKalb County Residents 22.8
- Total Deaths 181 (+4 since July 10, 2020)



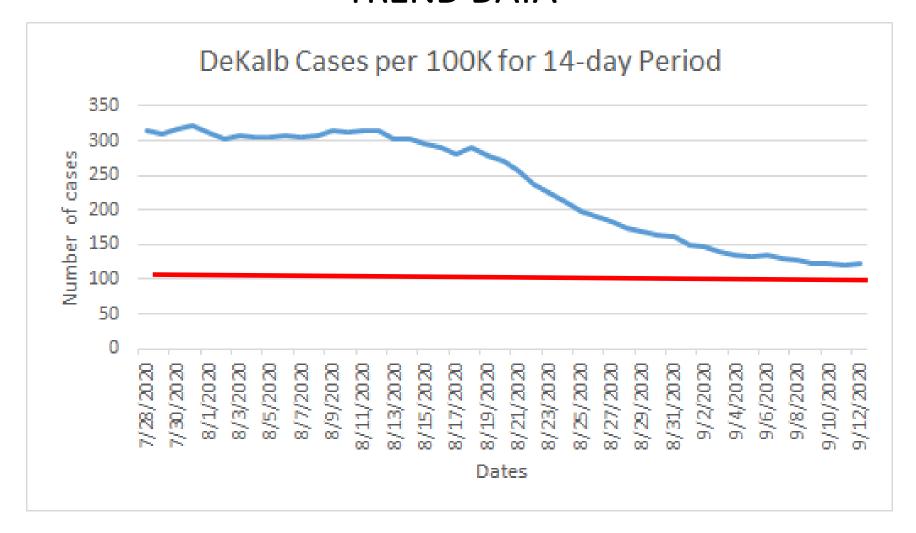
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TREND DATA





DCSD'S DECISION-MAKING GUIDANCE

LEVEL OF COMMUNITY SPREAD (BASED ON COVID-19 DATA)	SPREAD	INSTRUCTIONAL DELIVERY IMPACT	
Surge in Covid-19 cases in DeKalb County to reach 'Substantial' category	>100 cases per 100K for 14-day period	Distance/Remote learning	
Consistent number of Covid-19 cases in DeKalb County to reach 'Minimal/Moderate' category	6-100 cases per 100K for 14-day period	Option: Hybrid A/B day with transition to traditional learning model if health conditions improve	
		Option: Hybrid A/B day with transition to distance/ remote learning model if health conditions decline	
Steady decline in the number of COVID-19 cases in DeKalb County to reach 'Low/No Spread' Category	1-5 cases per 100K for 14-day period	Traditional learning	
School-based staff member or student tests positive for COVID-19	1 case within school	Targeted impact on school and/or classroom which could include transition to distance/remote learning for a period of time	
School-based staff member or student exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19		Staff member or student will be immediately isolated, and the District will follow guidance from the Georgia Department of Public Health, DeKalb Public Health and CDC.	



RE-OPENING PRIORITY: SAFETY AND WELL-BEING

Risk Level as of September 14th - Substantial

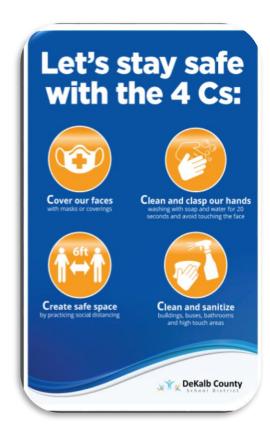
LEVEL OF SPREAD	RECOMMENDED DCSD INSTRUCTIONAL MODEL	GUIDANCE BASED UPON
Low/No Spread	Traditional Learning	
		Health Guidelines
Minimal/Moderate Spread	Traditional Learning Hybrid Learning	Data
	Distance/Remote Learning	Local and State Collaboration
Culturation Company	Distance /Demote Leavin	Resources
Substantial Spread	Distance/Remote Learning	



PHASE 1 17 – October 2 0 cases per (for 14-day period ance/Remote rking for Staff	PHASE 2 October 5 – 16 6 - 100 cases per 100K for 14-day period Hybrid Working	PHASE 3 October 19 – November 6 6 - 100 cases per 100K for 14-day period	PHASE 4 November 9 – 20 6 - 100 cases per 100K for 14-day period	PHASE 5 November 30 – December 18 1-5 cases per 100K		
2 0 cases per (for 14-day period	6 - 100 cases per 100K for 14-day period	November 6 <u>6 - 100 cases per</u>	6 - 100 cases per 100K	December 18 1-5 cases per 100K		
V for 14-day period ance/Remote	100K for 14-day period					
	Hybrid Working			for 14-day period		
s of Distance/ te Working with	Environment for Staff (2 Weeks) 2 Days of Face-to-Face 3 Days of Distance Remote	Traditional Working Environment for Staff • 5 Days of Face-to-Face	Traditional Working Environment for Staff 5 Days of Face-to-Face	Traditional Working Environment for Staff 5 Days of Face-to-Face		
Distance/Remote Learning Student Option Available In phases 3-5, parents/guardians may choose for their child(ren) to continue school-based, distance/remote learning with the option to transition to face-to-face instruction at the end of the 4.5 week grading intervals.						
Distance/Remote Learning for Students • 5 Days of Distance/Remote Learning per Week Distance/Remote				Traditional Learning Environment 5 Days of Face-to-Face		
1	ce/Remote	Distance/Remote Learning per Week October 15-16 1 Day of Face-to-Face Instruction for 2 nd , 6 th , and 9 th graders only	ce/Remote ng per Week October 15-16 1 Day of Face-to-Face Instruction for 2 nd , 6 th , and 9 th graders only Oistance/Remote Learning per Week 1 Days of Distance/Remote Learning per Week 1 Day of Virtual Student Independent Learning Appointments Schedu	Distance/Remote ng per Week October 15-16 1 Day of Face-to-Face Instruction for 2 nd , 6 th , and Distance/Remote Learning per Week 1 Days of Distance/Remote Learning per Week 1 Days of Distance/Remote Learning per Week 1 Day of Virtual Student Independent Learning 1 Days of Distance/Remote Learning per Week 1 Day of Virtual Student Independent Learning		

SAFETY

- Providing signage to support safety practices:
 - Wear a face covering (masks only) when in schools and facilities
 - Practice social distancing 6 feet away from others
 - Wash hands and/or sanitize hands often
 - Directional cues
 - The "4 Cs"
- Public use of buildings are limited until schools are fully open (Phase 5)
- Facilities Use Agreements will include safety and cleaning protocols (once permitted to use facilities)
- Providing communications to parents about how to support safety in schools





BUILDING ENVIRONMENTAL



HVAC

- Adjusted to increase ventilation in accordance with CDC and industry recommendations
- Perform quarterly filter changes
- Quarterly preventative maintenance schedules
- Corrective maintenance priorities:
 HVAC and Plumbing
- Installing plexiglass partitions at reception desks and public facing workspaces
- Providing hand sanitizer dispensers in schools at high traffic areas
- Installing bottle fill stations in schools
- Flushing water systems regularly



CLEANING

- Providing schools with guidance for cleaning prior and after re-entry to buildings aligned with CDC and DPH guidance
- Providing technical assistance for schools to execute cleaning protocols, plan custodial schedules, and provide tutorials and educational materials for cleaning products and machinery
- Increased inventory of cleaning and disinfection products, hand soap, and paper goods
- Implemented mandatory cleaning protocols that involve frequent enhanced cleaning of high touch areas using district provided cleaning supplies and explicit instructions for disinfecting
- Requiring faculty and staff to clean office areas, workspaces, and equipment after use with disinfectant spray or wipes



TRANSPORTATION

- Requiring face coverings and face shields for drivers and bus monitors
- Requiring face coverings for students
- Implementing regular routing schedules
- Alternating dismissal and loading of buses (dismiss bus riders separately to reduce the number of students in hallways and spaces)
- Enhancing safety and cleaning protocols for buses before, during and after routes
- Implementing protocol for increasing fresh air on buses (opening windows)
- Placing hand sanitizer on buses
- Providing communications to parents-safety at bus stop





CLASSROOMS

- Developed the Capacity Modeling-Guidance and Classroom Layout Modeling-Guidance for schools in alignment with CDC and DPH
- Provided guidance and illustrations of how a building may be set up for student flow to promote social/physical distancing
- Targeting 12-16 students per classroom as practical
- Alternating and assigned seating
 - Reduce the number of students using each space
 - Reduce the need for constant cleaning
 - Easier for contact tracing

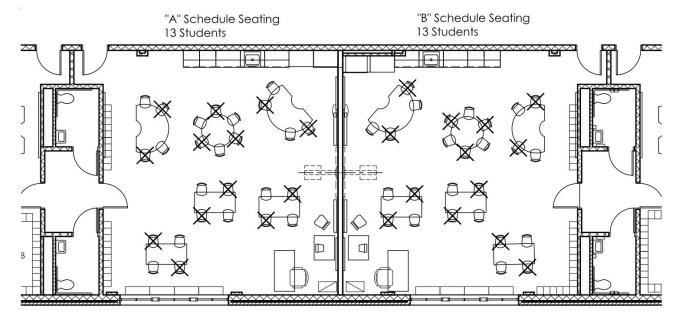




CLASSROOM LAYOUT

TABLES

- Tables arranged considering space
- Students facing forward
- Students occupy every other seat
- Furniture remains

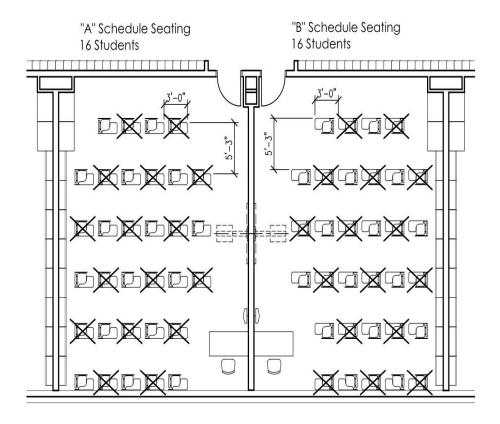




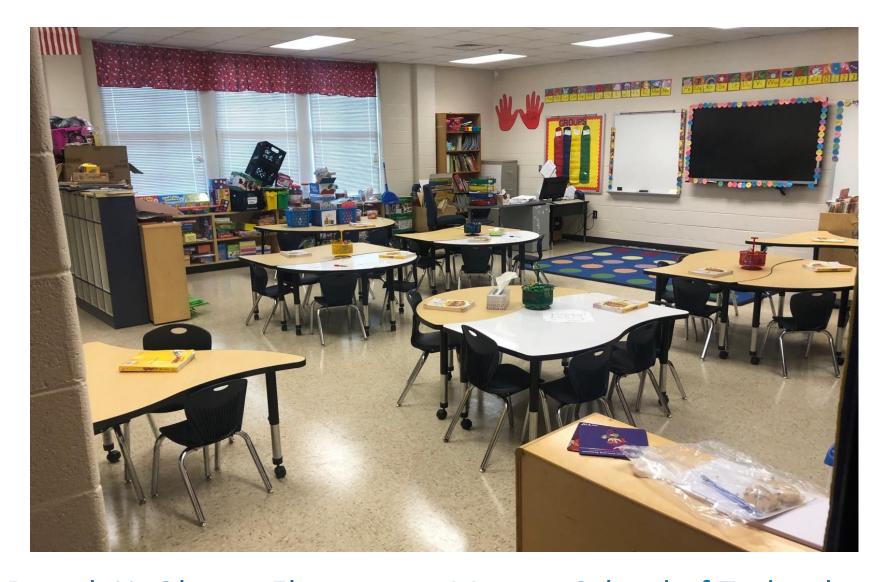
CLASSROOM LAYOUT

DESKS

- Desks arranged in rows
- Students facing forward
- Students occupy every other seat
- Furniture remains





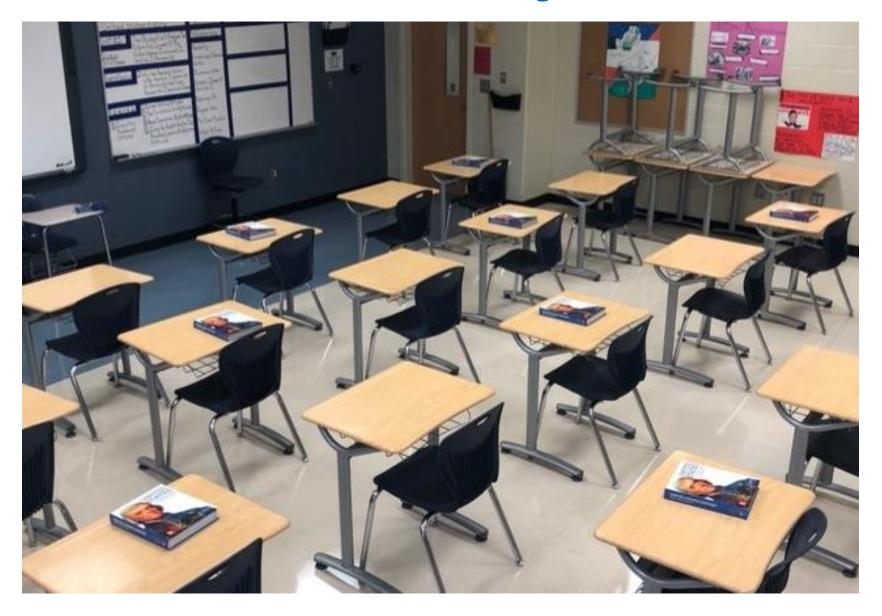


Barack H. Obama Elementary Magnet School of Technology

Barack H. Obama Elementary Magnet School of Technology



Southwest DeKalb High School





Southwest DeKalb High School

MEAL SERVICE MODELS

Level of Community Spread	Substantial Spread	Minimal/Moderate Spread	Low/No Spread
Meal Service Plan	Grab and Go Meals	Combination Meal Service & Grab and Go Meals	Combination Meal Service (More Cafeteria Usage)

Combination Meal Service Model

- Each school will develop a staggered schedule for students entering the cafeteria to receive breakfast, lunch and snack.
- Students will enter the cafeteria, go through the serving line, select their meal and return to the classroom.
- Selected classrooms may be designated to eat in the cafeteria with areas marked off for social distancing.

Menus

- Breakfast and Lunch will consist of hot and Grab and Go options for all grade levels.
- Grab and Go take home meals will be offered during the hybrid rotating schedule.



MEAL SERVICE MODELS

Meal Accountability (Elementary School)

 Bar codes will be printed at the school level and scanned. Student ID numbers may be communicated and entered in the point of sale system by the cashier.

Meal Accountability (Middle & High School)

• Student ID numbers communicated by students and entered in the point of sale system by the cashier. Parents or students can log into the SchoolCafe app on their iOS or Android device and present the barcode to the cashier. Bar codes will be scanned from the student ID number.

Meals will be charged based on eligibility status. Prepayments are strongly encouraged. If students bring cash for their meal, no change will be given. All change will be applied to their lunch account for the next day. Parents or students can log into the SchoolCafe app on their iOS or Android devise and present the barcode to the cashier at the time of meal service.

Safety

- Face masks, gloves, and sanitizer will be provided to School Nutrition employees and for student usage near charge station.
- A sanitizer station will be placed in each cafeteria.
- Trays will be discarded in large receptacles and removed by custodial staff.



CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION



John R. Lewis Elementary School

- Divide classes into halves to create groups by last name (Note: Exceptions granted at school level for siblings with different last names and to balance class rosters)
- Facilitate daily instruction simultaneously in face-to-face and virtual LIVE formats
- Conduct virtual LIVE lessons through Microsoft Teams, Zoom, or Google Meet
- Provide in person services (speech, physical therapy, occupational therapy, and behavioral support) at the school for special education students and 504 students on hybrid days
- Conduct comprehensive evaluations in person
- Resume hearing and vision screenings
- Re-screen students in grades 1-12 with the Standard WIDA Screener



CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION

OCTOBER 19 – NOVEMBER 6, 2020						
HYBRID MODEL ONE DAY PER WEEK						
Elementary/Middle/High (Traditional)	Face-to-Face	Virtual Remote				
Cohort A1 (Alpha Order Split)	Monday	Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday				
Cohort A2 (Alpha Order Split)	Thursday	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday				
Cohort B1 (Alpha Order Split)	Tuesday	Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday				
Cohort B2 (Alpha Order Split)	Friday	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday				
Middle and High (Block)	Face-to-Face	Virtual Remote				
Cohort A (Alpha Order Split)	Monday	Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday				
Cohort B (Alpha Order Split)	Tuesday	Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday				
Cohort C (Alpha Order Split)	Thursday	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday				
Cohort D (Alpha Order Split)	Friday	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday				



CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION

NOVEMBER 9- 20, 2020				
HYBRID MODEL TWO DAYS PER WEEK:				
SPLIT-WEEK ROTATION BY COHORT				
Elementary/Middle/	Face-to-Face	Virtual Remote		
High				
Cohort A	Monday and	Wednesday, Thursday, and		
(Alpha Order Split)	Tuesday	Friday		
Cohort B	Thursday and	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday		
(Alpha Order Split)	Friday			

Note: Hybrid One Day and Two Days Models - Independent Learning & Small Groups on Wednesdays



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

What We Have Done

- Completed two phases of a three-phase device distribution plan with over 59,423 devices being distributed to students
- Provided internet connectivity options (hot spots) to over 1070 households.
- 90% of students have logged into LaunchPad student portal
- Resolved over 16,000 Support Tickets since August 10, 2020
- Repaired over 3558 Chromebooks since March 16, 2020

Challenges and Lessons Learned

 Continue to partner with schools to triage and resolve student technology issues (Digital Learning Teams)





INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Next Steps

- Determine how technology supports hybrid learning/work protocols and expectations (internet and device will need to be considered)
- Communicate which devices will be allowable to support virtual learning
- Configure network infrastructure to handle additional devices and non-DCSD devices (Bring Your Own Device - BYOD)
- Assess need for headsets to use devices in schools
- Purchase web cameras and provide alternatives to facilitate LIVE sessions daily
- Enhance support model to provide multiple levels and options for support
- Activate phone forwarding and soft phones for call centers







Student Support and Intervention staff will provide:

- Virtual check-ins for student safety during hybrid
- Interpretation and translation support to ensure home-school connection, student success and engagement
- Lessons on COVID19 safety precautions delivered by student health staff
- Mental health/wellness support for students, families and school staff (DCSD Cares...Take Care of You, wellness tips, newsletters, employee assistance program information, virtual training opportunities)
- Small group and individual counseling sessions on topics such as organization skills, managing feelings and other social-emotional supports as well as advisement sessions to ensure that students remain engaged and on track
- Virtual workshop modules addressing various topics to support students and families (navigating the virtual classroom, trauma awareness, self-care)
- Partnership with Atlanta Community Food Bank (McNair MS, Chapel Hill MS, Sequoyah MS, Woodward ES, and Clarkston HS) to support nutrition needs
- Partnership opportunities welcomed- DCSD website banner: HOW CAN I HELP

P CHARITIES

HUMAN RESOURCES: Health Protection Protocols

The health and wellness of students and staff remain a top priority of the DeKalb County School District. As **10-month**, **11-month**, **and 12-month** personnel begin to return to worksites, all will be required to follow recommended guidelines for the workplace from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Georgia Department of Public Health, and the DeKalb County Department of Public Health, as well as the Georgia Department of Education, CDC guidelines as follows:

- Employees must wear face coverings
- Frequently wash hands or use hand sanitizer
- Practice social distancing
- Stay home if you are sick





HUMAN RESOURCES: Leave Flow Emergency Paid Sick Leave (EPSL) COVID-19 Related -**Families First** Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) **Expanded Family** Medical Leave (EFML) **Requesting Leave** Standard DCSD Non-COVID-19 Related **Procedures**



ATHLETICS (Including Marching Band, Auxiliary Groups, and JROTC)

We realize the impact of COVID19 on families and the community. We will implement a phase in approach to allow athletic and extra-curricular activity to return. This is voluntary and for those committed to return. There is no mandate for students or coaches to participate. We will continually monitor data and adjust the following plan, as necessary.

Metrics Utilized to Determine a Safe Return for Athletics

- Data reviewed from the DeKalb County Board of Health report dated September 10, 2020 shows a steady decline over the last 14 days in COVID related deaths, hospitalizations and cases.
- The COVID-19 test positivity rate for DeKalb Athletics since July 1, 2020 is 0.5982% (18/3009 athletes and coaches). The COVID-19 test positivity rate for DeKalb Athletics for the last 14 days is 0.0997% (3/3009 athletes and coaches).

Data Set (9/10/2020)	DeKalb Athletics
Confirmed Cases	18
Number of DeKalb Athletes and Coaches	3009
Percentage of Cases per Total Athletic Count Since July 1, 2020	0.5982%
Number of Cases in Last 14 Days	3



ATHLETICS (Including Marching Band, Auxiliary Groups, and JROTC)

Recommendation that students be allowed to return to active participation and/or competition on October 1, 2020.

	Conditioning Period	Active Practice Period	Intra District Scrimmages	First Date of Competition		Number of Competitions	Number of Teams Competing
Cross Country	August 17- September 14	September 15- September 30	September 26th	October 3rd	October 31st	2 to 3	16
Cheer	August 17- September 14	September 15- September 30	N/A	October 2nd	November 21st	6 to 8	18
Football	August 17- September 14	September 15- September 30	September 24- September 26	October 2nd	November 21st	6 to 8	18
Volleyball	August 17- September 14	September 15- September 30	September 23- September 30	October 1st	October 17th	5 to 7	11
Softball	August 17- September 14	September 15- September 30	September 23- September 30	October 1st	October 16th	5 to 7	11



ATHLETICS (Including Marching Band, Auxiliary Groups, and JROTC)

Recommendation that students be allowed to return to active participation and/or competition.

Group	Virtual Conditioning Period	POD Practice Conditioning	After School Practice (Hybrid) Two Days/Week	First Date of Competition
Marching Band	August 17- September 14	September 15 – October 2	October 5	October 9
Auxiliary	August 17- September 14	September 15 – October 2	October 5	October 9
JROTC	August 17- September 14	September 15 – October 2	October 5	October 9

POD Practice (20 students total)

- September 15-17 POD Planning (Administrators, Band Directors, JROTC Commanders, Parents and Students)
- 1 adult per 20 students (maintaining social distancing requirements)

After School Practice (20 total)

- 1 adult per 20 students (maintaining social distancing requirements)
- Maximum of 63 (3 adults and 60 students) on the field or drill pad



ATHLETICS (Including Marching Band, Auxiliary Groups, and JROTC)

Safety During Practices and Competitions

Schools will continue to mitigate exposures by:

- Maintaining social distancing during practices and while not on the field/court of play
- Requiring masks/face coverings for everyone
- Washing hands before and after practices and competitions
- Using hand sanitizer at each water break
- Reducing or eliminating sharing of common equipment





ATHLETICS (Including Marching Band, Auxiliary Groups, and JROTC)

Game Day Operations

- Face masks/coverings will be worn
- •Transportation will follow Operations bus guidelines
- Sideline benches/staff will be positioned for social distancing
- •Enhanced cleaning/disinfecting of facilities, including locker rooms, between and after competitions
- Uniforms

Phase In Considerations (After Initial Return)

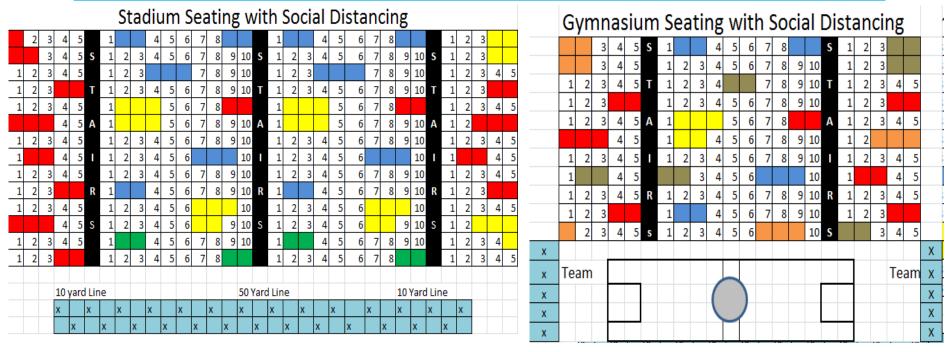
- Concessions (pre-packaged items)
- Spectators (based on each stadium/school gym capacity)
- Cashless purchases of tickets
- Band and auxiliary activities
- •JROTC participation

Plan is fluid and subject to change.





ATHLETICS (Including Marching Band, Auxiliary Groups, and JROTC)



- The models are presented for consideration if spectators are allowed.
- In stadiums, teams will spread out from the 10-yard line to the 10-yard line (instead of 30 to 30) to allow for social distancing. Gymnasiums will position teams at opposite ends of the court/sideline instead of next to each other. Party size and seat availability will dictate where fans sit. Fan safety and social distancing are top priorities. Color clusters would indicate family members sitting together.



COVID-19 RE-OPENING TASK FORCE (CRTF)

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- Mrs. Pamela Benford, Region VI
- Dr. Rodney Swanson, Region VII



NEXT STEPS

- Analyze the stakeholders' input from the Reopening Survey to adequately prepare for the return of staff and students
- Expand COVID19 Re-Entry Team to include external medical partners
- Continue monitoring of COVID19 positive cases (county and districtwide)
- Continue solicitation of partners- HOW CAN I HELP (banner on district website)
- Engage focus groups including administrators and staff (school and district level)
- Communicate with families of students who choose to continue with schoolbased, distance remote learning
- Schedule Open House for students in Pre-Kindergarten, Kindergarten, 6th grade and 9th grade
- Continue administration of the Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) to identify areas of improvement (addressing specific learning loss)
- Implement Phase III of Distribution Plan (Chromebook tablets)
- Provide parents and community information on how to support safety in schools and on buses







The Superintendent reserves the right to modify all aforementioned guidance based upon current information from the Governor's office, Georgia Department of Education, Georgia Department of Public Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and DeKalb County Board of Health.