



Jefferson City Schools

COVID-19 Operational Guidelines

2021-2022

In an effort to promote the safety and well-being of our students and staff, the Jefferson City School System has developed the following guidelines in order to comply with recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Georgia Department of Public Health, and the Georgia Department of Education. The following guidelines are subject to change, based on updated guidance, recommendations, best practices from the aforementioned agencies and organizations and changing needs of the school district. Any changes to these guidelines will be continually evaluated and clearly communicated to all stakeholders.

It is our goal to provide a safe and healthy learning environment for our students and staff through enhanced safety procedures and protocols; therefore, non-essential visitors, volunteers, and activities involving outside organizations will be limited at this time. Communication between school and home, as well as parent/guardian involvement, are critical aspects of a child's overall well-being and educational experience. In order to maintain a safe environment and uphold the commitment to family engagement, the school system will continue to pursue opportunities for virtual activities, such as Open House, Curriculum Night, and Parent Conferences when possible and if needed.

The primary COVID-19 point of contact will be the school nurse. Please monitor your child for symptoms of infectious illness every day through home-based symptom screening, and keep your child home if he/she is sick.

General Guidelines

- Students and staff should adhere to the following, to the extent possible:
 - Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer when soap and water are not available;
 - Avoid touching eyes, nose, and mouth;
 - Avoid contact with people who are sick;
 - Stay home when sick; and
 - Cough or sneeze into a tissue, or elbow, to cover it and throw the tissue in the trash.
- Students and staff should maintain social distancing, when feasible.
- Students are encouraged to bring their own water bottles. Water fountains will only be used for refilling bottles.
- Students and staff are encouraged to wear cloth or disposable face coverings, especially if not fully vaccinated.
- Disposable face coverings will be available for those who request them.

Building Guidelines

- Outdoor recess will continue, but the number of students gathered in one area may be limited. Guidelines for social distancing will be maintained to the extent possible.
- Custodial and other staff will be assigned to specifically and routinely clean and disinfect, especially frequently touched surfaces. This includes, but is not limited to, tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, office phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, and sinks.
- Ventilation systems will be monitored regularly to ensure proper operation and increased circulation of outdoor air as much as possible. All HVAC filters will be changed, and all HVAC systems will be flushed with outside air prior to the new school year. All water systems will be flushed prior to the new school year.

Classroom Guidelines

- Students will be encouraged to physically distance whenever feasible.
- Individual student supplies should not be shared. Classroom supplies that are shared will be cleaned and disinfected routinely. The sharing of items that are difficult to clean will be discouraged.
- Teachers will regularly wipe desks and high contact areas (e.g., doorknobs, backs of chairs) to the extent possible and feasible.
- All classrooms will be equipped with cleaning kits for use throughout the day.

School Nutrition Guidelines

- Traffic patterns will be defined, and students in serving lines should maintain social distancing as much as possible.
- Hand sanitizing stations will be available in the cafeterias.
- Outdoor and other seating options will be utilized as needed.

Transportation Guidelines

- Buses will be cleaned daily and disinfected routinely.
- Students and bus drivers are encouraged to wear cloth or disposable face coverings, especially if not fully vaccinated.
- Disposable face coverings will be available for those who request them.

Technology Guidelines

- All devices will be cleaned and disinfected regularly with a solution consisting of at least 60% alcohol and water.
- Chromebooks will be assigned to students in order to limit sharing of devices as much as feasible.
- Students in grades 3-12 are required to provide their own headphones and/or earbuds. Students in grades PK-2 will be provided with headphones that will be wiped with appropriate cleaner between users.

Extracurricular Guidelines

- All athletics will adhere to guidelines provided by the Georgia High School Association.
- All other extracurricular activities will follow guidelines set forth in this document.