

## **Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan**

Fayette County Public Schools is committed to welcoming everyone back to school in-person this August and ensuring that our students experience all the joys and advantages of being together on campus with classmates and caring adults. Experiences from the past year have proven that our district can safely provide in-person instruction and minimize the potential spread of COVID-19 when proper precautions – including layers of prevention strategies – are implemented with fidelity.

Guidance documents and public statements from the Kentucky Department for Public Health, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, American Association of Pediatrics, Kentucky Department of Education, and Kentucky's governor affirm the critical importance of in-person learning and urge local school districts to prioritize face-to-face instruction by adopting and enforcing multiple mitigation measures.

Based on these expert recommendations, FCPS has developed its COVID-19 Health and Safety Procedures in partnership with the Lexington-Fayette County Health Department. As conditions change or state and national guidance is updated, these protocols may be adjusted.

During the 2021-22 school year, Fayette County Public Schools will offer in-person instruction for all students at all schools. Districtwide or school-based remote learning would only be considered if advised by medical professionals, required under orders from the governor, mandated by the Kentucky Department of Education, or compelled by extraordinary circumstances.

While students will be returning to in-person learning for the 2021-22 school year and school-based virtual learning is not available, there may be times when schools will need to provide virtual learning for quarantined students.

In collaboration with families and employees, and in consultation with its School-Based Decision Making Council, each school will review the FCPS COVID-19 Health and Safety Procedures and ensure all prevention strategies are consistently followed and plans are developed to ensure continuity of learning for students quarantining after possible exposure.