

 FAYETTE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

2020 – 2021



*Reenvisioning,
Reimagining and
Renewing*

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Message from the Superintendent

The advent of COVID-19 has drastically changed the landscape in which we operate, but it has not changed our core values. The health and safety of our students and staff has always been a top priority for the Fayette County Public Schools, and this pandemic has only underscored the importance of taking care of one another above all else.

After it became apparent that we would be unable to return to campus last spring, we assembled a task force of students, families, teachers, principals and district leaders to begin developing plans for the 2020-2021 school year. This team has worked tirelessly since, staying abreast of constantly evolving state guidance, pushing each other to think critically and creatively, and drawing on the best available information from public health officials, scientists, and educational researchers.

They approached the question of what the 2020-21 school year will look like through the lens of the cornerstone beliefs that guide all decisions for our district: Students first. Victory is in the classroom. Leadership, capacity building, shared accountability and collaboration for results are keys to success. Families are our partners. It takes an entire community to ensure the success of our public schools.

Pre-K through 12 education has long focused on “the three R’s.” The task force continued that focus with a twist in which the three R’s became Reenvisioning, Reimagining and Renewing. Their work has been challenging and complex as they have discussed and evaluated several possible models for reopening schools, considering implications for academic instruction, supplies and materials, student support, family engagement, extra-curricular and co-curricular activities, facilities, transportation, food service, cleaning, health and screening protocols, human resources, and communications.

FCPS has examined the pros and cons of face-to-face in-person instruction, distance or virtual learning, and a blend of both approaches. We have listened to the voices of our students, employees and families, gathering feedback about the district’s response last spring, and input about possible scenarios for the upcoming school year.

In the end, we recognize that there is no single instructional plan to address the individual needs of our students, accommodate the individual concerns of our employees, respond to the individual circumstances of our families, and support the collective success of our community.

Nothing is more important than the lives of our students, employees and families, and any decision that does not begin by acknowledging the fluid nature of COVID-19 will fall short. Arrangements that appear safe one day could be dangerous the next, depending upon on the rise or decline of cases in our community, state and nation.

To that end, we have devised a plan that provides options for families and flexibility for school and district leaders to respond quickly as the status of COVID-19 changes with each test taken, diagnosis made, or scientific breakthrough announced. Our approach prioritizes health and safety, maximizes opportunities for in-person instruction, incorporates best practices to mitigate the spread of the virus, provides flexibility to accommodate changing



Manny Caulk, Fayette County Public Schools Superintendent

circumstances with the pandemic, and is responsive and respectful of the individual circumstances facing students, families and employees.

The goal of this document is to share our best thinking at this point in time, including an overview of the safety protocols that will be implemented when staff and students return to campus, and the various instructional options that will be available for our students. These scenarios are based on the information currently available. We will continue to amend, adjust and improve our plan not only before the school year starts, but also after classes have begun. As the pandemic changes, so will our district.

Every decision we make will be in accordance with requirements from federal, state and local authorities including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Kentucky Governor’s Office, Kentucky Department for Public Health, Kentucky Department of Education and Lexington-Fayette County Health Department.

Fayette County Public Schools embraces our responsibility to educate and create opportunities for every single student and we will not waver from our commitment to equity and excellence. Our district has shown time and again what is possible when our families, employees and community work together and this challenge is no different. We ask for continued support and collaboration as we implement a comprehensive plan that will meet the needs of our families, students and employees.

Your Partner,

Manny Caulk
Fayette County Public Schools Superintendent

Fayette County Board of Education



Stephanie Spires,
Chair



Raymond Daniels,
Vice Chair



Daryl Love



Christy Morris



Tyler Murphy

Our Guiding Principles

The mission of the Fayette County Public Schools is to create a collaborative community that ensures all students achieve at high levels and graduate prepared to excel in a global society.

3R Think Tank Guiding Principles:

- 1** We will put the safety and well-being of our students, staff and families first.
- 2** We will ensure access and equity for all students.
- 3** We will craft a plan that will not only provide multiple scenarios for continued support but also reimagine education in our district.
- 4** We will deliver high quality instruction and intentional supports to students and families regardless of instructional model.
- 5** We will work collaboratively, steadfastly and of one accord.

Returning to Campus

Safely reopening schools in the midst of a pandemic will require our district to implement a strong complement of preventative practices and enhanced mitigation measures, knowing that temporary closures may be necessary.

Preventative practices include:

Establishing and maintaining communication with the Lexington-Fayette County Health Department.

Participating in contact tracing efforts as directed by the Lexington-Fayette County Health Department.

Promoting education and awareness about COVID-19, which includes posting signage in classrooms, hallways, and entrances about symptoms and preventative measures.

Developing protocols for students or employees who feel ill or experience symptoms at school.

Making accommodations for those at higher risk for severe illness.

Enhanced mitigation measures build on those practices, but also include:

-  *Requiring masks.*
-  *Implementing expanded social distancing measures.*
-  *Instituting additional cleaning and disinfection protocols.*
-  *Checking temperatures and screening staff and students for symptoms.*
-  *Providing additional hand sanitizing stations.*
-  *Requiring use of water bottles rather than water fountains.*
-  *Limiting access to buildings.*

Even with the best preventative and mitigation measures in place, it may be necessary to institute temporary closures. Decisions about which instructional model is appropriate will be based on community spread of COVID-19 and infection rates in Fayette County.

Instructional Models

In the words of author Judson Moore, “the most important quality of any plan is the flexibility to change.” Faced with the constantly changing status of the COVID-19 pandemic, any single instructional offering will fall short. Instead of a one-size-fits-all approach, Fayette County Public Schools has developed two options that families can choose from and a menu of available instructional models that district leaders will deploy as appropriate to ensure the continued success and safety of students and staff.

OPTION 1:

Flexible Model

Fayette County Public Schools believes that students learn best when they are in class with their teachers and peers. When we can safely return to face-to-face instruction with appropriate prevention and mitigation measures, we are committed to doing so. Knowing that our district will need to respond nimbly to the fluid nature of this pandemic, our “Flexible Model” gives school and district leaders discretion to implement one of three instructional configurations that are most appropriate based on current levels of community spread of COVID-19. Under this plan, students may attend school in person, participate in non-traditional instruction, or be divided into smaller groups that rotate between in-person and distance learning in order to maximize social distancing. Public health will determine the safest learning model, based on science, evidence and conditions on the ground.

Model 1: Traditional Instruction

When conditions warrant, Fayette County Public Schools will offer traditional, on-campus instruction for all students. When this model is employed, students will return to campus and classrooms on a regular schedule and receive instruction from their teachers in person. Significant health and safety procedures will be implemented in order to meet guidelines set by federal, state and local health officials to minimize the risk of spread.

or

Model 2: Hybrid Instruction

When enhanced social distancing measures are needed, students will rotate between learning on campus and learning at home. Under this model, students would be divided into two or more groups in order to create smaller class sizes and reduce the number of students in the building at the same time. This could be done by grade level, last name, home address or other configuration. Students would switch between in-person and at-home learning, with groups attending school on a rotating basis. When students are not physically in school, they will be learning at home, participating in project-based learning opportunities or other related assignments. Every effort will be made to ensure that students from the same household follow the same rotation schedule. Consideration will be given to students with individual learning needs that require more frequent on-campus instruction.

or

Model 3: Non-Traditional Instruction

Intermittent, short-term school closures may be necessary per public health recommendations should cases of COVID-19 surge in our community. Under such conditions, teaching and learning would occur through Non-Traditional Instruction or NTI. Fayette County Public Schools implemented NTI for the first time in April 2020, with very little time to plan or prepare. Should it be necessary to switch to NTI in the future, the distance learning experience for students will be dramatically different. The academic subcommittee of the 3R task force has done extensive work to ensure that “NTI 2DL: Differentiated Distance Learning” will be more engaging, more robust and consistently implemented across schools at all grade levels. Steps taken include purchasing of a shared online curriculum, selecting a consistent virtual learning platform, and investing in 1-to-1 technology districtwide. Teachers across the district will receive extensive professional development before the first day of school.

“The most important quality of any plan is the flexibility to change.”



OPTION 2:

Virtual Learning Academy

Fayette County Public Schools will offer a completely virtual learning option for interested families. Students enrolled in the virtual learning academy will receive daily instruction and interact with teachers on a set schedule. Daily attendance in online classes will be required, as will participation in daily assignments. The level of expectation and accountability will resemble that of the traditional classroom, but it will take place online.

This option should not be confused with Non-Traditional Instruction, which will be used for short-term closures related to public health conditions. Paper packets will not be used in the FCPS Virtual Learning Academy.

OR



INSTRUCTIONAL MODELS

How do we choose?

Option
1

Flexible Model

Decisions about which instructional model is appropriate will be based on community spread of COVID-19 and infection rates in Fayette County.

Level of Community Spread

(as determined by state and local health officials)



Low/No Spread



Minimal/Moderate Spread



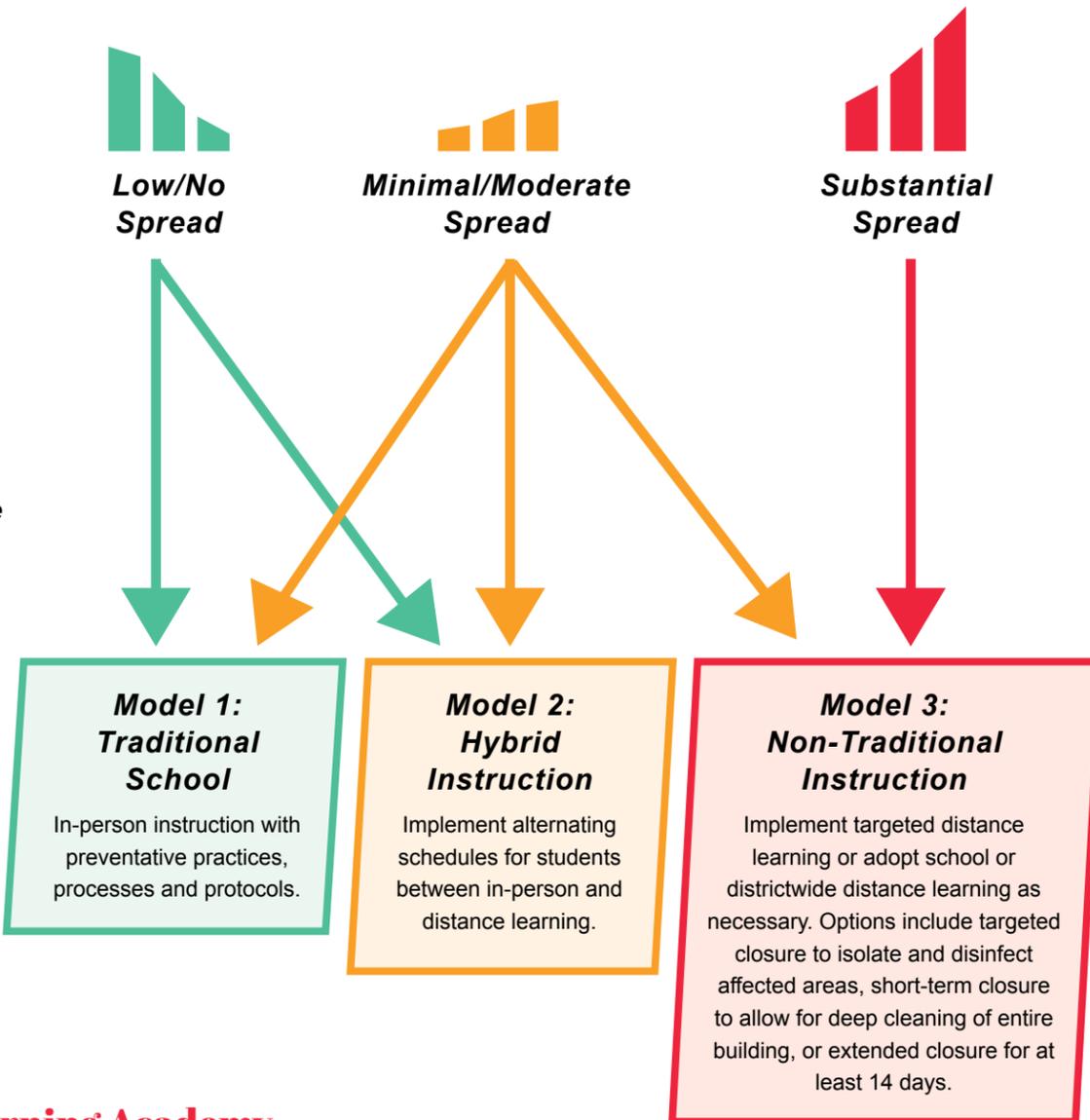
Substantial Spread

Response

(as determined by FCPS in consultation with Lexington-Fayette County Health Department)

Instructional Model

(as determined by FCPS)



Model 1: Traditional School

In-person instruction with preventative practices, processes and protocols.

Model 2: Hybrid Instruction

Implement alternating schedules for students between in-person and distance learning.

Model 3: Non-Traditional Instruction

Implement targeted distance learning or adopt school or districtwide distance learning as necessary. Options include targeted closure to isolate and disinfect affected areas, short-term closure to allow for deep cleaning of entire building, or extended closure for at least 14 days.



Option
2

Virtual Learning Academy

Students enrolled in the Virtual Learning Academy will receive daily instruction and interact with teachers on a set schedule. Daily attendance in online classes will be required, as will participation in daily assignments.

Timeline

- 3R Think Tank Commissioned
April 2020
- 3R Committees Established and Begin Work
May 2020
- Student, Family and Employee Surveys re: FCPS COVID-19 Response
June 12-30, 2020
- Family Survey re: 2020-2021 School Year
July 1-12, 2020
- Employee Survey re: 2020-2021 School Year
July 8-19, 2020
- Superintendent's Leadership Institute
July 14-16, 2020
- Presentation to Board of Education
July 23, 2020
- Virtual Learning Academy Family Learning Information Period Begins
August 3, 2020
- Teachers' First Day
August 10, 2020
- First Day of School
August 26, 2020



Back to School

Beginning August 3, 2020, families will receive information about the FCPS Virtual Learning Academy to help them make enrollment decisions that best meet the needs of their children. Those who select the FCPS Virtual Learning Academy will make a commitment for at least the first semester.

Teachers and staff will return to school on August 10, 2020 to receive extensive professional learning and begin planning for the 2020-2021 school year.

The first official day of school for all students will be Wednesday, August 26, 2020. This is later than our school district normally starts, but this change allows us to take advantage of the flexibility afforded in state law to have a shorter school year, which could prove crucial if intermittent closures are required. We anticipate the last day of the 2020-2021 school year will be May 13, 2021.

Decisions about whether to offer in-person on campus instruction, non-traditional instruction or a hybrid model will be based on public health factors such as the rates of confirmed COVID-19 cases in our community or exposures within a school community.

In collaboration with the Lexington-Fayette County Department of Health, FCPS will reconsider instructional models roughly every six weeks based on changing public health conditions and implementation experience, unless an emergent issue arises that requires an immediate change.

Public health conditions will be reconsidered near the following windows:

- The week of Sept. 28 to Oct. 2, 2020.
- The week of Nov. 2 to 6, 2020.
- Winter Break.
- The week of Feb. 8 to 12, 2021.
- Spring Break.

NTI 2DL: Differentiated Distance Learning

When COVID-19 shuttered schools in March of 2020, teachers and families had little time to plan and faced an uncertain outlook about how long schools would remain closed. Despite marked efforts to keep students engaged in learning, Non-Traditional Instruction (NTI) proved to be no substitute for in-person classes. But as Maya Angelou famously wrote, “I did then what I knew how to do. Now that I know better, I do better.” Teachers, principals and district leaders have spent countless hours since May working to ensure that our next implementation of NTI will be.

Here’s what families can expect from “NTI 2DL: Differentiated Distance Learning:

Structures:

Schools will use a common platform (Learning Management System) to deliver instruction: either Google Classroom or Canvas.

Schools will create a master “NTI-2DL” schedule that will be implemented consistently (daily, weekly, etc).

Schools will implement clear communication protocols from school to home.

Learning Experiences

Teachers will focus on new learning and growth for every student.

Teachers will diagnose unfinished learning to identify gaps and determine individual needs for acceleration.

Students will have access to grade-appropriate learning from digital curriculum programs and district adopted curricula.

Teachers will provide strong instruction by implementing a distance learning framework that includes synchronous direct instruction and asynchronous guided learning to differentiate learning and facilitate deep engagement.

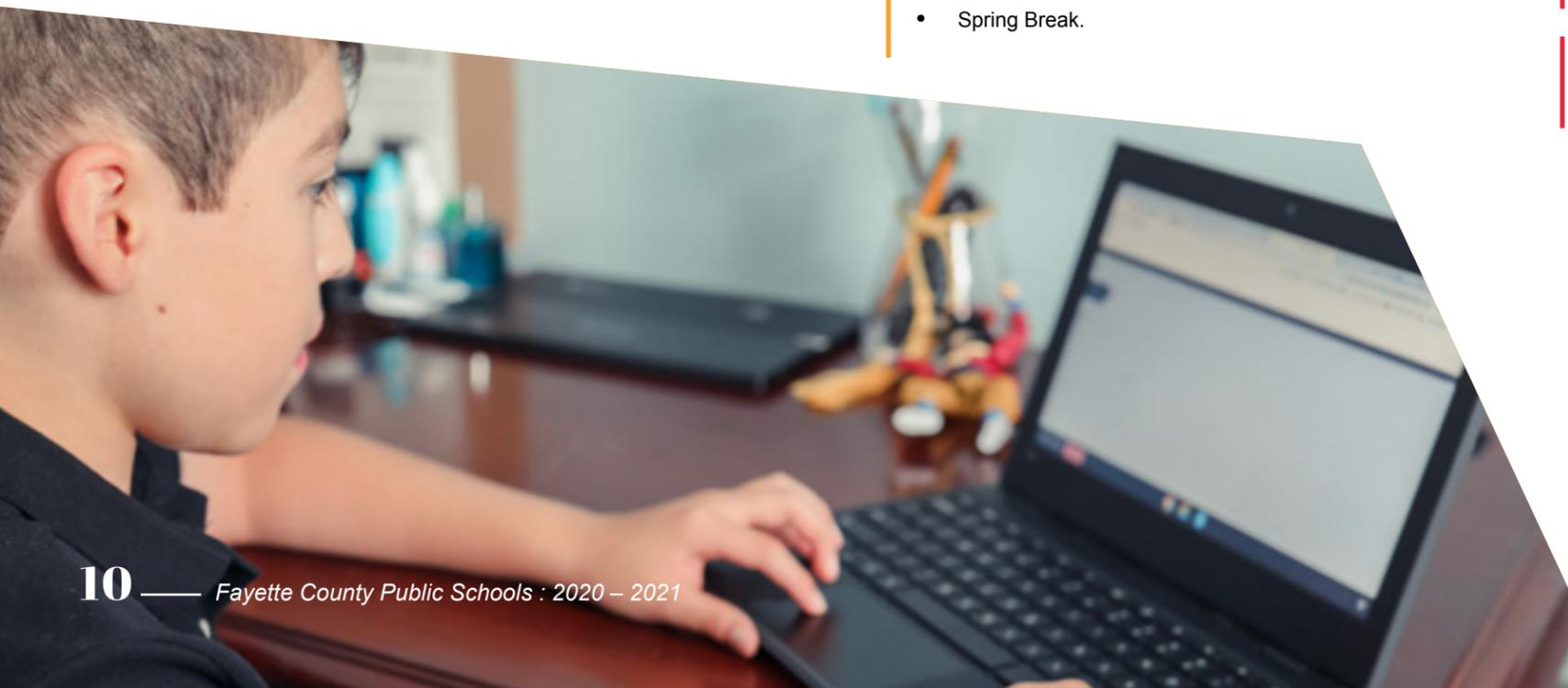
Teachers will administer ongoing formative assessments with timely feedback.

Accountability:

Teachers will have high academic expectations for all students.

Student learning will be assessed on an ongoing basis.

Families will receive regular documentation and reports on student participation, student mastery, and grades.



Technology



Fayette County Public Schools believes that every student needs access to technology for any virtual, distance or hybrid learning initiative to be successful. We also believe that access to digital tools can enhance in-person instruction. Because of that, we are making an investment in order to go fully 1-to-1 throughout the school district and provide each student with a mobile device. Beginning in August 2020, a Chromebook will be available for every student in the district. FCPS will also continue to offer hotspots to families without internet access. This will allow every student to access the digital resources that are critical to helping each student achieve during the COVID-19 pandemic.

All internet access on district-provided devices will be filtered. In order to ensure that bandwidth is available for instruction and that our students are protected, access to some sites and services will be disabled. This may include Netflix, Disney+, Spotify, or other entertainment services.



Requesting a Chromebook

Every school will develop and implement a plan to distribute Chromebooks to their students at the start of the school year. Schools will communicate plans directly with families. Once school begins, please contact the school where your child is enrolled if you need a device.



Requesting Internet Access

Hotspots will be distributed through our Family Resource and Youth Service Centers and each hotspot can support multiple students in a family. If your family does not have internet access, please contact the Family Resource Youth Service Center at your child's school.



Student and Family Expectations

Devices and hotspots provided to students remain the property of Fayette County Public Schools. Students and families are expected to take care of devices, power cables, and hotspots and keep them free from damage. The device should be charged each night so that it is ready to be used the following day. While online, each student is expected to practice good digital citizenship. During hybrid or traditional instruction, devices should be taken to school each day. If there is a problem with the device, the student or family should call the Help Desk or report the issue to their school.

Student and Family Help Desk

Students and families that experience technical issues with district-issued devices or hotspots can get assistance from the Student and Family Help Desk

Phone:
859-381-4410

Summer Hours
Monday – Friday
8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

School Year Hours
(Beginning August 24, 2020)
Monday – Friday,
8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

FCPS Virtual Learning Academy vs. Non-Traditional Instruction

During the 2020-2021 school year, Fayette County Public Schools will offer families the opportunity to enroll their children in a Virtual Learning Academy. This will be a completely stand-alone program that will serve students from throughout the school district, unlike Non-Traditional Instruction (NTI), which should only be used for short-term closures. In contrast, the Virtual Learning Academy is designed to be used for an extended period of time, such as a semester or a school year and is a comparable alternative to in-person instruction.

FCPS Virtual Learning Academy

Non-Traditional Instruction (NTI)

An online learning program that students participate in rather than in-person on campus instruction. Follows the same calendar as the district and has set hours for students to attend online meetings and participate in virtual classes. The daily time commitment is comparable to in-school instructional time.

An alternative to traditional in-person on campus instruction employed to continue teaching and learning when schools or school districts cannot be open due to circumstances like inclement weather or widespread illness.

Only students enrolled in the FCPS Virtual Learning Academy attend the program. Enrollment commitment is for at least a semester.

At any point during the school year, some or all FCPS students may participate in Non-Traditional Instruction (NTI) as circumstances warrant.

Students have designated FCPS Virtual Learning Academy teachers who provide instruction, assignments, and grades.

Should NTI days be necessary, all FCPS teachers will provide instruction to their students. A student's in-person classroom teacher is also his or her teacher during NTI.

The curriculum is internet-based and students work at their own pace through lessons and modules of each course. The curriculum will meet the Kentucky Academic Standards.

The curriculum is the same as in-school instruction. Teachers will deliver lessons in a variety of ways including videos, video calls, and live streaming. Students may be working on projects or independent learning.

Students enrolled in the FCPS Virtual Learning Academy can participate in athletics and extra-curricular activities at their attendance zone school.

Students participate in athletics and extra-curricular activities at the school in which they are enrolled.

Health and Safety Protocols



Family Commitment

Families who send their child to school will be asked to attest that their child does not have a fever and has not exhibited any of the symptoms of COVID-19 within the past 48 hours.



Social Distancing

There will be increased spacing throughout the building and in classrooms. Classroom layouts and arrival and dismissal processes will be modified to maintain physical distancing. Floors will be marked to indicate safe distancing.



Hand-Washing

Time will be made for frequent hand washing throughout the day, as well as before and after meals.



No Shared Supplies

All students will have access to individual supplies to eliminate sharing of materials.



Cleaning

Increased cleaning and sanitizing protocols will be implemented in all FCPS classrooms, schools, facilities and buses. Cleaning supplies are already in stock to ensure availability.



Health Questionnaire

Staff and students will complete a health questionnaire, with daily wellness checks.



Face Coverings

All students in grades 1 through 12, with the exception of those who have a medical exemption, must wear a mask when they move about the building or are seated less than 6 feet apart. All employees will wear masks. Masks will be provided for any students or staff who do not have one.



Training

Students and staff will receive training on COVID-19 prevention practices, including social distancing and face covering use. Signage and ongoing communication will supplement and reinforce training.



Reduced Hallway Traffic

School schedules will be adjusted to reduce hallway traffic. Measures could include staggered bell times or teachers moving from classroom to classroom rather than students switching classes.



Time Outdoors

Whenever possible, efforts will be made to hold classes outside. Modified recess will be held to ensure social distancing. Playground equipment will not be used.



Temperature Checks

All those entering a Fayette County Public Schools building will have their temperature taken.



Isolation Areas

Schools will have a designated area for isolation and supervision of sick students until the child is picked up by a parent, guardian, or designee. Students with symptoms of infectious disease will not be allowed in class.



Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Fayette County Public Schools has purchased masks and other personal protective equipment to ensure that all students and employees are properly outfitted.



Hand Sanitizer

Hand sanitizer will be provided, with hand sanitizing stations at building entrances, shared spaces and classrooms.



Signage

Signs reminding students about the importance of safety protocols will be displayed throughout the building.

Child Nutrition



Enforce Hand-Washing

We will ensure that all students wash their hands before and after meal service.



Disinfect Surfaces

We will disinfect surfaces regularly.



No Sharing Food

We will eliminate share tables and students sharing food.



Review Food Allergy Plans

Before school resumes, teachers and school leaders will review food allergies, 504 plans, and IEPs to ensure accommodations are provided.



Grab and Go Breakfast

Breakfast will be available for students to pick up and take to the classroom upon entering school.



Lunch Service

Lunches will be single serve meals, with disposable containers and plastic ware. Self-service food stations and condiment stations will be removed.



School Driven

Based on the facilities and student enrollment at each school, cafeteria managers will work with principals to determine eating and serving arrangements to maximize social distancing based on available space. Options include serving lines, pick-up stations or meal delivery, with students eating in cafeterias, gyms, or classrooms.



Social Distancing

Students will remain six feet apart while receiving and eating food, signage and floor markings will help communicate expectations to staff and students.



Safety Measures and Personal Protective Equipment

Child nutrition staff follow standard operating procedures regarding food safety and COVID-19 safety procedures (including masks, social distancing, plexiglass barriers, and additional disinfecting of surface and high contact areas).



Flexibility

FCPS has developed contingency plans to ensure meal service continues during distance learning and school closure scenarios.

Transportation



Fewer Riders

All families who can transport their children to school are strongly encouraged to do so to help reduce the number of students on each bus.



Temperature Checks

Buses that have monitors will screen student temperatures as they board the bus. Students with a fever will sit in a designated section and receive medical attention at school. If there is not a bus monitor, then students will have their temperature taken by school staff upon arrival.



Face Coverings

All students in grades 1 through 12, with the exception of those who have a medical exemption, must wear a mask on the bus. Those who cannot wear a mask will have a designated seating section. All employees will wear masks.



Clean Hands

Hand sanitizer will be provided on the bus as students enter and exit.



Designated Areas

Students who have a medical reason or are too young to wear a mask will be assigned seating at the front of the bus.



Social Distancing

Students will sit as far apart as possible on the bus to promote social distancing.



Getting On

In the morning, buses will be loaded from the back to the front, and unloaded from the front to the back. Students will have assigned seats in the afternoon.



Cleaning the Bus

Buses will be sanitized between routes and at the end of the day.

A Typical School Day

Start Here

Family Assurance of Student Health

Before students leave the house, families will attest that their child does not have a fever and has not had any COVID-19 symptoms for 48 hours.



Bus Stop

Students should remain social distanced at the bus stop.



Masks On

Students in grades 1-12 must be wearing a mask to board the bus.



Temp Checks

If a bus has a monitor, temperature screenings will take place.



Clean Hands

Students will sanitize hands as they board the bus.



Back to Front

Students will load the bus back to front.



Spread Out

Students will sit as far apart as possible on the bus to promote social distancing.



Grab and Go Breakfast

Student picks up breakfast on the way to classroom.



Signage

Posters emphasizing safety protocols will be displayed throughout the building.



Hand Sanitizer

Sanitizing stations at the school entrance and throughout the building.



Social Distancing

Students will remain six feet apart in line, in the hallways, in common areas and as much as possible in classrooms.



Mask Check

Except in the case of a medical exception, students in grades 1-12 must be wearing a mask to enter the school.



Health Screening

Students will have their temperature checked before entering the building, unless they are arriving on a bus with a monitor where a check has already been completed.



Safe Arrival

Students will unload the bus from front to back.



Safe Space

Students in classroom with desks spaced further away, all facing in the same direction.



Transitions

Traffic in the hallways will be reduced and bathroom schedules will promote social distancing.



Look down

Floors will be marked for social distancing.



Lunch

Wash hands before lunch, no touch meal service, pre-packaged lunches, social distancing, assigned seats, wash hands after lunch.



School Dismissal

Dismissal procedures will be restructured to reduce the flow of students leaving at the same time.



Clean bus

Buses will be cleaned before arriving at school.



Get on the bus

Hand sanitizer, assigned seats, head home.



Student and Family Support

In the Fayette County Public Schools, we are committed to serving the whole child. We recognize that in order for students to be academically successful, their basic needs have to be met, which includes a safe place to live, access to food, medical and dental care, mental health services, and other necessities. Roughly 6 in 10 students in our district qualify for free or reduced price meals, and since the advent of COVID-19, economic conditions worsened for many in the Lexington community.

Between March 16 and May 27, 2020, Fayette County Public Schools served 365,939 meals to children and youth, made 27,030 mental health contacts with children and youth, distributed 27,700 backpacks filled with food, cleaning supplies, and hygiene products to students and families, and provided technology resources in the form of 19,658 Chromebooks and laptops and 433 internet hotspots.

As we look ahead to the 2020-2021 school year, plans have already been developed to not only ensure a continuity of services, but also to enhance our offerings.

To request help, please call your child's school or the district office at 859-381-4100. An online help request form is being developed and will be available at fcps.net/gethelp

Basic Needs

Family Resource and Youth Service Centers will remain open and available to help families facing food insecurity, housing instability, or other basic needs.

Social Emotional Learning

As part of the district's Comprehensive 10-Point Safety Investment Plan, a Social Emotional Learning Curriculum had already been selected for elementary, middle and high schools. These efforts have continued during school closure and the implementation of this curriculum will continue as planned for the 2020-2021 school year.

Mental Health Support

Whether students are learning on campus, learning through Non-Traditional Instruction, or enrolled in the Virtual Learning Academy, Fayette County Public Schools will provide flexible support. Our District Mental Health Professionals, School Social Workers, School Counselors, and Child Guidance Specialists will be available to provide direct services related to academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs.

Family and Community Engagement Teams

Several schools have piloted this strategy with great success. We will expand this model to establish school-based family engagement teams at every school to build intentional relationships with families and provide the support necessary to promote healthy and successful families.

The goal is to help schools better engage families in their children's education by empowering them and giving them a voice and an opportunity to advocate for their children. Teams will also reach out to families regularly for "wellness check-ins" to see how things are going, receive training on trauma informed approaches and responses and work with families to achieve self-sufficiency through job training, educational advancement and agency referrals.

Family Learning Network

Our district team is working to develop a place where families can go to access resources designed to help them support the academic, emotional and social success of their children. We want to ensure that all schools have the tools necessary to provide timely, accurate and consistent communication with families and this one-stop communications shop for families will be an excellent resource.

When launched, the platform will provide learning opportunities for equitable access, including, but not limited to:

- Family Technology Help
- Tutorials
- Webinars
- FAQ Sheets
- Requested Learning
- Best Practices Videos
- Family Check Lists
- Downloadable Forms
- Web-based Supports for Academic and Social Emotional Learning

Face It

In partnership with the 16th District PTA, the district has also launched a series of online chats for families called "Face It."

On Thursday evenings once or twice a month, this virtual program goes live in both English and Spanish to connect and engage families in a two-way conversation about topics of interest. This online community of support highlights important information and resources available and is designed to help families face the challenges, stress, and anxiety of the COVID-19 pandemic together.





Activities

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

School assemblies, pep rallies, field trips, and other activities that enhance the school experience for students are also opportunities that bring many people to one place. Due to the nature of the COVID-19 pandemic, Fayette County Public Schools will follow all state and local guidance about limits on large gatherings.

Until otherwise announced:

- Schools cannot hold assemblies, pep rallies or other indoor gatherings.
- No field trips will be allowed.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Required Safety Guidelines:

Student participation in athletics and extra-curricular/co-curricular activities must be in accordance with the "Fayette County Public Schools Return to Play Guidelines," which were adapted from mandates from the Kentucky High School Athletic Association (KHSAA) and the Kentucky Music Educators Association (KMEA). FCPS will monitor guidance for any updates.

Frequently Asked Questions

How will you keep my child safe?

Our conversations and preparation for the 2020-2021 school year have been rooted in health and safety, which is our top priority in getting ready to welcome students, educators, administrators and support staff back into our buildings. While our return to school will look different given the new health and safety measures in place, our commitment to ensuring all students have a safe, welcoming and fun environment to learn and thrive remains the same. We are prioritizing health and safety measures such as hand sanitizer and hand washing, face coverings, and physical distancing to reduce the risk of spreading the virus. We are sensitive to the health concerns of our students and families and will offer alternative options for those who are not ready to return to campus.

What if a student or employee tests positive for COVID-19?

Fayette County Public Schools will work with the Lexington-Fayette County Health Department to determine the appropriate next steps and will follow all guidance on contact tracing, closure, testing and self-quarantine. The response to an individual case will depend largely on the circumstances surrounding the case and contact(s) the individual had within the school setting.

How or why will you decide whether to close a classroom or school?

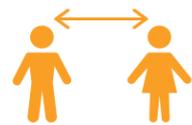
Our district monitors attendance trends multiple times a day and will work in partnership with the Lexington Fayette County Health Department to stay abreast of developments regarding cases, exposures, and hospitalizations that might require a change in school operating status. FCPS will be prepared to shift to Non-Traditional Instruction as a result of an increase in the spread of COVID-19.

How can I enroll my child in the virtual school?

Families will be able to select an instructional model preference for the fall during the registration period. The selected preference will be for the entire semester. However, if a family needs to change its selection, there will be a process for doing so.

Additional FAQs will be posted on the [fcps.net](https://www.fcps.net) website in the coming weeks.

State Requirements for Reopening



Social Distancing



Screening, School Exclusion & Contact Tracing



Personal Protective Equipment, including Cloth Face Masks



Sanitation, Environmental, and Industrial Factors

On March 16, the Kentucky Department of Education, in conjunction with the Governor’s Office, announced the creation of the Education Continuation Task Force charged with establishing guidelines for resuming in-person instruction this fall. Chaired by Lieutenant Governor Jacqueline Coleman, who also serves as Secretary of the Education and Workforce Development Cabinet, the group consists of representatives from Kentucky’s educational cooperatives, educational partner organizations and a group of four bipartisan legislators.

On June 24, the task force issued its “Guidelines on Safety Expectations and Best Practices for Kentucky Schools (K-12),” which were developed with input from the Governor’s Office, Department for Public Health, Kentucky Department of Education, the Cabinet of Education and Workforce Development and the Cabinet for Health and Family Services.

The #HealthyAtSchool document directs local school districts to develop “flexible plans to address school attendance, closure of schools, and transition to distance learning models. The safety of all students and staff, while promoting the best possible learning environment, is necessary.”



In addition to the June 24 document, school districts across the state are also bound to 16 additional guidance documents issued by the Kentucky Department of Education:

COVID-19 Considerations for Reopening Schools Initial Guidance for Districts and Schools (May 15, 2020)

COVID-19 Considerations for Reopening Schools Supporting Student and Staff Wellness (May 26, 2020)

COVID-19 Considerations for Reopening Schools Evaluating Students’ Academic Readiness (June 1, 2020)

COVID-19 Considerations for Reopening Schools Academic Re-entry, Stage One: Drafting an Adjusted Curriculum (June 1, 2020)

COVID-19 Considerations for Reopening Schools - Alternative Learning Design Strategies (June 8, 2020)

COVID-19 Considerations for Reopening Schools - Intermittent School Closure Guidance (June 15, 2020)

COVID-19 Considerations for Reopening Schools - Food Service Operations - USDA School Meal Programs (June 22, 2020)

COVID-19 Considerations for Reopening Schools - Pupil Transportation (June 25, 2020)

COVID-19 Guidance - Plan for Reopening Secondary CTE Labs During Summer 2020 (June 29, 2020)

COVID-19 Considerations for Reopening Schools: Facilities and Logistics (June 29, 2020)

COVID-19 Considerations for Reopening Schools - Workplace Health and Safety (July 6, 2020)

COVID-19 Considerations for Reopening Schools - Academic Re-entry, Stage Two: Meeting Learners’ Academic Needs (July 13, 2020)

COVID -19 Considerations for Reopening Schools - Exceptional Learners and Preschool Students (July 20, 2020)

COVID-19 Considerations for Reopening Schools - Daily Participation and Non-Traditional Instruction (July 20, 2020)

COVID-19 Considerations for Reopening Schools - Compensatory Education and Extended School Year Services (July 20, 2020)

COVID-19 Considerations for Reopening Schools - Guidance for School District Personnel Leave Options, 2020-2021 School Year (July 21, 2020)

3R: Reenvisioning, Reimagining and Renewing Task Force

We are grateful to the following students, employees, parents and community members who have given selflessly of their time and talent to research, evaluate and develop plans that will not only ensure a safe opening for the 2020-2021 school year, but will also establish a foundation for the future success of the students and families we serve.

Team Lead: Schuronda Morton, Chief of Staff

Team Co-Lead: Kate McAnelly, Chief Academic Officer

3R Leadership Team

Lori Bowen, Director of English Learners and Gifted and Talented

Katina Brown, Culturally Responsive Teaching and Learning Coach

Brad Daniel, Routing Supervisor

Sherri Heise, Associate Director of Assessment Literacy

Rhoman James, Special Projects Intern

BJ Martin, Elementary Director of Teaching and Learning

Dedeeh Massey, Safe Schools Specialist

Soraya Matthews, Secondary Director of Teaching and Learning

Lisa Smith, Chief of Elementary Schools

Stephanie Spires, Fayette County Board of Education Chair, Parent and Community Representative

Veda Stewart, Family and Community Engagement Liaison

Killian Timoney, Director of Plant Operations

Chris Young, Assistant Director of Pupil Personnel



Academic Committee

Acceleration

Tyson Barrett, Student, Frederick Douglass High

Lori Bowen, Director of English Learners and Gifted and Talented

April Deener, Teacher, Edythe J. Hayes Middle

Katie Farrington Teacher, Bryan Station High and Picadome Elementary

Natalee Feese, Mathematics Instructional Specialist

Twanjua Jones, Principal, Morton Middle

Chris Long, Teacher, Tates Creek High

Kristy Marsh, Teacher, Wellington Elementary

Nicole Mitchell, MTSS Coach

Lisa Smith, Chief of Elementary Schools

Kara Traub, Teacher, Harrison Elementary

Assessment

Kristina Bauer, Teacher, Tates Creek Middle

Sherri Heise, Associate Director of Assessment Literacy

Chad Higgins, Teacher, Yates Elementary

Dave Hoskins, Principal, Edythe J. Hayes Middle

Jan Perkins, Teacher, Frederick Douglass High

Brooke Stinson, Elementary Continuous Improvement Specialist

Julie Wright, Interim Chief of Middle Schools

Instruction Design and Delivery

Malik Alleyne-Jones, Applications Solutions Specialist

Brinlee Bowen, Student, Frederick Douglass High

Katina Brown, Culturally Responsive Teaching and Learning Coach

Penny Christian, President, 16th District PTA

Amanda Dennis, Director of Special Education

Marty Dixon, Secondary Language Arts Instructional Specialist

Ashley Durham, Teacher, RISE Girls STEM Academy

Claudette Edie, Teacher, Leestown Middle

Kim Fisher, Teacher, STEAM Academy

Jennifer Hutchison, Principal, Picadome Elementary

BJ Martin, Elementary Director of Teaching and Learning

Soraya Matthews, Secondary Director of Teaching and Learning

Ryan McQuerry, Applications Solutions Specialist

Sandy Owens, High School Academic Resource Specialist

Austen Gerughty, Teacher, Mary Todd Elementary

Chad Peavler, Teacher, Winburn Middle

Paula Setser-Kissick, District Digital Learning Coach



Student Support Committee

Social Emotional Learning

Christian Adair, Educating Boys of Color Specialist

Doug Adams, Interim Director of Student Support Services

Temicula Allen, Social Worker, Tates Creek High

Clarissa Bell, Family and Community Representative

Jordan Bentley, District Mental Health Specialist, Wellington Elementary

Cornel Carter, Behavior Coach, Cardinal Valley Elementary

Tricia Crowe, Preschool Resource Teacher

Serena Culbertson, Social Worker, Winburn Middle School

JerRicas Gentry, Teacher, Booker T. Washington and Yates elementaries

Katie Havelda, District Mental Health Specialist, Rosa Parks Elementary

Carl Hayden, Principal on Special Assignment

Lanisha Hostler, Principal of Leadership Academy, Bryan Station High

(Task Force Members List Continued...)

Ragan Knuckles, Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support Coach

Lori Lazzaro, Child Guidance Specialist, Arlington Elementary

Mackenzie Leachman, Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support Coach

Lindsay Mattingly, District Family and Community Engagement Liaison

Dedeeh Massey, Safe Schools Specialist

Antonio Melton, Guidance Counselor, Frederick Douglass High

Raine Minichan, Interim Coordinator of Mental Health Services and Guidance Counseling

Sara Pickering, Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support Coach

Jaclyn Ruebsam, District Mental Health Specialist, Rosa Parks and Wellington elementaries

Mark Schmidt, Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support Coach

Adrienne Thacker, Parent and Community Representative

Faith Thompson, Chief of Elementary Schools

Katie Washington, District Mental Health Specialist, Booker T. Washington Elementary

Karma Wilson, Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support Coach

Family Support

Doug Adams, Interim Director of Student Support Services

Caroline Ford, Family Resource Center Coordinator, Northern Elementary

Shamiah Ford, Principal, Coventry Oak Elementary

Carl Hayden, Principal on Special Assignment

Lisa Hillenbrand, English Learners Resource Specialist

James Hodge, Liaison for Homeless Education Services

TC Johnson, Youth Service Center Coordinator, Winburn Middle

Erin Manna, Teacher, Morton Middle

Miranda Scully, District Family and Community Coordinator

Shericka Smith, Interim Coordinator of Mental Health Services and Social Workers

Veda Stewart, District Family and Community Engagement Liaison

Mizari Suarez, Family Resource Center Coordinator, Arlington Elementary

Faith Thompson, Chief of Elementary Schools

Marisol Valles, Community Liaison, Bryan Station High

Extra-Curricular

Doug Adams, Interim Director of Student Support Services

Joe Gibson, Principal, Leestown Middle

Carl Hayden, Principal on Special Assignment

Bill Kite, Teacher, Henry Clay High

Bryne Jacobs, Principal, Lafayette High School

Rhoman James, Special Projects Intern

Carrie Paul, Principal, Tates Creek Elementary

Beth Randolph, Principal, SCAPA

Nick Runyon, Experience Based Career Education Program Manager

Rob Sayre, District Athletic Director

Faith Thompson, Chief of Elementary Schools



Operations Committee

Child Nutrition

Doug Adams, Interim Director of Student Support

Michelle Coker, Director of Child Nutrition

Gary Cremeans, United Way of the Bluegrass

Jonathan Kohn, United Way of the Bluegrass

Christy Morris, Fayette County Board of Education Member, Parent and Community Representative

Meredith Ramage, Principal, Northern Elementary

Lisa Smith, Chief of Elementary Schools

Darryl Thompson, Equity Officer

Myron Thompson, Chief Operating Officer

School Calendar and Schedules

Heather Bell, Chief of Elementary Schools

Robert Crawford, Principal, Maxwell Elementary

Jennifer Dyar, Human Resources Director

Steve Hill, Director of Pupil Personnel

Andria Jackson, Family and Community Representative

Allison Marcum, Administrative Assistant, Bryan Station High

Dedeeh Massey, Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support Coach

James McMillin, Chief of High Schools

Betsy Rains, Principal, Paul Laurence Dunbar High

Eric Thornsbury, Principal, Tates Creek Middle

John White, Chief Financial Officer

Julie Wright, Interim Chief of Middle Schools

School Operation and Safety

Amy Boatman, Associate Director of Safety and Security

Joe Gibson, Principal, Leestown Middle

Paul Gregoire, Campus Foreman, Bryan Station High

Steve Hill, Director of Pupil Personnel

Alex Hunt, Teacher, Picadome Elementary

Jennifer Hutchison, Principal, Picadome Elementary

Joe Isaacs, Director of Risk Management, Safety and Security

Bryne Jacobs, Principal, Lafayette High

Rob Sayre, District Athletics Director

Martin Schafer, Chief, FCPS Police Department

Shericka Smith, Interim Coordinator of Mental Health Services and Social Workers

Robin Steiner, Principal, Dixie Elementary

Winn Stephens, Parent and Community Representative

Killian Timoney, Director of Plant Operations

Transportation

Rachel Baker, Associate Director of High Schools

Heather Bell, Chief of Elementary Schools

Brad Daniel, Routing Supervisor

Marcus Dobbs, Director of Transportation

Mike Hale, Principal, Winburn Middle

James Hodge, Liaison for Homeless Education Services

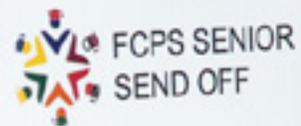
Marty Mills, Principal, Tates Creek High

Michael Price, Principal, Breckinridge Elementary

Vee Pryor, Special Programs Manager

Martin Schafer, Chief, FCPS Police Department

Whitney Stevenson, Associate Director of Early Childhood Education



**KEEP
MOVING
FORWARD**

 FAYETTE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

701 E MAIN ST, LEXINGTON, KY 40502
(859) 381-4100 | www.fcps.net

