

FULTON COUNTY SCHOOLS



2021-2022
OPERATION PLAN

Formation of Plan

Fulton County Schools formed a committee of partners to provide input on the reopening of our schools. Multiple surveys were sent to teachers and parents to gather input and data. The School-Based Decision Making Council (SBDM) at FCHS and the Advisory Councils at FCES and FCMS provided insight, as well as, the local health department.

Committee Membership

Patrice Chambers	Fulton County Superintendent
Dianne Owen	Fulton County Assistant Superintendent
Ellen Murphy	Fulton County High School Principal
Kim Dublin	Fulton County Middle School Principal
Sondra Gibbs	Fulton County Elementary School Principal
Natasha Fields	Fulton County School Nurse
Tamra Parker	Fulton County DPP/Director of Special Education
Julie Jackson	Fulton County Director of Operations
Ellen Murphy	Fulton County High School Principal
Rodney Mitchell	Fulton County Area Transportation Coordinator
Debbie Barnes	Fulton County Health Department
Chad Parker	Fulton County School Resource Officer
Dale Jackson	Fulton County Maintenance Technician

HEALTH & SAFETY

- ⚓ Protocols in place for screening, sanitation, and spacing.
- ⚓ The CDC has removed the face covering mandate for public transportation, including buses operated by public and private school systems and it is now optional.
- ⚓ If average daily attendance (ADA) falls below 85%, face coverings will be required for all staff and students while indoors, in all classroom and non-classroom settings, masks will be provided at the school for those who need them to follow this guideline. *If a single school's attendance rate falls below 85% and/or COVID cases spike, face coverings may be required at the discretion of the superintendent/designee.
- ⚓ Visitors only permitted in the front office.
- ⚓ A separate location for students with a temperature over 100.4° F will be designated at each school.
- ⚓ Contact tracing protocols in place.

INSTRUCTION

- ⚓ 100% participation beginning August 25 of in-person learning.
- ⚓ FCES and FCMS will be semi-grouped.
- ⚓ Direct instruction will be provided using a variety of instructional strategies.
- ⚓ Participation of students will be required in-person.

STUDENT SERVICES & ATHLETICS

- ⚓ Student services will continue in-person for (SPED, 504, Speech, Gifted/Talented, Occupational & Physical Therapy, Mental Health, etc.
- ⚓ Athletics will follow guidelines established by the Kentucky High School Athletic Association (KHSAA).

OPERATIONS

- ⚓ Bus safety protocols established.
- ⚓ Students will be provided a mask if desired upon entering the buses.
- ⚓ Sanitation and cleaning protocols will continue for buses.

2021-2022 Operation Plan for Fulton County Schools

Face Coverings

Face covering protocols will be determined based on the Fulton County's ADA (Average Daily Attendance) rate determined each month. If the ADA is above 85%, face coverings will be optional. If the ADA falls below 85% due to COVID-19, face coverings will be required until ADA returns to 85% or above. A one call will be sent out the last school day of every month to inform students, staff and families of the protocol status. If positivity rates rise quickly in the schools, the superintendent can require face coverings be required. An all call will be made to inform stakeholders if this need arises in the schools. Face masks on buses will be at the discretion of the superintendent if the ADA falls below 85%.

OPTIONAL Face Covering Protocol

- Face coverings will be **OPTIONAL** when the ADA is **85% or higher at the end of each month**. An all call will be made the last school day of each month to inform stakeholders of the ADA and the status of face coverings for the next month.
- If positivity rates and/or quarantines from school exposures rise quickly, the superintendent can require face coverings be worn. (The face covering could be required for a classroom, individual school or districtwide.)

REQUIRED Face Covering Protocol

- Face coverings will be **REQUIRED** in all schools when the ADA falls below **85% ADA**. This means all persons must wear a face covering when indoors at school facilities, regardless of vaccination status.
- The following are exemptions:
 - Children under the age 5
 - Any person with a disability, or a physical or mental impairment, that prevents them from safely wearing a face covering.
 - Any person who is deaf or hard of hearing and is actively communicating, or any person who is actively communicating with someone who is deaf or hard of hearing
 - Any person who is seated and actively consuming food or beverage.
 - Any person who is obtaining a service that requires temporary removal of the face covering in order to perform the service.
 - Any person who is required to temporarily remove their face covering to confirm their identity or for security or screening purposes
 - Any person who is giving a speech or broadcast to any audience and is able to maintain a safe distance of at least six feet from all individuals who are not members of the person's household
 - Any person who is actively engaged in exercise while indoors
- **The superintendent shall have the ability to use at her discretion up to ten NTI days and up to 20 remote learning days as granted by the Kentucky legislature if needed.**

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Contact Tracing</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ FCS will work diligently to identify persons who may have been exposed in the event of a positive COVID case in the school. ➤ Parents of students identified as an exposure will be contacted as soon as possible 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Illness</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Any student or staff member will be asked to stay home if exhibiting any COVID symptoms. Please inform the school within 24 hours. (See list of symptoms below) ➤ If a student becomes ill at school, he/she will sit in the school's health room and wear a mask while waiting for parents to pick them up.
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Quarantine Scenarios</u></p> <p><u>Household Positive Case</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Quarantine 5 days from exposure and may return when symptom free <p><u>School Bus Positive Case</u></p> <p>If masks were worn by both:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Monitor symptoms and no quarantine is required <p>If masks were not worn by one or both:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Quarantine 5 days from exposure and may return when symptom free <p><u>Lunchroom Positive Case</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Quarantine 5 days from exposure and may return when symptom free 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Quarantine</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Any student or staff member will be asked to quarantine if determined to be an exposure to someone who is diagnosed positive. ➤ Exposure is defined as being within 3 feet of the positive person for 15 minutes within a 24 hour period <u>when one or both of the individuals were not properly wearing a mask.</u> ➤ If a person has been exposed, no quarantine will be needed unless he/she is having symptoms ➤ Quarantines will be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 5 days and return when symptom free.
<p><u>Classroom Positive Case</u> If masks were worn by both:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Monitor symptoms and no quarantine is required <p>If masks were not worn by one or both:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Quarantine 5 days from exposure and may return when symptom free <p><u>Extracurricular Positive Case</u></p> <p>These exposures will be assessed based on the conditions (outdoor vs. indoor, team bus, etc.). If the exposure is purely extracurricular activity-based, the individual will have the following options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Quarantine 5 days from exposure and may return when symptom free 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Social Distancing</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Physical distancing of 3 feet between students will be met when possible. ➤ However, there will often be times in the course of the day when 3 feet distancing will not be possible - eating meals, cooperative learning activities, arrival, dismissal, etc.
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Hand Washing & Respiratory Practices</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Hand sanitizers will be readily available for students at all times. ➤ Staff will teach and reinforce frequent and ➤ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ proper hand washing with soap and water for 20 seconds. ➤ Staff will teach and reinforce coughing and sneezing etiquette.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Fulton County School's first priority is the health and safety of our students, staff, families, and our community. We will follow the Healthy at School/Work Guidelines established by the Kentucky Department of Education and Department of Public Health. We have outlined protocols to address screening, sanitation, and safety. Family members and visitors will only be permitted in the front office. If a confirmed case of COVID-19 is determined, Fulton County's School Nurse will initiate contact tracing protocols with the local public health officials.

- ⚓ Symptom screening expectations will be implemented.
 - Any staff or student with a temperature over 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit will be sent home.
- ⚓ Hand washing and hygiene protocols must be followed.
 - Increased education and re-teaching regarding healthy hygiene practices.
 - Frequent hand washing required for staff and students.
 - Hand sanitizer stations throughout the buildings, classrooms, and buses.
 - Hand washing or sanitizer should be utilized but not limited to: entering/exiting the building, entering/exiting classrooms, before/after eating, before/after recess, before/after mask removal and touching the face, after handling shared objects and after coughing/sneezing/blowing nose.
- ⚓ Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):
 - Masks may be required inside school buildings and on buses if the average daily attendance goes below 85% due to COVID-19 related absences.

INSTRUCTION

Fulton County Schools will reopen all preK-12th grade classes at 100% capacity Monday through Friday. Fulton County will focus on building strong relationships with students. It is important for students to have positive interactions with teachers and other students. Our goal is to provide a system that will encourage social interaction while maintaining a healthy environment. All Fulton County teachers will incorporate digital platforms for instruction for in-person learning. Mobile labs have been created to allow students to accelerate their learning while being transported to and from home and school activities and during NTI days. Evidenced-based programs will be purchased to ensure that all students will accelerate their individual learning.

The protocols:

- ⚓ Teachers will use some digital learning.
- ⚓ Students will be able to use a district device for accessing high quality curriculum programs.
- ⚓ Direct instruction will be delivered using technology, web based programs, learning strategies that address different leaning styles and needs. Some may be recorded to help students who need additional assistance in meeting the grade level standards due to learning loss.
- ⚓ Google Classroom, CLEVER, and other methods of digital communication will be utilized for assignments and collaborative group activities for students' in-person and for NTI if needed.
- ⚓ Multiple digital learning tools will be utilized for direct and NTI learning such as: Edgenuity, iReady, Amplify Science, Amplify ELA, Reading Street, Go-Math, Moby Max, Envision Math, Inspire Science, Coach Books, and Mastery Prep, as well as teacher created videos, lessons, assessments, and projects through CLEVER and Google Classroom.

- ⚓ Teachers will follow established curriculum maps while focusing on key areas of the Kentucky Academic Standards.
- ⚓ Teachers will embed interventions into the core curriculum to address learning gaps.

Additional NTI Protocols:

- ⚓ Teachers will provide a variety of lessons during NTI that reinforces content learned in the classroom.
- ⚓ Lessons will be aligned to the Kentucky Academic Standards and the grade level curriculum maps.
- ⚓ Teachers will be expected to provide modifications for students with special needs.
- ⚓ Teachers will include specific directions and examples of how to complete the assignment (i.e. math problem examples or correct grammar examples) that will be included with the assigned lessons to assist students and parents in understanding what has been assigned.
 - Instructions will be short and to the point
 - Examples will be included and desired outcomes will be included.
 - Examples might be sentence starters, paragraph outlines, note outlines, exemplars, leveled reading, math problems examples worked out, videos, or other supports to assist students in completing their assignments.
- ⚓ Assessments may include discussion-based assessments, essays, project-based, and formative assessments.
- ⚓ Teachers can be contacted for support through email, google docs, Teams, Zoom, or school phone depending upon the teacher and the reason for NTI.
- ⚓ Teachers will grade assignments as they are received.
- ⚓ Teachers will set the due date for NTI assignments and all assignments will be due on that day.
- ⚓ Late work for NTI must be turned in within 3 days or at the discretion of the principal depending on the circumstances that caused the school to need to go to NTI.
- ⚓ A plan for an academic help desk for students/parents to access during NTI may be developed for the 2022/2023 School Year.

STUDENT SERVICES – SPECIAL EDUCATION

⚓ CHILD FIND SERVICES

Fulton County School District (FCSD) will continue to identify, locate and evaluate students suspected of having a disability and needing special education and related services. At the same time, FCSD will be mindful that students have been displaced from their typical learning environment when initiating the referral process. Some evaluation procedures can be completed in remote learning situations. Some evaluations require in-person contact with students or observations of students in school settings. FCSD will conduct evaluations remotely and in-person while adhering to public health guidelines for the safety of students and staff.

⚓ INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PROGRAM (IEP) MEETINGS

FCSD is committed to providing families an opportunity to have meaningful participation in the special education process. Whether in-person or an alternative format, such as video conferencing or by phone, Special Education teams will partner with families to determine the most practical format to conduct IEP meetings.

⚓ DELIVERY OF SPECIAL EDUCATION AND RELATED SERVICES

FCS will continue to ensure that students with disabilities receive a free appropriate public education (FAPE). We will be working to incorporate new health and safety precautions that must also be enacted while providing FAPE to students with disabilities. Because FAPE must now be provided consistent with the need to protect health and safety, there may be disruptions, delays, and/or changes in how services are provided.

Even so, it is a district priority to ensure that students with disabilities have equal access to the same opportunities as their non-disabled peers. IEPs will continue to be developed and implemented based upon each student's unique needs and the learning environment chosen by the family.

⚓ PROGRESS MONITORING AND REPORTING

Special Education teams will have in place consistent data collection and service log procedures for use across learning environments. Collecting data and tracking the provision of services will assist educators and families in determining the effectiveness of instruction provided, student performance on IEP goals/objectives, and assist IEP teams in making any necessary adjustments to instruction. Periodic reports on the progress the child is making toward meeting the annual goals will continue to be provided.

⚓ ACCOMMODATIONS AND MODIFICATIONS

Accommodations and modifications will be provided regardless of a student's learning environment. General and special education teachers will continue to collaborate in determining the appropriateness and success of a student's accommodations and/or modifications. The IEP team (general education teachers, special education, related services providers, and families) will work collaboratively to identify alternate solutions if it believes an accommodation and/or modification is not appropriate or successful in a particular setting.

⚓ CONFIDENTIALITY AND STUDENT PRIVACY

Special Education and Related Service Providers may use digital platforms approved by the district for secure access. Families may provide consent to participate in tele-therapy sessions with providers when remote services are required. Families or other household members may observe or otherwise participate in distance learning opportunities. As with an in-person observation in a classroom, educators may set ground rules regarding non-students' presence during virtual instruction.

STUDENT SERVICES - 504 SUPPORT AND COMPLIANCE

FCS understands that any change to the learning environment has the potential to be a barrier for our learners. Consequently, we are training staff to identify and accommodate those students that would benefit from a 504 plan in a remote environment.

All 504 support and meeting protocols have been developed for both in-person and remote options. Decisions around meeting participation and communication will be made on an individual basis. 504 teams are encouraged to discuss accommodation needs for students in both learning environments- in person and remote.

We understand that some students with disabilities may not be able to wear a face covering for disability-related reasons. For these students, 504 teams will work together to determine reasonable accommodations.

Additionally, we know that some students with disabilities are at higher risk of medical complications. On a case-by-case basis, 504 teams will convene to consider individual needs. As always, a parent may request a review meeting at any time.

STUDENT SERVICES – MENTAL HEALTH

⚓ Crisis Response and Suicide Prevention

For students who express concerning language or behaviors while in school, a mental health professional will administer an in-person suicide risk assessment and follow protocols established for in-person interactions.

- For students who express concerning language or behaviors while remote, staff will follow remote suicide risk assessment protocols (provided to all school administrators and mental health professionals).
- All crisis event responses will be made in collaboration with the School Safety Team and building level administrators.
- An emphasis will be placed on training all staff on recognizing signs of depression and anxiety across all learning environments.
- Staff have always received training in mandatory reporting and recognizing signs of distress in students. We will add training specific to remote learning in order to make sure staff are trained to respond appropriately across all learning environments.

⚓ Social-Emotional Learning and Counseling

Fulton County Schools is developing a comprehensive plan for supporting in-person and on-line learning that includes: providing training to staff on Youth Mental Health First Aid, Trauma-informed classroom management, Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS), and supporting family-school partnerships that emphasize relationship building and engagement to enhance building climate and culture. An emphasis on the social, emotional and mental health of our students will be a priority for our students.

- Mental health counselors and guidance counselors will support both our students and staff with delivering social-emotional learning curriculum, and individually supporting students as determined by building level team decision making.
- Schools will utilize their mental health resources as we return to school.
- Screeners will be established and utilized to inform levels of support for students.

STUDENT SERVICES – GIFTED AND TALENTED

Gifted and Talented services will continue to be provided to students during both models of instruction. The GT department will continue to support schools, gifted learners, and their families in either an in-person or remote online environment. The GT Resource Teacher will be available to support families, staff, and students, both in-person and remote environments.

- To maximize students' face-to-face time with teachers, GT Services will continue to be provided remotely to the greatest extent possible in either an in-person or remote/online environment.

- We will continue to accept GT identification referrals and will review them as per the guidelines, though we may not be able to make determinations until we have a complete body of evidence. Universal screening will be done.
- Gifted Student Service Plans will continue to be implemented by the classroom teacher with support from the GT resource teacher.

STUDENT SERVICE – ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS

English Language services will be provided to students during both models of instruction. The EL department will continue to support schools, EL learners, and their families in either in-person or NTI learning.

Fulton County is committed to equity and will continue to provide high-quality services and programs for English language learners (ELL).

- ⚓ Communication will occur in the parents’ preferred language.
- ⚓ The EL resource teacher will continue to provide direct services to students in collaboration with the classroom teacher.
- ⚓ EL referrals will be reviewed per guidelines.
- ⚓ EL service plans will be implemented.

OPERATIONS

Fulton County Schools will operate schools following the Healthy at Work/School guidelines as outlined by the Kentucky Department of Education and the Department for Public Health. Operations will need to be flexible and respond to the changing status of the COVID-19 pandemic. Operations will promote health and safety of our students, employees, families, and community and maximize educational opportunities to the fullest extent possible.

1. Athletics and Activities
2. Facilities Cleaning and Sanitation
3. Food Services
4. Transportation
5. School Management

OPERATIONS – ATHLETICS/ACTIVITIES

Fulton County Schools will follow all guidelines recommended by the Kentucky High School Athletic Association for sports and activities.

OPERATIONS – FACILITIES CLEANING AND SANITATION

Fulton County Schools will follow all guidelines recommended by the Department of Public Health and the Centers for Disease Control for cleanliness and sanitation of school facilities and vehicles. Fulton County

Schools is dedicated to providing a safe, sanitized environment that promotes educational activities. Protocols will be focused on cleaning for health by disinfecting high traffic and sensitive areas that transmit germs.

- Air quality measures will be installed as needed throughout the district.
- Areas to be thoroughly cleaned and sanitized: restrooms, cafeteria, locker rooms, weight rooms, etc...
- Areas to be sanitized after student use: desk tops, table tops, countertops, etc...
- Areas to be sanitized throughout the day: handrails, hallways, door knobs, countertops in common areas, and other high touch areas in the buildings.
- Janitorial staff will use the custodial products recommended by the district including the germs sprayers, sanitizing spray, and disinfecting light.
- Classrooms will be thoroughly cleaned and sanitized at the end of each school day.
- Buses will be thoroughly cleaned and sanitized.
- All common areas will be thoroughly cleaned and sanitized throughout the day.

OPERATIONS – FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICES

Fulton County Schools will provide meal service to students.

- Food service staff will follow all food preparation, cleaning and disinfecting protocols recommended by the Centers for Disease Control.
- Gloves will be worn for protection.

OPERATIONS - TRANSPORTATION

Fulton County Schools will continue to provide transportation to students for in-person instruction. We encourage parents to transport students via car if possible to decrease the risk of exposure to COVID-19.

- Wearing masks on bus is optional according to new CDC guidelines.
- All buses will be sanitized.

OPERATIONS – SCHOOL MANAGEMENT

District and School administration is working to secure a safe learning environment for all of Fulton County students. Procedures and protocols have been established to aid in the safety of our learners.

⚓ Student Screening, Arrival, Departure, and Transitions

- Building administrators will develop a plan for pick up/drop off, building entry, transitions throughout the school day, bus loading, symptom screening, lunch/recess schedules, etc.
- Staff roles and responsibilities may need to shift to provide additional monitoring during transitions, symptom screening participation, and additional cleaning.
- Visitors will be stopped at the front entrance.

⚓ **Confirmed Positive COVID-19 Cases**

- Symptomatic staff and students in the building will need to go to a designated area until they can safely leave the building.
- If a student or staff member is confirmed to have positively contracted COVID-19, school personnel will work with the local health department to contact trace possible exposure.

⚓ **Before and After School Programs**

- Before and after school programs will follow the same guidelines and protocols as during school.

⚓ **Student Enrollment**

- Student enrollment will continue to follow current district policies for registration, enrollment, and transfers.

⚓ **Attendance**

- Student attendance will continue to follow current district and SBDM policies and procedures.
- Reporting will include students who are absent to COVID-19 symptoms or quarantine.

COMMUNICATIONS

Fulton County Schools will communicate with all stakeholders regarding COVID-19 and the changing status of school relations.

⚓ **Communications**

The district and school administrators will utilize communication methods to inform staff of school functions:

- E-mail
- One Call
- District Webpage
- District leadership meetings
- Faculty meetings
- Facebook-Fulton County Pilots
- Remind
- Class DoJo
- Newsletters

*** Fulton County's superintendent and district/school administration will continue to work with the local Purchase District Health Department to monitor Covid-19 data to determine the best protocols for our schools and make adjustments as necessary.*