Hardeman County Schools has been working diligently with multiple stakeholders and groups to design a framework for a safe and efficient return to school. COVID-19 has presented challenges that have been unprecedented and extremely difficult to navigate in uncertain times. Returning to school under the circumstances we knew prior to COVID-19 will be monumentally difficult. This roadmap is a framework based upon information we have at the present time. The district will adapt the plan in real time as the pandemic continues to evolve.

Four principles will be used to guide planning, decision-making, and execution of the work of returning to school in Hardeman County:

1. We will put safety first. The safety of our students and staff will drive every decision we make, but it is impossible to ensure any guarantees.

2. We will listen, be transparent, and share what we know and what we don’t know. We will be clear about what we can control and what is outside of our control.

3. We will be equitable. We will center decisions on what is best for all students, families, educators, and stakeholders. For most students, being in school with a teacher providing instruction is the best way to learn. We understand that many in our community depend on school being in session.

4. We will be decisive. There will be tough choices and we will make mistakes. However, we will adapt quickly as variables on the ground change.

We must all be prepared to adapt to changing environments not only at the beginning of the year, but at any given moment during the school year. Thank you for your understanding and support during these difficult times. Our student safety and academic success is the guiding light of all that we do.
Hardeman County Schools is preparing for on campus school operations to resume in August 2020. However, we will use a modified schedule from Aug. 7-14 only. This will allow extra time for our students to meet with their teachers, discuss the safety measures that will be in place, learn "new norm" protocols and procedures, and answer any questions that students may have. This will also be a time to acclimate and reconnect to the educational setting. Due to the different configurations of schools in the district, each school will have its own staggered schedule for that week. **All students are scheduled to return on Aug. 17, 2020.**

### Staggered Re-Opening Schedule for the Week of Aug. 7-14, 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Schedule</th>
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| **BES** | Aug. 7 (Fri.) - PreK & K  
Aug. 10 (Mon.) - Grade 5  
Aug. 11 (Tues.) - Grade 4  
Aug. 12 (Wed.) - Grade 3  
Aug. 13 (Thurs.) - Grade 2  
Aug. 14 (Fri.) - Grade 1 |
| **BCHS** | Aug. 10 (Mon.) - Grade 9  
Aug. 11 (Tues.) - Grade 10  
Aug. 12 (Wed.) - Grade 11  
Aug. 13 (Thurs.) - Grade 12  
Aug. 14 (Fri.) - Grade 9 |
| **MES/GIES** | Aug. 7 (Fri.) PreK & K  
Aug. 10 (Mon.) - Grades 5 & 6  
Aug. 11 (Tues.) - Grade 4  
Aug. 12 (Wed.) - Grade 3  
Aug. 13 (Thurs.) - Grade 2  
Aug. 14 (Fri.) - Grade 1 |
| **BMS** | Aug. 10 (Mon.) - Grade 6  
Aug. 11 (Tues.) - Grade 7  
Aug. 12 (Wed.) - Grade 8  
Aug. 13 (Thurs.) - Grade 6  
Aug. 14 (Fri.) - Grade 7 |
| **MHS** | Aug. 10 (Mon.) - Grade 7  
Aug. 11 (Tues.) - Grades 8 & 9  
Aug. 12 (Wed.) - Grade 10  
Aug. 13 (Thurs.) - Grade 11  
Aug. 14 (Fri.) - Grade 12 |
| **HES/IES/IES** | Aug. 7 (Fri.) - PreK & K  
Aug. 10 (Mon.) - Grades 5 & 6  
Aug. 11 (Tues.) - Grades 7 & 8  
Aug. 12 (Wed.) - Grades 3 & 4  
Aug. 13 (Thurs.) - Grade 2  
Aug. 14 (Fri.) - Grade 1 |

*Please note that Kindergarten will stagger during the week of Aug. 10-14 in small groups. PreK will stagger the week of Aug. 17-21 in small groups. Schools will reach out to these families with specific dates.*

Specific school based decisions, plans, and procedures regarding on campus modifications will be finalized over the next month. Students, parents, and employees should begin the year with the expectation that specific health and safety procedures will be in place. Stakeholders should maintain awareness that at any given point, instructional design and the method of schooling may change due to changes in information regarding local health data.
Health and Sanitization: Temperature checks will be performed on everyone entering the school building. Any person with a temperature of 100.4 or greater will be sent home or placed in an isolation area until a parent/guardian can pick them up. Hand sanitizer will be available throughout the schools with strict hand hygiene practices enforced. Regular sanitization/cleaning practices will be implemented throughout all school buildings. Automated water filling stations will be available to students. Students are encouraged to bring their personal water bottles to school. Staff/students have the option to wear face coverings/masks.

Daily Activities: Students will have minimized contact throughout the buildings and practice social distancing to the greatest extent possible. Modifications will be made when necessary with limits on crowd sizes. Campus access within the building will be limited to required and necessary personnel only.

Transportation: All buses will run their normal route times for morning pickup and afternoon delivery. Additional spacing between students will not be required but will be utilized to the greatest extent possible. Buses will be sanitized. Windows should be open as much as possible in an effort to increase fresh air flow, weather permitting. Parents have options and should make transportation decisions that they are most comfortable with.

Academics: Schools will conduct benchmark assessments in August to make plans for the learning needs of all students. This will include intervention, remediation, and acceleration for all students. Daily, on-campus instruction will continue to be based on TN State Standards with classroom instruction planned as normal. In the event that a school closure is necessary, plans will be implemented so that students do not miss instructional school calendar days (Specifics will be released later).
Virtual Learning Option: For parents/students who are not comfortable returning to the traditional classroom setting at this time, virtual learning opportunities will be available at no cost to the family. Parents will need to provide or access internet connectivity and be able to manage self-paced instruction. This option is available to all school age children in Hardeman County including students currently enrolled in a homeschool or private school program. To explore these options, call Wendy Mills at the Hardeman County Schools Central Office (731) 658-2510 ext. 124. An application for virtual learning is available on the district website www.hcsedu.org under COVID-19 Resources or may be picked up at the Central Office. Applications should be turned in as soon as possible for planning and consultation purposes. Any family considering virtual learning will need to complete a consultation session to understand the expectations and requirements of the program. We are requesting that applications be submitted by July 17 for planning purposes.

School Meals: It is our intent to provide school breakfast and lunch in the buildings. Changes will be made to the current food service program in order to comply with increased health recommendations. At this time, visitors will not be allowed for lunch.

Special Education Services: It is our plan to provide services at the beginning of the 2020-2021 school year as dictated by the child’s IEP. We understand that some of our students with identified needs may be unable to attend school or participate in therapy. We will work with parents and provide the level of support that is appropriate. Parents should contact Dianne Whitaker at (731) 658-2510 ext. 136 with questions or concerns.

Dual Enrollment/Dual Credit: High school students will continue to have the option of participating in college classes as they have done in the past. Individual colleges and universities will establish their own protocols and instructional delivery models, which we will share as they make those decisions.

We will continue to provide updates throughout the summer as they become available. We look forward to seeing your child soon!

Bobby Doyle
Interim Director of Schools