

Harrisburg School District Ready for Learning Plan Addendum

April, 2021

As part of the American Rescue Plan Act, the Harrisburg School District, in consultation with the Ready for Learning Committee, has developed a summary of our plan for safe continuation of in-person learning and continuity of services. We are requesting public comment and will take such comments into account in the development of and modification of the plan for summer and back-to-school activities.

This plan identifies safety measures for teachers, staff, and students during the final quarter of the school year, while taking into consideration the many end-of-school activities taking place both on and off school campuses.

Masks/Face Coverings:

Effective Monday, April 5th, after school board approval, students/staff have the option to choose whether or not to wear a face-covering on campus and/or buses. If students/staff feel more comfortable wearing a face-covering, they are highly encouraged to continue wearing one. Masks must be appropriate for school following handbook dress code rules. Acceptable masks include personal masks, disposable masks, homemade masks, handkerchiefs, and scarves. Face-coverings will no longer be required at after-school outdoor or indoor district events.

Physical Distancing:

Physical distancing will be practiced to the extent practical. The CDC still recommends social distancing of 6 feet between adults, as well as adults and students when masks are not worn.

Use of Non-Classroom Spaces:

When possible and appropriate, it is preferable for students to gather outside rather than inside because of the reduced risk of virus spread outdoors. HSD will continue to offer extracurricular activities consistent with ADH guidance for non-AAA extracurricular activities and with the guidance found on the AAA website for all AAA-sponsored

activities. Face-coverings will no longer be required at after-school outdoor or indoor district events.

Hand Washing/Cleaning:

Handwashing is strongly encouraged. Daily cleaning of classrooms is still being implemented. Proper cleaning of all areas is being completed after each meal in the cafeteria. Procedures do not allow students to pick up utensils, self-serve, or share food. HSD has hand sanitizer at each entrance and in each classroom. Students, teachers, staff, and campus visitors are encouraged to sanitize and/or wash hands frequently.

Ventilation/Air Circulation:

Whenever possible, HSD schools will work to improve airflow by allowing outside air to circulate in the buildings. We will also be referring to CDC guidance on increasing ventilation to prevent COVID-19 spread.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/ventilation.html>

Visitors to Schools:

We will continue to restrict daily visitors on our campuses while we closely monitor the positivity rate at each school.

Screening:

HSD will continue to screen individuals who enter buildings by taking their temperature and utilizing appropriate questions. If an individual does not pass the screening, he/she will not be permitted into the building unless they fall under an exemption (i.e. fully vaccinated close contact).

Close Contact Determination:

HSD will continue to determine close contacts and quarantines as determined by CDC guidance and in consultation with our district point of contact and the Arkansas Department of Health.

The CDC updated guidance on March 8, 2021, to indicate that a fully vaccinated individual does not need to stay at home following close contact exposure to a test-confirmed individual if the following conditions are true:

1. The exposed individual is fully vaccinated (at least two weeks have passed since receiving the second dose of a two-dose vaccine or the first dose of a single-dose vaccine), AND
2. The individual has not experienced any COVID-19 symptoms following the close contact exposure to a test-confirmed individual.

Individuals who have previously tested positive for COVID-19 and recovered who are subsequently exposed to someone with COVID-19 within three months of their original diagnosis do not have to stay at home or get tested again, as long as they do not develop new symptoms. Individuals who develop symptoms again within three months of their first instance of COVID-19 may need to be tested again if there is no other cause identified for their symptoms.

Educational Options:

Students and staff should stay home when sick. HSD has implemented digital options for the remainder of this school year allowing for teacher/student interaction when unable to physically attend school. Students and families should feel confident students can remain connected to their school even when they are not able to attend in person due to COVID-19 isolation or quarantine requirements. Based on community and teacher surveys, the decision has been made the Harrisburg School District will NOT offer a remote option for the 2021-2022 school year. We will strive to have 100% onsite learning for the 2021-2022 school year. Virtual Learning will be available for students with extenuating circumstances. The District will continue with all aspects of maintaining a safe and healthy learning environment. The traditional school calendar starts August 16, 2021. [Harrisburg School District Calendar 2021-2022](#)

The Harrisburg School District is requesting public comments on these plan modifications. To submit public comments please click the link below. You may remain anonymous when completing the form. The District Ready for Learning Committee will take all comments into consideration in planning for the 2021-2022 school year.

[Public Comment Link](#)