

Hodgen Bulldogs **Safe Return Plan**

Thank you for your support and understanding as we respond to the challenges of COVID-19. There continues to be concerns and questions related to how schools are to remain open in the upcoming school year. Our first priority is the safety of our students and employees. We have been working on our start up plan, however we must be proactive and prepared to continue educating our students if and when circumstances change. We are gathering information from the State Department of Education, CDC, Leflore County Health Department and surrounding schools in order to create a plan that best fits Hodgen Public School. **All components of this plan are subject to change in order to maintain the safety of our students and staff.**

1) Traditional Plan- We would continue School as normal with enhanced safety precautions in place such as increased hand sanitizer availability, increased frequency of cleaning high traffic areas, limited visitation to campuses, etc., in order to possibly prevent the transition to a full distance learning option. **(This is our plan for the school year pending restrictive guidance from State Officials.)**

2) Full Distance Learning Plan- All students would participate in learning new material, continued standard pacing, interactive lessons, graded assignments, and assessments. These lessons would be available as online assignments or paper/pencil packets. Our priority is to keep everyone safe while not making life more difficult for our parents. We fully understand your varied concerns about health and safety, distance learning, the importance of face-to-face instruction, parents needing to work and the uniquely different family situations. If for some reason, we can't be in a traditional school setting, our main objective is to safely have our students in our buildings as much as possible to ensure the health and well-being of all. **(Distance Learning would be enacted if we had to close school or we experienced a large number of positive cases in our school.)**

We are also taking into consideration the fact that we have medically compromised students. Parents of students with higher risk of severe illness can contact school administration, if needed, before the school year. **(In case of possible virtual curriculum.)**

Thank you for your continued support and positivity as we strive to do what is best for all of our students and employees during these challenging times.

Bus Routes

Hodgen School plans to resume traditional transportation. When possible windows will be down for air circulation, if the bus does not have an air conditioner. Masks are highly recommended but not required for students while riding the bus due to the close proximity of students. Masks may be required based on virus spread or if mandated by state agencies. Seating assignments may be given in order to track any illnesses, if the need arises.

Temperature Checks

It is important that all families partner with us in monitoring the health of the students and families. We recommend that temperature checks be taken on a daily basis at home, if a student is showing signs of discomfort or illness. Any student with a temperature of 100 degrees or higher should remain at home and contact school officials in order to receive the proper procedures for your child to return to school. Hodgen School may check temperatures periodically throughout the school day. This is to ensure the health and safety of all students and staff.

Healthy Practices

Hodgen School will make every effort to promote healthy practices and protocols. Physical Distancing will be implemented as possible. Masks will not be required but are highly recommended for all staff and students. Hodgen School recommends that students bring a personal water bottle in order to minimize person to person exposure. Hodgen School strongly recommends the wearing of masks on school buses and highly populated areas. Our faculty and staff will monitor all reportable illnesses. Leflore County Health Department and CDC guidance will be utilized for quarantine.

Social Health and Wellness

The Social-Emotional well being of our students is as important as their academic learning. A Hodgen School counselor and staff will be available to help our students and families deal with the challenges of these uncertain times. Hodgen School will increase its cleaning and preparation of facilities in an effort to protect our staff and students. Frequent hand-washing and other healthy protocols will be implemented and practiced. Hand sanitizer will be made available for all students. Upon notification of a positive COVID case in a building, a classroom and/or school will be isolated and cleaned. During class or school closure, distance learning will be implemented.

Limited Visitation to Campus

Parents or visitors may walk their students to the outside doors but not enter the buildings. No visitors allowed in the cafeteria.

Exceptions

1) First day of school only: Parents may walk students to the doorway of their

classroom but not enter the classroom.

2) Student Checkout: Parents may enter the building through the brown double doors near the Superintendent's office in order to sign their child out of school early.

Practice for Positive Case in School

1) A student who has tested positive for COVID-19 may be part of contact tracing by the Leflore County Health Department. Such tracking would require the whereabouts of students in school to be communicated to the health department.

2) Classrooms of positive tested students will be thoroughly sanitized and recommended quarantine will be in place for positive tested students. 3) If the absentee rate of a building or district reaches 35%, then the building or district will go to distance learning for 14 days with the count starting on the first day of distance learning.

This Plan is subject to change in order to deal with the ever-changing situation that we are in as a school, community and nation.