



# **Biloxi Public Schools Return To School**

# **GOALS**

## **Goals of Biloxi Public School District during Covid-19 Pandemic**

- Provide a safe learning environment for staff and students
- Achieve social distancing where possible
- Maintain high academic expectations, rigorous curriculum, and a focus on student achievement
- Provide a distance learning environment that meets the same high academic expectations, rigorous curriculum, and focus on student achievement

## **Disclaimers**

- BPS strives to follow CDC guidelines, MDE guidance, and MS Department of Health guidance in all situations possible. Schools are altering schedules, procedures, and practices in an effort to achieve social distancing as much as possible during the school day.
- Plans, processes, and procedures are subject to change due to the fluid circumstances of the pandemic.
- Parents should have backup plans in the event that school closures become necessary at any point during the school year. Potential school closures could result in:
  - A hybrid learning model that involves alternating days of physical attendance coupled with distance learning
  - Full distance learning with students not physically attending school

## **Cleaning**

- BPS has an increased focus on cleaning and has hired additional staff to support our efforts.
- School buses will be cleaned at the completion of each bus route.
- Classrooms, hallways, restrooms, eating areas, high traffic areas, and high touch areas will be cleaned throughout the school day.
- Classroom areas (including desks) will be disinfected during each transition of students.
- Deep cleaning of all areas will occur at the conclusion of each school day.

## **Wellness**

- Staff and students should not report to school when sick.
- Parents should check their child's temperature daily before departing for school. Staff must check their temperature daily before reporting to work.
- Staff and students with a temperature of 100.0 or above should not report to school and if already at school will be sent home. Failure to pick up a symptomatic student from school in a timely manner could result in a CPS referral.
- Staff and students with a temperature of 100.0 or above must be fever free for 24 hours (without fever reducing medication) before returning to school.

## **Covid-19 Related Illness**

- Staff or students that test positive (or have a pending test) for Covid-19 must quarantine for a minimum of 14 days and may return after being symptom free (without fever reducing medication) for 24 hours. A doctor's note is required to return to school.
- Staff or students that are a "close contact" of an individual that has tested positive for Covid-19 must quarantine for a minimum of 14 days, monitor for symptoms, and may return after being symptom free (without fever reducing medication) for 24 hours.

(The Mississippi Department of Health describes a "close contact" as someone that has been exposed to an individual diagnosed with Covid-19 and individuals were closer than 6 feet from one another for 15 minutes or more.)

- Parents will be notified via letter of positive cases discovered in their children's classes.

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# **Biloxi Public Schools Return To School** **A Day in the Indian Nation**

**The First Day of School is Wednesday August 5, 2020**

## **Masks**

- Required to be worn by all staff & students. Masks may be removed when social distancing can be successfully achieved.
- The school district will provide one reusable cloth mask to all staff and students.
- Staff/Students may also provide their own personal mask.
- Mask must cover the nose and mouth.

## **Hand Washing & Hand Sanitizing**

- Proper hand washing will be demonstrated and stressed at all campuses.
- Bathrooms will be adequately stocked with hand soap.
- Hand Sanitizer will be available in classrooms and throughout each campus.

## **Arrival & Dismissal (will vary at each school site)**

- Staggered where possible to prevent crowding.
- Designated entry/exit points for car riders, bus riders, drivers, etc.
- Directional hallways to prevent crowding.

## **Transportation**

- Bus transportation is available, but parents are encouraged to provide their own transportation if possible.
- Social distancing on the school bus is not achievable in most circumstances.
- Masks are required to be worn at all bus stops and on all school buses.

## **Breakfast & Lunch (will vary at each school site)**

- **Breakfast**
  - Grab & go with designated seating in socially distanced eating areas or classrooms.
- **Lunch**
  - More limited food options than usual.
  - No self-serving (shared) items.
  - Designated seating in socially distanced eating areas or classrooms.
  - Increased number of lunch periods to achieve social distancing.

## **Water Fountains**

- Multiple water filling stations will be installed at all school campuses.
- Students are encouraged to bring a refillable water bottle to school.

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# **Biloxi Public Schools Return To School**

## **A Day in the Indian Nation**

### **continued...**

#### **Differences at each school level**

- **Elementary**

- Extremely limited daily transitions.
- Teachers will rotate in and out of classrooms where possible.
- Designated recess times and areas to achieve social distancing.

- **Upper Elementary**

- Limited daily transitions.
- Required transitions will be with the same cohort of students (masks worn during transition).
- Designated recess times and areas to achieve social distancing.

- **Junior High/High School**

- Masks worn during all transitions.
- Staggered class transitions to prevent crowding in hallways.
- Directional hallways to prevent crowding.

#### **Special Education and English Language Learner Services**

- All services will be provided in accordance with applicable laws and guidelines.

#### **Visitors on campus**

- Visitors will not be allowed on campus due to health and safety concerns.
- Parents may not walk students to class, eat lunch with students, or visit during the school day.
- Check-in and check-out procedures will be established at each individual school site and those procedures will be shared with parents.
- Parent meetings will be held virtually when possible. Those requiring physical attendance will be scheduled.
- Any individual entering the school must wear a mask at all times.

#### **Extracurricular Activities**

- The Biloxi Public School District will follow the guidance of the Mississippi High School Activities Association, the Mississippi Department of Education, and the Mississippi Department of Health in reference to extracurricular activities.



## **Biloxi Public Schools Return To School** **DISTANCE LEARNING**

### ***Daily schedules will vary at each school site***

- Distance learners will follow the academic calendar of the school district.
- Distance learners must adhere to all grading, graduation, and academic requirements of traditional students.
- Distance learners are required to participate in all required state assessments.
- Some elective courses and opportunities may not be offered to distance learning students.
- Distance learning will consist of a scheduled school day including required login times for scheduled instruction.
- Live instruction will be delivered daily with a BPS teacher providing real time instruction, discussion, and engagement (scheduled times will vary by school site).
- Daily attendance will be recorded based on student's daily log in and participation in live instruction.
- Scheduled time will be provided for independent practice, specials, lunch, and other activities throughout the day.
- Special Education & English Language Learner services will be provided in accordance with applicable laws and guidelines.