

## **Frequently Asked Questions Concerning School Reopening and COVID-19.**

### **Students who are sick**

1. Students who are sick should stay home, regardless of illness.
2. Students who have COVID-19 should stay home and remain isolated until they have recovered (at least 14 days) and have been determined to be no longer infectious by their doctor. A written release by the doctor will be mandatory.
3. Students who become sick at school will be sent home as soon as possible. These students will be isolated from well students, under the school nurse's care, until they can leave campus.
4. Individuals who were in close contact with a COVID-19 positive student (less than 6 feet away for more than 15 minutes) will be asked to stay home and monitor symptoms for 14 days.

### **What is the definition of exposure in a school setting?**

1. The definition of exposure is the same for every setting and every type of classroom. When assessing a person's risk of exposure to COVID-19, close contact means being within 6 feet of a person with COVID-19 while not wearing adequate personal protective equipment for 15 minutes. If someone is within six feet of a person with lab-confirmed COVID-19 for 15 minutes or more at a time, that person is considered to have been exposed.

### **Should schools test or screen students or staff for COVID-19 symptoms?**

1. CDC and the Louisiana Health Department does not recommend schools require testing of students or staff upon resumption of in person offerings, however the CDC and LDH recommend daily health screenings of students and staff, along with procedures to address any student or staff member who arrives on site with symptoms or develops them during the course of the day.

### **Students wearing Masks**

1. Students must provide their own cloth mask or neck gaiter, either purchased or handmade.
2. Masks can be of any color and printed design, but must be appropriate for school and Mass, and must cover the nose and mouth areas.
3. The school will be offering a face mask for purchase via our new online store, which will be available in mid to late July. More details will be sent out at a later date.
4. Face coverings must be worn during arrival, dismissal, and any other transition on the school campus.

5. Students may have to wear masks in the classroom, depending on student population and classroom size.
6. Face shields can be worn, but a face covering will still be required.
7. Students with severe breathing difficulties should not wear face coverings, and must provide the school nurse with documentation from a physician.
8. Students who feel they need to take a break from wearing a mask will report to the school nurse's office.

### **Lunch in the classrooms**

1. According to the Louisiana Department of Education, classrooms should be utilized for eating in place. They also allow for outdoor seating if practical and appropriate.
2. Supervision of students during lunch is more important than location in order to maintain social distancing. We will start the year in the classroom to ensure safety and hygiene.
3. Students may bring food from home.
4. The St. Genevieve cafeteria will prepare a "grab and go" lunch the student picks up and returns to the classroom.
5. Hopefully, outdoor lunch may be possible with strict social distancing. The outdoor benches and tables will not be available.

### **How will rooms be configured for social distancing?**

1. Desks will be placed so seating is 6 feet apart and facing the same direction, whenever possible.
2. Tables will be used by seating students only on one side of tables, spacing seating 6 feet apart.
3. The Maintenance staff removed all non-essential furniture from classrooms to create optimum floor space.

### **What options are available for teaching and learning?**

1. Three options exist as follows: full return to school, hybrid model utilizing at school/distance learning, full distance learning.
2. As a staff, we choose to focus on the full return to school, which demands the most manpower, time, resources, and expense.
3. We have a checklist concerning school readiness, and we have accounted for the preparation of each item.

### **Why did we not survey parents?**

1. We did not survey parents based on the information noted above. We prepared the campus for a full return of students. Once accomplished, we are set to handle any model or option.

### **What is the Hybrid model?**

1. The Hybrid model is a combination of at-school and distance learning.
2. This would be considered an A / B schedule, with half of the student body present at school, the other half at home.
3. The school would be divided alphabetically, with efforts made to keep a family whole.
4. Option 1: Two days of at-school learning, three days of distance learning.
5. Example: Student A goes to school Monday and Wednesday; utilizes distance learning Tuesday and Thursday. Student B is just the opposite. Everybody is on distance learning on Friday.
6. Option 2: Student A goes to school Monday-Wednesday-Friday and utilizes distance learning Tuesday and Thursday. Student B goes to school Tuesday-Thursday and utilizes distance learning Monday-Wednesday-Friday. The next week the rotation is just the opposite.
7. We would run a Straight-7 schedule to accomplish the Hybrid model.
8. To be determined: When students are not at school, they would join the in-session class remotely. This would include being scheduled at home as part of the A/B rotation, students quarantined, or students absent.
9. Under the hybrid reopening plan, students will be exposed to substantially fewer students as they are members of a cohort (alphabetically) and do not have widespread interaction with others outside their cohort. The two/three-day classroom system will allow adequate social distancing and accommodate this cohort approach. Utilizing this strategy, along with other protective efforts (such as mask requirements, enhanced cleaning), will provide an enhanced level of safety for children, staff and the community.

### **What will distance learning look like?**

1. Similar to what was used March-May of this past school year.
2. Last year we were in Crisis-mode teaching, making sure the most essential concepts were taught.
3. This model will build in revisions to the delivery of instruction, student engagement and grading, which is based on feedback from the distance learning experiences of students and staff from March through May.

### **If the health conditions improve, how will things change?**

1. State, CDC, local government, and the Diocesan guidance will inform future changes that allow for additional student capacity and changes to health and safety protocols as social distancing requirements are eased.

**Could TCHS move between these models as the circumstances change?**

1. The fall will require flexibility from everyone - staff, students, families and our community partners. It may be that we start off in September with one model and rapidly move to another. If we see a resurgence of the coronavirus pandemic in Acadiana, we may need to move to another model. Flexibility will be essential. But as long as we maintain a flexible mindset, we will be able to adapt to whatever situation presents itself.

**Will students have to dress out in PE classes?**

1. No, we will begin the year with activity specific classroom instruction and low impact activities which can be completed in school uniform.
2. For those students needing to purchase PE uniforms, they will be purchased during Orientation Day in preparation for a change in protocol at any given time.