

# Return to Learn- FAQ

## Is Calhoun #40 returning to in-person learning in August?

- Yes. The plan as of today 7.20.20 is to return in person. We are also working on a blended plan and a remote plan so that we are prepared for any changes that may come our way.

## What is the first student day of attendance?

- Thursday, August 20<sup>th</sup>

## What is the schedule?

- Monday-Friday from 8:00-2:00 p.m.



## Will my child have to wear a mask?

- Yes. The district will be following the ISBE guidelines. If there is a medical reason why the child cannot wear a mask, a physician's note is required.

## Do I need to provide a mask?

- **\*\*UPDATED\*\*** We are asking that parents send a reusable mask with their student or send them with a new disposable mask each day. This will ensure they are wearing a proper fitting mask. We will provide 1 reusable to each student and staff member and disposables will be available in case someone forgets. Face shields are NOT allowed.

## Will the buses still run this school year?

- Yes. The bus routes will run. However, we are asking parents to transport their student(s) if possible. Guidelines state that there cannot be more than 50 on the bus. If the bus has over 50 students, we will need to run an early and late route.

## Will I be responsible for conducting the health check for my child?

- Yes. This is a collaborative effort and we need parents to help self-certify that their child does not have a fever or other symptoms prior to

- attending school EACH day. Specific directions on self-certification will be sent home to everyone when the details are completed.

### Will there be any sports in the fall?

- **\*UPDATED\*** 8.4.20 IESA is allowing baseball, softball, and cross country and IHSA has released new guidelines for sports. Fall sports for high school such as football and volleyball have been moved to after January.
- **May my child participate in extracurricular activities if they are in remote learning?**
- The Fall 2020 guidance from ISBE does suggest that districts allow students to participate. However, they will be held to the same eligibility requirements as those students attending in-person.

### How will breakfast and lunch be served?

- **\*\*UPDATED\*\*** Breakfast will be sent home at the end of the day for the next morning so students can eat before attending school. Lunches will be served in smaller groups and in various areas, including possibly the classroom to comply with the less than 50 people guidelines. In addition, menus will look different this year as we create the safest environment. Your child can expect a bagged lunch for at least the first couple of weeks.

### How do I stay current with information and changes?

- It is important to make sure that we have the correct phone, e-mail, and home address for you. School Messenger, the school website, and school Facebook will be where information is posted. When possible, we will post to all of these sources.

### What if I am not comfortable sending my child in-person?

- This is your choice. Keep in mind that the decision is a commitment for the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter (9 weeks). In addition, parents need to call their child(ren)'s school and complete a checklist with the building secretary. This decision needs to be made by August 7<sup>th</sup>. More specific information can be found in the Return to Learn Plan.

### **Will my child be able to participate/take all of the courses/classes like before the pandemic?**

- **No. Unfortunately, due to guidelines there may be classes that are not held.**

### **Could the in-person learning need to be changed? Will my child's schedule change?**

- **Yes. The district may need to move to a blended plan or totally remote plan based on decision by the local health department and/or State of Illinois.**

### **What is a blended plan?**

- **A blended plan includes alternating between both in-person instruction and at home learning with some type of staggering or alternating options. For example, this would be certain groups attending on Monday/Wednesday and other groups on Tuesday/Thursday with at home/remote learning on Friday. This type of plan may need to be implemented if the phases in the state change, or the district is no longer able to provide the safest environment for the students and staff.**

### **If students have to return to an all remote environment, what can I expect to be different than in the spring?**

- **Everyone did the absolute best they could in the spring given the circumstances and amount of preparation allowed. However, we realize that there are things that will need to be done differently. This includes but is not limited to; providing a common platform such as Google Classroom that all teachers/staff will utilize, creating a schedule so that all students have access to teachers, developing a common curriculum so that assignments and assessments are the same across grade levels or subject areas, establish a communication tool with parents, determine the grading standards, etc. The remote learning guidelines from ISBE are different for the fall than in the spring as well. It will be more of a traditional grading and the expectation that students can be held accountable for missing work and failing grades. Attendance must also be taken but not used for any type of reward system or exemptions.**

## **What is the procedure going to be if a staff or student is ill or tests positive for COVID-19?**

- We are currently working with the Calhoun County Health Department to create the specific protocol that will be used. These protocols will be based on the CDC and IDPH guidance. The health department and school will work together to monitor and inform others of confirmed cases. Absences are excused and for the time that students are not attending in-person can engage in the remote learning until they return.

**\*\*New FAQ 8.5.2020\*\***

## **May we bring water bottles to school?**

- Yes. Water fountains may not be used but water bottles may be filled in the water filling stations.

## **Will my child be changing classes?**

- The cohorts of students will be kept as small as possible with as little movement as possible. Social distancing is a priority and will be maintained as much as possible.

## **Do students that participate remotely need to be able to be in attendance via the computer during the school day?**

- Yes. It needs to be understood that once we have identified each family that is learning remotely, there will be a schedule of class times provided to you so your child knows when to attend during the day. Not every class will have a live feed. Some classes will be recorded and posted after 2:00 p.m.

## **Is hand sanitizer available?**

- We have ordered several cases of hand sanitizer and have also added approximately 20 dispensers in each building.

### **Will my child have PE, Music?**

- CES, CJH, and CHS plan to offer these classes but with modifications to meet the guidelines by ISBE. PE classes will not use locker rooms or change clothes. When weather permits the students will be outside and 6ft apart so they can have their masks off. If weather does not permit the students to be outside, there will be a study hall for students or some type of in classroom activity with them. If gym space is available, there may be an activity conducted inside, but with masks on.

### **What is the plan for recess?**

- Students will only have recess with their class and the area outside will be divided out so only small groups of students are together.

### **Does my child have to wear a mask on the bus?**

- Yes. ALL students and staff must have a mask to ride the bus.

### **If I am keeping my child home to learn remotely, do they have to be available during the day for instruction?**

- Yes. In order to get all of the educational hours in for your child they need to be able to log in remotely during the day. Some of the lessons will be live with the teacher while others will be recorded and posted after 2:00 p.m.