



Heard County School System
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**Subject: Heard County School System - UPDATED ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
GUIDANCE Date: Friday, September 3, 2020**

SYSTEM LEVEL COMMITMENTS:

- *HCSS will maintain open communication with the DPH and local health officials.
- *HCSS will cooperate fully with the DPH should contact tracing efforts be required.

PRACTICING PREVENTION:

- *HCSS will ask every teacher to remind and reinforce good hygiene measures with students (At a minimum this should include proper handwashing, covering coughs, and proper ways to wear face coverings).
- *HCSS will provide hand sanitizing stations throughout every school
- *HCSS will provide non-touch trash cans in all locations..
- *HCSS will work with BECK Custodial Services to ensure frequently touched surfaces are sanitized on a daily basis.
- *HCSS will shut down all water fountains in all locations and replace them with water dispensers with cups.
- *HCSS will eliminate shared or community supplies in classrooms.
- *HCSS will provide disinfectant for every classroom teacher and has the expectation that every classroom will be wiped down throughout the school day. For rooms that have class changes, desks and other surfaces will be wiped down each time a class change occurs.
- *HCSS elementary teachers who provide small group reading instruction shall, at a minimum, wear a face shield during the close contact period for instruction.
- *HCSS elementary teachers will be encouraged to wear a mask throughout the day when socially distancing is not possible. Wearing a mask will prevent a teacher from becoming quarantined if they are exposed and remain asymptomatic.
- *HCSS elementary students will be encouraged to wear a mask throughout the day when socially distancing is not possible. Wearing a mask will prevent a student from becoming quarantined. For example: if your student was identified as a close contact and they were wearing a mask and are not exhibiting symptoms they

will not be quarantined.

TRANSPORTING STUDENTS:

*HCSS will provide hand sanitizer on every school bus for children and drivers to use upon entering and exiting the bus.

*HCSS will strongly encourage students to wear masks while on the buses.

*HCSS will not allow any field trips at this time. The situation will be reevaluated weekly.

*HCSS will ensure all school buses are sanitized after morning routes and afternoon routes. After disinfectant has been applied, busses will be “aired out”.

ENTERING SCHOOL BUILDINGS:

*HCSS will provide hand sanitizer stations for student/staff use upon entering all school buildings.

*HCSS will work to limit unnecessary congregations of staff/students such as assemblies, pep rallies, etc...this will be reevaluated on a weekly basis.

*HCSS will limit visitors to school on a need-only basis. All visitors will be expected to call ahead so that proper screenings can be conducted by school nurses or other designated staff. (Visits for eating lunch with students and birthday parties, etc...are suspended until further notice).

SERVING MEALS:

*HCSS will provide hand sanitizer in all cafeterias for student/staff use.

*HCSS will continue with general food safety and sanitation procedures.

*All schools will work with their staff to effectively work on seating arrangements in the cafeterias.

TRANSITIONING BETWEEN CLASSES:

*HCSS will discourage the congregating of students during transition time in commons areas and lobbies.

CONDUCTING LARGE GROUP GATHERINGS:

*HCSS will strongly encourage schools to conduct large gatherings outdoors when necessary.

WHEN SOMEONE BECOMES SICK AT SCHOOL:

*Just because someone is sick does not mean they have COVID, but with the community spread we have experienced we will be very diligent when it comes to sending students home who exhibit symptoms of COVID.

*Please do not administer fever-reducing medication to your student and send him/her to school.

***Students who have not been quarantined or tested positive for COVID must be 24-hour symptom free before returning to school.**

As always, this document is very fluid and subject to change depending on the infection rate of the community and the spread in our schools.