

Back-to-School Safety Measures

Overview of COVID-19 Prevention Measures for Returning to School

Masks

- Required by South Carolina for students and staff in buildings when social distancing isn't possible (less than 6 feet) and at all times on school buses.
- Required during transitions between classes; may be removed during classes and activities when social distancing is possible.
- Medical exemptions honored with a doctor's note.
- SDPC will provide at least one (1) cloth mask to every student and staff member.



Social Distance

- Students should maintain 6 feet of social distance in the hallways during arrival, dismissal, and transitions.
- In class, desks will be spaced at 6 feet, 4 feet, or 3 feet. Desks will be spaced at the greatest distance the room allows.
- Buses are limited to 67% capacity and no more than 2 students per seat.



Limit Contacts

- Elementary: Students will be in homeroom "cohorts," and avoid contact with students in other homerooms for the entirety of the day.
- Middle: Limited class changes with a maximum contact with 3 class groups per week, fewer when possible.
- High: "4X4 Schedule;" students will be limited to contact with 4 class groups per week.
- Lunch: Students will eat lunch with one of their class cohorts to limit contacts.



Stay Home When Sick

- Students should not come to school and will be sent home when displaying any of the following symptoms of COVID-19: fever, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, loss of taste or smell, new or worsening cough, sore throat, muscle or body aches, chills, fatigue, headache, congestion or runny nose, diarrhea, nausea or vomiting.
- If a student or employee tests positive for COVID-19, SDPC will follow the most current DHEC guidelines for exclusion/quarantine of the infected individual.
- SDPC will implement daily age-appropriate screening procedures/questions for students.



Hygiene

- Hand sanitizer stations are being installed in all SDPC classrooms.
- Regular hygiene breaks for students to wash their hands will be scheduled throughout the day.
- Water bottle filling stations are being installed in each school, as drinking fountains will be closed.



Cleaning

- In classrooms: desks and student centers will be disinfected between each student or cohort usage.
- Daily school cleaning: high-touch areas such as doorknobs and restrooms will be cleaned multiple times throughout the day.
- Weekly disinfecting: schools will be disinfected using an electro-static sprayer weekly.



*The information provided above is an overview. For a comprehensive description of our safety plan, please see our 2020 Roadmap for Returning to Learning.

