

# Pearl Public School District



## Back-to-School Plan & Safe Return Update Spring 2021

## Table of Contents

MISSION .....	1
INTRODUCTION.....	1
ACADEMIC PROGRAMMING .....	1
Traditional Model.....	2
Hybrid Model .....	3
Virtual Model .....	3
➤ Kindergarten & 1st Grade .....	4
➤ 2nd, 3rd, & 4th Grade .....	4
➤ 5th Grade .....	5
➤ 6th – 8th Grade .....	6
➤ 9th – 12th Grade .....	7
UPDATE: Summer Learning Loss Opportunities .....	8
TECHNOLOGY .....	8
Learning Management Systems.....	9
OPERATIONS .....	10
Transportation .....	10
Child Nutrition.....	10
Arrival and Dismissal .....	10
Visitors .....	11
Pirate Care After-School Program.....	11
Movement Patterns .....	11
Extracurricular Activities and Athletics .....	11
HEALTH AND SAFETY.....	12
Health Screenings .....	12
Face Coverings .....	13
Facility Mitigation Efforts.....	13
Reporting .....	14
FAMILY SUPPORT .....	14
COMMUNICATIONS .....	15
APPENDIX A.....	16
APPENDIX B.....	17
APPENDIX C.....	18
APPENDIX D.....	19

# Pearl Public School District

## MISSION

The mission of Pearl Public School District is to prepare each student to become a lifelong learner, achieve individual goals, and positively impact a global society.

## INTRODUCTION

Pearl Public School District (PPSD) has been diligently working to develop plans for the most effective educational opportunities for our students in the 2020-2021 school year. Based on a desire to provide a safe environment for students and staff, this document sets forth PPSD's back-to-school plans that have been developed in coordination with health officials; guidance from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), MS Department of Health (MSDH), the MS Department of Education (MDE); and input from stakeholders. The plan for returning to school addresses six areas:

1. Academic Programing
2. Technology
3. Operations
4. Health and Safety
5. Family and Community Support
6. Communications

As we are all aware, the entire COVID-19 situation is one that is constantly evolving. With this in mind, we will adjust our plans as necessary based on the most up-to-date guidance from governing authorities. The PPSD policy JGAA – Return to School During COVID-19 addresses the details contained within this back-to-school plan.

## ACADEMIC PROGRAMMING

The academic calendar consists of 180 instructional days as required by MS Code §37-13-63 and MDE Process Standard 13. (See Appendix A – 2020-2021 PPSD Calendar.) In an effort to be fully prepared for this ever-changing context, PPSD has developed traditional, hybrid, and virtual scheduling scenarios for the school year based on the Mississippi Department of Education's guidance document *Considerations for Reopening Mississippi Schools*. (See Appendix B – PPSD Back to School At-a-Glance.)

Pacing guides for each course have been revised in such a way that all academic standards within the course will be taught within the school year in each of the instructional scheduling scenarios. Instructional pacing has been designed so that there are opportunities for

continuous spiraling or cumulative review to support student progress toward mastery of the current grade-level standards during this school year.

In all three scenarios, special education and intervention services will be provided in accordance with student individualized education or 504 plans.

Compulsory School attendance requirements of MS Code §37-13-91 will be enforced in all three models. Attendance will be recorded daily based by the teacher of record by the following methods: one-on-one teacher-student contact, online submission of required assignments through the learning management system, and/or engagement in online, live class meetings. Daily attendance will be entered into the district's student information system daily and uploaded monthly to MSIS.

**UPDATE: A needs assessment survey will be issued to teachers and administrators to determine what professional learning needs and instruction supports are needed, including those to enhance both in-person and online learning. A survey will also be administered to parents at the end of the school year to seek feedback.**

### Traditional Model

The Board of Trustees and the administration of Pearl Public School District hold strong to the belief that an in-person educational experience is the most effective for students—academically, socially, and emotionally. Based on this belief, a traditional model will be implemented with students attending classes in person according to the following daily bell schedule:

- PK-5<sup>th</sup> Grade: 7:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m., Monday-Friday, 330 minutes per day
- 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade: 8:15 a.m. – 2:50 p.m., Monday-Friday, A-B Block Schedule, 340 minutes per day
- 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grades: 8:15 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., Monday-Friday, A-B Block Schedule, 353 minutes per day

PPSD plans to begin the school year with a staggered start on August 7 and 10. Students will be divided into two teams by last name: Blue Team with last names beginning A-L and Gold Team with last names beginning M-Z. The Blue Team will attend in-person for a full day schedule (all eight periods for secondary students) on August 7, and the Gold Team will attend in-person (all eight periods for secondary students) on August 10. All students will report to school according to each school's regular schedule on August 11.

Because we understand that the current issues related to the COVID-19 outbreak present unique situations for families, a blended/online learning option will be offered. Blended/Online learning is available by application to students with a medical condition placing them at increased risk due to COVID-19 in a traditional, face-to-face setting or for students who reside

with someone with a medical condition that places them at increased risk if the student attends school in-person. However, it is critical that parents understand the requirements of the PPSD Blended Learning Program and the responsibilities they assume by requesting this option for their children. (See Appendix c - PPSD Blended/Online Learning Parent Assurances and Responsibilities.) Submission of a request from a parent/guardian for participation in the PPSD Blended/Online Learning Program constitutes a commitment to online learning and to upholding the student and parent/guardian responsibilities associated with online learning.

*Only students who participate in the traditional, in-person format will be allowed to participate in extracurricular and co-curricular activities according to existing policies and procedures.*

**UPDATE: Students who were enrolled in the PPSD Blended/Online learning program in the fall semester will be given the opportunity to continue in this program for the spring semester or return to in-person learning for the spring semester. The parent/guardian of each student should submit written declaration (PPSD Blended/Online Learning Intent Form) December 1, 2020. Because of scheduling, teacher allocation, and other factors, the intention declared by this form will be binding, and no changes to a student's enrollment will be made after the form has been submitted.**

### Hybrid Model

The hybrid model will consist of a combination of in-person and online scheduling using the Blue Team-Gold Team assignments established for the staggered start. Students will alternate between at-school, in-person instruction and at-home, distance instruction based on the schedule assigned to their team.

- Blue Team: Monday and Thursday – At-School; Tuesday and Friday – At-Home/Distance
- Gold Team: Tuesday and Friday – At-School; Monday and Thursday – At-Home/Distance

At-school instruction will follow each school's regular bell schedule on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. Wednesday will serve as a distance learning day for all students, affording schools with additional time for deep cleaning and teachers with opportunities for student support, professional development, and planning. On at-home/online learning days, students will be expected to complete work for each course as assigned by teachers. Google Classroom (K-5) and Canvas (6-12) will be used to support students during these days of learning.

### Virtual Model

In the event of an outbreak or executive orders, the district will switch to a virtual model. Within this fully online format for teaching and learning, schedules will be established for daily instruction provided by PPSD teachers and submission of student work—both through Google Classroom (K-5) and Canvas (6-12). Instruction will be designed using the revised PPSD curriculum pacing guides to ensure time is allocated to the coverage of all standards in each course. Teachers will be available for scheduled office hours to allow for individual and small

group support, as well as Tier 2 instruction as needed.

Class meetings will be conducted through WebEx according to the following schedules.

- [Kindergarten & 1st Grade](#): Live class meetings will last no longer than 40 minutes; learning will be assessed through student-teacher interactions during live class meetings and through Lexia progress in Reading; 240 instructional minutes daily

Subject	Time	Activities/Assignments
Reading/Language Arts/Writing	90 min.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Live WebEx class meeting</li> <li>➤ Student practice/assessment</li> <li>➤ Lexia or Amira independent work</li> <li>➤ Literacy games</li> </ul>
Mathematics	60 min.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Live WebEx class meeting</li> <li>• Student practice/assessment</li> <li>• Independent work</li> <li>• Numeracy games</li> </ul>
Specials – Art, Music, PE, Library, Computer	30 min.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Live WebEx class meeting</li> <li>• Teacher assigned activities</li> </ul>
Health/Science/Social Studies/SEL	30 min.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teacher assigned lessons</li> <li>• Independent work</li> </ul>
Remediation & Enrichment	60 min.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tier 3 interventions</li> <li>• EL interventions and support</li> <li>• Special Education Services (Inclusion, Speech, OT, PT)</li> <li>• Enrichment</li> </ul>
Communication & Support	60 min.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Standing “office hours” open WebEx meeting for individual and small group support</li> </ul>

- [2nd, 3rd, & 4th Grade](#): Live class meetings will last no longer than 45 minutes; learning will be assessed formatively through student-teacher interactions during live class meetings and through iReady progress in ELA and math; 270 instructional minutes daily

Subject	Time	Activities/Assignments
Reading/Language Arts/Writing	80 min.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Live WebEx class meeting</li> <li>➤ Student practice/assessment</li> <li>➤ iReady independent work</li> </ul>
Social Studies	20 min.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teacher assigned lessons</li> <li>• Independent work</li> </ul>
Mathematics	80 min.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Live WebEx class meeting</li> <li>• Student practice/assessment</li> <li>• iReady independent work</li> </ul>
Science/Health	20 min.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teacher assigned lessons</li> <li>• Independent work</li> </ul>
Specials – Art, Music, PE, Library, Computer	20 min.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Live WebEx class meeting</li> </ul>
Remediation & Enrichment	50 min.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tier 3 interventions</li> <li>• EL interventions and support</li> <li>• Special Education Services</li> <li>• Speech, OT, PT</li> <li>• Gifted</li> <li>• Enrichment</li> </ul>
Communication & Support	60 min.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Standing “office hours” open WebEx meeting for individual and small group support</li> </ul>

- [5th Grade](#): Live class meetings will last no longer than 45 minutes; learning will be assessed formatively through student-teacher interactions during live class meetings and through iReady progress in ELA and math; 270 instructional minutes daily

Subject	Time	Activities/Assignments
Reading/Language Arts/Writing	60 min.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Live WebEx class meeting</li> <li>➤ Student practice/assessment</li> <li>➤ iReady independent work</li> </ul>
Social Studies	20 min.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Live WebEx class meeting</li> <li>➤ Student practice/assessment</li> <li>➤ iReady independent work</li> </ul>
Mathematics	60 min.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Live WebEx class meeting</li> <li>• Student practice/assessment</li> <li>• iReady independent work</li> </ul>
Science	60 min.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Live WebEx class meeting</li> <li>• Student practice/assessment independent work</li> <li>• STEMscopes independent work</li> </ul>
Specials – Art, Music, PE, Library, Computer	20 min.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Live WebEx class meeting</li> </ul>
Remediation & Enrichment	50 min.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tier 3 interventions</li> <li>• EL interventions and support</li> <li>• Special Education Services</li> <li>• Speech, OT, PT</li> <li>• Gifted</li> <li>• Enrichment</li> </ul>
Communication & Support	60 min.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Standing “office hours” open WebEx meeting for individual and small group support</li> </ul>

- [6th – 8th Grade](#): Live class meetings will last no longer than 60 minutes; 330 instructional minutes daily

Subject	Time	Activities/Assignments
English	75 min.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Live WebEx class meeting</li> <li>➤ Student practice/assessment</li> <li>➤ Classworks independent practice</li> </ul>
Math	75 min.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Live WebEx class meeting</li> <li>➤ Student practice/assessment</li> <li>➤ Classworks independent practice</li> </ul>
Science	60 min.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Live WebEx class meeting</li> <li>• Student practice/assessment</li> </ul>
Social Studies	60 min.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Live WebEx class meeting</li> <li>• Student practice/assessment independent work</li> </ul>
Electives	60 min.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Live WebEx class meeting</li> </ul>
Communication & Support	60 min.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Standing “office hours” open WebEx meeting for individual and small group support</li> </ul>

- [9th – 12th Grade](#): Live classroom meetings of 90 minutes per session will be held twice weekly; three weekly small group/independent class meetings of a minimum of 30 minutes will be scheduled; 360 average daily minutes

Subject	Time	Activities/Assignments
English	66 min. twice weekly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 2 Live WebEx class meetings per week</li> <li>➤ 3 Live WebEx weekly small group sessions</li> <li>➤ Student practice/assessment</li> <li>➤ USATest Prep independent practice</li> </ul>
Math	66 min. twice weekly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 2 Live WebEx class meetings per week</li> <li>➤ 3 Live WebEx weekly small group sessions</li> <li>➤ Student practice/assessment</li> <li>➤ USATest Prep independent practice</li> </ul>

Science	66 min. twice weekly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 Live WebEx class meetings per week</li> <li>• 3 Live WebEx weekly small group sessions</li> <li>• Student practice/assessment</li> <li>• USATest Prep independent practice</li> </ul>
Social Studies	66 min. twice weekly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 Live WebEx class meetings per week</li> <li>• 3 Live WebEx weekly small group sessions</li> <li>• Student practice/assessment</li> <li>• USATest Prep independent practice</li> </ul>
Electives 1	66 min.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Live WebEx class meeting</li> <li>• Student practice/assessment independent work</li> </ul>
Elective 2	66 min.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Live WebEx class meeting</li> <li>• Student practice/assessment independent work</li> </ul>

### UPDATE: Summer Learning Loss Opportunities

PPSD will offer in-person summer school for promotion free of charge to students in kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade in accordance with district policies regarding promotion and retention. To further mitigate any residual learning loss associated with COVID-19 school closures and other issues, the district will offer in-person summer enrichment opportunities for students in kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade who met minimum promotion requirements and online summer enrichment opportunities for all 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade students.

### TECHNOLOGY

Pearl Public School District will implement an expansion in its integration of instructional technology, including an increase in number and types of devices and the use of learning management systems by all instructional staff. The primary goal of this expansion is to be positioned to provide a district-owned device to each student if a shift to virtual learning is necessitated.

Grade	Device	Allocation
K-1	iPads	4-5 per classroom  UPDATE: 1 device per student assigned by teacher
Grades 2-5	Google Chromebooks	1 cart of 30 per teacher (provides 3-5 spares)

		Device assigned to student by teacher
Grades 6-8	Google Chromebooks	Student-based 1:1 1 device issued to each student
Grades 9-12	Apple MacBook Air	Student-based 1:1 1 device issued to each student

Current laptops from PHS and PJHS will be reconditioned and maintained as backup resources for kindergarten and first grade students if needed for distance learning. These devices, along with the Chromebooks assigned to students in second through fifth grade, will be issued for students for use at home in a virtual learning scenario.

All district devices are secured with the Line Wize, the district filtering system. Use is filtered both on and off campus for all PPSD devices.

To be issued a district-owned device, parents and students must participate in online training for the acceptable use and responsible use of district issued technology (PPSD Board Policies IFBDAA and IJBD), sign the PPSD Acceptable Use of Technology User Agreement form (IFBDAA-E) and the PPSD Computer-Tablet Student Agreement (IJEAE), and pay a \$25 annual usage and maintenance fee (PPSD Board Policy IJEA - District Technology Issued to Students).

PPSD is also equipping two campuses with additional high-speed internet access for parking lot coverage. Students and parents will be able to connect the district-owned devices to the district Wi-Fi network from their vehicles.

The district network, devices, platforms, and software are supported by the PPSD Technology Department. An online HelpDesk system is available for support.

[Learning Management Systems](#)

To support students to function in a hybrid or virtual model, as well as to support students who are absent in a traditional model, PPSD will use two learning management systems, or platforms. Teaching and learning for students in kindergarten through fifth grade will utilize Google Classroom as the while students in sixth through twelfth grades will use Canvas. Teachers will post instructional content (videos, documents, and other resources) and assignments, provide feedback on student work, and administer formative and summative assessments through Google Classroom or Canvas.

In the traditional model, teachers will post instructional content and assignments. In the hybrid and virtual models, teachers will add instructional videos and live class meetings.

## OPERATIONS

### Transportation

Parents/Guardians are strongly encouraged to provide daily transportation to and from school for their children during the 2020-2021 school year to help minimize numbers on the buses and allow for greater social distancing efforts. Recognizing that option is not feasible for all families, the following guidelines will be implemented:

- Bus drivers, bus monitors, and students who choose to ride PPSD bus transportation will be required to wear masks and/or face shields for the duration of the bus ride to school and back home. Accommodations for enhanced social distancing for students with extenuating circumstances who are unable to wear masks will be made whenever possible.
- Hand sanitizer will be available for students as they enter and exit the buses.
- Students will be assigned seats based on residence (i.e., students from the same household will be assigned seats together and near each other) to reduce interaction with others while loading, riding, and unloading the buses.
- Windows will be kept open to enhance ventilation.
- Buses will be cleaned and sanitized after both morning and afternoon routes.
- Bus drivers and monitors will be trained on PPSD COVID safety measures.

### Child Nutrition

PPSD will continue to offer breakfast and lunch each day to students in accordance with the National School Lunch Program. Each school in the district will design meal protocols and schedules to maximize available space for social distancing that includes making use of grab-and-go meals and alternate eating locations such as classrooms, hallways, outdoor spaces, multipurpose/gymnasiums, and other communal areas. Child Nutrition staff employed by the District's food services partner will be trained in COVID safety measures.

**UPDATE: All students enrolled in PPSD will be eligible to receive school meals (breakfast and lunch) for free under the USDA school food program through the last day of school, May 25, 2021.**

**UPDATE: The district will continue with free breakfast and lunch for children 18 years of age and younger offered through June 30, 2021, at Pearl Lower Elementary. This meal service will be curbside service only.**

### Arrival and Dismissal

Schools will implement procedures for the arrival and dismissal of students to maximize social distancing and promote healthy habits based on the age of students and physical plant of each

campus. Some general guidelines on which these procedures were based are the following:

- Students will report directly to their classrooms upon arrival and keep their mask on until reaching the classroom.
- Gathering in common areas restricted when feasible.
- Late sign-ins and early dismissals will be conducted to minimize interactions and maximize social distancing.
- Students will wear a mask to the car rider/bus line.

### Visitors

Efforts to reduce the presence of nonessential visitors on campus will be made. No lunch guests or volunteers will be allowed on any campus. Only essential vendors properly screened by PPSD personnel will be allowed on campus. Any other visitors will be required to make an appointment and wear a mask in the lobby area and at any time social distancing of six feet cannot be maintained.

### Pirate Care After-School Program

Pirate Care, the PPSD after-school program, is a self-funded childcare program for District students in the four-year-old kindergarten program through fifth grade located on three school campuses. To continue the District's mitigation efforts, the following actions have been taken by Pirate Care leaders and staff:

- A schedule of increased cleaning has been developed.
- Additional supplies have been ordered to support the extra cleaning.
- Activities will utilize the largest spaces available—including outdoor activities
- Students will be provided hand sanitizer upon arrival when arriving.
- Students and staff will be required to wear masks when social distancing cannot be maintained.

### Movement Patterns

Each school will develop movement patterns for students and staff that maximize social distancing and minimize interactions. Such patterns will address arrival and dismissal from school, transitioning from one class or activity to another during the day, and mealtimes.

### Extracurricular Activities and Athletics

From the preparation for summer practices and workouts to the scheduling of sports competitions, PPSD has worked to protect student-athletes, coaches, and fans. Sanitizer is available at each workout for extracurricular activities. Athletic areas are cleaned and disinfected between uses. Electrostatic Sanitation Sprayer machines have been purchased for use at athletic facilities.

PPSD will continue to develop and present an annual safety plan for review to MHSAA prior to the start of the season. Furthermore, the district will continue collaborate with and followed

the guidelines and schedules set forth by the Mississippi High Schools Activities Association.

## HEALTH AND SAFETY

**Cedric Graham, Assistant Superintendent of Student Services**, has been designated as the PPSD COVID-19 Point of Contact. Efforts to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in the district include conducting daily health screenings, identifying possible cases, isolating those exhibiting symptoms, and conducting contact tracing in collaboration with the MSDH. Students, substitutes, and employees exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 without other medical explanation are prohibited from coming to school, and if they do arrive on campus, they will be sent home immediately.

PPSD has developed the following health and safety protocols to minimize the exposure to and spread of COVID-19 to students and employees.

- School nurses will be available on each campus to provide support and respond to the health needs of students and staff on campus.
- School nurses will also support staff in the reporting of underlying health conditions to administration.
- Employees will be trained in CDC/MSDH guidance and PPSD protocols designed to reduce the transmission of COVID-19.
- Signage to support social distancing, good hygiene, and the wearing of face coverings have been installed.
- Rooms have been decluttered to maximize the available space for social distancing. Soft furnishings that are hard to disinfect have been removed. **UPDATE: As of March 19, 2021, the CDC physical distance guidelines were changed from six feet to three feet.**
- Hand sanitizing stations will be installed at entrances and high-traffic areas in schools and facilities.
- PPSD has coordinated with local authorities, such as Pearl Police and Fire Departments, to lend assistance with the anticipated increase of traffic in the community as a result of more students being transported to and from school in personal vehicles.

### Health Screenings

Students, staff, and parents are asked to assess themselves (or their children) before coming onto a school campus:

- Has the person experienced a fever of 100<sup>0</sup> F or higher in the last 24 hours?
- Has the person experienced one or more of the following symptoms?
  - Cough
  - Shortness of Breath or Difficulty Breathing
  - Chills
  - Muscle Pain

- Headache
  - Sore Throat
  - Loss of Taste or Smell
  - Nausea, Vomiting, diarrhea
- Has the person been exposed to anyone who has tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 14 days, with anyone who is awaiting a COVID-19 test result, or with anyone who has exhibited the symptoms listed above?

Once on campus, students will have their temperature screened by their first period teacher. Any student with a temperature above 100.0 will be isolated until being picked up by someone on the dismissal list. Staff will have their temperature screened upon arrival to campus each day, and substitute teachers will complete a health questionnaire in addition to having their temperature checked. Non-contact, infrared thermometers will be used, and a temperature above 100.0 will be the threshold for a fever. Anyone with a fever or other COVID-like symptom will not be able to return to school until they have been fever-free for 72 hours.

### Face Coverings

Each employee and student will be provided a washable mask with additional masks available as needed. Teachers will also be provided with face shields. Students and employees will be required to wear a face covering when riding PPSD transportation, in common areas, during class changes and all other times when social distancing of six feet cannot be achieved. Face coverings may not have inappropriate designs, pictures, slogans, symbols, offensive language, or political statements. Accommodations will be made for students with extenuating circumstances for which wearing a face covering possess a significant problem.

**UPDATE: As of May 25, 2021, and in compliance with Executive Order 1551, face coverings are no longer required to be worn inside a school building or classroom, and all venue capacity limitations have been lifted.**

### Facility Mitigation Efforts

The district has purchased hand sanitizer, additional cleaning supplies, and sanitizing equipment for each department and building. Principals and directors have revised daily cleaning schedules to provide more opportunities to clean and sanitize the buildings.

- Buildings and facilities will be cleaned and sanitized regularly throughout the day using Electrostatic Backpack Sprayers and Tersano SAO Disinfecting Solution.
- Teachers will be equipped with supplies to clean high-touch surfaces in their classrooms throughout the day.
- To reduce the interaction among students with each other and surface contact, teachers will rotate classrooms when appropriate for the age and content of the course.
- Movement patterns have been designed for travel in the schools during the day.
- An online payment options for school meals will continue and will expand to the

payment of other items such transcripts and fees.

## Reporting

A coordinated plan to monitor, screen, respond to, and report possible COVID-19 infections will be led by the PPSD Head Nurse in concert with the entire nursing corps and district leaders.

- When students and staff are found to exhibit COVID-like symptoms, they will be sent home and not allowed to return to campus until they are symptom free for 72 hours and with no medication for the last 24 of those hours.
- Isolation rooms have been established to separate sick students until they can be picked up from school
- Parents will be required to report a student's positive test results to the school principal or nurse.
- Employees will be required to report positive test results to their supervisor.
- Positive test results will be recorded to the Head Nurse for tracking purposes.
- When confirmation is received of a known positive case of COVID-19, PPSD will notify the local health department.
- Contact tracing will be used to identify students and staff who have been in direct contact according to CDC/MSDH guidelines.
- The parents of students and staff identified as a direct contact to a known positive will be notified and encouraged to seek medical guidance from their healthcare provider.
- Quarantining and closures will be implemented in accordance with CDC/MSDH guidelines. **UPDATED: As of January 4, 2021, any student who tests positive or who is in close contact with a known positive must quarantine at home for 10 days from the onset of symptoms or from the date of the last exposure to a known positive.**
- All federal, state, and local regulations protecting the identity and confidentiality of persons with COVID-19 will be strictly enforced.

**UPDATE: PPSD will support employees in their efforts to receive COVID-19 vaccinations. Furthermore, the district coordinated with a local health care provider to offer COVID-19 vaccinations to its employees and their spouses.**

## FAMILY SUPPORT

In an effort to ensure students and parents are informed and equipped for instruction during the continued COVID-19 situation, trainings and technical support will be available.

- Before a device can be issued/assigned to a student, parents and students must participate in an online video training that covers the district's Acceptable and Responsible Use Policies, online learning expectations, virtual meeting expectations, netiquette, and cyber safety.
- On-demand video and print training information for connecting to home internet, login procedures, WebEx, Outlook, Canvas, and Google Classroom will be available on the

district website.

- A HelpDesk portal for parents and students will be established to provide technical assistance to parents and students when school-based support is not sufficient.

## COMMUNICATIONS

PPSD will continue to use its established methods of communication with families and the community: Blackboard Connect email, call, and text messaging platform; weekly e-newsletter during the school year; the district website; district social media platforms; Pearl Municipal Broadcasting television and radio channels; and the District video message board.

The PPSD public relations specialist will be responsible for managing the District's public information campaign through the channels above and through a dedicated email [PR@pearlk12.com](mailto:PR@pearlk12.com). The district website will contain a page dedicated to sharing its comprehensive plan, historical information, and updates.

In the event of a school or district closure necessitated by an outbreak of COVID-19, a Blackboard Connect all call, email, and text message would be sent to all contacts provided for each student. In addition, the local news and radio media outlets would be notified.

**PEARL PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT 2020-2021**  
~~187~~ **186** Teacher Days; ~~174~~ **173** Student Days

July	31	PPSD New Employee Orientation (8-noon); New Teacher & Mentor Orientation (1-3); New Teacher Network #1 (3-4)
August	3	Professional Development for Faculty/Staff
	4	Professional Development
	5	Professional Development
	6	Professional Development
	7	<del>FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS</del> Professional Development
	10	Professional Development
	11	Professional Development
	12	Professional Development
	13	Professional Development
	14	Professional Development
	17	<b>FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS</b>
September	7	<b>School Holiday</b>
	10-11	1 <sup>st</sup> Term Progress Reports Issued
October	9	End of 1 <sup>st</sup> Term (45 <del>39</del> days)
	12	Parent-Teacher Conferences/Report Card Pickup 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. ( <b>Student Holiday</b> )
November	12-13	2 <sup>nd</sup> Term Progress Reports Issued
	23-27	<b>School Holidays</b>
December	14-17	First Semester Exams
	18	End of 1 <sup>st</sup> Semester (89 <del>83</del> days); (2 <sup>nd</sup> Term – 44 days); Early Release Day (60% day)
December 21 – January 1		<b>School Holidays</b>
January	4	Professional Development ( <b>Student Holiday</b> )
	5	Second Semester Begins
	7	Report Cards Issued
	11	<b>INCLEMENT WEATHER – AT-HOME LEARNING (SCHOOLS/OFFICES CLOSED)</b>
	18	<b>School Holiday</b>
February	4-5	3 <sup>rd</sup> Term Progress Reports Issued
	15	<del>School Holiday/Inclement Weather Make-Up Day</del> <b>INCLEMENT WEATHER (SCHOOLS/OFFICES CLOSED)</b>
	16	Professional Development ( <b>Student Holiday</b> ) <b>VIRTUAL PD INCLEMENT WEATHER (SCHOOLS/OFFICES CLOSED)</b>
	17	<b>AT-HOME LEARNING/INCLEMENT WEATHER (SCHOOLS/OFFICES CLOSED)</b>
	18	<b>AT-HOME LEARNING/INCLEMENT WEATHER (SCHOOLS/OFFICES CLOSED)</b>
	19	<b>NO SCHOOL/INCLEMENT WEATHER (SCHOOLS/OFFICES CLOSED)</b>
March	12	End of 3 <sup>rd</sup> Term (46 <del>45</del> days)
	15-19	<b>School Holidays</b>
	25	Report Cards Issued
April	2	<b>School Holiday</b>
	5	<b>School Holiday</b>
	15-16	4 <sup>th</sup> Term Progress Reports Issued
May	20	Graduation
	19-21, 24	Second Semester Exams
	25	End of 2 <sup>nd</sup> Semester (91 <del>90</del> days); (4 <sup>th</sup> Term – 45 days); Early Release Day (60% day)

## APPENDIX B



### Pearl Public School District Back to School Plans At-A-Glance 2020-2021

#### Three Instructional Models

Traditional	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In-Person Format</li> <li>Shortened Daily Schedule</li> <li>Blended Learning Option for Medically At-Risk (by Application)</li> <li>Begins August 7 &amp; 10 with Staggered Start Schedule</li> </ul>
Hybrid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In-Person &amp; Online</li> <li>Wednesday All Online for Deep Cleaning</li> <li>Activated When Needed Due to Outbreak (Determined on a Class-by-Class, School-by-School Situation)</li> </ul>
Virtual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All Online Learning PK-12</li> <li>Daily Scheduled Live Class Meetings</li> <li>Activated When Needed Due to District-wide Outbreak or Governor's Orders</li> </ul>

#### Traditional Model – Staggered Start

August 7	August 10
<b>Blue Team</b> Last Name A-L In-Person Full-Day Schedule	<b>Gold Team</b> Last Name M-Z In-Person Full-Day Schedule

#### HYBRID Model - Daily Schedule

Monday – A	Tuesday – A	Wednesday	Thursday – B	Friday –B
<b>Blue Team</b> Last Name A-L In-Person Full-Day Schedule	<b>Gold Team</b> Last Name M-Z In-Person Full-Day Schedule	<b>ALL STUDENTS</b> Online	<b>Blue Team</b> Last Name A-L In-Person Full-Day Schedule	<b>Gold Team</b> Last Name M-Z In-Person Full-Day Schedule
<b>Gold Team</b> Last Name M-Z At-Home/Distance 4-Hour Minimum	<b>Blue Team</b> Last Name A-L At-Home/Distance 4-Hour Minimum		<b>Gold Team</b> Last Name M-Z At-Home/Distance 4-Hour Minimum	<b>Blue Team</b> Last Name A-L At-Home/Distance 4-Hour Minimum

## APPENDIX C

### PPSD Blended/Online Learning Parent Assurances & Responsibilities

As the parent/guardian, the submission of this request for my child to participate in the PPSD Blended Learning Program and my signature below indicate my assurances and understanding of the following. (Check each box.)

- I attest that my home has sufficient reliable, high-speed Internet capacity for my child to participate in classroom instruction through the use of the District's learning management systems (Google Classroom and Canvas), instructional portals (Lexia, iReady, Classworks, Edgenuity, USATestPrep, etc.), and communication platforms (WebEx, Remind, etc.).
- I understand the options for electives may be limited in a blended learning format.
- I understand that, while enrolled in the PPSD Blended Learning Program, my child will not be eligible to participate in athletic, extracurricular, or co-curricular activities (such as sports, band, choir, drama, clubs, etc.).
- I understand that, while enrolled in the PPSD Blended Learning Program, my child may not be eligible for certain academic awards.
- I understand that my child must meet the attendance requirements of blended learning by logging the required number of instructional minutes each day and that I will be held accountable for all truancy laws should my child not maintain acceptable attendance in the blended learning program.
- I understand that enrollment in the PPSD Blended Learning Program is for the length of one semester and that return to a traditional setting can only occur at the beginning of a new semester.
- I understand that assessments may be required to be completed by appointment at the school of record.
- I understand that all grades earned in the PPSD Blended Learning Program will be recorded, included on my child's permanent record/transcript, and counted in his/her GPA.

Parent/Guardian Signature & Date \_\_\_\_\_

## APPENDIX D



### Pearl Public School District

### Blended/Online Learning Program Intent Form: Spring 2021

*While Blended/Online Learning is an option for students in unique situations, it does NOT serve as an equitable alternative to the traditional classroom setting. Students with an IEP or 504 Plans will have accommodations provided in accordance with these plans separate from this program.*

In order for the district to make the best use of the limited resources for the spring semester, you are asked to let us know if your student(s) will continue in the blended/online learning program or return to campus beginning January 2021. This form indicating your choice for your student(s) must be returned by December 1, 2020. **All decisions are final after December 1. No changes will be made to your student's placements after December 1.**

**Student 1 Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Current Grade** \_\_\_\_\_

Mark one:

- My student named above will **return to in-person learning** for the spring semester of the 2020-2021 school year beginning in January.
- A representative from your student's school will call you to schedule a transition meeting for January 4, 2021. Please do not call the school.
  - Students will report to school on January 5 according to the regular bell schedule for each school.
- My student named above **will continue to participate in the PPSD Blended/Online Learning Program** for the spring semester of the 2020-2021 school year beginning in January.

**Student 2 Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Current Grade** \_\_\_\_\_

Mark one:

- My student named above will **return to in-person learning** for the spring semester of the 2020-2021 school year beginning in January.
- A representative from your student's school will call you to schedule a transition meeting for January 4, 2021. Please do not call the school.
  - Students will report to school on January 5 according to the regular bell schedule for each school.
- My student named above **will continue to participate in the PPSD Blended/Online Learning Program** for the spring semester of the 2020-2021 school year beginning in January.

**Student 3 Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Current Grade** \_\_\_\_\_

Mark one:

- My student named above will **return to in-person learning** for the spring semester of the 2020-2021 school year beginning in January.
- A representative from your student's school will call you to schedule a transition meeting for January 4, 2021. Please do not call the school.
  - Students will report to school on January 5 according to the regular bell schedule for each school.
- My student named above **will continue to participate in the PPSD Blended/Online Learning Program** for the spring semester of the 2020-2021 school year beginning in January.

**I understand that all decisions regarding student enrollment for the spring semester are final after December 1.**

Parent/Guardian Signature & Date \_\_\_\_\_