

PEARL PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT

Back to School

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Back-to-School Plan for the 2021-2022 School Year

On Friday, August 6, 2021, all schools in the Pearl Public School District began the 2021-2022 school year with all students in-person. In a continuing effort to be vigilant in its implementation of mitigation and safety protocols and due to the rising number of Covid-19 cases and upon recommendation from the CDC and MSDH, the Pearl Public School District board voted to require masks to be worn indoors for all students, employees, and visitors beginning Tuesday, August 10, 2021. The board's decision was reached in an effort to keep our schools open and to provide students with face-to-face learning opportunities in a safe school environment.

Requiring masks will assist in the district's efforts to maintain a safe school environment for students and staff and to minimize classroom disruptions due to quarantines. Also, by keeping the schools open, parents/guardians are able to continue working and the economy can thrive, which is a concern for all of us.

Throughout the school year as situations may dictate, these guidelines are subject to change based on consultation from the Mississippi Department of Health, Centers for Disease Control, and other governing authorities.

Refer to the PPSD Back-to-School Plan document located at www.pearlk12.com for the most up-to-date information and any adjustments that may have to be made throughout the 2021-2022 school year. PPSD will continue to monitor and adjust plans for the health and safety of our students and employees throughout the school year.

HEALTH & SAFETY



- Students, staff, and parents are asked to assess themselves (or their children) before coming onto a school campus. Students and staff should not come to school and contact their healthcare provider if students or staff do not feel well or have any of the following symptoms: coughs, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, fever, chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, loss of taste or smell, nausea, vomiting or diarrhea.
- School nurses will be available on each campus to provide support and to respond to the health needs of students and staff on campus.
- Hand sanitizing stations have been installed at entrances and high-traffic areas in schools and facilities.
- Buildings and facilities will be cleaned and sanitized regularly throughout the day.
- Face coverings are required indoors for all students, employees, and visitors beginning Tuesday, August 10, 2021.
- Teachers will be equipped with supplies to clean high-touch surfaces in their classrooms throughout the day.
- Once on campus, all students, staff, and visitors will have their temperature checked daily.
- If the number of quarantined students exceeds ten (10%) of the school's total population on any day, students and staff will be required to wear masks for a minimum of the next ten school days.
- If school closures become necessary, students will continue instruction through Google Classroom (K-5) or Canvas (6-12) learning management systems.

DAILY SCHEDULE

PK: 7:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., Monday-Friday

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday Schedule

K-5th Grade: 7:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

6th-8th Grades: 8:15 a.m. - 3:20 p.m., A-B Block Schedule

9th-12th Grades: 8:15 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., A-B Block Schedule

Wednesday Schedule

K-5th Grade: 7:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

6th-8th Grades: 8:15 a.m. - 2:50 p.m., A-B Block Schedule

9th-12th Grades: 8:15 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., A-B Block Schedule



ACTIVITIES/VISITORS



- School assemblies, field trips, athletics, and other activities will return following traditional procedures. All venue capacity limitations have been lifted.
- Visitors will be permitted on all PPSD campuses; however, there may be limitations. For safety purposes, visitors must report to the office and show government-issued photo id.
- Since physical distancing requirements do not allow for regular cafeteria procedures, visitors will not be able to eat lunch with students at this time.
- Visitors should be symptom free and follow all school guidelines concerning health and safety.

SCHOOL LUNCHES

All students enrolled in PPSD will be eligible to receive school meals (breakfast and lunch) for free under the USDA Seamless Summer Option (SSO) school food program through the end of the 2021-2022 school year. All households are encouraged to submit a SY21/22 Free/Reduced Meal Application so that their students may qualify for other benefits offered. Please visit www.pearlk12.com to find the application.





TRANSPORTATION

- Face coverings are required at all times on all PPSD buses.
- We strongly encourage families to bring student(s) to school to help minimize numbers on the bus.
- Students will have assigned seating on buses. If the bus is not at full capacity, bus riders will have staggered seating.
- Siblings or children living in the same household will be seated together.
- Bus windows will be down for ventilation when appropriate.
- Buses will be cleaned and sanitized after both morning and afternoon routes.

COMMUNICATION

PPSD will continue to use its established methods of communication with families and the community:

- Blackboard Connect email, call, and text messaging
- Weekly e-newsletter during the school year
- District website
- District social media platforms
- Pearl Municipal Broadcasting television and radio channels
- District video message board



Always check the website, www.pearlk12.com, for the most up-to-date information.

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.