

Crenshaw County Schools 2021-2022 Reopening Schools Roadmap

Crenshaw County Schools is committed to providing high-quality education in an environment that is safe for our students, faculty, and staff. We are looking forward to the start of the 2021-2022 school year. Our staff has been working diligently to create a roadmap for our return to school, understanding that we cannot anticipate every issue that might lie ahead of us in the coming year. We thank you for your continued support and together we can make the 2021-2022 school year a success!

DISCLAIMER:

ALL INFORMATION PROVIDED IS BASED ON THE INFECTION RATE OF CRENSHAW COUNTY AT THE TIME OF DOCUMENT PUBLICATION. AN INCREASE IN THE COVID-19 RATE OF INFECTION WITHIN THE COMMUNITY MAY NECESSITATE MODIFICATION OF RESPONSE PRACTICES. CRENSHAW COUNTY SCHOOLS IS REQUIRED TO COMPLY WITH POLICIES MANDATED BY THE ALABAMA STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (ALSDE), ALABAMA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION (AHSAA), ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH (ADPH), CRENSHAW COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT (CCHD), AS WELL AS LOCAL AND STATE ORDERS/ORDINANCES CREATED IN RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Five principles will guide all planning, decision making, and execution of plans to return to school in the 2021-2022 school year.

- 1. CCS will be transparent. CCS will share what we know and what we don't know and be clear about what we can control and what is outside of our control.
- 2. CCS will be equitable. CCS will center decisions on what is best for all students, families, and educators.
- 3. CCS will listen. CCS will bring together diverse stakeholders and experts to understand realities on the ground and to surface creative solutions.
- 4. CCS will put safety first. CCS will leverage science and data in the decision making process.
- 5. CCS will be decisive. Given the size and scope of the challenge, we must move deliberately and make tough choices. CCS will make mistakes but will adapt quickly as variables change on the ground.

General Guidance

STATUS DETERMINATION

The Alabama Department of Public Health has created the <u>COVID-19 Risk Indicator Dashboard</u> to assist school systems in the reopening process. This dashboard contains four different risk levels.

Very High Risk (As of 7/6/2021)	High Risk	Moderate Risk	Low Risk
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- If the number of cases is staying the same or is increasing, the category will be Very High Risk (Red).
- If a county has decreasing case counts for 1 to 6 days, they will begin in the High Risk (orange) category.
- If a county is in a downward trajectory of 7-13 days, they will begin in the Moderate (yellow) category.
- If a county is in a downward trajectory of 14 or more days (or has a rate of 10 or less over the previous 2 weeks), they will begin in the Low Risk (green) category.

Crenshaw County Schools will use the following guidance from the Alabama Department of Public Health regarding staff and students.

COVID-19 EXCLUSION GUIDANCE

Adapted from the Alabama Department of Public Health 7/1/2020

Decision Tree for Symptomatic Students/Staff in Crenshaw County Schools

Parents are encouraged to screen their children each morning for any symptoms of illness

For people (students or staff) who have symptoms consistent with COVID-19, send home or deny entry and reference the exclusion criteria in this document to determine when they may return

For people who received a laboratory test for COVID-19

For people with a COVID-19 diagnosis without a lab test OR people with symptoms consistent with COVID-19(loss of taste and smell) without a medical evaluation (such as monitoring symptoms at home)

For people with other diagnoses (such as norovirus, strep throat) that explain the symptoms, or when a health care provider says symptoms are connected to a pre-existing condition

Symptoms of COVID-19: Major Symptoms:

New loss of smell or taste.

Minor Symptoms:

- new onset cough
- shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- fever (100.4 degrees or higher)
- chills
- muscle or body ache
- sore throat
- headache
- diarrhea
- nausea/vomiting
- congestion or runny nose

Waiting for COVID-19 test results:

(https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/covid19/patients.html)

Positive test result:

 Stay home at least 10 days since symptoms first appeared

AND

 until no fever for at least 24 hours without medication

AND

 improvement of other symptoms

Siblings, household members, and close contacts also stay home for 10 days after the date of last known exposure..

Negative test result but symptoms (loss of taste and smell) with no other diagnosis:

Stay home at least 10 days since symptoms first appeared

AND

until no fever for at least24 hours withoutmedication

AND

 improvement of other symptoms

Siblings, household members, and close contacts also stay home for 10 days after the date of last known exposure. Stay home at least 10 days since symptoms first appeared

AND

until no fever for at least 24 hours without medication

AND

• improvement of other symptoms.

Siblings, household members, and close contacts also stay home for 10 days after the date of last known exposure..

 Stay home until symptoms have improved

 Follow specific return guidance from the health care provider

If symptoms related to a pre-existing condition change or worsen, talk to a healthcare provider to determine next steps.

Siblings and household members <u>DO NOT</u> need to stay home.

SCHOOL CALENDAR AND SCHEDULES

Schools will start for students on Tuesday, August 10, 2021. The Crenshaw County School's 2021-22 calendar is available on the district's website.

SCREENING

- **Home** is the first point on the screening continuum. Students should stay home if they exhibit any symptoms of COVID-19. Families should self-report symptoms of illness to the school nurse as soon as possible, which could include fever, new onset of cough, or shortness of breath, or at least 2 of the following: chills, muscle pain, sore throat, headache, diarrhea, vomiting and new loss of smell or taste.
- **Transportation** is the second point on the screening continuum. Bus drivers will be trained to identify any symptoms related to COVID-19.
- **School** is the final point on the screening continuum. School staff will visually check for symptoms (which may include temperature checks). Parents will be notified if symptoms are evident.

WELLNESS

General Guidance

- Crenshaw County School nurses will systematically review student's Individualized HealthCare Plans to accommodate students with special healthcare needs and develop strategies to reduce their exposure to COVID-19.
- School Nurse will work closely with administration to develop a plan to isolate sick children who fall ill at school.
- Isolation areas have been developed on each CCS campus to allow sick children to remain under the supervision of the nurse, but isolated from other students until picked up from school.
- Students who fall ill at school will be placed in the designated isolation area with a facial covering on.
- Should a student or faculty member be diagnosed with COVID-19, contact tracing will be conducted by the Crenshaw County Health Department. Determination of steps to be taken after reviewing the identified case will be coordinated between Crenshaw County Schools and the Crenshaw County Health Department.
- Strategies to limit well-child visits with minor problems will be implemented.
- Every effort possible should be made by parents/guardians to give all medications at home to limit hallway traffic.
- Crenshaw County Schools will rely on guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and the Alabama Department of Public Health should student's or faculty fall ill with COVID-19.

Training

- All staff will be required to complete the annual COVID Standard Precaution Training
- Staff will be role models and encourage handwashing and basic respiratory hygiene, such as

- covering the mouth when coughing.
- Each school nurse will be a resource person for student educational activities, such as age-appropriate educational resources on hand-washing, covering one's mouth when coughing or sneezing, and how to wear a mask if needed.
- Posters will also be made available for classrooms and school hallways.
- Health tips regarding hygiene will be shared on social media and websites.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

- All staff will be provided with PPE and guidelines as necessary.
- PPE can be requested by other personnel and provided based on availability.

GENERAL GUIDANCE FOR EMPLOYEES

Prior to Arriving at Work:

- Check your temperature at home If you have a fever, contact your supervisor immediately and follow instructions before returning to work.
- Assess your wellness If you notice an increase of symptoms (cough, fever, chills, muscle pain, shortness of breath, sore throat, a loss of taste or smell, diarrhea...) related to COVID-19, contact your supervisor immediately and follow instructions before returning to work.
- Direct exposure In the event you have been in contact (closer than 6 feet for more than 15 minutes) with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, contact your supervisor immediately and follow instructions before returning to work.
- Positive COVID-19 Results In the event you test positive for COVID-19, you should notify
 your supervisor, contact payroll for appropriate leave steps (<u>FFCRA Leave Form</u>), follow the directions
 of your medical provider. A physician's release is required before an employee may return to work.

During the Workday

- Phone, email, or text co-workers and avoid face-to-face contact when possible.
- Follow posted rules and keep 6 feet apart from coworkers when using common-use spaces (breakrooms, meeting rooms,...).
- When using common-use appliances (microwaves, refrigerators, ice makers,...), you should wash your hands with soap and water prior to use.
- Coffee pots and water fountains should not be used until further notice. Single-serving coffee makers (Keurigs, etc.) may be used, but the rules for common-use appliances apply.

EMPLOYEE ATTENDANCE GUIDANCE

- If you must be absent from your position for any reason (not COVID-19 related), you should follow normal protocol. (Absences less than 10 days)
- If you must be absent from your position for 10 days or more for any reason, or due to COVID-19 related reasons, you must notify Payroll at the Central Office and your principal or supervisor per Board policy or to request leave per Families First Coronavirus Act (FFCRA).

- If you have concerns about having COVID-19 or having been exposed to COVID-19, please notify your principal/supervisor.
- In the event you test positive for COVID-19, A physician's release is required before the employee may return to work.

ON-CAMPUS ILLNESS

- A quarantine area will be designated on campus for those exhibiting symptoms.
- Those who exhibit symptoms will have to wear a mask.
- School nurses will wear proper PPE when dealing with individuals who exhibit COVID-19 symptoms.
- Parents will be notified if symptoms are evident.

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTION

- Upon determining an employee or student has tested positive for COVID-19, all persons within the class/organization will be notified.
- No personal information of the infected person will be released. (HIPAA Regulations)

MASKS - FACIAL COVERINGS (Amended 6/8/2021)

Facial masks will no longer be required for the 2021-2022 school year. This is subject to change pending an increase in the COVID-19 infection rate in Crenshaw County Schools.

OPTIONAL ITEMS (provided by parents)

• Student personal clear water bottle (name should be on the bottle)

HAND SANITIZER

 Hand sanitizing stations will be available throughout each school campus. (<u>CDC Hand Hygiene</u> Recommendations)

CLEANING AND DISINFECTING GUIDELINES

- Guidelines for the safe and correct use of disinfectants will be followed (<u>Cleaning and Disinfecting</u> <u>Guidelines</u>)
- Student desks and high-touch surfaces will be sanitized as often as is feasible.
- Each school campus will be disinfected daily.
- Provide school-level guidance for cleaning and disinfecting buildings, facilities, and playgrounds.
- Custodial staff will be trained in recommended cleaning guidelines issued by OSHA and CDC.
- Air filters should be changed regularly.
- Signage about frequent hand washing/hygiene should be widely posted, disseminated, and encouraged through various methods of communication.

- Limited visitors and essential service providers/vendors will be allowed inside buildings as needed. These individuals will be distanced from students to the extent possible.
- Parent conferences will be allowed to resume face-to-face.
- Water fountains will be open with water bottle fountains available as well.
- The Head nurse and facilities coordinator will routinely audit necessary materials and supply chains for cleaning and disinfecting supplies for classrooms, restrooms, handwashing sinks, and other school facilities.
- School leaders will conduct and document facility walkthroughs with custodial staff and custodial services to ensure the classrooms, common spaces, and the exterior is prepared and safe for staff and students.

DAILY OPERATIONS

- Students will report to the designated area upon arrival at school.
- Students must exit campus immediately upon dismissal unless reporting to an extracurricular activity.
- Students will be placed in assigned seats in all classes. Faculty will collaborate to ensure that, to the
 greatest extent possible, students are seated similarly in each class so as to limit the number of
 individuals each student comes in close contact with. (i.e., alphabetical order).
- Students will be briefed on expectations regarding student movement from class to class to maximize social distancing.

Transitions:

- High School Transitions -Schools will develop a transition plan based on their number of students and facility layout that ensures minimal contact with students from other Classrooms.
- Elementary School Transitions Schools will develop a transition plan based on their number of students and facility layout that ensures minimal contact with students from other classrooms.

CLASSROOM PROCEDURES

- 1. Classroom sanitation and cleaning will be a joint effort by the school custodial staff, classroom teachers, and other school personnel. The Crenshaw County Board of Education will provide sanitation equipment, material, sanitizer, soap, etc... to ensure proper sanitation of each local school. The local school custodial staff will work to sanitize classrooms and common spaces daily. Classroom teachers will be provided sanitizing liquid to spot clean as needed and to sanitize desks, counters, etc.
- 2. Each school should have a plan for the following topics. However, typical guidance is as follows:
 - Classroom Seating- Student desks should be spaced apart as much as is feasibly possible and placed in forward-facing rows. Flexible seating should be removed.
 - Ag/Labs- Social distancing recommendations should be considered.
 - Employee Masks- At this time are no longer required.
 - Student Masks- At this time are no longer required.
 - Classroom teachers should remove and minimize the inclusion of cloth and other soft surfaces within the classroom environment. (rugs, beanbags, reading tents, etc...)

- Classroom teachers will educate students on best practices for self-care for themselves as well
 as others (hand-washing, limit sharing of personal items, sneezing in the elbow, etc...).When
 feasible, desks and table surfaces should be cleaned during transition times.
- All efforts should be given to not send students to the nurse's office for well visits and/or minor needs.
- Additional Classroom procedures will be provided at each local school campus.

SCHOOL VISITORS

All school visitors are required to report to the main office upon arrival at a school campus.

TRANSPORTATION

- Although attempts will be made to separate students, physical distancing cannot be guaranteed on buses while transporting students.
- Students will no longer be required to wear masks or facial coverings on the bus.
- Students who exhibit COVID-19 symptoms at home should not be sent to the bus.
- Masks will be available for those who board the bus exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms.
- The front two seats on the bus will be designated as the isolation area for students showing COVID-19 symptoms.
- If a student boards the bus showing COVID-19 symptoms, the driver will contact school. Nurse/admin will meet the student upon arrival at school where the nurse will conduct a thorough evaluation and the parent will be notified.
- Seats and rails will be cleaned before and after each route, and as often as is feasible.
- Hand sanitizer will be available on each bus.
- Assigned seating charts will be developed and adhered to. Members of the same household will be seated together.
- Students may have individual clear bottles of water on the bus, but must not share bottles.
- Open roof hatches or windows to keep fresh air circulating. It is acceptable to utilize A/C on buses that are equipped, but attempt to have some fresh air circulating.
- The *Transportation Page* of the IEP must be followed, any changes in transportation should be reflected in the IEP.

ATHLETICS AND EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Crenshaw County Schools is implementing safe and healthy practices for all athletic and extracurricular activities. All schools will implement strategies adopted by the *Alabama High School Athletic Association* that will help provide a safer environment for student athletes. These practices include:

GROUP SIZE AND PHYSICAL STANDARDS

Changed parent drop-off and pick-up processes to limit contact and building access

- Ensure school-sponsored extracurricular and cocurricular activities, including athletics and band, adhere to established safety and hygiene protocols.
- Athletes will be required to provide their own personal water bottles. No items of this nature will be shared.
- No group watering stations, team towels, or other equipment that may be shared will be used.
- Symptom monitoring will be required.
- Requirement for sick students and staff to stay home.
- Provision of an adequate number of thermometers to screen students when necessary.
- Implement isolation measures if a student becomes sick, then follow with cleaning and disinfecting processes.

ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANING AND PERSONAL HYGIENE

- Ensure healthy personal hygiene practices.
- Establish hand hygiene stations at facility entrances.
- In weight rooms, all surfaces including, but not limited to, door handles, sinks, faucets, knobs, toilets, tables, soap dispensers, locker handles etc., will be cleaned and sanitized thoroughly before groups arrive and once groups have left the area.

ATHLETICS AND EXTRACURRICULAR CONTESTS.

- All school guidelines for staff and students will extend to extra-curricular activities. Additionally regulations set by the CDC and AHSAA will be honored.
- Efforts will be made to maintain separate areas for home/visitor spectators and teams.
- Designated areas for officials will be sanitized before and after use.
- Concessions will adhere to recommendations set forth by the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) and the Crenshaw County Health Department (CCHD).

Crenshaw County Schools 2020-2021 Learning Roadmap		
Models for Successful Instruction	Explanation of Offering	
Traditional	 Traditional learning environment Face to Face Instruction Daily physical attendance 	

- Traditional instruction will incorporate a model of learning that integrates technology enhanced learning opportunities which will be offered in a variety of configurations.
- This approach is necessary to ensure that both students and staff are acclimated to distance learning
 in the event schools should need to close for a short or long-term duration and support individual
 needs on a case-to-case basis.
- OSR Pre-K Program will provide in-person instruction for all *First Class Pre-K* students while taking into consideration health and safety guidance provided by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the

Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH), the Alabama Department of Human Resources (DHR), and other regulatory agencies. In the event schools should need to close for a short-term or long-term duration or to meet individual student needs due to quarantine, teachers will provide blended or remote developmentally appropriate learning opportunities.

Virtual	Non-traditional instruction	
	Course and content delivered virtually (online)Daily online participation	

• Virtual option will no longer be available for the 2021-2022 school year unless a student has extenuating circumstances.

Expectations for All Models of Learning

- All students must remain in the chosen model of learning for a minimum of one 9 week grading period.
- Regardless of the instructional model chosen, students will be considered enrolled and continue to be entitled to all the rights, benefits, and privileges.

<u>Virtual Learning Model Grades K-12</u> - This will no longer be an option for the 2021-2022 with the exception of extenuating circumstances.

CURRICULUM, ASSESSMENT, AND INSTRUCTION

- Crenshaw County Schools will adhere to the Alabama Literacy Act and requirements to support students in grades K-3. The district will administer the AlaKids screener in Kindergarten, aimswebPlus screener for grades K-3 in the content areas of reading and math, and provide reliable communication to parents/guardians regarding the assessments, results, and the Alabama Literacy Law. Additionally, the district has a dyslexia screener that will be administered to students identified in need of the screener. Additionally, the district will use Scantron as an operational assessment to provide data that determine instructional needs. The district will provide after school tutoring, summer reading camps, and necessary resources for students and families to be successful and reach the desired outcome by third grade. The district will participate and adhere to all ARI professional learning opportunities and job description for Reading Specialist at all schools that encompass grades K-3. All safety protocols and procedures established by the district will be adhered to during the COVID19 pandemic.
- Crenshaw County Schools will implement the Alabama Course of Study Standards in all content areas. The district will also address the Critical Standards established by the State Department of Education while utilizing high-quality instructional materials, evidence based programs/software, and teaching strategies. Reference K-8 Critical Standards. Pacing guides are established and aligned to the ALCOS along with grading guidelines. These guidelines will apply to traditional learning, blended learning, or distance learning for all students enrolled in the district. Proper supports have been put in place to support classroom teachers in implementing best practices and ensuring the alignment of the ALCOS

and Critical Standards for teaching and learning. Proper training in these areas will be conducted for staff members during in-service. Professional development consultants are scheduled and ready to train teachers and staff in these areas.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

- Students with special health considerations should be in communication with the local school's educational support committee (IEP, 504, I-ELP, etc...) to support their student learning assignments.
- Develop a daily/weekly schedule that will facilitate social distancing, as much as possible, while continuing to meet the needs of the students as are identified in each IEP, 504, I-ELP, Etc.

SCREENING/DIAGNOSTIC AND PROGRESS MONITORING

The district will administer the following assessment to collect baseline data and plan for teaching and learning for the school year of 2020-2021: AlaKids, aimswebPlus, aimswebPlus Progress Monitoring, Scantron, Pre-ACT, ACT, Workkeys, ACAP Operational, ACAP Alternative, ACCESS, and Alternative for ACCESS for ELs. These assessments will be analyzed to determine the next steps of learning and address any learning gaps that have occurred due to COVID 19.

Plans for providing high-quality instruction for students of Crenshaw County School are centralized around two important considerations:

- 1. How can we effectively meet the needs of Crenshaw County students who have been away from traditional, structured learning?
- 2. How can we ensure we are prepared to meet the needs of students in the event of a future school closure?

Plans for Traditional Learning

- 1. Students will participate in informal district-wide assessments early in the year to collect data to be used to make instructional decisions based on the individual needs of students. These assessments will be administered early in the year, but specific timelines have not been provided.
- 2. Responding to data and developing targeted interventions will be essential to addressing gaps that may now exist during the "COVID slide." Schools will conduct frequent and regular data meetings, participate in collaborative decision making, and provide resources to address learning gaps. Intervention options may include face-to-face, small group instruction, along with blended with prescriptive digital programs.

Plans for Digital Remote Learning in the Event of Closure

- 1. Schools will continue standards-based, quality instruction for students if classes are required for the transition to remote learning due to school closure. The lessons will be a continuance of traditional instruction and will be planned with the same rigor as all other lessons.
- 2. Grades will be taken for assignments given during remote learning.
- 3. Students with Internet access and devices will transition to Schoology.
- 4. Students without Internet access and/or devices will be provided paper resources, decodable text, leveled readers, and packets that build student mastery, including math activities. Teachers will plan each week, giving consideration to how the content can be transitioned to remote learning.

TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

A professional development schedule will be provided to teachers prior to August 4, 2021. PD has been scheduled to address Schoology along with Kami.

CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAM

- Breakfast will be available for all students...
- Seating for students will be determined by school administrators.
- Bottled water will be available for purchase in the cafeteria.
- CNP staff will follow Alabama Public Health guidelines.

RECESS

- Vending machines will not be operational. School administrators will set up a school store to sell recess items.
- Outside areas will be used for recess.

21st CENTURY AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM

- The 21st Century After School Program will be available for students for the 2021-2022 school year...
- Snacks will be provided.
- Campus areas used by the 21st Century After School Program will be disinfected at the end of each day.

