



August 3, 2021

We are excited about the start of the upcoming school year and welcoming all students back to in-person instruction! Administrators, faculty, and staff have been working extremely hard to prepare for our students' return to school on Tuesday, August 10. As we prepare for the opening of school we wanted to share with you the "Back to School Guidance" for the 2021-2022 school year. Please know that this guidance is subject to change depending on the status of COVID-19 in Crenshaw County.

- Masks are strongly encouraged but not mandated for students, faculty, and staff at this time. However, the Center for Disease Control (CDC) does mandate that students and drivers wear masks while on school buses.
- Individuals who test positive for or are diagnosed with COVID-19 must stay home for 10 days following the onset of symptoms or the positive test result, be 24 hours without fever or fever-reducing medications, and experience symptom improvement before returning from isolation.
- Students, faculty, and staff considered to be close contacts will be quarantined for 10 days. A close contact is defined as being within 6 feet of an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period with the following exceptions:
  - Faculty, staff, and students (age 12 or older) that are considered close contacts and have been vaccinated do not have to quarantine.
  - If both the infected individual and close contact who's 3 feet or more but within 6 feet from the infected person and both are wearing a mask the person does not have to quarantine.
  - If a close contact has tested positive for and recovered from COVID-19 in the prior 3 months they do not have to quarantine unless they develop symptoms.

Again, we look forward to our students returning to school on Tuesday, August 10. We thank you for your continued support and patience as we begin the 2021-22 school year. If you have any questions regarding this guidance please contact your local school or contact us here at the central office.

Dodd Hawthorne  
Superintendent