SCSD School Readiness Plan
for
Reopening School
2020-2021 School Year

Stone County School District

July 7, 2020

Recommendation of Superintendent of Education Back to School Plan

With the guidance of the Mississippi Department of Education's *Considerations for Reopening Mississippi Schools,* the Stone County School District has developed a School Readiness Plan to address key components that are essential to safely and successfully reopen schools for the upcoming school year.

The students of the Stone County School District will follow a traditional schedule where students will be physically present in school in an environment as close to normal as possible while following federal, state and local mandates as related to COVID-19.
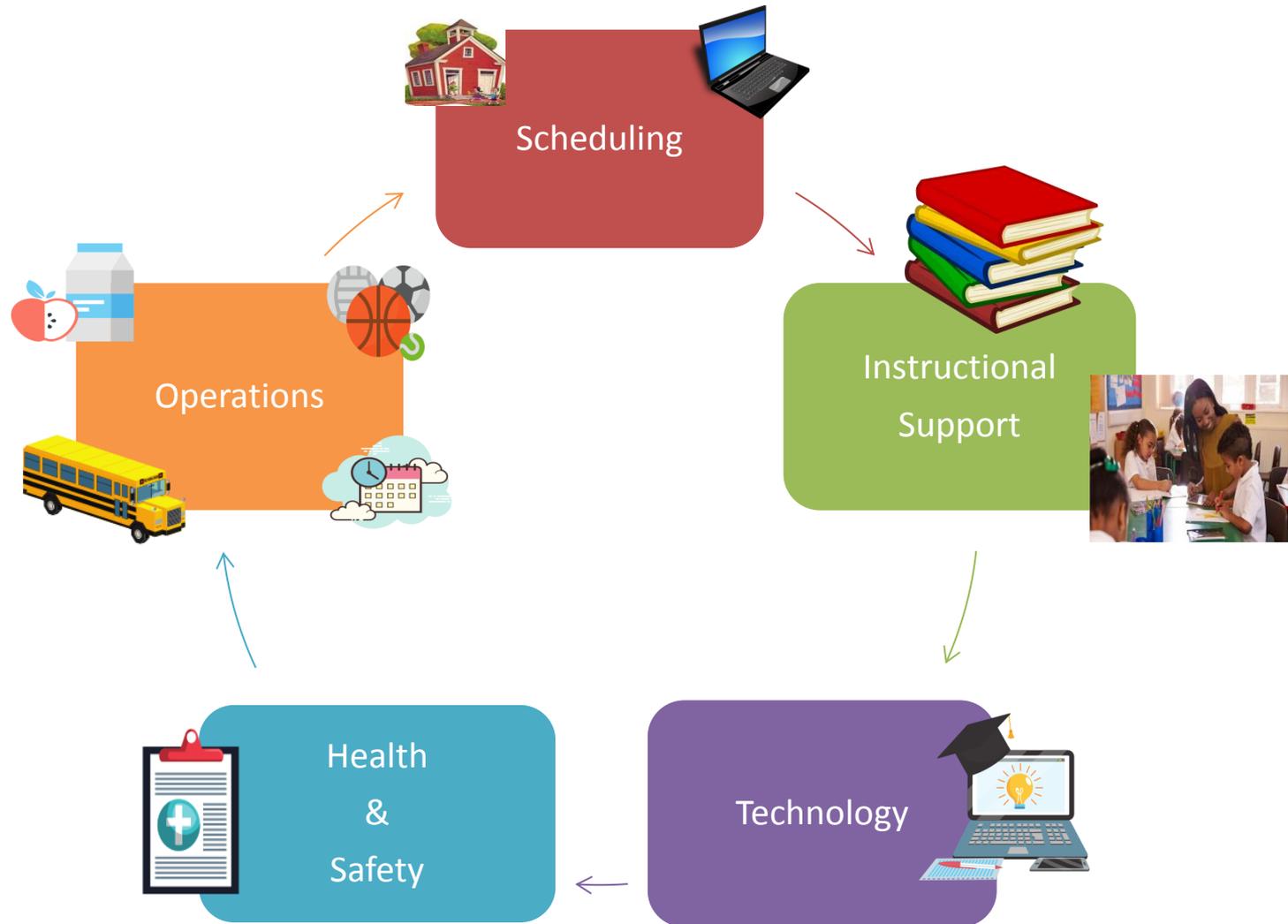
Students/parents will also have a virtual option where students receive all instruction online using the GOOGLE platform. Parents must complete the Virtual Option Requirement form and meet all the required criteria. Assignments will be required, collected and graded. Attendance will be taken on a daily basis and reported as per MDE guidelines.

Traditional and virtual learning students will follow the REVISED calendar for the 2020-2021 school year. Traditional and the Virtual learning students will begin school on <u>Monday, August 17, 2020</u>. (Updated 8/5/2020)

Based on many unknown factors, this plan is subject to change. The Stone County School District will regularly communicate with parents and families as MDE guidelines concerning school operations are updated. In addition to guidance from the Mississippi Department of Education, this School Readiness Plan also reflects guidance from the Mississippi Department of Health and the Mississippi High Schools Activities Association. As always, we appreciate your support and positivity as we strive to do what is best for our students, parents, staff and community.

*Each administrative team has further developed individual plans to meet the needs of their specific students and campus that directly align to the district plan.

Topics Considered for Reopening SCSD Schools

Scheduling

Instructional Support

Operations

Technology

Health & Safety

Possible Scenarios for Reopening Schools

Traditional Schedule

- Requires students to be physically present in school with scheduling modifications to follow CDC and Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) recommendations.

K-2 Students

- While under the traditional schedule, K-2 students will have self-contained classrooms with limited team teaching and approximately 20 students in a class.

3-5 Students

- While under the traditional schedule, 3-5 students will also have self-contained classrooms, but team teaching will be incorporated with students static and teachers moving from class to class and approximately 20 students in a class.

6-12 Students

- While under the traditional schedule, 6-12 students will follow a block schedule. Secondary classrooms will follow the CDC considerations for social distancing where feasible. Schedules will be created to minimize transitions between classes. Open common areas with a monitor present may be utilized to house overflow students.

Possible Scenarios for Reopening Schools cont.

Hybrid Schedule

- A/B Days
- Student population is divided in half, with each half reporting to school on alternating days and participating in distance learning during days scheduled at home. Fridays could be used for tutorials/special populations/professional development.
- Students will be divided by households to best accommodate families.

Virtual Schedule

- Instruction is provided completely online through virtual delivery by SCSD staff.
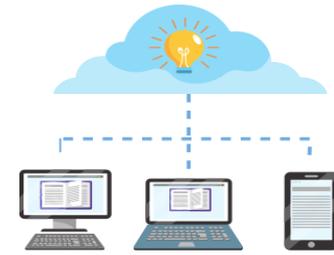
**All situations are being considered and plans are being developed to address the specific needs of students with a higher risk of severe illness. If you have specific concerns as a parent of a student at elevated risk, you are encouraged to contact your school level administrator.

Instruction

- Provide copies of instructional materials to be used at home and school.
- Students in grades K-8 will not share school supplies.
- Make available digital resources that accompany text and support Tier II and Tier III interventions.
- Provide models of traditional, hybrid and virtual learning instruction using GOOGLE.
- Provide parents with professional development on the instructional tools (GOOGLE, instructional resources, Chromebooks, etc.) that will be used for instruction.
- Provide early diagnostic screenings to determine student readiness for grade level instruction (adjusting plans to accommodate as needed).
- Modify pacing guides and scope and sequence to reflect more instruction for essential and foundational standards (adjusting as data shows need).
- Make sure all students face the same direction in desks or at tables.
- Dedicate district website page for parents related to academics and resources from MDE.
- Develop a master schedule that will balance class numbers as much as possible.
- Provide controlled small group work or partner interactions in class.
- Provide special education services through the IEP process due to the highly individualized nature of supports and accommodations.
- Separate student seating where feasible to provide for social distancing.
- Utilize baseline data for reading and math to determine instructional gaps and plan accordingly for interventions utilizing the MTSS process.
- Incorporate bridge strategies to allow opportunities for spiral review of 2019-2020 last quarter standards. Teachers will utilize the curriculum maps to guide instruction.
- Required Carnegie Units for high school courses will remain the same as required by MDE.
- Graduation requirements will remain in place for 2020-2021.
- Follow current grading policies for SCSD.
- Follow current promotion and retention policies for SCSD.
- MDE State testing requirements will remain in place for the 2020-2021 school year.

Technology

- Increase supply of Chromebooks.

- GOOGLE – SCSD will provide GOOGLE for every teacher at SCSD. GOOGLE is a very robust, 21st-century blended platform that provides flexible learning. This will be a one-stop shop with consistent student, parent and teacher access for all communication, instruction and feedback.

- Sound and Video Enhancement – We are researching several options that can help with the audio in the classroom to assist teachers with communicating effectively with their students, especially if there is a need for them to wear a mask. We are also purchasing video enhancement to possibly provide recorded lectures as well as live streaming of classes to help provide effective virtual learning (ZOOM, Swivl, etc.).

- Tech Support Protocols – We will establish a system to address questions/concerns from parents.

- Extend internet WIFI access to all parking lots at each school for district issued devices (Hybrid/Virtual).

- Planning for possible hot spots in community locations to allow WIFI access if needed (Hybrid/Virtual).

- Upgrade technology so every child has equitable access to online curriculum (Hybrid/Virtual).

Health and Safety

- Professional development will be provided to all staff on health and safety routines related to COVID-19.
- Provide professional development in the area of social/emotional support.
- Procedures for social distancing, proper hygiene and classroom routines will be taught during the first two weeks of school.
- Ensure that each school has a designated medical professional.
- Equip schools and buses with adequate supplies to support healthy hygiene.
- Space desks and tables apart where applicable with all facing forward.
- Replace traditional water fountains with touchless fountains/bottle filling stations.
- **As of August 4, 2020, masks are required for all people on school campuses.** **(Updated 8/5 /2020)** SCSD will provide a reusable, washable mask to all students/employees in the district.
- Limit gatherings, events and activities to adhere to social distancing guidelines.
- Provide hand sanitizer dispensers in accessible locations.
- Provide advisory times for staff to check in with students. (Hybrid/Virtual)
- Post signage in high traffic areas to communicate how to stop the spread of COVID-19 symptoms, preventative measures (including staying home when sick), good hygiene, and school/district specific protocols.
- Ensure ventilation systems operate properly and increase circulation of outdoor air as much as possible. Monitor health of students when symptoms are suspected.
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- Temperature checks for all students will be done before they enter the classroom. Any student with a temperature that exceeds 100 degrees will be isolated and referred to the nurse.
- Parents are requested to take their child's temperature daily prior to sending them to school. If their child has a temperature higher than 100 degrees, **they must be kept home until fever free for 24 hours without fever reducing medicine.**
- Staff will self monitor each day before reporting to work.

Operations - Nutrition

- Ensure facilities are safe and aligned to the CDC guidelines.

- Implement safety protocols in the area of food service:
  - Allow hand washing and the use of hand sanitizer dispensers before and after meals;
  - Use disposable plates and utensils;
  - Create cafeteria procedures to ensure compliance with social distancing guidelines;
  - Modified breakfast schedules: Grab and go breakfast; K-2 delivered to classrooms and grades 3-12 pickup and take to classroom;
  - Modified lunch schedules: Meals will be picked up by students or delivered to each classroom and eaten in the classroom or an alternate environment. Visitors will not be allowed to eat with students.
  - Face coverings/gloves are required to be worn by staff while preparing and serving food;
  - Food and Nutrition staff at the school and district level will work to ensure students with allergies or special needs related to meal service are identified and receive appropriate meals;
  - Food and Nutrition school site staff will clean and sanitize all serving areas and/or serving carts.

Operations - Transportation

- Implement safety protocols in the area of transportation:

  - Provide hand sanitizer for drivers and students.

  - Provide face masks for drivers and students. *Masks are mandatory to ride the bus. To encourage the use of personal transportation when possible, schools will open and allow drop off beginning at 7:00 a.m. each morning

  - Sanitize and disinfect buses daily and after each route.

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  - Adjust bus routes to accommodate changes in bus population.

  - Seats will be assigned and siblings will sit together where feasible.

  - Students will unload from the bus in a manner that will not require them to stack up in the bus aisle.

Operations - Buildings

- Implement safety protocols in buildings.
  - Clean high-touch areas throughout each school before the opening of school and throughout the day.
  - Hand sanitizer dispensers available at numerous points.
  - Upgrade nurses' stations for wellness and sick areas.
  - Provide janitorial staff additional time each afternoon to sanitize building once students and faculty are gone.
  - Monitor air quality per CDC requirements/air filters changed monthly.
  - Purchase additional equipment for disinfecting classrooms.
  - Modify classroom setup to meet CDC guidelines.
  - Provide masks for students/staff members.
  - Reduce the number of students entering and using the restroom facilities at one time to ensure social distancing.
  - Restrict gatherings in buildings.
  - Keep students static and move teachers to limit interactions and spread of contact germs when feasible.
  - No visitors beyond the office without administrative permission.
  - Scheduling modifications to enable social distancing.

Operations – Extracurricular Activities

The MHSAA Executive Committee met June 30, 2020, to discuss the upcoming sports seasons.

Many different options were discussed:

- Continuing as currently scheduled
- Delaying the start of the fall sports seasons and shortening the schedules
- Switching the fall and spring sports seasons

With many variations in place for instruction across different school districts in the state, the question of eligibility of athletes was raised. MHSAA has stated that each school district will be in charge of monitoring and enforcing eligibility as it relates to their specific academic model.

Regardless of how the Stone County School District decides to return to school, our return to athletics and activities will be dependent on the direction provided by MHSAA.

Stone County School District

2020-2021 School Year

Signup Deadline Extended to Friday, August 14, 2020
VIRTUAL LEARNING REQUIREMENTS (Virtual Learning begins Monday, August 17, 2020)

Please initial each item below to indicate consent.

Available upon parent request provided they are able to meet the provisions outlined by SCSD:

———— The Stone County School District is offering a traditional option, and I am choosing the virtual model which will follow as closely as possible the current course/schedule previously selected by my child.

———— **Provide your own device;** Access to **reliable Internet is required;** Must have capabilities to **scan and receive documents.**

———— **Attendance will be taken and documented per MDE guidelines** and will be taken either daily, by class period, or by grade level.

———— Students who select this option must **complete a semester** before choosing to change to the traditional in person schedule.

———— Your student **will be required to participate in diagnostic screenings 3 times per school year and any other state mandated assessments.** Students **may also be required** to come to the school for other classroom assessments. Parent transport will be required for any of these screeners and all mandatory assessments.

———— Completion of **assignments will be required, graded and must be returned** within the **assigned timeframe.**

———— Virtual students will be held to the same expectations for work submission and grading guidelines as traditional in-person students.

———— Students will "log into" their classrooms which would be broadcast either live or prerecorded via internet through Google Meet or Zoom.

———— Virtual students are not eligible to participate in any extracurricular activities or CTE programs.

———— If at any point a virtual student is deemed as being unsuccessful in this platform, a conference will be held with the school administrator/teachers to determine a change of status.

_____   _____   _____
Student Name (please print) / School/Grade   Parent/Guardian Signature   Date

_____
Administrator / Designee

Please list any other school-aged siblings in the same household.

_____ Student Name _____ School_____Grade

_____ Student Name _____ School_____Grade

_____ Student Name _____ School_____Grade

_____ Student Name _____ School_____Grade