



**Heard County School System**  
**131 East Court Square**  
**PO BOX 1330**  
**Franklin, GA 30217**  
**(706) 675-3320**

**Subject: Heard County School System - UPDATED MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL  
GUIDELINES Date: Friday, September 3, 2020**

**SYSTEM LEVEL COMMITMENTS:**

- \*HCSS will maintain open communication with the DPH and local health officials.**
- \*HCSS will cooperate fully with the DPH should contact tracing efforts be required.**
- \*HCSS will strongly encourage masks or face coverings when unable to maintain social distancing to prevent unnecessary quarantining of staff/students.**
- \*HCSS will strongly encourage vaccinations for staff/students who are eligible to receive a vaccination.**

**PRACTICING PREVENTION:**

- \*HCSS will provide hand sanitizing stations throughout every school**
- \*HCSS will provide non-touch trash cans in all locations.**
- \*HCSS will work with BECK Custodial Services to ensure frequently touched surfaces are sanitized on a daily basis.**
- \*HCSS will shut down all water fountains in all locations and replace them with water dispensers with cups. Students are strongly encouraged to bring their own water bottles and are reminded to keep those water bottles cleaned .**
- \*HCSS will minimize shared community supplies in classrooms.**
- \*HCSS will provide disinfectant for every classroom teacher to wipe down surfaces throughout the school day.**
- \*HCSS middle/high teachers will be encouraged to wear a mask throughout the day when socially distancing is not possible. They will not be encouraged to wear a mask when delivering whole group instruction in front of the classroom. Wearing a mask may prevent a teacher from becoming quarantined should they be identified as a close contact.**
- \*HCSS middle/high students will be encouraged to wear a mask throughout the day when socially distancing is not possible. Wearing a mask may prevent a student from becoming quarantined. For example: if your student is identified as a close contact and they are wearing a mask and are not exhibiting symptoms they will not be quarantined.**

#### **TRANSPORTING STUDENTS:**

- \*HCSS will provide hand sanitizer on every school bus for children and drivers to use upon entering and exiting the bus.**
- \*HCSS will strongly encourage students to wear masks while on buses.**
- \*HCSS will not allow any field trips until further notice. This will be reevaluated weekly.**
- \*HCSS will ensure all school buses are sanitized after morning routes and afternoon routes. After disinfectant has been applied, busses will be “aired out”.**

#### **ENTERING SCHOOL BUILDINGS:**

- \*HCSS will provide hand sanitizer stations for student/staff use upon entering all school buildings.**
- \*HCSS will work to limit unnecessary congregations of staff/students such as assemblies, pep rallies, etc..... until further notice.**
- \*HCSS will limit visitors to school on a need-only basis. All visitors will be expected to call ahead so that proper screenings can be conducted by school nurses or other designated staff. (This includes visits for eating lunch with students and birthday parties, etc.....until further notice).**

#### **SERVING MEALS:**

- \*HCSS will provide hand sanitizer in all cafeterias for student/staff use.**
- \*HCSS will continue with general food safety and sanitation procedures.**

#### **TRANSITIONING BETWEEN CLASSES:**

- \*HCSS will allow face masks to be worn by students/staff who choose to wear them.**
- \*HCSS will discourage the congregating of students during transition time.**
- \*Heard County Middle School will reevaluate class change to avoid large gatherings of students in the hallways.**

#### **CONDUCTING LARGE GROUP GATHERINGS:**

- \* HCSS will strongly encourage schools to conduct large gatherings outdoors when necessary.**

#### **WHEN SOMEONE BECOMES SICK AT SCHOOL:**

- \*Just because someone is sick does not mean they have COVID, but with the community spread we have experienced we will be very diligent when it comes to sending students home who exhibit symptoms of COVID.**
- \*Please do not administer fever-reducing medication to your students and send them to school.**

*As always, this document is very fluid and subject to change depending on*

*the infection rate of the community and the spread in our schools.*