



Jacksonville | North Pulaski SCHOOL DISTRICT

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www.jnpsd.org

Building Futures: Every Scholar, Every Day

July 8, 2020

3:47 pm

JNPSD School Community:

Items from the Governor's Press Conference today: (APSRC Report)

"We're going to start school with in-school instruction with a blended environment and option to go virtual as needed. Responsibility for education has been devolved upon the states. We're going to make good judgments for Arkansas based upon where we are in the state based on our cases, in terms of the community spread and in terms for what's required for public health in each of the schools," Governor Hutchinson said.

The Governor was also asked if a recent outbreak at a summer camp will change or inform his decisions regarding school in the fall?

"There is a lot of information you can get. You can have some very stringent requirements as we did for camp counselors and for the health requirements and testing and quarantining. It's a question as to how those actually operate in the environment, in this case it was summer camps, and it's challenging. Despite all the best precautions they still had some positive cases there. It simply means that whenever we reconvene, we're going to have to adhere to those public health guidelines very strictly. We realize when you have that congregation of people, it's going to be a challenging environment you have to work with," Governor Hutchinson said.

When asked if schools will be required to follow soon to be issued CDC guidelines, the Governor responded, "The CDC guidelines are guidelines. We uniquely apply those to our environment here in Arkansas. It's my understanding they will come out with new CDC guidelines. So, we will continue to watch and be informed by them, but ultimately we are going to make the decisions based upon the uniqueness of our circumstances here, what we see, and our public guidance here."

The July 9 press conference will focus more on educational issues. JNPSD Update #47 will include some of these details. Informational items have been posted on our website and social media about COVID-19 prevention. Please stay informed on these issues.

The Arkansas Department of Health and Arkansas Department of Education are providing the latest information available to advise schools on school reentry for August. As information is updated, guidance and procedures may change based on the latest health directives or other information.

1. **FREE ATHLETIC PHYSICALS JULY 13th-14th - PRE-REGISTER ONLINE**

Due to COVID-19 and the closure of the JNPSD, we were unable to provide athletic physicals in April as originally planned for the 2020-2021 school year. We are excited to announce that the Jacksonville Athletic Department in conjunction with ARCare will offer FREE athletic physicals to student athletes on Monday, July 13th and Tuesday, July 14th.

Link to register: <https://form.jotform.com/201636303179149>

* ALL STUDENT ATHLETES MUST PRE-REGISTER ONLINE BEFORE ATTENDING THE PHYSICAL DATES.

* A face mask MUST be worn upon arrival and at ALL times.

* Upon arriving, each athlete will be asked the COVID-19 screening questions and have their temperatures taken using a non-contact thermometer. Temperature must be under 100.4.

Who: Current JHS and JMS student athletes (7th-12th)

What: FREE student athlete physicals

When: Monday, July 13th and Tuesday, July 14th from 8:30 am - 3:30 pm

Where: JHS Auxiliary Gym (1301 West Main Street)

Parents: Please use the bus entry off West Main Street to enter the east side of the auxiliary gym.

2. We are getting questions concerning our virtual school option being referred to as homeschool. These distinctions are different. The JNP virtual school option keeps scholars enrolled in JNPSD, and activities are supervised by JNP teachers.

Homeschooling is an option where families take full responsibility for the education of their children, and the children are not enrolled in JNPSD. JNPSD no longer has the legal responsibility for educating any homeschooled child if parents make this choice.

JNPSD does offer the Titan Homeschool Academy for families who want their children to remain homeschooled with curriculum content provided by JNPSD using an online service provider. The child would be enrolled in JNPSD for the courses taken through the content provider, but the child would remain as a homeschooled scholar. Families interested in this option can contact Amy Arnone at aarnone@jnpsd.org or 501-241-2080.

3. If families are interested in the JNP Virtual Academy and was not able to complete the past surveys, please contact Teresa Hicks at thicks@jnpsd.org or 501-241-2080.

4. Graduation information publicize previously:

Saturday, August 1 at Titan Arena

3 Ceremonies of 80 graduates each

7 guests per scholar

Tickets will be issued to scholars.

Additional information will be publicized soon.

All state health directives, **including facility capacity requirements, spacing requirements, and face coverings**, must be followed. The JNP graduation plan had to comply with specific requirements in order to host these ceremonies. State officials may monitor ceremonies for compliance. We need your cooperation in order to conduct our ceremonies as planned.

Schedule as follows:

9 am – All Honor Graduates and Graduates Last Name A - Dillard

Noon – Graduates Last Name Douglas - Otto

3 pm – Graduates Last Name Pace - Z

High school staff will contact senior scholars on the details regarding tickets, seating, state health requirements, etc.

Photographers will be onsite to take graduation photos. Photo packages will be offered by the photographer.

NOTE: If there are major changes in the health conditions in the state and we are advised by the Arkansas Department of Health and Arkansas Department of Education to cancel our modified ceremonies, then JNPSD will give notice to parents and scholars as soon as possible.

Summary of State-Mandated Requirements for Approved Ceremonies

1. Six-foot distancing requirements between household groups will be required.
2. Six-foot distancing requirements between graduates will be observed.
3. Graduates must be seated at least 12-feet from the audience. Graduates will be seated at least 6-feet apart on the gym floor.
4. Face coverings are required for age 10 and older. Graduates may remove face coverings for official photographs of the awarding of diplomas.

5. No congregating will be allowed in parking lots, lobbies, and other general areas of campus.
6. Hand sanitizer stations and masks will be available to the public.
7. The facility must be sanitized before and after each ceremony. Participants must exit the facility promptly at the conclusion of the ceremony. This will allow proper time for cleaning.
8. Administrative and security staff will monitor the ceremony and assist families as needed. **Staff will direct families to specific seating areas.**

These requirements could change based on any new directives from the Governor, Arkansas Department of Health, and Arkansas Department of Education.

Thank you for your support as we all navigate the next phases in the process of school reentry for the 2020-21 school year.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bryan Duffie', is centered below the text 'Respectfully,'.

Bryan Duffie. Ed.D.
Superintendent