



Jacksonville | North Pulaski SCHOOL DISTRICT

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www.jnpsd.org

Building Futures: Every Scholar, Every Day

August 14, 2020

3:18 pm

JNPSD School Community:

Please continue to stay informed through all of our postings on JNP social media, JNP website, local media, and other communication outlets. All community updates and other information posted since March 6 is available for your reference.

Governor's Press Conference Today (APSRC Report)

The Governor announced that ADH will issue a directive today to public and private school superintendents and athletic directors providing guidelines on large outdoor venue and indoor venue plans for school-sponsored team sports.

"This is something everyone has been waiting for," Governor Hutchinson said.

There will be more information shared by the Department of Education, and the directive will be posted to the ADH website later today. Facilities will be expected to not go over 66% of capacity, and **attendees will also be required to socially distance and wear masks.** The directive will include a lot of broad-based venue specifications, but allow schools to develop these plans without requiring ADH to review the plans for every facility.

The Governor also shared that ADH will also publish more specific guidance for bands and music teams.

Governor Hutchinson said schools are going to continue with the Arkansas Activities Association (AAA) schedule. Under this schedule, this weekend's intra-squad games will be allowed to proceed. Next week, interschool preseason scrimmage games will be able to proceed.

"We will continue in accordance with the AAA schedule. We plan to do that. **The only exception is if we don't do our responsibility, if we don't maintain our discipline in terms of our public health requirements and guidelines for these activities.**" Governor Hutchinson said. "Let's not only start the season, let's work to finish the season. That's what's important. It's going to take everyone's help."

Arkansas Department of Education Secretary Johnny Key announced the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) received a shipment of the Kids Guide to the

Coronavirus this morning. These guides will be distributed to every elementary school in the state, both public and private.

“It’s a kid-friendly and parent-friendly guide so students can understand what they are dealing with. We certainly want our youngest children in the state to have a better understanding of why we are asking them to wear masks, why we are asking them to wash hands more frequently, why we are social distancing. It’s all covered in here,” Secretary Key said.

The guides will be distributed in the coming weeks, so schools can start distributing to students.

1. The announcement confirming the continuation of the athletic season allows the school district to plan for these events. JNP is planning in cooperation with our athletic conference schools.
2. **Athletic Facility Capacity Limits:** In order to account for proper spacing requirements according to Arkansas Department of Health directives, **spectator capacity in our stadium and arena will be more limited than in the past.** We are working on a plan to publicize as soon as possible. **It is possible that tickets will not be sold at the gate.** ADH endorses the selling of advance tickets to match capacity and distancing requirements.
3. The Arkansas Department of Health must approve our athletic facility plan before any athletic events can occur on campus. JNP is the process of creating a plan for consideration.
4. Revised ADH guidance for fine arts programs will be released soon. The directive from August 5 still remains in place.

Major announcements from the state level can occur at any time and has the potential to change school planning and operations. Thank you for your patience.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bryan Duffie', written in a cursive style.

Bryan Duffie, Ed.D.
Superintendent