

Frequently Asked Questions Document for CuCPS Hybrid Opening

(updated 10/12/2020)

1) What are the dates for hybrid, in-person instruction to begin?

Hybrid in-person instruction is scheduled to begin on Monday, October 19, 2020, for all students in grades PreK-12.

2) What preventative measures are school staff taking to reduce the risk of COVID-19 spread in schools?

There are several measures that are taking place in schools to help reduce the spread of COVID 19 including:

- Classrooms and other areas are being arranged to ensure social distancing.
- Teachers will disinfect desktops and doorknobs between classes.
- Designated water fountains will only be used as water bottle refill stations.
- Commonly touched surfaces will be disinfected frequently throughout the day.
- Hand sanitizer will be readily available to all students in classrooms and hallways.
- Social distancing reminders for students will be visible throughout the building.
- COVID-related educational flyers will be posted throughout schools to remind students and staff of healthy practices.
- Deep cleaning such as disinfectant fogging will occur during the evenings and on Fridays, in addition to normal cleaning and disinfecting.

3) What can I do to help ensure that COVID-19 cases in schools remain low?

The best way for parents to help keep our COVID-19 numbers low and our schools open is to screen your child each morning before sending them to school. **If your child has a fever or other symptoms, please keep him or her at home.**

4) On which days will my child attend school?

Students will be divided into two groups geographically. Students in Group A will attend Monday through Thursday beginning on October 19, 2020, while students in Group B will participate in remote learning. The next week (beginning Monday, October 26, 2020), students in Group B will attend school in-person, while Group A will engage in remote learning. Schools will let parents know their children's group.

5) Will the school day be changed?

The school day for in-person learning will be shortened. The elementary school will dismiss at 1:30 P.M. and the high school/middle school will dismiss at 2:00 P.M. This will allow time for teachers to reach out to remote learners and conference with parents.

6) What will be the instructional expectations for the weeks that my child is home?

Students who attend school in-person each week will be given assignments to complete during remote learning.

7) Can my child receive remote instruction instead of returning in-person?

Yes. Parents have the option of their students remaining on fully-remote instruction until further notice; however, it is critical that the child continue making adequate progress while learning remotely.

8) How will remote instruction look different once students return in-person?

The lessons provided for remote learners will look very similar to how they look up to this point. The difference is that teachers will not be able to provide as much one-on-one work with remote students because they will have students physically in their classrooms. Parents may have to leave messages for teachers instead of being able to speak directly to teachers as they have become accustomed to doing. Teachers will have office hours from 2:00 P.M. to 3:30 P.M. on Monday through Thursday to answer any questions that students and/or parents may have. Teachers will also reach out to parents at other times during the week as necessary.

9) Can my child switch from in-person to remote instruction? From remote to in-person?

Parents may switch their children from in-person to remote learning as needed by notifying their child's teacher. Parents must provide their child's principal at least one week in advance before changing the child from remote instruction to in-person instruction. This allows the school time to ensure social distancing in classrooms and on buses.

10) Does my child have to wear a mask at school?

All students must wear a mask on all CuCPS school buses/cars and while present in all CuCPS schools. Flexibility for wearing masks may be provided by school officials when social distancing can be maintained. If a child has a medical condition that prevents him or her from wearing a mask, then his or her parent must provide the school with medical documentation. In order to ride the bus, **students must wear masks.**

11) Do I have to provide a mask for my child?

Yes. We ask that parents provide masks for children to wear at school each day. Masks must adhere to the CuCPS dress code policy. If a child forgets his or her mask, a mask will be made available.

12) Does my child have to bring his or her Chromebook or IPAD with them to school?

All high school students are required to bring their device **and charger** every day.

13) Will meals continue to be provided to students?

Meal distribution will continue. Parents may pick up meals for their children on Fridays at any of the three distribution sites, including Randolph Fire Station, Cumberland High School/Middle School Complex, or Cartersville Rescue Squad building. Meals will still be delivered at home to students whose parents request home delivery.

14) Will my child be health screened at school?

Parents should screen their children at home prior to sending them to school. Students who display symptoms of COVID-19 should NOT be sent to school. Students will have their temperatures taken before entering the school buildings and monitored for obvious signs of COVID-19.

15) What happens if my child does not pass his or her health screening?

Students with temperatures above 100° F or those displaying obvious symptoms of COVID-19 will be referred to the school nurse. Parents will be notified that they must pick up their child from school and advised as to when they may return.

16) Will riding the bus be different for my child this year?

Yes. All students riding buses will be required to wear a mask. Students will only be allowed to sit one per seat unless they are sitting with a family member who lives in the same home. Students will be dropped off at the same address where they were picked up—the schools will not be accepting bus notes to be dropped off at different locations. This is to ensure that sufficient seats are available to maintain social distancing.

17) What preventative measures are being taken by staff members to reduce the risk of COVID-19 on buses?

Transportation vehicles will be disinfected after each trip and will receive a disinfectant treatment with a fogger on Fridays.

18) What should I talk with my child about prior to him or her returning to in-person instruction?

It is important that parents explain to their children that school will look, and operate, differently this year. It is important to discuss proper handwashing, social distancing, and mask-wearing with your child.

19) Will I be notified if there is a confirmed, positive case in my child's school?

Parents will be notified by letter if there is a confirmed positive case within their child's school. The name of the person who has COVID-19 cannot be released. Anyone who is suspected to have been in close contact (less than 6 feet apart for more than 15 minutes) will be notified by the health department.

20) Will parents or visitors be able to enter schools?

CuCPS will make every effort not to allow adults other than staff into our buildings. Any adult or visitor who enters our schools increases the opportunity for our students and staff to be exposed to COVID-19. In most cases, children will be escorted to the entrance to meet their parents if the child needs to leave early. All visitors who ***must*** enter our schools will be required to undergo a health screening and properly wear a mask.

21) What is the best way for me to monitor my child's progress?

Parents should utilize Parent Portal through Powerschool to monitor their child's progress. This will allow parents access to the most current grades and missing assignments. Parents should contact their child's school if they need login information for their child. Parents

may also keep in contact with their child's teacher.

22) Do grades earned during remote instruction count towards my child's final grade?

Grades earned by students during remote instruction count towards students' final grades just as assignments completed in-person. The weight of any assignment is determined by the classroom teacher.

23) When will students return to all in-person learning?

Students will return to all in-person as soon as health conditions indicate that it is safe. This will not return to 100% in-person learning as long as a social-distancing protocol is in place.

24) When would students return to all remote learning?

Students will return to all remote learning when deemed necessary to ensure the safety of students and staff by the Governor's Office, the CDC, and/or the Piedmont Health Department. Students may return to all remote learning if CuCPS has insufficient staff to implement in-person learning.