

(Strategic Action for Flexible Education) Contingency Plan for Reopening Schools



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S.A.F.E. (Strategic Action for Flexible Education) Contingency Plan for Reopening Schools

Amid the unprecedented closure of schools due to COVID-19, the District has been working steadily to prepare a safe and flexible contingency plan that will be necessary to reopen schools and offices for the start of 2020-21.

PLANNING & RE-ENTRY OPTIONS

- The District's S.A.F.E. Planning Team has been meeting daily since the onset of the COVID-19 crisis. This cross-functional team is charged with assessing both short-term and long-term plans for academics and operational support functions while developing safe and comprehensive guidance for school-based and central office staff to manage day-to-day priorities and eventually return to schools and offices.
- Superintendent Ray recently announced a **Re-Entry Task Force** comprised of key stakeholders with education, healthcare, faith-based and business expertise to advise and support the District in specific areas that will be critical to the reopening of schools:

5 S.A.F.E. Strategies Priorities



Re-entry protocols for students, teachers & staff (social distancing, face coverings, etc.)

Transportation, meals & potential logistical challenges

Interventions to address lost instruction (extended school year, extended day, Saturday school, etc.)



Social emotional learning support

Communicating plans to all stakeholders

• Given the uncertainty regarding conditions in August 2020, a hybrid model of in-person and online learning is possible to begin the year. However, the Task Force will be exploring multiple options, such as:

Fall 2020 Hybrid Model Options

Complete or near-complete return to buildings while adhering to CDC guide lines

Staggered schedules to reduce the number of people in school building at a time

Complete or near-complete online learning



COST OF IMPROVING DIGITAL ACCESS

- As the COVID-19 crisis is challenging districts across the country to accelerate the implementation of blended and distance learning plans, SCS is working to create a bold and progressive plan that would lead to all students and teachers having access to a device and internet.
- The District's Digital Advisory Committee is exploring options to secure funding for the plan, which could range from \$24 million to \$91 million. The committee includes District staff, along with representatives from the School Board, Shelby County Board of Commissioners, Greater Memphis Chamber, IT consultants, charitable organizations and the community.



 Superintendent Ray has recommended plans for utilizing approximately \$36 million in federal CARES Act funds to assist in the District's response to COVID-19, with 75% of funds going toward digital devices. The rest of the funds would cover necessities (10%) to ensure the health and safety of our

rest of the funds would cover necessities (10%) to ensure the health and safety of our students, teachers, and District personnel (digital thermometers, personal protective equipment (PPE), hand-washing/hand-sanitizing supplies, training materials, etc.) and costs associated with extending time in school (15%) for students to receive additional support and interventions.



CARES Act Funding Proposal

Board of Education

Miska Clay Bibbs, Chair Scott McCormick, Vice Chair Shante K. Avant Joyce Dorse Coleman Althea Greene Stephanie Love Michelle Robinson McKissack William "Billy" Orgel Kevin D. Woods

Dr. Joris M. Ray, Superintendent