

# **D**Return**STRONGER**

***S.A.F.E. Plan for 2020-21 School Re-Entry***



# SURVEY RESULTS

## *Vision for Opening Schools*

The vision of Shelby County Schools is to strengthen school communities by developing a responsible plan of action to address the re-opening of schools, reimagine teaching and learning in SCS, and change the way students access their materials, their teachers, and their instructional time. The District recognizes that while some families desire a return to a traditional school year, others have embraced alternative approaches to learning and have a desire to continue on this path, even after the pandemic subsides.

## *Guiding Principles*

Our re-entry plans are led by seven guiding principles: Safety, Equity, Communication, Academics, Social and Emotional Learning, Funding, and Partnerships.

**69%**

of parents support  
online learning

**27%**

of families support  
in-person learning at school

**71%**

of families are very or  
somewhat confident  
their children can  
successfully  
learn online

**88%**

of families believe enhanced  
cleaning is an important  
factor in their decision  
about returning to school

**81%**

of families can provide  
transportation to  
all of their children

## **IMPORTANT CALENDAR FEEDBACK**

**Based on the overwhelming responses from our teachers, parents and stakeholders who completed the survey, we are maintaining our current Board-approved calendar, adding **OPTIONAL** fall, spring and weekend academies planned throughout the year to address learning loss.**

# S.A.F.E. Plan: Guiding Principles

## *S.A.F.E. (Strategic Action for Flexible Education)*

1. **Safety** – Maintain safe, healthy working and learning conditions
2. **Equity** – Provide access to quality instruction, no matter what learning environment a parent chooses
3. **Communication** – Provide clear and concise communication to build unity and trust
4. **Academics** – Mitigate loss of learning time and provide ample learning opportunities to ensure students remain on track
5. **Social & Emotional Learning** – Implement SEL practices to better support the wide range of student needs
6. **Funding** – Prioritize spending to ensure equity District-wide
7. **Partnerships** – Stakeholders must remain willing to adapt and align their services and supports to meet the needs of students



# S.A.F.E. Re-Entry Task Force

The Re-Entry Task Force was announced on May 18. The group includes key stakeholders with education, healthcare, faith-based and business expertise to advise the District on a long-term strategy for safely reopening schools.

- Miska Clay-Bibbs – Chair, Shelby County Board of Education
- Mark Billingsley – Chair, Shelby County Commission
- DaCharius Brooks – Student, East High School
- Michalyn Easter-Thomas – SCS Educator and Member, Memphis City Council
- Alisa Haushalter – Director, Shelby County Health Department
- Steevon Hunter – Principal, Kirby High School
- Tom Marino – Executive Director, The Poplar Foundation
- Joann Massey – Parent, White Station High School
- Keith Norman – Vice President of Government Affairs, Baptist Memorial Healthcare Corporation
- Beverly Robertson – President, Greater Memphis Chamber
- Patrice Jordan Robinson – Chair, Memphis City Council
- Danette Stokes – Teacher, Robert R. Church Elementary
- Gabriela Toro – Principal, Newcomer International Center
- Jeffrey S. Warren – Physician and Member, Memphis City Council
- Kevin B. Willis, Sr. – Founder and Pastor, New Life of Memphis

# S.A.F.E. Task Force Recommendations

## Academics & Instruction

- Provide options for fully in-school & fully virtual learning
- Provide access to rigorous curriculum to address learning gaps
- Provide face-to-face learning for vulnerable students (SPED, ESL, etc.)
- Allow teachers to rotate classrooms
- Adapt high school attendance policies to allow for virtual classes

## Whole Child Supports

- Provide mental health & counseling support
- Continued implementation of trauma-informed & restorative discipline practices
- Processes home visits & virtual check-ins
- Trauma-informed workshop opportunities for parents & community members
- Adult care PD sessions for teachers and staff

## School & Staff Safety

- Align decisions to the Shelby County/Memphis Back to Business Plan
- Partner with local health agencies to monitor COVID-19 surges
- Conduct daily wellness checks & surveys
- Provide accommodations for high-risk student & staff groups
- Implement staggered work schedules & remote work options

## School Operations

- Require masks for everyone in schools & on school buses
- Regular & rigorous cleaning/disinfecting at all locations
- Regular hand-washing schedules & access to hand sanitizer
- Small groups & campus mobility outside of class

# S.A.F.E. Task Force Recommendations

## Additional School & Classroom Safety Recommendations

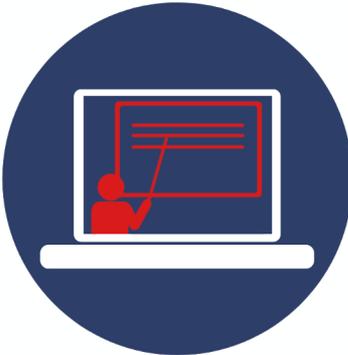
- Face shields for all teacher & staff
- No sharing of devices & supplies
- Increased access to cleaning & safety supplies
- Hand sanitizer, gloves & disinfectant wipes for classes
- Regulate the distancing of student desks to the extent possible at all school locations.
- Restrict interaction of student groups (lunch, recess, etc.)
- Student-led PSAs to promote health & safety
- Health & safety orientation for students to begin the year
- Communicate plans for responding to a positive case of COVID-19 in the school
- Display consistent health & safety signage
- Parent release form to acknowledge conditions & considerations
- Enhance community partnerships
- Create commercials to promote health & safety practices in schools
- Implement an email or hotline specifically for COVID-19 concerns
- Create a process to allow for virtual parent meetings

# Parents will have TWO OPTIONS for student learning this fall.



## OPTION 1: In-School Instruction

- Daily in-class, teacher-led instruction
- Digital curriculum platform to ensure learning continues without any disruption if an unexpected school closure occurs
- Enhanced health & safety protocols (increased cleaning, mask usage, frequent hand-washing & hand sanitizer stations)
- Reduced class transitions and large group interactions
- Similar enhanced health & safety protocols on school buses



## OPTION 2: At-Home Teacher-Led Virtual Instruction

- Live online teacher-led instruction every day
- Same digital curriculum platform & learning pace as in-school students
- Support services available (ex. IEP meetings, ESL support, social emotional support, etc.)
- Virtual parent meetings available
- Limited availability of extracurricular programs & activities that require on-campus participation

# Enhanced Health & Safety Protocols

## INCREASED CLEANING

- Thorough cleaning & disinfection of all common areas at least twice per day
- Thorough cleaning & disinfection of all frequently touched areas at least four times per day
- Daily restock of all tissue, paper towel, hand soap & hand sanitizer dispensers

## SAFEGUARDS TO LIMIT SPREAD OF GERMS

- Temperatures & health monitoring for all students, staff & visitors
- Not allowing anyone with fever or symptoms remain at school/work & isolation areas for individuals with symptoms
- Social distancing markers in all buildings, reduced class transitions & reduced visitor volumes
- Limiting class interactions & gatherings
- Hand sanitizer stations in all common areas & hallways
- Frequent opportunities for handwashing

## USE OF PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT PPE

- Facemask requirements for students, staff & visitors will be based on current guidance from CDC, SCHD and local government ordinances
- All buildings equipped with emergency stock of PPE

## HEALTH & SAFETY SIGNAGE IN ALL BUILDINGS

- Social distancing floor decals
- Visitor entry guidelines & mask requirement
- Handwashing, steps to avoid germs & stay home when sick

# ACCESS FOR ALL: A Digital Device for Every Student

- Board approved contract with Microsoft & HP on June 15 for 1:1 Digital Device Plan
- Tablets for grades Pre-K-2; Standard laptops for grades 3-8; Laptop with expanded storage capacity for grades 9-12
- Device distribution to begin in early July

## Distribution Timeline

Grade Level	Timing
*Priority Group - Fully Virtual	Early July
High Schools	Early August — Mid-August
Middle Schools	Mid-August – Late August
Pre-K & Elementary Schools	Late August – Early September



# Florida Virtual Schools (FLVS)

The District recognizes that parents and students love their school but might not be comfortable returning to the school building in August. The virtual learning option closely mirrors a traditional school day, but with teachers and students interacting virtually. FLVS is the curriculum we seek to adopt in an effort to assure equitable academic instruction for all students. Top things you need to know about FLVS:

1. FLVS is a supplemental curriculum under consideration to ensure equitable academic instruction to all students regardless of them learning in the building or online.
2. FLVS online learning modules are aligned to state standards and provide rigorous materials and resources ready-made for teacher instruction.
3. FLVS allows students the opportunity to interact in rigorous academic content virtually with guidance from the instructor.



# IMMEDIATE NEXT STEPS

## *Week of July 6*

- Community engagement and communication of re-entry plan to Board, parents and other stakeholders
- Return to School Commitment released for parents as part of registration (in-person or online learning through student's school)

## *Week of July 15*

- Device deployment process to begin

## *July 24*

- Deadline for Academic (Continuous Learning) plans to be submitted to the State for waivers





**THANK YOU!**