

Huntingdon Middle School
Back to School
FAQ
2020 – 2021

Q: Will students be required to wear face masks to school?

No. Face masks will not be required of students or staff. Face masks are allowed and all students and staff will have the option of wearing face masks.

Q: What will the school schedule look like from day to day?

Students will travel to their core classes of Math/ Reading and LA, Science, Social Studies, and activity by homeroom.

Q: What will student arrival look like?

An infrared thermometer will be stationed inside the front doors of the school. Students and staff will hold their wrist up to the sensor and listen for the results. Staff will be monitoring this thermometer each day and those students entering the building from the buses. Officer Ezell will take the temperature of students in cars at parent drop off. Students must remain in their cars until their temperature is taken by the SRO.

Q: What are some precautionary measures that will be implemented to assist with student safety and staff safety?

Daily temperature checks - As students enter the building each morning, students' temperature will be checked. Based on CDC guidelines, any student who has a temperature of 100.4 or higher will be sent home.

Temperature screening and limited access of school visitors - All visitors will be required to have their temperature checked and access to the school building will be limited. For the time being, visitors will not be allowed to attend school functions during the school day.

Building Cleaning - Restrooms and water fountains will be wiped down after students use them throughout the day. Janitorial services will clean student desks daily.

Water fountains - Students will not be allowed to use traditional water fountains. We will have multiple water bottle filling stations for students and staff to use throughout the building. Students may bring their own water bottle from home. Water bottles should be taken home daily for washing.

Q: What will Open House consist of?

To reduce crowd size, each grade has a designated time. Fourth grade and new students will come on July 27th at 6:00 and report to the gym. Parents will enter the building through the Gym doors for a brief meeting with the principal. All adults entering the building are highly encouraged to wear a mask especially in areas where social distancing may be a concern. After meeting with the principal, parents will be allowed to visit their child's classroom.

Fourth grade and New Students - July 27th at 6:00 in gym

Fifth & Seventh Grades - July 28th at 6:00 (report to Homeroom)

Sixth & Eighth Grades - July 29th at 6:00 (report to Homeroom)

Q: What will the first day of school look like?

This day will remain a come and go opportunity for parents and students to meet with the teacher and drop off classroom supplies in fourth grade. Fifth to Eight grades will report to Homeroom

All adults entering the building are highly encouraged to wear a mask especially in areas where social distancing may be a concern. Everyone will enter through the Gym doors, but exit through the front doors of the building.

Q: What will happen if a staff member or student is diagnosed with the COVID virus?

In the event of staff or students being diagnosed with the COVID virus, school stakeholders will be notified by school administration. Additional measures will be considered based on the specifics of each unique case.

Q: What will happen if students are not allowed to come to school for an extended period of time?

The school has a distance learning plan prepared in the event school must close for an extended period of time. Generally speaking, students will continue learning through distance learning using Google Classroom and Google Meet. Students will have options to correspond with their teacher if they do not or have limited internet access. Hopefully we will not have to implement the distance learning plan, but we want to make sure all students and parents/guardians are aware of our plan in the event students will not have the opportunity to meet face to face.

Q: What changes will be made this year for students being transported by bus?

All bus-related procedures and protocols are established by the Carroll County Board of Education. For questions, please contact superintendent Johnny McAdams at 986-4482.

The school is responsible for enforcing the expectations of students riding the bus to school.

The following revisions have been made to bus procedures for 2020-2021: Although Carroll County Schools are taking the following precautions while transporting students to prevent the spread of germs that could lead to illnesses, it is the parent's/guardian's decision for students to ride a school bus. Carroll County Schools reserve the rights to adapt/revise these operating procedures as needed.

1. Please check your child's temperature and ensure it is below 100.4 degrees before allowing him/her to ride a bus.
2. Students will load the bus and be assigned a seat from back to front with the first students picked up sitting in the back of the bus. Family members will sit together as space allows. It will be a point of emphasis that students will stay in their seat until unloading at their destination. (To assist with the prevention of the spread of germs)
3. Each bus will drop off students at each school without transitioning students from one bus to another. The bus will unload from front to back at each location. Students will sit in the same assigned seat in the afternoon and morning routes. At the end of the school day, students should load the bus in the order they load in the morning from back to front.
4. Students being transported from one school to another will be assigned a bus to ride with an assigned seat.
5. Masks will be recommended to be worn by anyone riding on a Carroll County Schools bus.
6. Hand sanitizer will be provided for driver's and students' use upon loading and unloading the bus.
7. Windows should be lowered for ventilation. (Weather Permitting)
8. Buses will be cleaned and disinfected on a regular schedule.
9. *****Destination changes must be approved 24 hours in advance unless it is an emergency.*****

Q: Is there a contingency plan for student learning and safety in the event the virus spread warrants additional precautionary measures or modifications to the learning environment?

Yes. A specific plan has been developed to guide future decisions in the event the virus spread is trending upward in our community. From additional precautionary measures to modifications to the learning environment, a plan is prepared for future disruptions. Below is a summary of the phases being considered. We are currently anticipating starting school under minimal spread guidelines.

Minimal Spread: School buildings remain open with multiple preventative measures in place to assist in preventing the spread of COVID-19. Parents will have the ability to choose the traditional return or the Virtual Learning option. (We plan to start in this phase on August 4)

Moderate Spread: School buildings remain open via a rotating schedule and/or potential targeted or short term closures. For rotating schedules students will be grouped by last name to determine days they will attend school and days they will learn from home. Distance Learning will be provided by HSSD teachers using the on-line platforms: Google Classroom and Google Meet.

Substantial Spread: School building will be closed. Staff will continue to report to their assigned school daily, unless otherwise noted, to conduct Distance Learning for all students. All students in grade PK-12 will be permitted to take home their district provided learning device. For those students without internet access, paper-based assignments and other options will be provided.