



Hinds County School District COVID-19 Parent Letter
March 11, 2022

Superintendent
Dr. Delesicia M. Martin, Ed.D.

Hinds County School District
Rod Jones – District 1
Robbie Anderson – District 2
Dr. Linda Laws, President – District 3
Kayla Banger – District 4
Carolyn Samuel – District 5

To the Parents of HCSD Students,

Beginning February 25, 2022, the CDC will measure COVID-19 Community Levels based on three metrics - new COVID-19 admissions per 100,000 population in the past 7 days, the percent of staffed inpatient beds occupied by COVID-19 patients, and total new COVID-19 cases per 100,000 population in the past 7 days.

Based on the new guidance, the CDC no longer recommends indoor mask be worn by individuals in Hinds County. The only exception would be for individuals at high risk of severe illness.

- Effective March 21, 2022, the Hinds County School District will ONLY RECOMMEND a mask be worn by staff, students, and visitors. The choice will be decided on by students, parents, teachers, staff, and visitors.
- Face masks will be optional both inside and outside all school facilities and on buses.
- We will continue to use plexiglass barriers on student desk, teacher desk and in our office/common areas.

These requirements may change as our Community Level changes.

What health and safety measures have been implemented in our schools?

- Jackson Hinds Comprehensive Health Center clinics provide services on each school campus. COVID-19 testing, and vaccinations are available for staff and students.
- Temperature screening for staff and students daily
- Recommend a mask be worn by staff, students, and visitors.
- Hand sanitizer will be provided and frequently used in each classroom and throughout the buildings
- Regularly scheduled handwashing for all students and staff
- Staff members have been trained on CDC guidance to reduce likelihood of COVID-19 transmission
- Strict social distancing in hallways and common areas
- Meals may be served in the classrooms or outside when weather permits
- Enhanced nightly cleaning in all schools
- Bipolar Ionization systems have been mounted inside all HVAC units. This technology has been proven 99.4% effective against SARS-CoV2 which is the virus that causes COVID-19

What are the parent responsibilities?

- School staff will meet students at their cars/buses to conduct temperature checks before allowing students to enter the building.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- If your child is sick, keep them at home and contact your healthcare provider.
- Parents must immediately report positive cases to their child's principal
- Students who test positive must quarantine until they receive their test results from a Health Care Provider.

What is the School Health Services protocol?

Jackson Hinds Comprehensive Health Center will operate clinics at each school. Jackson Hinds is dedicated to meeting the health care needs of the school community and will continue serving students, faculty, and staff via in-person and virtual visits.

- **COVID-19 Testing**
 - Students, faculty, and staff who develop symptoms of COVID-19 or who have been exposed to someone suspected of or confirmed with COVID-19 should call Jackson Hinds Comprehensive Health Services at **601-362-5321** or contact their medical provider immediately. At Jackson Hinds Comprehensive Health Services, a provider will assess and determine if you need to be tested at the clinic.

We appreciate your continued support throughout this endeavor.

Thank you,

Dr. Delesicia Martin, Superintendent