

2021-2022

Back To School Information

Superintendent's Message

Dear JEFCEOED Family,

I hope you had a great summer and are energized for the upcoming school year. This week, our teachers returned to their classrooms and students return Tuesday, August 10th.

As many of you are aware, the Alabama Department of Public Health released its back-to-school toolkit. I have spent the week reviewing it with my executive staff and health leaders in our community.

We will begin the school year with masks being optional. **However, I am strongly recommending students, faculty, staff, and visitors wear a mask while inside our schools.**

Masks will be required on school buses. ADPH has interpreted the federal order regarding facial covering requirements on all forms of public transportation to include school buses and any buses used for field trips. JEFCEOED is not allowed to deviate from this order.

We reserve the right to make changes to our plan at any time. To be clear, this means we may require masks on campus at some point. We will make that decision depending on what the data shows at our schools. This data, including current positive case numbers in our schools, will be published on the district's website. I am hoping we can all do the right things and work together to keep our cases low. All eligible students and staff members are encouraged to be vaccinated against COVID-19. The vaccine is our single best shot at ending the pandemic.

Finally, throughout this document, you will find more detailed plans for the school year. I will continue to be transparent with you and keep you updated as we go through 2021-2022.

Sincerely,

Dr. Walter Gonsoulin
#JEFCEOEDStrong
#ForgingAhead



More Info

JEFCEOED.com

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Wellness

Masks/Facial Coverings

- **Recommended** but optional for all students, staff, and visitors on campus.
- **Required** for all passengers and drivers when riding a school bus. ADPH has interpreted the federal order regarding facial covering requirements on all forms of public transportation to include school buses and any buses used for field trips. JEFCOED is not allowed to deviate from this order.

Social Distancing

- Teachers, staff, students, and visitors should keep a social distance of at least 6 feet in all areas of the school when possible.
- Students and staff will respect personal space in all school areas and activities.
- Visitors will be allowed on a pre-approved basis for scheduled activities that make allowances for respect of personal space.

Vaccinations

- All eligible students and staff members are encouraged to be vaccinated against COVID-19.

Cleaning and Hygiene

- All school areas will be cleaned and disinfected daily.
- Cleaning schedules will be adjusted to clean and disinfect common areas on a more frequent basis.
- Handwashing and respiratory etiquette will be reinforced daily with students and staff.

If You are Sick

- Students, teachers, and staff who have symptoms of infectious illness should stay home and be referred to their health care provider for testing and care.
- Stay home for 10 days following the onset of symptoms or a positive Covid-19 test result.
- Individuals must be 24 hours without fever or fever-reducing medications, and experience symptoms improving before returning to school.

Close Contacts Remaining On Campus

- "Close contact" is defined as someone who was within 6 feet of an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period within 2 days of that person developing symptoms or testing positive if asymptomatic.
- In many cases, close contacts will be required to remain off campus for 14 days. However, there are certain criteria where students may remain on campus.
- [Click here to learn more about when close contacts are allowed to remain in school.](#)



Instructional Options

Traditional

- On-campus learning
- Five days a week following the JEFCEOED calendar
- JEFCEOED Teachers

Virtual School

- Jefferson County Virtual Academy of Learning (JCVAL)
- Considered an alternative for students seeking a non-traditional pathway for their K-12 education
- 100% of instruction takes place online.
- Classes taught by virtual school teachers employed by Edmentum, an outside vendor.
- JCVAL is different from "Remote Learning" that took place in 2020-2021.
- Should be considered a long-term option; students may choose to attend JCVAL by semester.
- Students will have to meet all criteria and requirements for acceptance in JCVAL.
- **JCVAL application's deadline was August 1st. No additional applications are being considered for the fall semester.**
- A second application window will be created for the second semester. Notification will be communicated to all parents once the application window opens.

Devices and Technology

- All students in all grades will be provided a Chromebook.
- Devices will be checked out to students at the beginning of the school year.
- Schoology will be used to facilitate technology engagement in the traditional school model including instructional support, communication, and collaboration with students and parents.
- JCVAL Students that are zoned to attend a Jefferson County School will be provided with a device for checkout.



On The Bus

- Masks are **required** for all passengers and drivers. (see explanation under “wellness” section)
- Students will have assigned seats.
- Buses will be cleaned and disinfected each day after the morning and afternoon run.

Breakfast and Lunch

- All meals during the 2021-2022 school year will be free.
- Breakfast meals will be a grab-and-go and will be served in the cafeteria and/or an area easily accessible to students to allow maximum social distancing.
- Lunch meals will be served in the cafeteria or another area as designated by the principal to allow maximum social distancing.
- All child nutrition staff members will be required to wash their hands, wear clean uniforms, and respect personal space.
- Students attending the Jefferson County Virtual Academy of Learning (JCVAL) and/or non school aged children will be able to pick up meals curbside at any of the Jefferson County schools beginning **Monday, August 16, 2021**, between the hours of **8:00 a.m.-9:00 a.m.** one day per week. That day will always be the first day of the week when students are present on the campus for instruction.

Athletics, Physical Education, Extracurricular

- We will follow all AHSAA guidelines. [The latest guidelines are linked here.](#)
- Bus travel will be provided for athletes based on AHSAA guidelines and district decisions.
- We will promote cashless tickets/online tickets if possible.
- Local schools will define procedures for physical education which ensure respect of personal space and additional cleanliness.
- We will rotate the use of equipment to provide for cleaning between classes or consider activities that limit interaction with equipment.
- We will consider schedules that provide flexibility with groupings.
- Field trips will be allowed but at the superintendent’s discretion.
- JCVAL students will only be allowed to participate if they are zoned to attend a JEFCOED school. They must participate at the school they are zoned to attend.