



Jasper County Charter System
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The Jasper County Charter School System will provide superior and innovative learning experiences to prepare every student for life beyond school.

September 1, 2021

Dear Jasper County Families,

The Jasper County Charter System goal for the 2021-2022 school year has been to operate an in-person schedule in a pre-pandemic environment without interruptions. However, due to the significant cases of confirmed and presumptive COVID-19 cases reported within the system, the decision was made to suspend “normal” operations on August 24, 2021. From the timeframe of August 20, 2021 PM-noon August 27, 2021, a total of 49 cases (39 students and 10 employees) were reported. This period of reporting was by far the largest numbers of cases reported since recordkeeping began in September 2020. The reports were not in an isolated area but from the overall school system. With the reported cases of COVID, there were a significant amount of students and staff placed in quarantine. Several entire classrooms were forced to quarantine in PK-2 and multiple students were forced to quarantine based on contact tracing in grades 3-12.

On Tuesday, August 24, 2021, there were approximately twenty-five staff members either with a confirmed/presumptive case of COVID or forced to quarantine due to exposure. The large number of personnel being designated in either of these areas created a significant concern on how we were able to provide instruction during this difficult time.

During the week of August 30, 2021-September 3, 2021, the system moved to remote instruction. Also, during this timeframe, several candidates were trained and approved to be eligible for substitute teaching duties within the system. The system also secured additional substitute candidates for the positions of custodian, school nutrition, and transportation (drivers and monitors).

With this said, our number one goal is to return with successful in-person learning opportunities. However, with these opportunities, there must be temporary changes to our protocols in order to remain with this option. Please read the following plans and we ask for your support as we attempt to meet the learning needs of our students.

The Jasper County Charter System plans to restart in person instruction on September 7, 2021.

The goal of JCCS is to remain steady with operations during the remainder of the school year. However, the system must revisit protocols in terms of mitigating the spread of COVID and other illnesses in order to maintain an environment conducive to learning.

Effective September 7, 2021-September 17, 2021, all JCCS employees and students will be required to wear facial coverings. This requirement will be implemented with all indoor activities during the regular school day excluding meals, students actively participating in physical education/recess activities, and/or actively participating in band.

- **All students and employees participating in bus transportation to/from school and bus transportation to all extracurricular activities (i.e. athletic events & field trips) will be required to wear facial coverings at all times. This will be in effect until further notice.**
- **No visitors will be allowed into classrooms/cafeterias. This will be in effect until further notice.**

If a confirmed or presumptive case of COVID 19 is reported in an individual classroom (student or employee), then the following protocols shall be implemented.

1. The identified individual with the confirmed or presumptive case of COVID-19 shall quarantine based upon guidance from GDPH (a minimum of ten (10) days). All school employees or students living with the individual confirmed or presumptive case of COVID-19 shall also quarantine for a period of ten (10) calendar days. They are permitted to return to school/work if they remain asymptomatic during the entire quarantine period. It is also strongly recommended they participate in COVID-19 testing on the 10th day of quarantine.
2. All families of students inside classroom of the identified individual with the confirmed or presumptive case of COVID-19 will be contacted to inform of the positive case within the classroom setting. The families may choose the following option:
 - a. The students may remain in school but are required to wear a mask (no facial shields) for a period of seven calendar days. The students may remain in school as long as they are asymptomatic. **The student is also eligible to participate in all extracurricular activities and events.**
 - b. The student may quarantine and work remotely for a period of seven calendar days. The student will be allowed to attend school on the eight calendar day of quarantine as long as they are asymptomatic. **The student will NOT be eligible to participate in extracurricular activities and events.**

Grades PK-8---Beginning the week of September 20, 2021, the following protocols will be implemented until further notice.

Students & Staff will be required to possess facial coverings at all times.

Grades PK-8 & JCVA Classroom:

If a confirmed or presumptive case of COVID 19 is reported in an individual classroom (student or employee), then the following protocols shall be implemented.

1. The identified individual with the confirmed or presumptive case of COVID-19 shall quarantine based upon guidance from GDPH (a minimum of ten (10) days). All school employees or students living with the individual confirmed or presumptive case of COVID-19 shall also quarantine for a period of ten (10) calendar days. They are permitted to return to school/work if they remain asymptomatic during the entire quarantine period. It is also strongly recommended they participate in COVID-19 testing on the 10th day of quarantine.
2. All families of students inside classroom of the identified individual with the confirmed or presumptive case of COVID-19 will be contacted to inform of the positive case within the classroom setting. The families may choose the following option:
 - a. The students may remain in school but are required to wear a mask (no facial shields) for a period of seven calendar days. The students may remain in school as long as they are asymptomatic. **The student is also eligible to participate in all extracurricular activities and events.**
 - b. The student may quarantine and work remotely for a period of seven calendar days. The student will be allowed to attend school on the eight calendar day of quarantine as long as they are asymptomatic. **The student will NOT be eligible to participate in extracurricular activities and events.**

If three confirmed or presumptive case of COVID-19 are reported in an individual classroom (student or employee) within a period of seven calendar days, then the entire class shall be subject to quarantine for a period of ten calendar days from the date of the third reported case.

Grades 9-12---Beginning the week of September 20, 2021, the following protocols will be implemented until further notice.

Students & Staff will be required to possess facial coverings at all times:

If a confirmed or presumptive case of COVID 19 is reported in an individual classroom (student or employee), then the following protocols shall be implemented.

1. The identified individual with the confirmed or presumptive case of COVID-19 shall quarantine based upon guidance from GDPH (a minimum of ten (10) days). All school employees or students living with the individual confirmed or presumptive case of COVID-19 shall also quarantine for a period of ten (10) calendar days. They are permitted to return to school/work if they remain asymptomatic during the entire quarantine period. It is also strongly recommended they participate in COVID-19 testing on the 10th day of quarantine.
2. A student shall be deemed as a close contact or exposed to COVID-19 if they are within 6 feet or less for a period of fifteen (15) minutes cumulative of a confirmed or presumptive case of COVID-19.
3. The families of students determine as close contacts or exposures with the confirmed or presumptive case of COVID-19 will be contacted to become informed of the situation. The families may choose one the following options:
 - a. The students may remain in school but are required to wear a mask (no facial shields) for a period of seven calendar days. The students may remain in school as long as they are asymptomatic. **The student is also eligible to participate in all extracurricular activities and events.**
 - b. The student may quarantine and work remotely for a period of seven calendar days. The student will be allowed to attend school on the eight calendar day of quarantine as long as they are asymptomatic. **The student will NOT be eligible to participate in extracurricular activities and events.**

If three confirmed or presumptive cases of COVID-19 are reported in an individual classroom (student or employee) within a period of seven calendar days, then the entire class may be subject to quarantine for a period of ten calendar days from the date of the third reported case.

COMMUNICATION TO OUR STAKEHOLDERS

In order to inform our stakeholders, COVID-19 updates will be provided each Friday at noon per staff email, JCCS Webpage, JCCS Facebook, Remind, and posted at all public entrances of individual schools. If an individual school reports six (6) or greater confirmed or presumptive cases of COVID-19 (students and staff) within the seven-day window, then all students and staff at the school reporting case will be required to wear facial coverings during the following week.

School administrators will announce on Friday afternoons the status of wearing facial coverings for the upcoming week. This guidance will be followed until further notice.

Current Student Enrollment at JCCS Schools 8/31/2021

Jasper County High School 610

Jasper County Middle School 551

Jasper County Primary School/Jasper County Pre-k 634

Washington Park Elementary School 559

Individuals meeting one or more of the following guidelines shall not be subject to quarantine however shall follow mask guidelines as previously defined.

1. **The individual has been identified as a confirmed positive case of COVID-19 within ninety (90) days of the date of consideration.*
2. **The individual has been identified as receiving a vaccination of COVID-19 within (14) days of receipt in first dosage (Moderna or Pfizer) or received the second dosage.*
3. **The individual has been identified as receiving a single-dose vaccination of COVID-19 with the Johnson & Johnson vaccine.*
4. **The individual has been identified via testing of possessing monoclonal antibodies of COVID-19.*
5. *The individual is considered asymptomatic.*

*** All documentation in verification of meeting the guidelines must be on file at the time of exposure.**

People with these symptoms may have COVID-19:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

If you are experiencing any of these symptoms, then **STAY HOME & CONSULT YOUR MEDICAL PROVIDER.**

The Jasper County Charter System will continue to monitor the impact of COVID-19 in our schools and community. Please be advised any of these protocols are subject to change at any time.

Any changes will be announced through our various media outlets and posted on school entrances of each campus.

Monticello News

JCCS Webpage www.jasper.k12.ga.us

JCCS Facebook Page

JCCS Staff Email