

Hazlehurst City School District Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Service Plan

April 2023

The Mission of The Hazlehurst City School District is to inspire each student to become a problem solver, life long learner, and productive member of society.

GOALS

1. Sustain safe and healthy communities
2. Position our school district for a return to normal activities for the 2022-2023 school year
3. Continue safely holding school for our students and school personnel
4. Sustain the district's rigorous curriculum to ensure student achievement at the maximum levels of success

PLAN PRINCIPLES

- Prioritize student and school personnel care
- Ensure effective community communication
- Provide consistent symptom assessments
- Ensure safe student/school personnel management
- Ensure effective facility management
- Ensure safe equipment management
- Maintain flexibility

Academics

The Hazlehurst City School District will begin school on August 1, 2022.

The Hazlehurst City School District will continue to provide rigorous academic standards that respond to the uniqueness of our learners. These standards will be based on the Hazlehurst City School District's curriculum and pacing guides. Our teaching staff in learning environments will present the curriculum while striving to meet the learning styles of the district's students.

The Hazlehurst City School District will continue to use assessments at the beginning, middle, and end of each school year. Hazlehurst Elementary School will utilize STAR assessments for ELA and Math. Hazlehurst Middle School will utilize i-Ready for ELA and Savvas for Math. Hazlehurst High School will utilize Mastery Connect for ELA, Math, Biology, and U.S. History. The Hazlehurst City School District will also continue to use district benchmark assessments to measure student achievement and provide teachers identification of skill sets that may need to be retaught to ensure students have mastered skills needed for academic success.

Athletics and Activities

The Hazlehurst City School District will continue normal extracurricular activities beginning on August 1, 2022. Each program area will sustain a safe and healthy environment.

Attendance

The Hazlehurst City School District will follow Mississippi Department of Education attendance reporting requirements..

Child Nutrition

The Hazlehurst City School District Child Nutrition Department will provide breakfast and lunch based on each school site's academic schedules.

The Hazlehurst City School District will adhere to CDC considerations when establishing child nutrition protocols within each site. The district will promote behaviors that reduce the spread of infectious diseases by educating staff in the following areas:

- Hand Hygiene
- Respiratory Etiquette
- Proper Mask Wearing
- Use of sanitizing supplies for cleaning

Class Size and Operations

The Hazlehurst City School District will adhere to CDC considerations when establishing class size parameters within each site. The district will promote behaviors that reduce the spread of infectious diseases by educating staff in the following areas:

- Hand Hygiene
- Respiratory Etiquette
- Proper Mask Wearing
- Use of sanitizing supplies for cleaning

Communication

The Hazlehurst City School District provides communication to stakeholders through regular parent newsletters and School Status - a program that allows for individual and group notifications.

Faculty, Staff, and Community

Hazlehurst City School District faculty, staff, and community provide feedback and participate in operational planning meetings at both the site level and district level to ensure operational continuity. The Hazlehurst City School District has continually operated through a strategic planning process to set priorities, focus energy, strengthen operations, and sustain momentum as a school district. The Hazlehurst City School District's Health, Safety, and Operations Team provides avenues for operational factors by serving as a "think tank" for the Hazlehurst City School District to provide solutions for curriculum, operations, and personnel opportunities across the district.

These avenues, adjustments to academic programming, operations, support, communication, technology, health, and safety are made to benefit the Hazlehurst City School District.

The Hazlehurst City School District will continue to communicate regularly utilizing various platforms such as AIMS calls, Newsletters, School Status text messaging, and school social media sites.

Flexibility

Administrators, school personnel, and health officials will continue to meet, plan, and discuss future changes to the current plan as conditions dictate.

Health and Safety

The Hazlehurst City School District will use CDC considerations to promote the health and safety needs of the District's students and personnel. The foundation will be as follows:

- Hand Hygiene
- Respiratory Etiquette
- Proper Mask Wearing
- Use of sanitizing supplies for cleaning

Masks

Hazlehurst City School District students/school personnel will be required to wear masks. Students will be required to wear masks while being transported and during the school day. All outside visitors will be required to wear masks upon entry into any facility in the Hazlehurst City School District.

Sanitizing Protocols

1. ENHANCED CLEANING FOR PREVENTION

A. General guidance:

i. Increase the frequency of cleaning and disinfecting, focusing on high-touch surfaces, such as communal rooms, public restrooms, exercise rooms, library tables, buttons, handrails, tables, faucets, doorknobs, shared toys, and shared keyboards. Increased frequency of cleaning and disinfecting with attention to these areas helps remove bacteria and viruses, including COV ID-19.

ii. Wash hands often with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds.

iii. If soap and warm water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.

B. Safety guidelines during cleaning and disinfection:

i. Wear disposable gloves when cleaning and disinfecting. Gloves should be discarded after each use. Clean hands immediately after gloves are removed.

ii. Wear eye protection when there is a potential for splash or splatter to the face.

iii. Gowns or aprons are recommended to protect personal clothing.

iv. Store chemicals in labeled, closed containers. Keep them in a secure area away from children.

C. Cleaning and disinfection of surfaces:

i. Clean surfaces and objects that are visibly soiled first. If surfaces are dirty to sight or touch, they should be cleaned using a detergent or soap and water prior to disinfection.

ii. Clean and disinfect surfaces as soon as possible in areas where a person with respiratory symptoms (e.g., coughing, sneezing) was present.

iii. Use District-provided disinfectant for use against COVID-19.

iv. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for safe and effective use of all cleaning and disinfecting products (e.g., dilution concentration, application method and contact time, required ventilation, and use of personal protective equipment).

v. Consult manufacturer recommendations on cleaning products appropriate for electronics.

vi. Use District-provided products for disinfection of hard, non-porous surfaces.

vii. For soft (porous) surfaces such as carpeted floor, rugs, and drapes:

- Remove visible contamination (if present) and clean with appropriate cleaners indicated for use on these surfaces.

- After cleaning, launder items (as appropriate) in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

viii. If a COVID-19 case is confirmed at the site level, the District will follow Mississippi Department of Health and CDC guidelines

2. ENHANCED CLEANING AND DISINFECTION AFTER NOTIFICATION OF A CONFIRMED CASE OF COVID-19

This protocol is for cleaning and disinfection of areas where a person with COVID-19 spent time in site-level spaces.

A. Positive Test Protocol

Buildings and/or specific rooms and areas where a COVID-19 positive person spent time will be assessed on a case-by-case basis. The cleaning scope will be implemented based on the risk of potential contamination.

- i. Identify areas that require restricted access during and immediately following enhanced cleaning.
- ii. Communicate the impacted area or situation to parent(s) and school personnel.
- iii. Coordinate with building administration to provide proper personal protective requirements, cleaning guidelines, personnel usage, specific training for situations, and disinfecting schedules.

Student Code of Conduct

The Hazlehurst City School District will follow the disciplinary guidelines as defined in HCSD Board Policy and outlined in student handbooks. Disciplinary consequences that require in-school suspension, out- of - school suspension, and expulsion may require students to participate in the educational process through the use of work packets. The schools may also utilize online platforms for work assignments. This will ensure that students do not miss instructional time while handling their personal consequences for violations of the HCSD Student Code of Conduct.

If the Hazlehurst City School District or individual schools are forced to close due medical-related outbreaks or natural disasters, student dress code requirements will be enforced in virtual classrooms with identical expectations as those in classroom environments.

School Nurses

The Hazlehurst City School District's school nurses will sustain their normal operations during the school day on each school campus. Students must have a consent form on file. School nurses will be the frontline solution for helping provide strategies for controlling the spread of infectious diseases, providing professional development and training on the use of thermometers, and proper hygiene procedures. An informational page *Is Your Child Too Sick For School* is available on the district webpage to assist parents with screening their students to determine if a student should stay home. COVID-19 protocols are outlined in this plan. Please note that school nurses must sustain confidentiality in accordance with HCSD Board Policy and

the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act. Parents are welcome to visit the school nurse with their children.

COVID-19 EXPOSURE PROTOCOL

Protocol if student/school personnel are known to have been in contact with someone who has or has had COVID-19.

- Continue to wear a high quality mask or respirator
- Watch for symptoms:
 - Fever
 - Coughing
 - Shortness of Breath
- If the student/school personnel develops symptoms, then the individual will be required to isolate and follow the guidelines for student/school personnel that have been infected.

COVID-19 INFECTION W/ SYMPTOMS

Protocol if a student/school personnel has been diagnosed with COVID-19.

Symptom-based strategy:

- Regardless of vaccination status, student/school personnel will isolate themselves for 5 days from others when they have COVID-19.
- The student/school personnel may end isolation on day 5 if:
 - They are fever-free for 24 hours (without the use of fever-reducing medications)
 - Their symptoms are improving
- If the student/school personnel still has fever or their other symptoms have not improved, they will continue to isolate until they improve.

*Day 0 of isolation is the day of symptom onset, regardless of when you tested positive

*Day 1 is the first full day after the day your symptoms started

COVID-19 ASYMPTOMATIC INFECTION

Protocol if a student/school personnel has been diagnosed with COVID-19 but was asymptomatic:

Asymptomatic- based strategy:

- Regardless of vaccination status, student/school personnel will isolate themselves from others for 5 days when they have COVID-19.
- The student/school personnel may end isolation on day 5
- If the student/school personnel develop symptoms, the clock will restart on isolation days

Staff Development

The Hazlehurst City School District uses professional development processes for meeting the professional growth needs of faculty and staff. This process allows faculty and staff to complete needs assessment to provide areas of need for teachers. This approach allows faculty and staff to meet their individual needs and the district to provide training for concepts across the district.

Technology

The Hazlehurst City School District continues to utilize Google Classroom and Canvas platforms within the classrooms of the district. Hazlehurst City School District is also a 1:1 district, allowing every student to have access to a laptop.

Transportation

Buses will be disinfected on a regular basis. Protocols listed above for an asymptomatic infection, exposure and/or positive case will be enforced.

Virtual Education

Virtual Education using asynchronous and synchronous experiences will be initiated by the Hazlehurst City School District or individual schools if forced to close due medical-related outbreaks or natural disasters.

Canvas and Google Classroom platforms will be utilized to continue virtual instruction. Additionally, the Hazlehurst City School District is a 1:1 district, allowing every student to have access to a laptop. Mobile hotspots are available for students who do not have internet access at home and a public wi-fi access point has been established at Hazlehurst High School.

Visitors

The Hazlehurst City School District will allow visitors on campus. All visitors are required to wear masks.

Any area not addressed in this action plan will continue under normal operating procedures as defined by Hazlehurst City School District School Board Policies and Student Handbooks.

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