

Sylacauga City Schools (SCS) Roadmap to Opening Schools

I. Situation

- A. Alabama is currently under an amended Public Health Order until July 3.
 - <https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/legal/assets/order-adph-cov-gatherings-052120.pdf>
 - <https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/covid19/assets/adoe-school-sponsored-activities.pdf>
- B. General Guidance from the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH)
 - Wash hands
 - Use face coverings
 - Limit unnecessary travel
 - Exercise six-foot distancing
 - Sanitize surfaces after use
 - If infected, quarantine at home for 14 days
- C. On June 26th, the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) issued the Roadmap to Reopening Schools with recommendations categorized as essential, guidance, or considerations. These recommendations are to help prioritize planning and implementation processes and are available to the public at the following sites;
 - <https://www.alsde.edu>
 - <https://www.alsde.edu/covid-19>
- D. SCS Summer Activities;
 - Athletic and Cheerleading workouts
 - Marching Band practice
 - Summer Literacy Program at Pinecrest beginning July 7
 - Summer school at NLMS beginning July 13
- E. Our district will begin school on August 20. Teachers will return on August 6 for training and preparation.

II. Our Mission

- A. Our mission remains unchanged: *In partnership with our community, we inspire all students to discover pathways to greatness through a world-class education.*

III. Our Concept for Fall Semester

- A. SCS will begin the school year with a flexible approach to teaching and learning which includes both resident attendance on our campuses and distance education. Alternatives to the traditional classroom approach to learning are remote and blended models.
- B. Remote Learning means students participate in standards-based education from home.

- C. Blended Learning means students may transition between in-person and online instruction.
- D. Our teachers and staff are prepared to meet student and family needs to achieve high standards across all grades in all academic areas.
- E. We will continue to offer a full curriculum of core, enrichment and elective courses as we have in previous years while taking added precautions to protect the health and safety of our community.
- F. We will abide by the orders of the ADPH and adhere to guidance from ALSDE while maintaining a focus on student growth and achievement.

VI. Key Task

- A. Establish and implement a wellness screening protocol
- B. Provide well-trained employees
- C. Provide clean and sanitized facilities, buses and equipment
- D. Provide for the physical and mental health of our students, faculty and staff
- E. Leverage technology to enhance learning
- F. Maintain our ability to teach and learn in school and at home

VII. Wellness Screening Protocol

To be published after review of ADPH guidance

- A. At home
- B. In transit
- C. At school

VIII. Employees

- A. Our employees are trained and ready to provide onsite, blended, and virtual education for all students. By bringing our employees back on August 6th, we will take two weeks to prepare our faculty and staff to fully support the health, safety, nutrition, transportation, and education of our students.

IX. Facilities, Buses and Equipment

To be published after review of ADPH guidance

- A. Preparatory measures;
- All air system filters have been changed
 - Each school has electrostatic disinfecting equipment
 - Our schools will be well supplied to maintain daily cleaning and sanitation standards
 - Signs will be posted in each of our facilities and on each bus to provide appropriate warnings and instructions for personal conduct
 - Each school will have a nurse on staff to provide health care and training
 - Our facilities will be professionally sanitized before the first day of school

X. Technology

- A. Our students all have Chromebooks available for learning. Students in grades 6-12 will continue to carry their Chromebooks to each class and home after school each day. Students in grades K-5 will use Chromebooks at school and carry Chromebooks home when approved by the principal. Students approved for remote learning will be issued computers specific to their learning needs.

XI. Remote Learning

- A. We have multiple platforms designed for distance learning;
- ACCESS (Alabama Connecting Classrooms, Educators & Students Statewide) - grades 7-12
 - Odysseyware - grades 3-12
 - Google Classroom learning management system - grades K-12
 - SchoolsPLP (new for school year 2020-2021) - grades PreK-12
- B. If parents/guardians would like for their child to participate in remote learning, a team from the respective school will meet with the family to determine the needs of the student and his/her ability to meet academic standards at home.
- C. Upon agreement between the family and principal, the student, parent/guardian and principal will sign a contract consisting of the following elements;
- Assurance of resources available at home to facilitate learning
 - Daily schedule for learning activities
 - Communications plan
 - Progress monitoring plan
- D. In addition, families will agree to meet with teachers/administrators on regular intervals at the school for the student to participate in progress monitoring, state mandated assessments and any school activity requiring in-person attendance.

XII. Additional Considerations

- A. Campuses across our state will reopen for in-person instruction. School closures are local decisions by Boards of Education unless directed by the Governor to close under a state of emergency.
- B. Those with a fever or flu-like symptoms should stay at home. Through phone or email contact, we will make arrangements to serve your needs without personal contact.
- C. Contact tracing is a primary function of the Department of Public Health. We will use the resources and information available to provide you with the most current and relevant information in the event we have a case of COVID-19 in our schools. We will not hesitate to take immediate action as we detect any issues related to the health and safety of our community.
- D. School districts will all have different plans based on the needs of each community. We will be considerate and take into account the plans of the other districts in Talladega County and the plans of those counties around us.
- E. Operations like transportation, meal service, health care, and security will all look different as we start school. As the guidance continues to change and develop, we will update and publish our new processes and procedures.
- F. Participation in sports falls under the governance of the Alabama High School Athletic Association and does come with some in-person school attendance to ensure students are mentally and physically prepared to train and compete. We will publish a separate document explaining our athletic policies and procedures.
- G. We do offer a wide array of co-curricular and extra-curricular opportunities. Our principals will publish the rules for participation with these organizations for each school.