

## COVID-19 Protocols for the 2021-22 School Year

We want all our students to learn in a safe and healthy environment, which is why the Clarke County School District is committed to maintaining public health and safety guidelines.

- CCSD recommends that all eligible students get vaccinated against COVID.
- CCSD recommends COVID testing for anyone who has symptoms of COVID.
- PCR testing appointments are available throughout the community:
  - The Hilsman Health Center (for CCSD students, families, staff): 706-546-7463
  - [GaDPH COVID-19 FREE Testing Sites](#) (100% free testing for all participants)

### **GUIDANCE FROM HEALTH OFFICIALS**

The CCSD will continue to adhere to the most recent COVID guidelines issued by the Georgia Department of Public Health (*GaDPH*) and the Center for Disease Control (*CDC*).

- Per [CDC Guidelines](#), masks are required indoors and on buses for all individuals, regardless of vaccination status.
- The Administrative Order for Public Health Control Measures can be found [here](#).
- CDC guidance on "What to do if you are sick" can be found [here](#).
- Download this guidance as a PDF document in [English](#) / [Espanol](#).

The Clarke County School District believes it is in our students' best interest to return in person to provide the highest level of academic and social support.

Using guidance from the Centers for Disease Control, Department of Public Health, Department of Early Care and Learning, and the Georgia Department of Education, the district has implemented safety measures including:



evaluation and increased maintenance of HVAC systems



enhanced cleaning procedures



social distancing expectations



visual safety reminders



limited student transitions



PPE for staff/students



mandatory mask requirements



staffing full-time nurses in each school to monitor COVID-19 protocols

## PROTOCOLS FOR ALL SCHOOLS

- Masks are required indoors and on buses for all individuals, regardless of vaccination status.
- All students should wear their masks correctly and consistently, remain 3 feet away from others as much as possible, and stay home from school if they are sick.
- Standard Quarantine: 10 days with a return to school on Day 11.
- Modified Quarantine: A return to school on Day 7 is optional for asymptomatic students who test negative by PCR on Day 5 or 6. Before the student returns to school, a negative PCR test result must be submitted to the school nurse. Negative antigen tests are not accepted.
- After School Athletic Events: Masks are not required indoors for athletes while participating in physical exertion. Masks are required for athletes while on the sidelines and for all other individuals indoors (coaches, visitors, etc).

## ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PROTOCOLS

- Per [CDC Guidelines](#), masks are required indoors and on buses for all individuals, regardless of vaccination status.
- If an individual tests positive for COVID, they will be required to isolate for 10 days, per [GaDPH Guidelines](#).
- Contact Tracing efforts will remain in place:
  - If a student tests positive for COVID-19 and has been at school, the school-based team will work to determine close contacts (*defined by the GaDPH as anyone within 3 feet of the positive individual for more than 15 minutes*).
  - All close contacts will be notified and required to quarantine for 10 days.
  - Quarantine Exemptions:
    - Students who are three (3) feet apart with consistent and correct mask usage.
    - Students who have tested positive for COVID in the last 90 days.
- Notifications:
  - A *General Notification Letter* will go out **to the classroom of the positive case**.
  - Principals will send weekly communication to their school communities, providing an update on COVID-19 data for their school.
  - Every Friday, the CCSD website is updated with the total number of COVID-19 positive cases as well as related quarantines at CCSD schools and facilities. While making this data public, the district will continue to respect our staff and students'/families' privacy. [Click here to view the district's COVID-19 data.](#)

## MIDDLE SCHOOL PROTOCOLS

- Per [CDC Guidelines](#), masks are required indoors and on buses for all individuals, regardless of vaccination status.
- If an individual tests positive for COVID, they will be required to isolate for 10 days, per [GaDPH Guidelines](#).
- Contact Tracing efforts will remain in place.
  - If a student tests positive for COVID-19 and has been at school, the school-based team will work to determine close contacts (defined by the DPH as anyone within 3 feet of the positive individual for more than 15 minutes).
  - All close contacts will be notified and required to quarantine for 10 days.
  - Quarantine Exemptions:
    - Students who are 3+ feet apart with consistent and correct mask usage
    - Students who are fully vaccinated
    - Students who have tested positive for COVID in the last 90 days.
- CCSD will continue to partner with GaDPH and CDC to offer COVID vaccine and COVID testing opportunities in our middle schools.
- Notification:
  - A *General Notification Letter* will go out **to the grade level** of the positive case.
  - Principals will send weekly communication to their school communities, providing an update on COVID-19 data for their school.
  - Every Friday, the CCSD website is updated with the total number of COVID-19 positive cases as well as related quarantines at CCSD schools and facilities. While making this data public, the district will continue to respect our staff and students'/families' privacy. [Click here to view the district's COVID-19 data.](#)

## HIGH SCHOOL PROTOCOLS

- Per [CDC Guidelines](#), masks are required indoors and on buses for all individuals, regardless of vaccination status.
- If an individual tests positive for COVID, they will be required to isolate for 10 days, per [GaDPH guidelines](#).
- Contact Tracing Efforts:
  - Due to the number of students in our high schools (and their movement throughout the buildings), it may be difficult to determine all close contacts through contact tracing efforts.
  - When identified, close contacts will be notified and required to quarantine for 10 days.
- CCSD will continue to partner with GaDPH and CDC to offer COVID vaccine and COVID testing opportunities in our high schools.

- Notification:
  - A *General Notification Letter* will go **out to the entire school community**.
  - Principals will send weekly communication to their school communities, providing an update on COVID-19 data for their school.
  - Every Friday, the CCSD website is updated with the total number of COVID-19 positive cases as well as related quarantines at CCSD schools and facilities. While making this data public, the district will continue to respect our staff and students'/families' privacy. [Click here to view the district's COVID-19 data.](#)

## GaDPH Quarantine Guidelines

