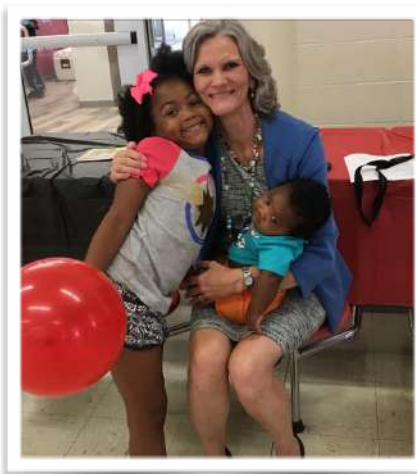


Earle School District

Home of the Bulldogs

Back-To-School

As summer comes to a close, I would like to welcome you back to school for a bold new beginning. We realize there are many students, staff, and families with apprehension over what the year will bring. Our parent & community liaisons have worked tirelessly on parent orientation and speaking with families about their decisions. Earle faculty and staff have worked this summer to develop plans, prepare the buildings, and stay on top of the latest Arkansas Department of Health guidance to provide your child a quality education in a safe environment. This document outlines three key areas of importance as we move into the new year: Providing Instructional



Tish Knowles, Superintendent

Options; Healthy Students and Staff; and Maintaining a Clean Environment. Remember, a bulldog will not quit for any reason short of success! I am looking forward to an exciting new year!

#BulldogStrongerTogether



Earle School District
1401 3rd Street
Earle, AR 72331

870.792.8486

Mission:
The Earle School District will provide leadership, resources, and support that fosters an environment which enables every student to graduate prepared for the next phase of life: college, career, technical training and community engagement.



1

PROVIDING INSTRUCTIONAL OPTIONS

2

HEALTHY STUDENTS AND STAFF

3

MAINTAINING A CLEAN ENVIRONMENT

Quality Instructional Options

The goal of the Earle School District is to offer high-quality instruction to every student every day. This coming school year, our district will take a blended learning approach to meet the needs of our students and families. Blended learning is the combination of in-person instruction and virtual instruction through the use of technology. The district will offer two distinct learning models, but both will be based on blended learning.



Option 1: Traditional Onsite Instruction



School facilities will reopen in the fall with new safety protocols in place for students and teachers. Our belief is that instruction is best delivered in person; however, due to safety restrictions and to ensure that your child's instructional goals are met, the district will use a digital platform and face-to-face instruction. This will afford your child an optimal educational experience. If your child's class or school is required to have off-site learning at any time, the digital platform will allow your teacher and child to continue daily instruction. K-12 families who choose in-person instruction will also be choosing to follow all safety protocols established for on-site instruction. These include the use of face coverings, physical distancing, and maintaining a clean environment.

WEIGHING THE CHOICES OF VIRTUAL AND IN PERSON INSTRUCTION

Each family will determine the best option for their family and child at this time. Virtual expectations for the fall will require self-discipline and organization in the home environment that is conducive for learning. Traditional onsite instruction will require self-management to wear a face covering, practice social distancing, and be an active participant in keeping the environment clean.

Students who receive **special services**, for example, special education, English language learners, dyslexia, or gifted and talented services, will continue to receive services in both options. This includes related services such as speech, physical, and occupational therapy. It is vital that parents and staff work together to determine the most appropriate delivery method based on the student's needs and safety.



Option 2: Virtual Option

For parents who believe an off-campus option is better suited to meet their child's academic needs, the district will provide a virtual option; however, parents are encouraged to carefully weigh the options of in-person and virtual instruction. Students participating virtually will require more direct support and monitoring from parents or guardians.



- ✿ The district has selected *Google Classroom* as the learning management system, along with *Virtual Arkansas* for high school electives and Advanced Placement courses. Assignments and course content will be hosted within the virtual platform. Your child's teachers will provide instruction and support to the digital content that your child will use daily. Lessons and assignments will be uploaded regularly and completion of assignments will be regularly reviewed.
- ✿ Students will have the opportunity to enroll in the same courses offered in person. Electives/specialty classes will be available in this learning environment.
- ✿ Students should have access to a quiet place that is free of distractions while working on assignments. Younger students will most likely require the attention of adults to log on and assist with monitoring school work while at home. Teachers will monitor student learning and engagement, as well as hold virtual sessions with students in whole group, small group or one-on-one settings.
- ✿ Teachers will provide daily assignments and instruction. Students will be expected to participate in video conferencing, daily class participation, and complete assignments as part of virtual attendance requirements. Non-participation will result in absences.
- ✿ The district will provide a device for any student who wishes to participate in virtual learning.
- ✿ The district will also continue to provide access points throughout the district for internet connectivity, but it will be the responsibility of the parent to ensure their child can access lessons and assignments.
- ✿ Students who are not successful in the virtual environment due to lack of attendance, limited engagement, or other factors will be supported. If needed, a change of delivery mode will be considered to best meet the students' academic needs.



Parent Checklist

- ◆ Select your child's learning environment option by August 20, 2020.
- ◆ Ensure your child's immunizations/wellness checks are up-to-date by contacting the school nurse at 870.792.8486.
- ◆ Stress the importance of wearing a face covering, adhering to physical distancing, and regularly washing hands both at school and away from school. Please take time to demonstrate these actions with your children.
- ◆ Check your child's temperature each morning for signs of illness. If your child has a temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher, he/she should not go to school. Make sure your child does not have a sore throat or other signs of illness, like a cough, diarrhea, severe headache, vomiting, or body aches.
- ◆ If your child has had close contact with a COVID-19 case, they should not go to school and should follow the Arkansas Department of Health guidelines.
- ◆ Develop daily routines before and after school. For example, discuss things to pack for school in the morning (like hand sanitizer and an additional face covering) and things to do when your child returns home (like washing hands immediately and washing worn cloth face coverings).
- ◆ Plan for transportation: If your child rides a bus, plan for your child to wear a face covering on the bus and talk to your child about the importance of following bus rules.
- ◆ Talk to your child about returning to school. School counselors and staff are available to assist if needed. Students will need reassurance as they return to school during this pandemic. Our goal is to keep your child safe, and we are committed to working with you to make that happen.



GRADING AND ATTENDANCE

The grading policy will be followed for all students. To receive credit for the courses enrolled, students are expected to successfully complete their assignments. The district's grading policy will be followed, and assignments must be completed in a given time frame. Teachers will update grades weekly. Student attendance will be taken daily in both the virtual and in-person environment.



Healthy Students and Staff

The district is committed to maintaining the health and safety of all students and staff. It is our commitment to put protocols in place that will limit the spread of COVID-19, while maintaining an educational environment that is nurturing and values the continuing education of our students.



Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

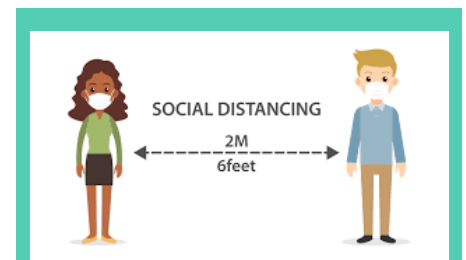
Students will be expected to follow all safety protocols. We recognize that this will be an adjustment for many of our students and appreciate the support of our parents and community. The district has purchased personal protective equipment such as face shields, hand sanitizer, disinfectant spray, wipes, N95 masks, face coverings, gloves, and goggles.



WEAR FACE COVERING

Face Coverings: The district, in accordance with Arkansas Department of Health guidance, will require the use of face coverings in all district and school buildings, as well as buses. The district will provide cloth face coverings for all students. Parents should ensure that students have masks when they arrive at school; however, masks will be provided if someone forgets. We also ask that you regularly wash cloth face coverings as part of your laundry routine.

Physical Distancing: Physical distancing is an effective way to prevent potential infection. All employees, students, parents, and visitors should practice staying approximately 6 feet away from others and eliminating direct physical contact with others whenever possible. School buildings will put protocols in place to assist: floor markings, signage, removal of unnecessary furniture, limited transitions, etc. Please note that physical distancing should still be practiced even with the use of face coverings.



PHYSICAL DISTANCING



HAND WASHING

Additional Guidance: In addition to physical distancing and wearing face coverings, additional safety precautions will be taken without limitation. Students and staff should also practice good hand hygiene and wash their hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. They also can use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available. They should avoid touching their face, cover their mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing (or use the inside of their elbow), and monitor for signs and symptoms of COVID-19.

HEALTH SCREENING AND PROTOCOLS - The Earle School District will conduct daily screenings.

STUDENT SCREENING: Parents should check their child's temperature each morning for signs of illness. If the child has a temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher, he/she should not go to school. Make sure your child does not have a sore throat or other signs of illness, like a cough, diarrhea, severe headache, vomiting, or body aches. All students will be screened daily when entering the building. Any student with a temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher will be isolated until a parent or guardian can pick him or her up.

STAFF SCREENING: Staff will be expected to screen daily prior to coming to work. Any staff member who has a fever or symptoms of COVID-19, that are unexplained, such as a sore throat or other signs of illness (like a cough, diarrhea, severe headache, vomiting, or body aches) will need to remain at home. All staff will be screened upon arrival. Anyone with a fever of 100.4 degrees or higher will be sent home immediately.



COVID-19 HEALTH PROTOCOLS

While our goal is to limit the spread, we do anticipate that potential exposure to COVID-19 is a reality. The district has put in place strict guidelines for confirmed cases and probable close contacts.

If a student or a close family member is diagnosed with COVID-19, please immediately notify Linda Maples and begin the isolation period. Employees who test positive for COVID-19 should contact their direct supervisor and Linda Maples.

A list of probable close contacts will be compiled and provided to the Arkansas Department of Health. Probable close contact is defined as an individual who was likely to have been within six-feet for 15 cumulative minutes or longer within a 24-hour period of the person who has tested positive for COVID-19. Probable close contacts will be notified by the Arkansas Department of Health and must complete a 14-day quarantine.

COVID-19 Point of Contact: Linda Maples 870-636-0435

School Nurses: Asia Boykin, RN & Candace Cheers, LPN



LIMITED VISITORS ON SCHOOL SITE

While in the past we have always encouraged visitors, this year visitation will be restricted. All campus and facility visitation is limited to essential business only. All visitors will be screened prior to entering the building and will be required to wear a face covering.

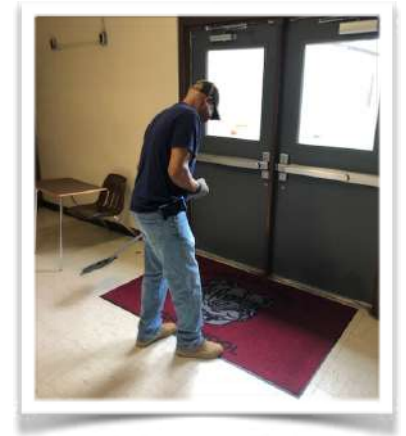
Each school office will schedule appointments for parents and guardians for any necessary meetings with school staff. Arkansas Department of Health guidelines will be strictly followed for the health and safety of all in attendance.

Maintaining a Clean Environment

The goal of the Earle School District is to provide a healthy and clean environment for students and staff.

Facilities & Transportation Cleaning

Schools and buses have been completely cleaned and disinfected this summer. When onsite instruction resumes, the district's custodial staff will adhere to the general disinfection measures outlined in the table below. During the day, all employees will be responsible for maintaining their space. At the end of each day, custodial staff will follow daily disinfecting and cleaning guidance.



GENERAL DISINFECTION EXPECTATIONS

CATEGORY	AREA	FREQUENCY
WORKSPACES	CLASSROOMS, OFFICES	AT THE END OF EACH USE/ DAILY
APPLIANCES	REFRIGERATORS, MICROWAVES, COFFEE MACHINES, ETC.	DAILY
ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT	COPIER MACHINE, SHARED COMPUTERS, TV, TELEPHONES, KEYBOARDS, ETC.	AT THE END OF EACH USE
GENERAL OBJECTS	DOOR HANDLES, LIGHT SWITCHES, SINKS, WATER FOUNTAINS, STAIR RAILS, ETC.	AT LEAST 3 TIMES A DAY AND AT THE END OF EACH DAY
BUSES	BUS SEATS, HANDLES, RAILINGS, SEATBELTS, ETC.	END OF EACH ROUTE
COMMON AREAS	CAFETERIA, RESTROOMS, LIBRARY, CONFERENCE ROOMS, HALLWAY, ETC.	BETWEEN GROUPS

DEEP CLEANING AND DISINFECTION PROTOCOLS

Deep cleaning and disinfecting protocols are initiated when an employee or student is identified as being positive for COVID-19. General disinfection measures will be taken with additional measures to use a fogger machine in affected spaces after students and staff have left the building.

PERSONAL AND SHARED WORKSPACE: The district is committed to providing a safe and clean environment. The building custodial staff will clean and disinfect workspaces at designated cleaning times; however, employees and students are encouraged to assist in maintaining their own workspace as needed, giving special attention to commonly touched surfaces. The district has provided alcohol-based hand sanitizer throughout the workplace and in common areas. Cleaning sprays and wipes will be available to clean and disinfect frequently-touched objects and surfaces, such as telephones and keyboards.



Taking personal responsibility is a key character trait. The district will use this opportunity to teach personal responsibility for cleaning and sanitizing one's workspace throughout the day. Together, we are stronger and can keep each other safe by encouraging hand washing, wiping work surfaces, wearing face coverings, and practicing physical distancing.

SCHOOL DRIVERS AND BUS PROTOCOLS

The district will continue to provide bus transportation to students who elect to ride the bus. All students and bus drivers will be required to wear a face covering. The district will provide face coverings if needed. Siblings or students who live together may be assigned to sit together. Students are required to wear a face covering and physically distance when possible while at the bus stop.



COMMUNICATION

The district will use a variety of methods to communicate to all stakeholders. Stay updated on the most up-to-date information:

Visit district website: www.earle.crsc.k12.12.us

Check us out on Facebook: @EarleSchools

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