



JACKSON PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT

SMART RESTART: What You Need to Know

Driven by reliable public health data, as well as considerations for the needs of our students, families, and staff, Jackson Public Schools has developed our **SMART RESTART PLAN** for the transition to in-person and hybrid learning models in January 2021. Below are answers to our families' most pressing concerns about returning to school.

Why open schools this year?

Parents and families need and deserve flexibility. While virtual learning may be working for some scholars, it's not working for all. Public health data firmly sides with opening schools as there is limited spread of COVID-19 in schools. Additionally, our own attendance data shows Average Daily Attendance is down 13% from last year. Some scholars may lose morale as they struggle to overcome the challenges of online learning.

What happens if someone in my child's class gets COVID?

Schools will separate the student, send them home and notify families of classmates and schoolmates in accordance with CDC guidelines.

What precautions can we take to help keep everyone safe if we send our children to school?

- Check your child's temperature every day before school.
- Keep your child at home and communicate any symptoms of illness with the school.
- Be familiar with a local COVID-19 testing site in the event they develop symptoms and need a test.
- If they can, make sure they keep up with classwork from home.
- Always reinforce the practice of key safety precautions: proper handwashing, wearing a mask, and keeping a physical distance from other people.

Will students be able to keep their current teacher?

This will depend on many factors, including the number of families who choose in-person learning at your child's school. Only your child's school will be able to give you the most accurate answer.

Will families have to stick to their decision throughout the grading period?

Yes. However, if an outbreak occurs in a classroom, the class will be quarantined for 14 days. If simultaneous outbreaks occur at a school or absences lead to disruptions in the learning environment, the school will return to all-virtual instruction.

Will students be required to wear uniforms to school?

Yes. Elementary and middle school students will wear uniforms. The District's dress code is still in effect for all students, whether virtual or in-person. The District Dress Code begins on page 102 in the Student Handbook.

Will students be able to play sports if they select the virtual learning option for the spring semester?

Yes. Scholars, whether virtual or hybrid, will have the opportunity to participate in athletics and extracurricular activities.

Are we encouraging parents to transport their children to school?

Yes. However, bus transportation will also be available.

Stay in the know on the go!

For the latest Smart Restart information, download the JPS mobile app.



For more information, visit www.jackson.k12.ms.us/SmartRestart. There, you can download our brochure and access informational and safety videos, as well as our FAQs page which we will continue to update. Still have questions? Email contactJPS@jackson.k12.ms.us.