



VIRTUAL NOW! HYBRID LATER?



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INTRODUCTION

The Tunica County School District has been continuously planning for the reopening of the 2020-2021 school year. Parents were surveyed July 13-15, 2020. As a result, the Tunica County School District will begin the year with Distance Learning. However, we anticipate transitioning to the Hybrid model for the second nine weeks. Every effort has been made to follow guidance from the CDC, MS Department of Health, the MS Department of Education and state and local guidelines. Please know that we have made the health and safety of our faculty, staff and students the priority for this school year.

Listed below are the protocols and procedures that will be implemented in the Tunica County School District. Please feel free to contact the principal at your child's school or the Superintendent's office.

DISTANCE LEARNING PROCEDURES & PROTOCOLS

- All students must be registered prior to August 20, 2020. Please contact your child's school with any further questions.
- Distance learning will be the primary method of instruction in the Tunica County School District.
- Students must have access to computers and Internet services.
- The school district will use Canvas as its learning management system.
- Distance learning students will follow the academic calendar approved by the Interim Superintendent.
- Distance learning students must be committed to online learning.
- All Tunica County School District grading policies and procedures will apply during distance learning.
- All state assessments will be administered according to the guidelines of the Mississippi Department of Education.
- Social distancing will be practiced through the district.
- Signs will be posted throughout the buildings for hand washing, social distancing, and face coverings.
- All buildings and classrooms will be cleaned daily.
- Frequently touched areas will be cleaned multiple times throughout the day.
- All staff shall wear a mask each day.
- Cafeterias and kitchens will be cleaned and sanitized daily.
- All schools will have a nurse on site.
- Hand washing, cough coverings, and social distancing will be practiced.
- Each school will have an isolation room.
- School nurses will conduct temperature checks daily for all faculty and staff.
- No field trips will be taken until further notice.
- No athletics or extra-curricular activities until further notice. We will continue to monitor and keep you informed.
- Students and staff with confirmed cases of COVID -19 will follow all local and state guidelines recommended by the CDC and will be placed on a mandatory 14-day quarantine.
- We encourage parental support.
- Parents will ensure that all phone numbers, addresses, and emails are accurate.
- Parents should check students for coronavirus symptoms on a daily basis.
- Parents will keep students home when they are ill or have a fever or symptoms.

ACADEMIC GUIDELINES FOR DISTANCE LEARNING

- The school year will officially begin on August 17, 2020. Staff will be engaged in professional development activities on August 17-21, 2020.
- Classes for students are scheduled to begin on August 24, 2020.
- Distance Learning/Online Classes will be provided for all students.
- Students will log into their classrooms via Canvas.
- Google classroom will be utilized as an instructional tool.
- Instruction will be provided through district-licensed online content resources (iReady, etc.).
- Staff will utilize district pacing guides.
- Tunica County School District will utilize Canvas Learning Management System as its distance-learning platform.
- A copy of the student's schedule will be sent to the student's district email account.
- Parents should contact the schools for more information.
- Instruction begins daily at 8:00 am and ends at 12:30 pm each day. Students must log in each day.
- Attendance will be checked every day and every period in Canvas.
- Students will be expected to complete all assignments.
- The Tunica County School District will continue to utilize Explicit Direct Instruction for its research-based instructional model.
- The Tunica County School District will provide laptops for its students.
- The school district will utilize pacing guides developed by the MS Department of Education and the Tunica County School District curriculum department.
- Tunica County School District will ensure mastery on content for Carnegie credit courses by:
 - Attendance – The TCSD has adopted its Virtual Learning Attendance Policy. This policy is in line with the Mississippi Department of Education's Virtual Learning policy. Attendance will be checked daily.
 - Assignments – Students will be held accountable for the completion of all assignments. The assignments will be graded in accordance to the TCSD Grading Policy and will be reflected in daily grades, semester averages, and final grades.
 - Class participation – Students will receive a class participation grade that will be reflected in daily grades, semester averages, and final grades.
 - Class discussion board points – Students will receive class discussion board points that will be reflected in daily grades, semester averages, and final grades.
 - Presentations - Students will receive class presentation points that will be reflected in daily grades, semester averages, and final grades.
 - Projects - Students will receive class projects points that will be reflected in daily grades, semester averages, and final grades.
 - Assessments – All student assessments will be graded and averaged. These grades will become a part of nine weeks and semester averages.

Tunica County School District's Grading Scale

90 – 100 = A

80-89 = B

70-79 = C

60-69 = D

Below 60 = F

The Tunica County School District will follow the Mississippi Department of Education graduation requirements (24 Carnegie units).

- The start and end dates for students:
 - Start date for fall semester (08/17/2020):
 - End date for fall semester (12/18/2020):
 - Start date for spring semester (01/04/2021):
 - End date for spring semester (06/10/2021):



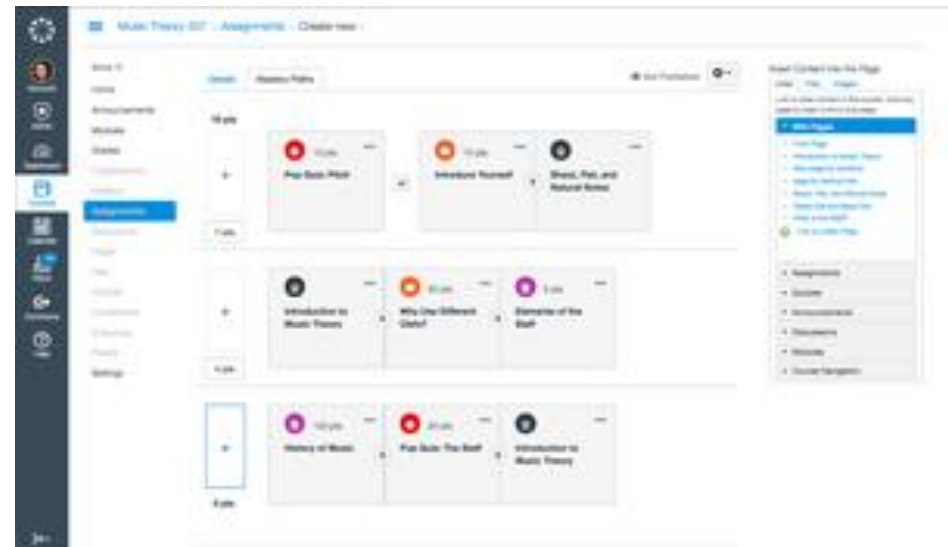
Learning Management System

The Tunica County School District will implement Canvas as its Learning Management System. This system allows the following:
For Teachers

- Provides the district with an online platform for all grades where all teachers are held accountable for his/her own class.
- Gives teachers the ability to create, upload, manage, and grade classroom assignments and activities.
- Provides a bank of lessons for each grade which will also aid in quick teacher support for the new platform.
- Offers enhanced features such as interactive video and teacher modeling to encourage student engagement.
- Plans and conducts virtual professional development sessions through platforms such as Google Meet and Zoom.
- Provides access to an assessment bank and data analysis tools to continue to monitor student/teacher performance.
- Gives principals and district-level administrators the ability to monitor the quality of classroom instruction.

For Students

- Canvas is full of tools and features to enhance students' online course experience.
- Students can view content created by the instructor.
- Students are able to participate in course assignments and communications.
- Students can have video and audio responses via Canvas.
- Students can attach links as resources for assignments.
- Students can complete group work in Canvas as well.



Transportation & Cafeteria

- Grab and Go meals will be delivered daily for breakfast and lunch.
- Safe and sanitary services will be in place at all schools and on all buses.
- Temperature checks will be required for all food service employees and transportation employees on a daily basis.
- Food service workers will wear face coverings and gloves during preparation of meals. Staff assisting in the delivery of meals will follow the same procedures.
- Hand washing and hand sanitizers will be used before and after each meal.

Attendance

The Tunica County School District Virtual Learning Attendance Policy:

- The TCSD will utilize its learning management system (CANVAS) to check attendance daily.

RETURN TO SCHOOL PLAN

- Signs will be posted throughout the buildings for hand washing, social distancing, and face coverings.
- All buildings and classrooms will be cleaned daily.
- Frequently touched areas will be cleaned multiple times throughout the day.
- Students and teachers will practice social distancing in all classrooms.
- There will be no more than 15 students in a class.
- Students will have assigned seats in each classroom and they will face the same direction.
- Students will not share materials.
- Students and teachers shall wear facemasks.
- Students will eat breakfast and lunch in their classrooms.
- Students will wash their hands before and after lunch. Sanitizer will be provided and utilized.
- Cafeterias and kitchens will be cleaned and sanitized daily.
- All schools will have a nurse on site.
- Hand washing, cough coverings, and social distancing will be practiced.
- Each school will have an isolation room for students or staff who may get ill.

- School nurses will conduct temperature checks daily for all faculty, staff and students.
- No field trips will be taken until further notice.
- No athletics until further notice.
- Students and staff with confirmed cases of COVID-19 will follow all local and state guidelines recommended by the CDC and will be on a mandatory 14-day quarantine.
- We encourage parental support.
- Parents will check for corona virus symptoms before sending students to school.
- Keep students home when ill or if they have a fever or symptoms.
- Report any confirmed cases to the school and health department.
- Follow all guidelines from the Mississippi Department of Health and CDC.

ACADEMIC GUIDELINES for Return to School

- Listed below are the schedules for all students in the school district. Students in PreK-5th will attend school Monday-Thursday and participate in online learning on Friday.
- Students in grades 6th-12th will attend school two days per week and participate in online learning three days per week. The schedules are attached.
- Distance Learning/Online Classes will be provided for students with medical issues and for students whose parents request distance learning for their child.
- Instruction begins daily at 8:00 am and ends at 12:30 pm.
- Attendance will be checked every day and every period in Canvas.
- Students will be expected to complete all assignments.
- All assignments will be graded and entered into the grade book.
- Students will be held accountable for all assignments, tests, and projects.
- The Tunica County School District has made the following changes in its grading scale:
 - 90 – 100 = A
 - 80-89 = B
 - 70-79 = C
 - 60-69 = D
 - Below 60 = F

The Tunica County School District will follow the Mississippi Department of Education graduation requirements (24 Carnegie units).

Hybrid Schedule			
Grades	Days (Face-to-Face)	Days (Virtual)	Time
PreK-5th	Monday-Thursday	Friday	TBA
6th-8th	2 Days	3 Days	TBA
9th-12th	2 Days	3 Days	TBA

In Person Elementary School Schedule	
Time	Schedule
7:15-7:55	Student check-in, temperature check, and breakfast
8:00-12:30	Instructional time
12:30-1:00	Lunch
1:00-1:30	Interventions

In Person Middle School Schedule	
Time	Schedule
7:15-7:55	Student check-in, temperature check, and breakfast
8:00-12:45	Instructional time
12:45-1:30	Lunch

In Person High School Schedule	
Time	Schedule
7:15-7:55	Student check-in, temperature check, and breakfast
8:00-1:00	Instructional time
1:00-1:30	Lunch

OPERATIONS

Transportation: The district will adhere to CDC recommended guidelines:

- Students will be transported and spacing will be implemented.
- Bus drivers will be required to wear a mask each day.
- The number of students on the buses will be reduced.
- Students will be required to wear a mask on the bus.
- Students will be assigned seats on the bus.
- Students from the same family will be allowed to sit on the same seat.
- Buses will be cleaned on a daily basis and if double routes are made, buses will be sanitized between routes.
- Students will be loaded and unloaded in the same order each day.
- Parents are also encouraged to transport students if possible.
- Windows will be opened if weather permits.

Cafeteria

- Breakfast and lunch will be served to all students in their classrooms. Safe and sanitary services will be in place at all schools. These protocols include:
 - Temperature checks will be required for all food service employees on a daily basis.
 - Food service workers will wear face coverings and gloves during all preparation of meals. Staff assisting in the classroom will follow the same procedures.
 - Hand washing and hand sanitizers will be used before and after each meal.
 - Students will eat their meals at their desks and there will be no sharing of food, etc.
 - “Grab and Go” meals will be available on distance learning days.
 - Parents should provide doctor’s notes to principal for any student with food allergies.
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Technology

- With the use of CARES funds, Tunica County School District will purchase laptops for students and teachers.
- Policies and procedures will be in place to cover the distribution and management of devices.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

The Tunica County School District places the health and safety of its employees and students as a priority. The health and safety protocols are based upon the recommendation of the CDC, federal, and local guidelines.

- Signs will be posted throughout the buildings for hand washing, social distancing, and face coverings.
- All buildings and classrooms will be cleaned daily.
- Frequently touched areas will be cleaned multiple times throughout the day.
- Students and teachers will practice social distancing in all classrooms.
- There will be no more than 15 students in a class.
- Students will have assigned seats.
- All students will face the same direction.
- There will be no shared material or supplies.
- Students and teachers shall wear facemasks.
- Students will eat breakfast and lunch in classrooms.
- Students will wash their hands before and after lunch. Sanitizer will be provided and utilized.
- Cafeterias and kitchens will be cleaned and sanitized daily.
- All schools will have a nurse on site.
- Tunica County School District has partnered with Aaron Henry Medical Clinic.
- Hand washing, cough covering, and social distancing will be practiced.
- Each school will have an isolation room for students or staff who may get ill.
- School nurses will conduct temperature checks daily for all faculty and staff.
- Parents will keep students at home when sick.
- Mental health support will be available.
- CDC guidelines will be followed in case of positive cases or exposures.
- For more information, please contact the Tunica County Health Coordinator Mr. Derrick Dace.

The Tunica County School District will follow CDC guidelines to protect its students and employees.

- Stay at least six feet from other people.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a cloth face cover when around others.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick, even inside your home.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or use the inside of your elbow and do not spit.
- Throw used tissues in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily.
- Be alert for symptoms. Watch for fever, cough, shortness of breath, or other symptoms of COVID-19.
- Take your temperature if symptoms develop.
- As we return to campus each person is expected to commit fully to protecting our school community's collective health and well-being.
- Students and employees will be asked to self-quarantine if they test positive for COVID-19 or exhibit one or more of the symptoms of COVID-19 based on CDC guidance that is not otherwise explained:
 - A fever of 100° F or greater
 - Cough
 - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - Chills
 - Muscle pain
 - Headache
 - Sore throat
 - Loss of taste or smell
- The Tunica County School District has implemented screening protocols for anyone that enters district buildings, which may include asking questions about symptoms and examining people who appear healthy and asymptomatic.
- Parents and employees will receive information about the symptoms of COVID-19 and require them to self- screen prior to coming to school.
- Students and employees exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 without other obvious explanations are prohibited from coming to school, and, if they do come to school, they will be sent home immediately.
- District employees, students, and visitor's temperatures will be checked prior to their entering the building.

- Given the nature of the pandemic, additional medical inquiries of staff and students will be made. Please note that federal law typically limits the type of medical inquiries that can be made, but given the nature of the pandemic, more leeway has been given to school districts.
- If a parent communicates that a student is ill, they may be asked whether the student is exhibiting any symptoms of COVID-19.
- If an employee calls in sick or appears ill, inquiries may be made as to whether the employee is experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms.
- Temperatures of students, employees, and visitors may be taken randomly in situations where there is reason to believe that the person may be ill.
- If someone is sneezing or coughing, he or she may be asked to self-quarantine to minimize the spread of bodily fluids, even if the person is not exhibiting signs of COVID-19.
- Once a student or employee is excluded from the school environment, they may return if they satisfy the recommendations of the CDC.
- As soon as the school district becomes aware that a student or employee may have COVID-19 or has been recommended to self-quarantine, the custodial staff will thoroughly disinfect all desks and workspaces that individual may have come into contact with.
- Each school will have an isolation room or space separate from the nurse's office where students or employees who may have COVID-19 or another communicable disease will wait to be evaluated or for pickup.
- Only essential staff and students assigned to the room may enter. Each person who enters the room will sign in to create a record for potential contact tracing, and the room will be disinfected several times throughout the day. Strict social distancing is required, and staff will wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE). Students who are ill will be walked out of the building to their parents.
- Each school will designate a location (a Care Room) separate from the nurse's office for the care of students with special care needs such as suctioning, tube feeding, and nebulizers to minimize exposure to students who might be ill. The room will be disinfected frequently, and all staff members present will wear appropriate PPE.
- When there is confirmation that a person infected with COVID-19 was in a school building, the school district will contact the local health department immediately. The school district will notify parents, students, and employees of close contacts to inform them of the confirmed case of COVID-19 and encourage cooperation with the school district and the local health department to trace contacts with the individual. The individual who tested positive will not be identified in communications to the school community at large but may need to be selectively identified for contact tracing by the health department.

The Tunica County School District will use the following guidelines to address the needs of students and staff with underlying conditions.

- To identify students and staff with underlying health conditions, the district will require parents and teachers to submit documentation from their health care providers.
- Limit their interactions with others as much as possible.
- Emphasize hand-washing guidelines from the CDC recommendation of 20 seconds.
- Ensure that social distancing is being practiced (6ft apart)
- Mandate face coverings for everyone.
- Clean and disinfect all buildings, classrooms, buses, and frequently touched surfaces multiple times a day.
- Make sure school nurses are aware of those students and staff with underlying conditions.
- Monitor their temperatures and be alert for Covid-19 systems.

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT

- Parents will keep students at home when sick.
- Parents will check for coronavirus symptoms before sending students to school.
- Parents will report any confirmed cases to the school and health department.
- Parents will follow all guidelines from the Mississippi Department of Health.

COVID-19 CONFIRMED CASES

- When a student has a confirmed case of COVID-19, he/she will be quarantined.
 - The student will be able to make-up any missed assignments during his/her time away from school.
 - Confirmed cases will be reported by the school district to the Mississippi Department of Health. After contact tracing, the Mississippi Department of Health will determine if any student and/or staff will be subject to a 14-day quarantine period.
 - Deep cleaning procedures will be implemented.
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COMMUNICATIONS

- Building Principals
- Virtual Meetings
- Surveys
- Emails
- TCSD Facebook
- TCSD Webpage
- Robocall
- Canvas (parent portal)

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Initially, the TCSD will not participate in extracurricular activities. However, upon return, the school district will implement the following protocols:

- Follow social distancing recommendations
- Adhere to social distancing recommendations when participants are not playing (on the bench, in the dugout, on the sideline, etc.).
- Practice social distancing of 6 feet from other households during drop off/pick up of players or students.
- Find new ways to show sportsmanship, for example use hands or hats to give a wave.
- Promote wearing of cloth face coverings or facemasks to reduce risk of COVID-19 transmission, including when arriving at the facilities.
- Athletes, participants, volunteers, and coaches must follow facility requirements regarding wearing cloth face coverings or facemasks. Even if not required by the facility, athletes, volunteers, and coaches are expected to wear cloth face coverings or facemasks as much as possible when not in games or participating in an event.
- We recognize cloth face coverings or facemasks may be challenging to wear while participating in athletic and other events. Maintain health checks and screening of participants and staff/volunteers.
- Any staff, volunteers, or participants who are sick must stay home.
- Have policies in place outlining the process for those who become sick while participating in a sport Identify a plan administrator for the organization's COVID-19 plan.

- Communicate the COVID-19 plan with officials, umpires, and trainers.