



## HAMPTON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT 2 GATOR HAPPENINGS NEWSLETTER

April 12, 2021

### Mr. Martin L. Wright, Superintendent

On **April 26, 2021**, all students in Hampton County School District 2 will return to face-to-face learning 5 days a week, Monday through Friday. We are resuming our regular school schedule prior to COVID-19. The SCDE recently determined, based on guidance from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the SC Department of Health & Environmental Control (DHEC), that



students would return to school for in-person learning during the fourth nine weeks. A recent study by the CDC looked at modifying their recommendation of having students be spaced 3 feet apart in classrooms so long as everyone is masked. While this is welcome news for our families that our students can return to in-person learning, we must stress that our schools will continue to use precautions to ensure that health and safety protocols to reduce the spread of COVID-19 are being followed. Masks and social distancing will continue to be required for all students and staff. All students and staff will be screened at temperature checkpoints as they enter the buildings each

morning. Student temperatures will also be taken before getting on the school bus to reduce the spread of COVID-19 as social distancing requirements have increased bus passenger capacity to 66 percent. Other mitigation strategies already in place throughout the district that will continue:

- Continue to provide alcohol-based hand sanitizers throughout the workplace and in common areas. Cleaning sprays and disinfectants will also be provided to clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces such as telephones and keyboards.
- Use of physical barriers, such as sneeze guards and partitions in classrooms, restrooms, offices, and other areas as a layer of protection to reduce the spread of the virus.
- Individually plated or pre-packaged meals in disposable containers served to students in Pre-K – 12th grades.
- Limiting the movement between students in the hallways/classroom
- Cleaning and disinfecting school buses using electrostatic handheld sprayers and EPA- approved disinfectant twice per day after the completion of morning and afternoon routes.
- Limiting visitor access to school buildings. Appointments are required.

During the fourth nine weeks, we plan to administer our statewide assessments (SCReady, SCPASS, EOC) to our students as required by the SC Department of Education during the last twenty days of the district's instructional calendar. Students will also take their spring benchmark (STAR 360) within the next week or two to determine how they have progressed since the winter benchmark administration. Any student that should be in school and does not report will be considered absent. Students who are not meeting grade-level expectations will be required to attend the face-to-face Summer Learning Program at their school so that intervention assistance can continue to ensure we meet all students' needs. Students that will need to attend the Summer Learning Program will receive communication from their school principal. I genuinely want to thank everyone for their support and patience when we had many of our students' home learning virtually. We look forward to them returning to in-person learning. While we know that many challenges still exist, as there are still many uncertainties with COVID-19, our students' education and safety remain a top priority in Hampton District 2.