

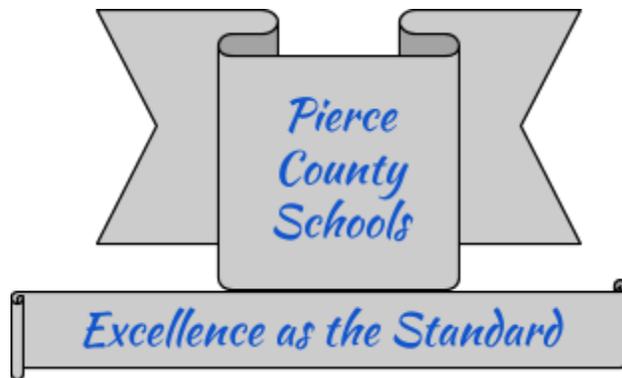


Pierce County Schools Reopening Plan 2020-2021



The Pierce County School System plans to open school on Monday, August 10, 2020. All students are scheduled to return under a traditional, face-to-face model in our school buildings. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, we are implementing additional measures to provide a safe learning environment for our students and staff. We encourage students to take advantage of the traditional, face-to-face instruction in our schools. We also understand that there are circumstances that may create a need for an alternative to traditional instruction. In those cases, there will be a virtual learning option available for students to take classes online while remaining enrolled in the Pierce County School System. At the end of this document, you will find a link to register your child for the virtual school option.

We will follow guidance from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH), and Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE). The information below summarizes the steps we are taking to safely open school as scheduled.



<i>Reopening Plan</i>	
First Day of School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monday, August 10, 2020
Open House August 6, 2020	<p>Limit visitors to two per household in addition to the student. Wearing a mask is highly recommended and we ask you that you practice social distancing. Any daily medications for students should be signed in by a parent or guardian to the school nurse clinic during Open House.</p> <p>Elementary Schools Grades PreK-5 11:00 - 12:00 Household Last Names A-G 12:00 - 1:00 Household Last Names H-Q 1:00 - 2:00 Household Last Names R-Z</p> <p>Pierce County Middle School (6th Grade Only) 3:00 - 4:00 Household Last Names A-K 4:00 - 5:00 Household Last Names L-Z</p> <p>Pierce County High School (9th Grade Only) 5:00 - 6:00 Household Last Names A-K 6:00 - 7:00 Household Last Names L-Z</p>
Assemblies/Large Group Gatherings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assemblies/Large gatherings during the school day are on hold until further notice.

<p>Cafeteria</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No keypads, salad bars, or self-service that includes multiple students touching one serving utensil will be used. ● Elementary schools will rotate classes eating in the lunchroom or classroom so that social distancing at lunch can be achieved. ● Pierce County Middle School will stagger lunch schedules so that fewer students are at lunch at one time to allow for social distancing. ● Pierce County High School will increase the number of lunches in their schedule and spread lunch tables out to allow for social distancing.
<p>Communication</p>	<p>Back to school communication will be shared through Facebook, Livingtree, Pierce County School System’s district and school websites.</p>
<p>Extracurricular Activities/ Athletics</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Athletics will follow GHSA recommendations. ● Extracurricular/Academic clubs will follow CDC, DPH, and GaDOE guidelines.
<p>Field Trips</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Field trips are on hold until further notice.

<p>Safe and Healthy Schools Procedures</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parents should pre-screen students before sending them to school or bus stops each day. Any student with a measured temperature of 100.4 or higher or any COVID-19 symptoms should not be sent to school. They will be sent home if they come to school with symptoms. ● All employees should screen their temperature daily. Employees should not report to work if they have a measured temperature of 100.4 or higher. ● All classrooms will be supplied with hand sanitizer and disinfectant. ● Best practices for hand washing and social distancing will be implemented. ● Masks - Everyone is strongly encouraged to wear masks especially in high traffic areas. ● Custodial staff will be provided disinfecting equipment and supplies. ● Classrooms, cafeterias and high-traffic areas will be sanitized frequently. ● Contact among students will be limited as much as possible.
<p>Transportation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parents may opt to transport students. ● Parents should check their child’s temperature daily and not send students to a bus stop if he/she has a measured temperature of 100.4 or higher. ● Buses will be sanitized between routes. ● Hand sanitizer will be available on all buses. ● Drivers, additional staff, and students are highly encouraged to wear masks, as social distancing cannot be achieved on buses. ● Assigned seats with students from the same household sitting together will be enforced on the bus.
<p>Visitor Procedures</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Volunteer programs are on hold until further notice. ● Visitors will be limited and will be screened for ● temperature. ● No one with a measured temperature of 100.4 or higher will be allowed in the schools. ● When visiting our buildings, wear a mask.

School Options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● First day of school will be August 10, 2020. Parents have the option of choosing traditional school with safety measures in place OR virtual learning. ● A Virtual Learning Option is available for students to take classes online while remaining enrolled in the Pierce County School System. There is a link to register for the virtual option at the end of the guidelines.
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Virtual Learning Option Guidelines

- The Virtual Learning Option will serve students in grades K-12 enrolled in the Pierce County School System.
- This commitment is for the 2020-2021 school year only. Students have the option to return to face-to-face classes at the end of each nine-week grading period (October 14, December 18, March 11). The option to return to face-to-face classes can only occur at the identified academic breaks for grading and instruction.
- The online registration form will be available from Friday, July 17, 2020 through July 27, 2020. This will allow time for the Pierce County School System to ensure proper staffing and to schedule students for the necessary classes.
- A registration form must be completed by Monday, July 27 for each student enrolling in the Virtual Learning Option. Otherwise, students will be enrolled in traditional, face-to-face instruction.
- Classes will start on Monday, August 10. The teachers will conduct a virtual open house for parents and students prior to the first day of class.
- Students will follow the Pierce County School System grading period windows.
- Courses will require a significant commitment by parents/guardians to help facilitate virtual learning. Students must have a responsible adult who serves as the point of contact for the virtual classroom teacher(s).
- Courses will have instructional expectations and the rigor will mirror face-to-face instruction.
- Students and teachers will be held to the prescribed learning schedule provided by the Pierce County Board of Education. The Virtual Learning Option students will follow the same calendar and pacing schedule as the face-to-face instruction occurring in the school building.
- Students enrolled in the Virtual Learning Option will not be eligible to participate in extracurricular/cocurricular activities such as athletics, band, chorus, theater, clubs, etc due to exposure concerns.

- Courses will be accessed through Google Classroom and other platforms.
- A teacher will provide a daily and weekly schedule of lessons with the use of Google Classroom. Progress will be monitored frequently by teachers to ensure mastery of academic standards.
- Courses will not be the same as the “distance learning” experience from this past spring. There will be daily schedules and assignments.
- Students participating in the virtual learning option will be expected to log in and participate in online lessons and assignments during the school day hours. While the students will not be logged into their computer for the entire time/day, they will have scheduled meetings with their teacher at given times during the school day hours.
- Students are expected to participate during school hours every day that school is in session.
- Attendance will be recorded in Infinite Campus.
- Assignments will be graded, and grading practices appropriate for a virtual classroom will be adopted.
- Some student online sessions with the teacher will be recorded. Commitment to the Virtual Learning Option indicates agreement to the recorded sessions.
- Students participating in the Virtual Learning Option may be assigned a virtual teacher that may not be housed at their zoned or assigned school.
- Students participating in the virtual learning option will be accountable to the rules and procedures set forth in the 2020-2021 Student Handbook

Parent/Guardian Responsibilities for the Virtual Learning Option

For the 2020-2021 school year, I am choosing the Virtual Learning Option for my student due to health/safety concerns related to COVID-19.

- My student will remain enrolled at his/her zoned or assigned school.
- I understand that some electives and connections/special classes (such as band, music, chorus, drama, dual enrollment lab courses, etc.) may not be available through the Virtual Learning Option. In addition, honors classes and gifted courses may not be available.
- I understand that students enrolled in the Virtual Learning Option will not be eligible to participate in extracurricular/cocurricular activities such as athletics, band, chorus, theater, club, etc.
- For most courses, students may be assigned a certified Pierce County School

System teacher, but the teacher may be from a school site other than the student's zoned or assigned school.

- I understand that this commitment is for the 2020-2021 school year only. Students have the option to return to face-to-face classes at the end of each nine-week grading period (October 14, December 18, March 11). The option to return to face-to-face classes can only occur at the identified academic breaks for grading and instruction.
- A computing device (has at least a 10" screen or monitor, webcam, microphone, and keyboard) with internet access is required to participate in the Virtual Learning Option. These can be provided by the school system in case of family hardship and/or if the student has documented health issues.

Virtual Learning Option Application

The deadline to apply for the virtual option is July 27, 2020.