

Fayette County Public Schools

Reopening Schools

Questions and Answers

(More questions, answers, and updates will be added over the next few weeks.)

Q. What determines green/yellow/red levels? What data source/criteria will be used for the level status?

A. The district is developing the metrics for the green, yellow and red levels with input from our regional Department of Public Health and other healthcare professionals. The number of community COVID-19 cases and the number of confirmed cases within a school or feeder pattern will inform those decisions. (6/26/20)

Q. Last year, the students in the younger grades were not issued a Chromebook to take home. Would that be different this year in the event the school was at a yellow or red level and needed to have classes online?

A. Chromebooks will be available for check out if needed. Most virtual lessons for PreK, K, and 1st grade during yellow and red levels will include “unplugged activities” along with activities which may require a device to connect via Zoom and to access information via Schoology. (6/26/20)

Q. Will services such as guidance counselor, transcript requests, etc., remain at the student’s residential school?

A. Transcripts are maintained in Infinite Campus, our student information system. Guidance counseling services will be provided in the most effective, efficient manner. (6/26/20)

Q. Will seniors be considered graduates of their home school or the virtual school?

A. Seniors will be graduates of their home high school.

Q. How will virtual school affect class rank and honors at the virtual school?

A. We are not considering changes in calculations at this time.

Q. What are the virtual options for PreK?

A. Our Georgia Lottery PreK programs are regulated by the Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning, and we must meet their requirements and guidelines. At this time, Ga DECAL has not provided a full-time virtual option for our PreK programs. We will offer the distance learning option to all of our students, including PreK. In the event of a school closure, similar to what took place in the spring, we will adjust our practice accordingly. Circumstances are subject to change.

Q. Can I do Virtual School and Work Based Learning?

A. Yes, depending upon the requirements at the individual work site. (6/26/20)

Q. What is the application fee for the Fayette Virtual Academy and does dual enrollment apply to this practice?

A. There is not a fee to apply to the Fayette Virtual Academy. Students can participate in Dual Enrollment courses at brick and mortar school and at the Fayette Virtual Academy.

Q. If a high school student qualified for seventh period opt out, can they take six classes at the Virtual School like they would have at the brick and mortar school or would they have to take seven?

A. Yes, students who qualify for the seventh period opt out can take six classes at the virtual school. (6/26/20)

Q. Could a specific course, ie ROTC, be offered as a club after school?

A. No. Currently, ROTC is only offered during the regular school day and at two of our high schools. (6/26/20)

Q. If a CTE course, ie Cosmetology, is offered at the Virtual School but not at the student's home school, what would the student do in the second semester if they choose to go back to their home school?

A. Individual guidance and advisement takes place to ensure the student is taking courses that lead to pathway completion and graduation. (6/26/20)

Q. What would the Virtual option mean as far as Chorus/Connection classes?

A. Elective choices in the full-time virtual school are still being considered and developed. Please note that we will not be able to offer all electives currently offered at the brick and mortar school at the full-time virtual school. (6/26/20)

Q. Will breakfast and lunch be served? Will students receive lunch in the classroom or in the cafeteria?

A. Yes, meals will be served (breakfast where applicable). Students will eat lunch in classrooms or spaces designated by the schools to maintain social distancing. Schools may consider scheduling socially distanced servings in the cafeteria depending on confirmed cases. (6/26/20)

Q. If we shift to the hybrid/full-time virtual model will there be a plan for meal distribution?

A. Yes, based on available USDA waivers. (6/26/20)

Q. How will the attendance policy be adjusted to align with the need to stay home when sick?

A. Attendance policies are being reviewed and will be adjusted. For example, high school exam exemptions have been modified, and attendance is no longer used as criteria to earn an exemption. (6/26/20)

Q. Are students in the same room all day?

A. This will depend on the school level - elementary, middle or high school. (6/26/20)

Q. What will class size be at each grade level? Is there a change?

A. Class sizes will be kept as low as possible.

Q. Will brick and mortar lessons be recorded so those with symptoms stay home?

A. With Schoology, our new learning management system, teachers will have the capacity to record lessons and post recordings. All students in that class will have access to the recordings. Instruction will continue through Schoology, and assignments can be submitted through Schoology. Schoology training for parents will be available at the beginning of the school year. (6/26/20)

Q. Will classes be disinfected after lunch? Between classes? How and by whom?

A. Disinfecting by custodians will occur throughout the day on high touch surface areas. Teachers will also be provided with disinfectant for use in between classes as needed. Other commercial options can be used where necessary, such as in the case of a full school closure. (6/26/20)

Q. How will you stop the fast spread of the virus between classes and grades?

A. Realistically, the school district can not control the spread of the virus, we can only set the conditions to mitigate the spread. Examples of prevention protocols can be found at this link. [CDC Stop the Spread of Germs](#) (6/26/20)

Q. Are face coverings required?

A. Face coverings are required to be worn on the bus if students choose to ride the bus. (Financially, it is not feasible to accommodate 6 ft. social distancing on our buses.) Students and staff in the brick and mortar school should wear face coverings during the school day when social distancing is not possible. Examples: reporting to school, changing classes, dismissal, when in close contact with others.(6/26/20)

Q. What steps will be enforced within the schools to ensure safety?

A. Our school district follows state requirements to ensure safety. Examples: fire drills, access control, severe weather drills. Modifications to our safety plan will include prevention protocols for COVID-19. (6/26/20)

Q. Will students be allowed to change classes throughout the year as in previous years or will they be required to stay in one classroom as suggested by the CDC?

A. This will vary depending on the level - elementary, middle, high school. (6/26/20)

Q. Will band/chorus/drama be offered daily? Or do students need to choose another class to maintain full time status in Georgia?

A. Committees are in place to explore options for delivering instruction in performing arts classes such as band, orchestra, drama and chorus. (6/26/20)

Q. Will elementary students in virtual learning still receive gifted services? Specials?

A. Gifted services will continue in brick and mortar schools at the green, yellow and red levels. The availability of gifted services in the full-time virtual school will depend on our ability to staff the elementary virtual school with gifted certified

students. "Specials" activities will be part of the students' daily/weekly routine.
(6/26/20)

Q. Will students receive PE, Art, Music, Technology virtually if they choose virtual school? If they attend school, will those specials be offered in class or will they transition to Specials rooms?

A. Specials classes will be offered at the brick and mortar school and the elementary virtual school. We are still working on the protocols regarding transitions, and we will try to keep students in one room as much as possible.
(6/26/20)

Q. Will chorus and band classes be offered?

A. Committees are in place to explore options for delivering instruction in performing arts classes such as band, orchestra, drama and chorus. (6/26/20)

Q. Will gifted services be offered?

A. Gifted services will continue in brick and mortar schools. The availability of gifted services in full-time virtual school will depend on various factors such as staffing.(6/26/20)

Q. What is the current plan for sports and band/choir? And how does this plan change with the schools being at different levels throughout the year?

A. We will align our practice with guidance from the Georgia High School Association. (6/26/20)

Q. If we choose to homeschool for a period of time, then decide that the FCBOE option 1 or 2 would be an acceptable fit based on other parents sharing their experience, will I be able to register and choose an option at any time after school starts?

A. Yes. Homeschool and private school students are accepted at any time during the year should they choose to enroll; however, we do encourage families to enroll at the very beginning of the year in order not to miss instructional standards that are taught from the very beginning. (6/26/20)