

## Return to School 2021-22

**Buses** - Bus routes and student schedules will be available soon. We expect bus routes to appear in [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#) on Tuesday, Aug. 31 (after 9:30 a.m.). Elementary classroom teachers will appear in PowerSchool on Tuesday, Aug. 31 (after 9:30 a.m.) For contact tracing purposes, a seating chart will be required for both morning and afternoon runs. Siblings will be encouraged to sit together.

**Cafeteria** - For the cafeteria, we will have assigned seats to start the school year. School lunches are free this year. At this time, we will not be allowing families to visit and have lunch with their student(s). Once the VDH moves out of high or substantial, we will revisit this opportunity.

**Classroom Seating Charts/Desk Shields** - Each classroom will maintain a seating chart for classroom, small group work, intervention purposes, lunches and all LAMP classes. Any time a seat change occurs, the seating chart will be updated for contact tracing purposes. Should you request a desk shield for your student during the school day, please email Mrs. Chamberlain at [jchamberlai@henrico.k12.va.us](mailto:jchamberlai@henrico.k12.va.us). Desk Shields are not required at this time, but parents may request them for their student(s).

**Computer - 1:1** - We are a "one-to-one" school division! This means that each HCPS student in grades *preK-12* has access to an electronic device such as an iPad, Chromebook or laptop. During the pandemic, younger students got their own devices to bring home, and that access will continue this year. iPads and Chromebooks will be distributed the first week of school.

**Daily Health Screenings.** We will not be taking student temperatures unless they are showing symptoms, at which time they will go to the isolation room with the nurse on duty and a parent will be contacted. Parents/students are required to complete a daily screening of symptoms at home before going to school. Please see this acknowledgment form for the 2021-2022 school year: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1kXeXcZJOZ52Lj32u-vxWW1qoHOJGB0tc/view?usp=sharing>. This form can be completed in Rycor and/or printed and brought to school. All students/families must complete.

**Drop off / Pick up** - We will continue to have parents wait outside for social distancing purposes when dropping off and picking up their students. We will send more detailed information about drop/off and pick up procedures closer to school opening.

**Forms** --**Back to School forms are now available to be filled out!** Access these through the [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#) by logging in and selecting "Access Online

Forms.” **PowerSchool Parent Portal is now open for you to create your account!** ([When you sign up for a parent or guardian PowerSchool account](#), you get easy access to class grades, attendance information and student schedules. The portal also gives you “single sign-on” access to other online services.

**LAMP Classes** As of today, the plan will be for students to travel to the appropriate classroom space for all LAMP (Library, Art, Music, PE) classes. The mitigation strategies (handwashing, masking, social distancing, cleaning, ventilation system monitoring, etc.) will remain in place from last year to reduce as much risk as possible.

**Mask Wearing** **Masks are required inside schools and offices for all individuals (employees, students and others), regardless of vaccination status.** This policy is based on current health data and trends, along with the latest guidance from health experts at the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) and the [Virginia Department of Health](#). Mask protocols will be reviewed approximately every two weeks at the [School Board's upcoming public meetings](#). Attached you can also find the HCPS Health Committee approved mask guidance document.

[Mask-Update-Aug-2021 Approved Mask Guidance.pdf](#)

- o **School buses:** Mask-use continues to be required [as part of a federal order concerning public transportation](#).
- o **Outdoors:** Masks will still be strongly recommended, especially for individuals who are not yet vaccinated, or when physical distancing is not possible. Students may take off their masks if playing at a distance of six feet or more.
- o **Specific activities:** [Click to see a list of mask FAQ and an infographic](#) for a deeper look at specific circumstances.

**Mitigation Strategies** --**In addition to mask-use, we're continuing to prioritize safety with health-risk mitigation strategies, such as:**

- o Well-maintained indoor air systems.
- o Maintaining 3-foot distancing where possible.
- o Frequent cleaning of high-touch areas.
- o Clear plastic desk guards (for use by request.)
- o A continued focus on handwashing.

**Open House** - See schedule above.

**PTA Meetings** - We still plan to have parents attend in person, but will limit the number of parents attending. [Visitor Guideline](#) form and [Health Screening form](#) prior to your arrival for any PTA meetings. More specific guidelines will be provided closer to the date of each meeting/performance. We are still awaiting guidance on performance requirements.

**Quarantine** - If your child has symptoms identified by the health screener, we ask that you call the school where you will be advised about quarantining or contact tracing. Additionally, if your child has been exposed to a positive COVID case, we ask that you keep your child home and call the school for directions.

**Recess** - Classes will be allowed to play together as a cohort class only. At this time, as we are in a **High or Substantial** community transmission level we will follow the county guidelines for recess. Protocol for recess could change once the VDH moves to moderate or low. Students will maintain six feet of distance unmasked with an arms length apart. Class cohorts will play in designated areas. Play structures and equipment will still be available for students to use within their cohort.

**School Hours** - This year will be different than last year. Student arrival for buses and car riders will take place each day from 7:50 AM - 8:10 AM. The tardy bell will ring at 8:10 am. Students are expected to be in their classrooms at 8:10 am. Student dismissal is scheduled to begin each afternoon at 2:40 pm. Logistics and procedures will be shared with parents later in August, however, at this time I wanted to make sure that all parents/guardians were aware of the 2021-2022 school hours.

**Virtual Academy** - At this time, there is a wait list for families wanting virtual vs. in person instruction but who did not meet the deadline for enrollment.

**Virtual/Hybrid Instruction** - At this time, we do not plan to offer virtual instruction from the classroom. If students are absent or quarantined, we will provide work like we do when children are otherwise ill. Students will also have their computers and can be assigned digital learning activities in addition to any classroom assignments they may be able to complete.

**Volunteers** At this time, we will not be able to have volunteers inside the building during the school day. We have to be able to welcome back our wonderful family volunteers as soon as we are allowed!

**Water Fountains** - All fountains are open for full use. We still encourage your child to bring a water bottle to fill throughout the day. We have filtered water bottle stations on each of our academic halls.

