

SCHOOLS

Back-to-School Plan for Students and Families 2023-2024

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### 2023-2024 School Calendar

#### **DeKalb County Schools**

1-3 Employee Work/PD AUGUST '23 S M T W Th F S Students First Day 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 Student Days 3 Employee PD Days 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 Labor Day SEPTEMBER '23 Employee Work/PD Days 12 13 14 15 16 19 Student Days 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 1 Employee PD Day 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 **End of First Grading** OCTOBER '23 Period S M T W Th F S 9-11 Fall Break 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 19 Student Days 29 30 31 Veterans Day NOVEMBER '23 (Recognized) S M T W Th F S Employee Work/PD 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 20-24 Thanksgiving Holiday 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 15 Student Days 26 27 28 29 30 1 Employee PD Day End of Second Gradina Period 19-29 Christmas Holiday 12 Student Days

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24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

	J	AN	UAR	Y "2	4		1-2	New Year's Holiday			
s	M	T	W	Th	F	S	3-4	Employee Work/PD			
	1	2	3	4	5	6	15	Days MLK Jr. Day			
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	13	WILK St. Duy			
14	15	16	17	18	19	20					
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						- 3					
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mploy	1 Er Day		31	30	29	28	27	26			

idents Last Day plovee Work/PD y/Flex Day emorial Day nt Days yee PD Day/ Flex

**Grading Period** First Term Aug 4 - Oct 6 (44 Days) Second Term Oct 16- Dec 18 (41 Days) Third Term Jan 5 - Mar 12 (46 Days) Fourth Term Mar 13 - May 23 (46 Days)

Calendar Features 177 Instructional Days 10 Teacher PD/Work Days

\*Attendance for all employees is required for PD/work days. No employee should use personal or vacation leave on a PD/work day. A doctor's excuse or other approved absence is required for absence on a PD/work day.

\*Teacher PD and Work Days Holiday / Vacation Day Remote Learning

## Health and Wellness



### Health & Wellness Measures - School

- Common Area Sanitations- Common areas and surfaces(handrails, doorknobs, etc...) will be sanitized throughout the day by custodial staff.
- Classroom sanitation and cleaning will be a joint effort by the school custodial staff, classroom teachers and other school personnel.
  - The DeKalb County Board of Education will provide sanitation equipment, material, sanitizer, soap, training, etc... to ensure proper sanitation of each local school.
  - Classroom teachers will be provided sanitizing liquid to spot clean as needed and to sanitize desks, counters, etc....
- Hand Sanitizer will be available throughout the school campus (entrances, hallways, cafeteria, common areas, etc...).
- Sanitizing chemicals and mopping equipment specifically designed to kill COVID-19 and prevent cross contamination will be purchased and consistently used across the system.
- Air filters should be changed regularly.
- Water bottle fillers have been installed throughout the schools.

# Health & Wellness Measures - Transportation

• The local school district has provided sanitizing equipment to each local school and each school bus is equipped with an automatic sanitation system.

### Health & Wellness Measures - Training

• Each school nurse will be a resource person for student educational activities, such as age-appropriate educational videos on hand-washing, covering one's mouth when coughing or sneezing, and how to wear a mask if needed.



- If a child has a pre-existing condition, parents are advised to speak with their child's primary care physician about returning to school.
- Parents will be encouraged to take students' temperatures and assess students before sending to school. Students who have an elevated temperature greater than 98.6°F and/or are exhibiting symptoms should stay at home.
- Parents will be encouraged to give appropriate contact information and make plans to ensure someone could check student out if needed.



#### **Nurse Office Visits**

- School Nurse will work closely with administrators in developing a plan to isolate sick children until someone comes and gets them.
- School Nurse will continue to develop Individual Health Plans for students with chronic health problems.
- School Nurse will assess the student and take appropriate actions.
- School Nurse will sanitize and disinfect as needed.

### Safety & Wellness Measures - Extra-curricular

• All athletic teams, band, cheer, academic clubs will follow guidance as applicable during meetings, practices, transportation, competition and other organzized activities provided by the AHSAA, ADPH, ALSDE and the Dekalb County Board of Education.

## Instructional Services





# What type of instruction will my child receive as they enter school in August?



#### **Traditional Instruction**

- All students in grades PK-12 can participate in traditional instruction.
- Traditional-learning students are anticipated to participate in on-campus instruction for the duration of the year; however, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, students enrolled in traditional learning may be required to transition to remote learning led by the student-assigned classroom teacher.
- Students who are new to the system will enroll through the county registrar.
  Information is available on the website.



#### **Virtual Instruction**

- DeKalb Virtual Academy (DVA) is an online instructional opportunity for students in grades 6-12.
- DVA is a rigorous program in which most learning takes place at home.
- Some tests are required to be taken at the virtual academy at 1724 McCurdy Ave N, Rainsville.
- To enroll visit <u>www.dekalbk12.org</u>.



- Students who attend traditional school will be expected to attend on a regular basis in accordance with the board-approved attendance policy. The local school administration will consider extenuating circumstances related to COVID-19 or other illnesses.
- If traditional school transitions to a remote learning environment, attendance will be taken through participation in the assigned remote learning activities.
- Virtual students will utilize activity and participation through the virtual curriculum as attendance.
- Students who are absent should timely submit a note for their absence to the school administrator in accordance with board policy.
- In the case of COVID-related absence, the student is strongly encouraged to notify the school administrator and submit a physician's note in a timely manner to the school.

## **Student Support Services**





- Outside visitors and/or family guests will be allowed to dine in the school cafeteria at the discretion of the school principal.
- DeKalb County Schools that participated in student self-service will continue to practice self-service.
- Cafeteria workers will monitor the serving lines to ensure students are practicing safe food service.
- All schools will be CEP schools, meaning all students will be eligible to receive free breakfast and lunch. However, students will have to pay for extra or specialty items. Families are encouraged to prepay to reduce and/or eliminate the handling of money. <u>EZSchoolPay</u>



- DeKalb County Schools is committed to providing the supports students and families social and emotional well-being. The district employees three full-time social workers. Social workers provide resources to families, complete home visits, and support students.
- The district also partners with the Children Advocacy Center (CAC). Counselors employed by the CAC provide counseling services at each school location upon parental approval.
- We also have school counselors who are trained to meet student needs.
- DeKalb County Schools will continue to provide appropriate accommodations and services for children with disabilities, English learners, migratory, homeless, and children in foster care.