The Copiah County School District will resume in-person instruction as the primary mode of teaching on Thursday, August 5, 2021. Universal indoor masking for all teachers, staff, students, and visitors is required as we start the school year. During the upcoming weeks, the district will monitor the occurrence of outbreaks and recommendations from both the MSDH and CDC to guide decisions on future masking requirements. Our priority is for all students and employees to safely return to full in-person instruction regardless of vaccination status.

**Traveling to School**

Students should wear their cloth face covering at all times while traveling to school. Parents are encouraged to utilize personal transportation if possible. Prior to traveling to school, parents should ensure that students are symptom free. Symptoms to consider are: fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath/difficulty breathing, loss of taste or smell, sore throat, nausea/vomiting, and diarrhea.

**Addressing Symptoms**

Students should bring a clean cloth face covering with them to school. If a student arrives at school exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms, or begins to exhibit symptoms during the day, they will be moved to the school's designated care room to wait until they are picked up.

**Exercise Extreme Caution**

Consistent with CDC Public Health Guidance, MSDH recommends

- Universal indoor masking for all teachers, staff, students, and visitors to K-12 school settings when not eating or drinking, regardless of vaccination status.
- Consistent and correct mask use by all students, teachers, staff, and visitors regardless of vaccination status is vital to help prevent the spread of COVID-19
- MSDH recommends schools maintain at least 3 feet of physical distance between students within classroom settings, combined with universal indoor mask wearing, to reduce transmission risk.

As we continue to plan for the school year, we seek to fulfill our District’s mission during unprecedented circumstances. Our plan will evolve to reflect the latest expert guidance from national, state, and local authorities. We look forward to welcoming our students back to school on August 5th.