

Eufaula City Schools Reopening Plan 2021-2022

Overview: Eufaula City Schools will offer a traditional learning environment for the 2021-22 school year: Traditional is defined as “on-campus”. Students who wish to learn in a virtual setting will need to register through ALVA for the 2021-22 school year. Registration information can be found by clicking <https://alva.k12.com/how-enroll.html>. The remaining sections of this document provide information related to each option and the importance of parent/guardian support regardless of the instructional setting. Prior to selecting the classroom environment, parents/guardians are asked to thoroughly review the contents of this document.

Parent/Guardian Responsibility: Parents/guardians are asked to monitor their child(ren) for symptoms of COVID-19 (fever, cough, fatigue, difficulty breathing, headache, sore throat, congestion, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea). Students with a fever of 100.4 degrees or higher should not report to school. Parents/guardians of sick children who have concerns should immediately contact their respective school nurse to discuss symptoms, obtain physician clearance, and discuss an appropriate return to school date. Parents/guardians are encouraged to be transparent with the school nurse or administrator should a child or a family member be diagnosed with COVID-19.

Masks/Facial Coverings: Eufaula City Schools will continue to monitor CDC and ADPH guidelines AND state or federal mandates. Mask requirements will be updated accordingly. Parents/Guardians are encouraged to educate students on the importance of maintaining physical distance, when possible, as well as the option of wearing a mask/face covering when physical distancing is not feasible. If worn, cloth masks (those other than disposable medical masks) must adhere to the dress code policy referenced in the Code of Conduct. Neck gaiters may be worn around the neck when not being utilized as a face cover. Typical disposable surgical masks are also permitted.

Transportation: Eufaula City Schools will offer transportation to students for the 2021-22 school year. We will make every attempt to separate students, but we cannot guarantee physical distancing on buses while transporting students. Masks will be required on school buses. Disposable masks will be available on all buses for students. Buses will be disinfected by school personnel at the conclusion of each route.

Child Nutrition: Eufaula City Schools will use cafeterias to serve meals. Students will eat breakfast and lunch, free of charge, in the cafeteria, classrooms or designated areas identified by local school administrators. Cafeteria staff will maintain compliance with the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) and Barbour County Health Department (BCHD) when preparing and serving food. Cleaning and disinfecting measures by cafeteria staff will uphold high standards in preventative measures against the spread of COVID-19. Visitors will be permitted to eat lunch with students during the 2021-2022 school year on a limited basis set by the local school administrator. Students are allowed to bring personal water bottles with lids to school.

Classroom Setting: Class sizes will be similar to previous years. Teachers will monitor students to ensure appropriate practices that assist in limited transmission are in place. While all square footage of each classroom will be utilized, it is unlikely that students will be able to always maintain six (6) feet physical distance throughout the school day (class, period, or block). Parents/guardians are encouraged to educate students on the importance of maintaining physical distance, when possible, as well as wearing a mask/face covering when maintaining physical distance is not feasible.

School Visitors: To support physical distancing, campus access to visitors will be restricted and will require administrator approval. All approved school visitors are required to report to the main office upon arrival at a school campus. All approved visitors will be required to present a photo ID, sign in, and secure a visitor's pass. Mask requirements will be updated accordingly. Visitors will be permitted to eat lunch with students during the 2021-2022 school year on a limited basis set by the local school administrator.

Health and Wellness: COVID-19 guidelines in conjunction with heightened health and wellness protocols have been implemented for the 2021-22 school year. School nurses will work closely with the ALSDE, ADPH, and BCHD regarding protocols, quarantine measures, and regulations for COVID-19. School nurses will aid parents, guardians, staff, and students with medical referrals and testing sites for COVID-19 as deemed necessary.

First aid areas in each school will be maintained and function in compliance with ALSDE, ADPH, and BCHD. Sick and well-child first aid areas are established at each school. School nurses will maintain each area to support the needs of students. School nurses will teach preventative measures to students and staff, including proper handwashing techniques, cough/sneeze etiquette, and the importance of keeping hands away from the face, as well as how to properly wear a face covering and other important preventative measures such as physical distancing.

Thermal scanning thermometers are located at each school. Temperature checks will be conducted periodically and in instances when a student demonstrates potential signs of fever/illness.

All teachers will be provided ample cleaning supplies to utilize during the school day and throughout the 2021-2022 school year. Cleaning and disinfecting of common areas and classrooms will take place daily at all schools. Cleaning and disinfecting practices will uphold high standards in preventative measures against the spread of COVID-19 and other illnesses.

Students will be provided with opportunities to wash their hands throughout the school day. Additionally, hand sanitizer will be available. Parents/guardians are encouraged to reinforce the importance of personal hygiene to include proper washing of hands.

All faculty and staff will be provided appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) to wear when the individual faculty or staff member deems such items necessary.

Should a student or faculty member be diagnosed with COVID-19, contact tracing, according to state officials, is the responsibility of the BCHD. In these instances, determination of steps to be taken after reviewing the identified case will be coordinated between Eufaula City Schools and BCHD officials. However, the Eufaula City School System will make every effort to send notification home with students in the event we are made aware of students/employees being exposed or testing positive for COVID-19. Names of individuals cannot and will not be shared.

In our efforts to keep our students and staff as safe as possible we will rely heavily on our parents/guardians to keep school personnel aware of any situation where there is a positive Covid 19 case in your household. We are not asking for names but will need to know if someone in the household is positive so that we can take the proper precautions at school. Please make

sure that you are also following the guidelines regarding quarantining if there is a positive case.

Students will need to bring their own school supplies to limit exposure. No school supplies will be shared among students.

Learning Options: Traditional Learning will occur through face-to-face instruction on a regular schedule. This model represents a return to the school campus and the classroom where students will interact directly with their teacher(s) and classmates. The school day will follow the standard schedule that includes all core classes and other subject areas. In short, it represents a return to the traditional school environment--with several significant changes involving enhanced health and safety precautions. Technology will be part of the traditional learning model so that students will be familiar with online learning should we have to close school or a student needs to stay home. PE activities will be a combination of indoor and outdoor activities in smaller class sizes.

Disclaimer: All information provided is based on the infection rate of the city of Eufaula at the time of document publication. An increase in the COVID-19 rate of infection within the community may necessitate modification of response practices. Eufaula City Schools is required to comply with policies mandated by the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE), Alabama High School Athletic Association (AHSAA), Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH), Barbour County Health Department (BCHD), as well as local and state orders/ordinances created in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Eufaula City Schools

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Frequently Asked Questions

What will class sizes look like in traditional school? Every effort will be made to have class sizes as low as possible, but class sizes will most likely look like they have in previous school years.

Will students social distance? It is unlikely that students will be able to maintain a six (6) feet physical distance throughout the school day.

How will we handle lunch, PE, and recess? PE may be delivered through multiple formats such as: face to face, Zoom, and pre recorded lessons. Breakfast/Lunch will be served in the cafeteria, classrooms or in identified areas by local school administrators. Recess will be in classrooms or in smaller identified areas by local school administrators.

How will our buildings be sanitized? All buildings will be cleaned multiple times daily with approved sanitizing chemicals. We will be using traditional and automated sprayers to disinfect all areas.

Will students be required to wear masks? We highly recommend that all students and staff members wear masks in our buildings. Students and staff members are required to wear masks on buses.

What are the learning options for Eufaula City Schools for 2021-22? Eufaula City Schools will offer a traditional learning environment for students in the 2021-22 school year. Traditional learning will occur face to face with Eufaula City Schools teachers on a regular schedule. Technology integration will be a key component in this standards-based instructional model. Students who wish to learn virtually will register through ALVA at Eufaula City Schools. For information on enrolling with ALVA, please visit <https://alva.k12.com/how-enroll.html>.

My child has an IEP. How will that work? Every child with a disability is entitled to a free and appropriate education and is entitled to special education services based on their individualized education program (IEP). Students receiving special education services may be more negatively affected by distance-learning and may be disproportionately impacted by interruptions in regular education. It may not be feasible, depending on the needs of the individual child and adolescent, to adhere both to distancing guidelines and the criteria outlined in a specific IEP. Attempts to meet physical distancing guidelines should meet the needs of the individual child and may require creative solutions, often on a case-by-case basis. Please contact your child's school or the district's Director of Special Education, Jan Bowen, at (334) 687-1100 or jan.bowen@eck12.org regarding their individualized plan.

Will students be issued a device? All students, except for pre-K, will be issued a Eufaula City Schools iPad for use.

If a student or teacher in my child's class tests positive for COVID-19, what are the plans for the other students? Once a case is confirmed, parents will be informed.