



A NEW WAY FORWARD

Update Regarding the 2021-22 School Year

Jefferson County Board of Education
October 5, 2021

Guiding Principles

HEALTH AND SAFETY

We commit to doing everything possible to ensure the health, safety, and well-being of our students, staff, and community. Every decision we make will be in accordance with the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE), Kentucky Department for Public Health, Louisville Metro Department of Public Health and Wellness (LMDPHW), and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines for reopening schools.



HIGH-QUALITY INSTRUCTION

We commit to providing our students with high-quality instruction across all platforms in order to ensure that every student has the opportunity to learn and grow.



FLEXIBILITY

We commit to remaining flexible in these highly uncertain times. We will be ready to adapt to new public health circumstances in accordance with expert guidance in order to safeguard our students, staff, and community.



Guiding Principles



EQUITY

We commit to fostering an environment that supports the physical, emotional and social health of our students, with a focus on removing barriers and building a system that equips all students with the tools to be successful.



ACCURATE AND TIMELY COMMUNICATION

We commit to ensuring that students, employees, and families have the information they need to remain safe, and we will keep all stakeholders up to date with important information throughout the school year.



COMMUNITY TRUST

We commit to building community trust through our actions. Every decision will be made with all stakeholders in mind and will be guided by students, employees, families, and experts.

Vaccine Incentive Payment from KDE/JCPS

- The Kentucky Department of Education announced they will be offering Vaccine Incentive Payments to all full and part-time employees of public schools after being fully vaccinated against COVID-19.
- This reimbursement is for employees who previously have been vaccinated, as well as those who have received their full vaccinations by December 1, 2021.

Vaccine Incentive Payment from KDE/JCPS

Districts must pay employees first, in order to receive reimbursement from KDE.

- KDE has “strongly encouraged [districts] to consider providing additional funds that match the amount provided as reimbursement by KDE, but a financial match is not required for participation.”
- The payment must be included in the employees’ payroll on or before January 22, 2022.

Recommendation is to accept the \$100 Vaccine Incentive Payment from KDE for all active employees and to match it with an additional \$100 for a total of \$200 for each vaccinated employee. Employees must be employed as of December 1, 2021 and have been paid wages between July 1, 2021 and December 31, 2021.

Test to Stay

In accordance with SBI (2021SS), the Kentucky Public Health Department developed a “Test to Stay” model school plan that may be implemented, in whole or in part, by districts to minimize the impact of quarantining.

Goals:

- to ensure as many students and staff have in-person schooling/work as possible.
 - to provide a safer learning environment for students and staff.
 - to minimize absences due to quarantining for students and staff.
 - to lessen the burden of quarantine on students and their families, teachers and school administrators.
- to share data with local health department.

Participating in Test to Stay

To be eligible for the voluntary Test to Stay program, the individual must be a close contact and ordered to quarantine. Also an individual must:

- be a **student (PreK-12) or employee** in JCPS
 - **be entirely asymptomatic**, without signs or [symptoms of COVID-19](#)
 - **wear a mask indoors** when at school/work for the entirety of the program, even if all test results are negative
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- If a person has **tested positive for COVID-19**, they are **not** eligible for Test to Stay.
 - A student/employee who **lives with someone who is positive** for COVID-19 and **cannot quarantine away** from the positive case is **not** eligible for participation in the Test to Stay Program.

Participating in Test to Stay

- If an individual **chooses not to participate** in the Test to Stay Program, **quarantining is still required** in accordance with JCPS protocols.
- **Fully-vaccinated persons do not need to quarantine** following an exposure to a person diagnosed with COVID-19 if he/she is not experiencing symptoms.
- People who have a **verified positive test for COVID-19 in the past 90 days**, and have recovered, do not need to quarantine if they are a close contact, unless they are experiencing symptoms and have been ordered to quarantine by a health professional.

Test to Stay Protocol

If an individual opts into the program, testing should be **performed daily through Day 7** after the identified exposure during the quarantine period except during weekends or other days school is not in session.

- Testing is **required the night before a school day**. For example, on a typical week, the student/employee would need to **test Sunday through Thursday night** to attend school/work the next day. Friday night is not required because Saturday is not a school day.
- Testing will be **offered free** of charge **at middle and high schools** and other selected locations in the afternoons/evenings.
- Sites will be open from **3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., 3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., or 4:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.** (Note that times may be amended later based on needs).

Test to Stay

Test to Stay

- **Testing must occur daily** and the **student** results will be made available to the school each morning. **Employees** will share their results with the supervisor and a copy will be retained.
- A **negative result must be received before** the individual attends school, participates in school activities, or rides the bus.
- A student or employee may also get a test from another medical source and provide the result to their school/work location.
 - Testing is recommended to be performed a **minimum of 24 hours** apart.
 - Schools will **track the results** using a district-provided portal specifically designed for the Test to Stay program.
 - Individuals who have been quarantined but have not completed daily testing or who have a **positive** result will be immediately sent home from the school or work location.

Drive- Through Testing

- Our drive-thru COVID-19 diagnostic screening testing sites serve JCPS staff, students, and families.
- On Sunday, October 17, days will switch to Sunday-Thursday. Times vary: 3:00-7:00, 3:30-7:30, or 4:30-8:30.
- Newburg, Male, Lassiter, Fern Creek High, Conway, Johnson MS were NEW sites last week. 25 more will start this week.

Classified Staff Instructional Activities

- SBI allows classified staff to perform instructional activities without direct supervision by certified staff.
- Recommendation: When an hourly classified staff member provides classroom instructional activities to students without supervision from a certified teacher, they will be paid their hourly rate plus \$6 for every hour that they provide instructional activities.

Test to Play

- Starting November 1, students who choose to participate in regular extracurricular/interscholastic athletics or regular extracurricular activities will be required to participate weekly in the COVID-19 diagnostic screening testing program offered at each school.

Test to Play

Students who choose to participate in regular extracurricular/interscholastic athletics or regular extracurricular activities will observe the following protocol:

- Students will participate in **weekly COVID-19 diagnostic screening testing** at their school.
- If students miss the day of regular testing at their school, they may attend testing that is offered daily at middle and high schools and other selected locations after school free of charge.
- COVID-19 Diagnostic Screening Testing must occur **weekly** and the results will be made available to the student the same day as the test and the school will also be notified.
- A **negative result** must be received before the individual participates in regular extracurricular/interscholastic athletics or regular extracurricular activities.

JCPS Actions

- Recommendation to accept the \$100 Vaccine Incentive Payment from KDE for all active employees and to match it with an additional \$100 for a total of \$200 for each vaccinated employee. Employees must be employed as of December 1, 2021 and paid wages between July 1, 2021 and December 31, 2021.
- Recommendation for the board to approve a temporary salary for hourly classified staff members who provide classroom instructional activities (as allowed by SB1), to be paid their hourly rate plus \$6 for every hour they perform instructional activities. This rate will be in place as long as the legislature has hourly classified staff approved to provide classroom instruction without certified supervision.
- Recommend that the Board approve the amendment to the JCPS COVID-19 School Operations Plan that includes an Appendix covering Test to Stay and Test to Play.

FEEDBACK & QUESTIONS