

Columbia School District
COVID-19
Attendance and Travel Information

The Columbia School District (CSD) is providing additional information to the community, students, faculty, and staff about the Coronavirus/COVID-19 advisories received from the Mississippi Department of Health, Mississippi Department of Education, Federal, State, and local health care organizations. They have provided the Columbia School District the following updates:

I. Personal Healthcare Protection

The following protections are effective strategies for adults and children:

- Avoid contact with people who are sick;
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth; and,
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for AT LEAST 20 seconds or use alcohol-based sanitizer that contains at least 70% alcohol if soap and water is not available.

The CSD continues to direct our cleaning service, A.B.M., sustained efforts to disinfect areas of high occupancy and frequently touched surfaces. The district will continue to monitor any new protocol changes as they become available.

II. If You Are Sick

- **DO NOT** come to work or school.
- If you are exhibiting any of the symptoms identified by the C.D.C. and Mississippi Health Department officials (fever of 100.4 or higher, have a cough and or experience a shortness of breath) suggest **CALLING** your primary health care provider before going to their office. This action will allow your health care provider time to alert their team of possible COVID-19 patients and take the appropriate measures to protect themselves.

III. Extra-Curricular Events

As of 3/13/20, the Mississippi High School Activities Association along with State Health Officials have provided the following advice:

“Avoid any mass gatherings of 250 or more people, including school assemblies and athletic events. As additional information is received, further precautions may include restricting fan attendance, postponing or canceling contests, (if necessary) no competition at all for the remainder of the school year.”

IV. Re-entry of Students Traveling from Identified High-Risk Areas

Families should inform their school via telephone or e-mail if their student or a member of their household has traveled to an area with a Level 2-4 Travel Health Notice Advisory. The Columbia School District will work with families to determine the appropriate action regarding the re-entry of their student back into school.

V. Employee Personal Travel

All employees will self-report travel plans to your supervisor prior to departure. Travel to a C.D.C. Protocol Level 2-4 destination, or identified high risk area will require that you self-quarantine for 14 days upon return. You may use your sick leave for this self-quarantine. Additional sick leave will not be issued. If during this time you begin flu-like symptoms, you will need to call your primary health care provider for advice.

VI. School Related Travel

For the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year, approval of out-of-state, work-related travel for all employees will be made on a case-by-case basis.

VII. Student Travel

Any school-sponsored travel to areas with a Level 3 or 4 Travel Health Notice advisory for COVID-19, as identified by the C.D.C., will be canceled for the duration of the 2019-2020 school year. Currently, travel scheduled within the U.S., or for areas not designated as high risk, will be evaluated by the Columbia School District. We will communicate with all travel companies utilized by the district to ensure they follow the same C.D.C. protocols.

It is essential that as a community, we consider the health and welfare of our students, faculty, and staff during this challenging time. Only accept information regarding CSD from the Superintendent's office. We will keep you informed should changes be necessary.