



Towns County Schools Reopening Plan

This plan was developed by the administration team of Towns County Schools with consideration of the Guidance for Georgia K-12 Schools and School Based Programs document. In order to secure the health, safety, and protection of children and their families across the state of Georgia, the Governor’s Office worked closely with the GA Department of Public Health (DPH) and Department of Education to develop this guidance document for Georgia’s schools and school-based programs. Towns County Schools has developed this plan in the interest of keeping all students and staff as safe as possible while providing the best educational experience we can given the current situation. **The items listed in this plan are subject to change due to changes in circumstances such as virus spread or guidance from state officials.**

**Updated 8/20/2020*

Area/Subject	Safety Plan
Setting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Offer both a traditional option and an online option
Online Learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Students participating in online learning must remain in online learning for at least the nine week period. Parents may choose for students to return to the traditional school setting after the nine week period by contacting the school. ● Expectations for Online Learning will be very similar to traditional school. Assignments must be completed. Grades will reflect work completed and can be negatively impacted if work is not completed. ● Work should be turned in online when appropriate. Physical work should be turned in by Friday of the assigned week unless otherwise specified in order to receive full credit.
Temperature Checks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Students will have their temperature taken upon arrival in their first classroom (homeroom/1st period.) ● Staff will have their temperature checked upon arrival. ● Anyone entering the building will have their temperature checked. ● Individuals who have a temperature of 100 degrees will be sent directly to the nurse to have their temperature

	<p>rechecked.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Individuals with a temperature of 100.4 will be sent home. ● Anyone sent home with a fever will be expected to be fever free without the aid of fever reducing medication for 72 hours before returning to school.
Infection Protocol	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Students who are feeling ill or have a fever will be sent to the nurse to be checked. ● The school nurse will use the Standards and Transmission Based Precautions when caring for sick people. ● Anyone exhibiting COVID like symptoms will be isolated to prevent further contact with others until they are picked up. ● Communication with the department of public health for the purposes of contact tracing will be conducted as appropriate. ● We will utilize the TCS Decision Guide based on DPH guidance for return to work/school decisions.
Morning Arrival	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Teachers will open their classrooms at 7:30 AM. ● Students will report to their classroom upon arrival. ● If the student eats breakfast from the cafeteria they will pick up their breakfast in the designated location to eat in their classroom.
Cafeteria Meals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● In an effort to provide social distancing each grade level will rotate days to eat in the classroom or in the cafeteria. For example, two 6th grade classes will eat in the classroom and the other two will eat in the cafeteria during their assigned lunch time. ● Plexiglass will be installed at the cashier station. A touch free pay system will be implemented for check out. ● Parents are encouraged to send money in advance to avoid daily transactions with physical money. My Payments Plus can be utilized by parents to electronically pay for student meals ahead of time. ● Disposable utensils and dinnerware will be used. ● To reduce traffic in the cafeteria line each student will go through the line only once. All extra items will need to be picked up during the first trip through the line.
Face Coverings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A face covering will be provided to all staff and students. ● Staff are required to wear a face covering when in close proximity of students or other individuals. When able to distance 6 feet or more from an individual the face

	<p>covering can be removed but must be worn in all circumstances where staff are in close proximity to others.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Students are expected to wear masks during class changes when large numbers of students will be transitioning. ● Students should have a face mask available and are expected to wear it if a situation arises where close contact is necessary such as small group instruction in an area where social distancing is not feasible. These instances will only occur in short time increments. ● Face covering exceptions will be made for individuals with health conditions that would prevent them from wearing a mask.
Sanitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Staff in the maintenance and custodial department where appropriate will have schedules adjusted to accommodate increased cleaning procedures during the school day. ● Daily sanitizing techniques will be used on surfaces and objects that are touched often; such as bathrooms, water coolers, desks, countertops, doorknobs, computer keyboards, hands-on learning items, faucet handles, phones and toys throughout the day. ● Sanitation of sports and play equipment will occur between use. ● TCSS uses a Gen Eon sprayer which provides a safe and non-toxic sanitizing mist that is effective against all viruses; killing many types of germs and bacteria in 30 seconds. ● The Gen Eon sprayer will be utilized in classrooms periodically throughout the day when students are outside the classroom. ● The Gen Eon sprayer will be used in gyms and weight rooms between classes. ● Ensure that ventilation systems operate properly and increase circulation of outdoor air as much as possible ● Conduct deep cleaning of schools prior to students/staff returning and schedule additional cleanings during school holidays or breaks
Transitioning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Efforts will be made to limit the number of students transitioning in the same area to to the extent possible. ● In hallways where it is possible a one direction traffic flow

	<p>pattern will be established and signs will be posted to indicate this direction.</p>
Water Fountains	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water fountains from which individuals drink directly will be turned off. • Water fountains that are designed for filling of water bottles will be left on. (bottle filling station) • Students are encouraged to bring a water bottle to fill up at a bottle filling station or sink.
Hygiene	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each school will develop age appropriate lessons around proper handwashing and hygiene protocol. • When moving from one room to another, students will be encouraged to use the hand sanitizer stations provided in each room. • Students will be expected to wash hands before meal times. • Handwashing supplies will be located in all bathrooms and in classrooms where sinks are present. • Hand sanitizer stations are located in each classroom and in other places throughout the building.
Chromebooks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each student will be assigned a Chromebook to be used at school. The Chromebook will be housed in the 1st period/homeroom classroom. Time will be scheduled at the end of the day to return the device to the 1st period/homeroom classroom. If a student checks out early the device will need to be returned to the appropriate classroom before the student leaves.
Transportation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide hand sanitizer for driver and students • Provide face masks for bus drivers; allow students to wear face masks. • Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces on the bus daily between trips. • Space students out on the bus to the best extent possible.
School Visitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At this time no visitors or parent volunteers will be allowed. • Through the first full week of school parents of children in kindergarten and first grade will be allowed to walk their students to class if needed. After the first full week of school all students are expected to walk to class

	<p>independently. (Special circumstances would need to be approved by the principal.) Parents are expected to wear a face mask while in school. Staff will be stationed throughout the building to help insure all students get to their appropriate classroom safely.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Anyone visiting the school for any reason will have their temperature checked. ● Visitors are expected to wear face masks while in the building. ● To limit the number of individuals in the building parents will need to contact teachers via LivingTree, email, or leave a message by phone. Parents will not be allowed to drop by the classroom in the mornings as teachers will have students as soon as they arrive. Efforts will be made to return calls or emails as soon as possible.
<p>Field Trips/Large Group Gatherings</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No field trips will be allowed until further notice. ● No large group assemblies will be allowed. (The number considered as a large group will mirror the number provided by state guidance which is updated periodically.)
<p>Open House</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No Open House will be scheduled to reduce the number of individuals in the building at one time. ● Teachers will record a welcome back video message with important information to share with their students via email or other communication sources. ● Kindergarten will schedule times for students to visit prior to school starts so they can visit the room before the first day.
<p>Signage</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Signs will be posted in appropriate locations throughout the building reminding students and staff to practice social distancing, frequently wash hands, and other disease prevention measures. ● Signs will also be posted to help individuals gauge spacing for social distancing.
<p>Assessment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Students in grades K-10 will take MAP Growth assessments to help us better gauge progress and serve students. These assessments will be administered according to the testing calendar. ● Students participating in Online Learning will be scheduled to take the assessment at home. ● MAP Growth assessments will be administered in September, January, and May. ● PSAT will be administered to 10th graders. 10th graders

	will need to participate in this assessment on campus.
School Attendance Policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During this uncertain time, extra effort will be made to make up assignments missed due to absences to avoid negative impacts to students.
Lesson Videos	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teachers may choose to video part of their lessons in class for online learning students. Only the teacher will be included in the video. Students will not be videoed as part of a lesson video.
Substitutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Substitute teachers will be provided a face covering and will follow the safety plan described in this document.
School Closure Decisions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school system will follow state recommendations for school closures as directed. Guidance from the Department of Public Health will be taken into consideration as well. At this time there are no specific confirmed case counts that require a closure. The decision to close school would be in response to guidance from the governor, state board of education, Georgia Department of Education, and the Department of Public Health.