



Franklin County District Schools

85 School Rd., Suite 1
Eastpoint, FL 32328

Superintendent Traci Yoder
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(850)670-2810 ex. 4120

8/18/20 Press Release

The Franklin County School District has been notified by the Florida Department of Health-Gulf/Franklin of voluntary quarantine orders issued for several students and staff members. All necessary safety, cleaning, and sanitizing procedures and protocols have been and will continue to be followed. School and District Administration are in constant communication with our local health department. "The health and safety of our students and staff are our top priority. We will continue to partner with our local health department, families, and community stakeholders to provide the safest learning environment possible for all students and staff." Stated Superintendent Traci Yoder.

If an individual is found to test positive for COVID-19, the local health department, in conjunction with the Florida Department of Health, will assist the school district in implementing the proper steps to prevent further exposure or transmission of COVID-19. An affected COVID-19 positive individual or person with direct contact with a COVID-19 positive individual will not be allowed to return to school until cleared by the local health department.

Based on the latest information from the Florida Department of Health for Gulf/Franklin County (FLDOH-GF), and School District Reopening Procedures and Protocols:

- Parents, families, and employees should anticipate "**perpetual disruptions**" from quarantine orders that could happen daily. This means anyone exposed to a possible or positive COVID-19 case could be sent home for a 14-day quarantine, return to school or work, and be sent home again if exposed to another possible or positive COVID-19 case.
- All contact tracing of students and staff will be conducted by the FLDOH-GF. For the safety of our entire school community, we encourage complete cooperation with health officials.
- Every effort will be made to maintain a "continuity of instruction" so quarantined students can continue learning with their own teacher, or at least a teacher from their own school. This may not always be possible.
- Quarantine orders depend heavily on "close contact" defined by FLDOH-GF as being within six feet of someone suspected of COVID-19 exposure or positive testing, for at least 15 minutes, regardless of face covering.

DISTRICT 1
GEORGE THOMPSON

DISTRICT 2
PAM MARSHALL

DISTRICT 3
FONDA DAVIS, SR.

DISTRICT 4
STACY KIRVIN
CHAIR

DISTRICT 5
CARL
WHALEY

The Franklin
County

School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, age, disability, pregnancy or marital status in its educational programs, services or activities, or in its hiring or employment practices. The district also provides equal access to its facilities to the Boy Scouts and other patriotic youth groups, as required by the Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act. Questions, complaints or request for additional information regarding discrimination or harassment may be sent to: Karen Peddie, Director of Human Resources, 85 School Road, Eastpoint, Florida 32328 850-670-2810 X4101, kpddie@franklincountyschools.org



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- Discipline is likely for students and staff members who refuse to wear face coverings when safe social distancing is not possible, as required by The Franklin County School Board Innovative Learning Reopening Plan.
- All contact tracing and quarantine notification will be issued through the FDOH-Gulf/Franklin. The health department will give students returning to school from quarantine a note reflecting the date for allowed return.
- Parents should bring the health department release note to the child's school. The health department release note will be given to the School Nurse for students to be cleared for returning to campus.

"The Florida Department of Health serves as the lead entity to conduct COVID19 investigations. Staff and students will be able to return to school when cleared by public health officials. Quarantine or Isolation orders are available in writing for each individual involved in the investigation. The Florida Department of Health follows guidance from the CDC, <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/end-home-isolation.html>", stated Sarah Hinds, Administrator FDOH Franklin and Gulf.

For the safety and welfare of everyone, it is imperative that parents/guardians continue to monitor their child's health every day before sending their child to school.

Daily Health Questionnaire for students:

- *Does your child or anyone in your household have any of the following symptoms? (fever 100.4 or above, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, headache, chills, muscle pain, sore throat, congestion, runny nose, nausea, vomiting, new loss of taste or smell) **If this answer is yes, contact our local Health Department for further guidance.***
- *Has your child or anyone in the household traveled outside of the country or to any highly affected areas in the United States in the past 14 days? **If this answer is yes, contact our local Health Department for further guidance.***

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- *Has your child had direct contact (within 6 feet for more than 15 minutes) with anyone who has tested positive with COVID-19 within the last 2 weeks? **If this answer is yes, contact our local Health Department for further guidance.***
- *Is there anyone in your household under instructions to self-isolate or quarantine due to COVID-19? **If this answer is yes, contact our local Health Department for further guidance.***

Parents should have open communication with their child's school. If a parent, student, family member, or anyone else that a student has had direct contact (**within 6 feet for more than 15 minutes**) with, has been exposed to, or tested positive for COVID-19; please contact your school administration to discuss your particular circumstances. As a reminder, it is recommended that parents communicate with their child's doctor to make sure that he/she is up to date with recommended vaccinations and all vaccinations required for school.

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