

## **FAQs Regarding EDHS Reopening**

**1. When will students be able to return to school?**

Students in STEAMA Academy 1 will return to school on September 21st. Students in STEAMA Academy 2 will return to school on September 23rd.

**2. How do I know which STEAMA Cohort I am in?**

If your name falls between **A and Lance**, you will be in STEAMA Academy 1. If your name falls between **Lane and Z**, you will be in STEAMA Academy 2.

**3. How will bus riders know which bus they will ride and when to expect the bus to pick them up in the morning?**

Bus drivers will be making contact with students/parents a week or so prior to September 21st to let students know what bus they will ride and when to expect the bus at their pickup address.

**4. How will I know which days/weeks to attend school?**

You can find each week and/or day that each STEAMA Academy cohort will meet on campus by looking at our Duplin County Schools calendar located [here](#).

**5. I can't remember if I chose 100% remote or face to face. How will I know?**

Students should have already received a ConnectEd call, email and text indicating whether you were in STEAMA Academy 1, STEAMA Academy 2, or 100% remote. Please check these sources for said information.

**6. If I chose 100% Remote, when will I be allowed to return to EDHS?**

Students that chose 100% Remote on the Student Re-entry/Transportation Questionnaire may return to school at the end of the first grading period which will be on Monday, October 12th. Due to the difficulties of planning schedules with limited information, we just cannot allow students to move at any point from the 100%

Remote to the Face-to-Face (F2F) setting. Any surveys related to the second nine weeks will need to be carefully responded to by families.

**7. What can I do if I have chosen Face-to-Face and I'm not very comfortable with staying in that setting?**

Students that chose F2F will have the option to move to the 100% Remote group at any time they feel the need to, but will not be able to move back to F2F after doing so until the end of that grading period.

**8. What is the protocol for bus riders and their arrival to school?**

Student's temperature will be checked as they board the bus. Student seating will move from back of the bus to the front as they are loaded. X's will be placed on seats that are unavailable. Some households will be allowed to share a seat. In the event that a student shows a fever, they will be assigned to a front seat on the bus for monitoring. Upon arrival to school, the bus will unload from front to back. Students will report by the cafeteria to grab breakfast, as needed, then report straight to first period.

**9. How will student drivers enter the school building?**

While we are in Plan B, student drivers will park from the front of the parking lot (in the senior section regardless of grade level at this time) and fill up towards the back. Students will walk from their vehicles to the ramp leading up to the Fine Arts Building while remaining at least 6 feet from other students. There will be a Screening Station located near the top of the ramp, underneath the breezeway where students will have to answer screening questions and have their temperature checked before being allowed to move beyond that point. **Due to the degree of monitoring that is now required, we ask that student drivers not arrive at the parking lot no earlier than 7:40 am.**

**10. How much will parking tags cost this year?**

**We will charge a prorated amount of \$20 for the entire year. The price will stay the same for any student wanting to pay for a parking spot just for the second semester.**

**11. What time can I drop my student off in the morning?**

Under the current conditions, we must have adequate staff on hand ready to screen and monitor students as they arrive. **We will allow students to be dropped off by 7:40 am.** This will allow only ten minutes for our faculty and staff once they arrive to work to be screened themselves and be in place to receive students.

**12. How will car riders enter the school building?**

There will be a small team of staff members in the front driveway by the flagpole that will screen students before they get out of their vehicle. Once they pass the screening, they can enter the front door of the main building.

**13. What temperature is considered unacceptable?**

At 100.4°, a student's temperature will be considered too high.

**14. What questions will be asked during screening?**

The questions will be the following three each day:

- 1) Have you had close contact (within 6 feet for at least 15 minutes) in the last 14 days with someone diagnosed with COVID-19, or has any health department or health care provider been in contact with you and advised you to quarantine?
- 2) Since you were last at school, have you had any of these symptoms?
  - a) Fever
  - b) Chills
  - c) Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
  - d) New cough
  - e) New loss of taste or smell
- 3) Since you were last at school, have you been diagnosed with COVID-19?

**15. What will happen if my child begins showing symptoms during the school day?**

Students will alert their teacher of symptoms. The teacher will follow proper protocols of informing the school nurse. The student will be rescreened, and if needed, the school will make contact with parents.

**16. What does “close contact” mean?**

Close contact means that you have been within 6 feet of another person for at least 15 minutes. As long as we all socially distance throughout this pandemic, we should be able to not be classified as having been in close contact with anyone. Being in the same room or even being in a desk next to someone does not mean that you have been in close contact with that person. You must meet both criteria ~ within 6 feet AND for at least 15 minutes.

**17. What happens if I do not pass the entry screening?**

Once a student has not cleared the screening (either by temperature or questions), that student will be escorted to our Isolation Room where a delegated staff member will confirm. Before confirming, the staff member will allow the student to sit for a few minutes before taking the temperature again. If the student again does not clear the screening, parents will be notified to come pick up the student or to allow the student (in the case of having a student driver) to leave school, or in the case of parent drop offs, parents will be able to immediately take them home. The student must wait in the Isolation Room until someone has come for him or her or permission has been obtained for them to leave. Schools will use the following [screening flow-chart](#) to determine if a student must go home.

**18. If a student in my child’s class is quarantined, how will I be notified?**

In the event that a student or staff member is determined to be suspected, presumptive, or confirmed, the following steps shall be taken:

- 1) The school nurse in conjunction with the principal shall contact the Duplin County Health Department Public Nurse II-Communicable Disease Coordinator.
- 2) The Duplin County Health Department will work to identify and notify individuals who have been in direct contact with someone who has tested positive.
- 3) Once a positive case has been confirmed by the Duplin County Health Department, the district, in a strong desire to be as transparent as possible, will send a school-wide Connect-Ed message to all families in the affected school. *As always, parents and guardians are encouraged to ensure they have provided the school with current contact information.*

As outlined in the [Reference Guide for Suspected, Presumptive, or Confirmed Cases of COVID-19 \(K-12\)](#) provided by the NC Department for Health and Human Services (NCDHHS), the Duplin County Health Department is responsible for contacting students, staff, and families when they become aware of suspected, presumptive, or confirmed cases of COVID-19. Also as indicated in the above document, schools must follow privacy requirements as outlined in [NC GS§ 130A-143](#).

**19. What if I forget my face mask?**

The state has provided our school with enough face masks so that each student will have 5 cloth masks to take home. It is highly recommended to “launder cloth face coverings using hot water and a high heat dryer between uses.” If the student forgets his or her face mask, a disposable face mask will be provided.

**20. How will breakfast be served in the morning?**

There will be three locations across the campus in which students may “grab and go” with a breakfast provided by our cafeteria. There will be a station next to the Screening Station by the Fine Arts Building, there will be a breakfast station located in our front lobby, and there will be a breakfast station located directly in front of the cafeteria underneath the breezeway where the buses will unload.

Although labeled as “grab and go”, cafeteria staff will hand students their breakfast in order to limit the number of hands that touch the food items.

**21. How will lunch be served?**

The school will continue to maintain three lunches each day in order to allow for transitioning students back to normal school routines in the near future. Until we get back to normal, our cafeteria staff will cart lunches to our classrooms during that class’s lunch period.

**Because of the restrictions that we will be following, outside food cannot be brought into the school for students during the school day.** Students will be permitted to bring their own lunch from home. **Due to COVID-19 issues, students will not be allowed to use microwaves at school.**

**22. How many students will be in each class?**

Each class will be different, but using the data that is available for students on campus between September 21st and October 9th, most class sizes are between 5 and 9 with our smallest class size being 1 student and our largest class size being 15.

**23. What can I expect to see in the classroom?**

Teachers have been encouraged to continue to teach as if all students are 100% Remote (based on Flipping the Class strategy). They will facilitate learning using Canvas with both F2F and remote learners. This allows for the teachers to have all students working at the same pace, while also allowing for students to transition easily from remote to F2F and back to remote again. This allows for all students (and parents) to access the instruction “on-demand” and allows for hands-on approaches to be utilized in the actual classroom. During Plan B, F2F learners can be offered enrichment activities, collaborative projects (social distancing enforced), labs, small-group tutoring, remediation, etc. In addition, whole-group Google Meets may occur with all learners to address questions, etc. Direct instruction with new content will probably not occur with F2F learners. Remote learners will have access to their teacher during the assigned

class period via email. Students that may choose to come back to F2F at the end of the nine weeks would easily be able to transition back since all students will be utilizing the same content through the same delivery method of Canvas. While students are F2F, they would continue to get the instruction in the same manner as the remote students with the added benefit of having more one-on-one time with the teacher.

**24. What will transitions between classes look like?**

Students will leave one class and report directly to their next class within a 3 minute transition period to prevent gathering opportunities. Congregating in the hallways or breezeways cannot be allowed due to social distancing restrictions. Students will not be allowed to go to the restrooms during transitional times and must walk on the right side of the hallways while social distancing from other students. Stickers are centered on the hallway floors to indicate proper distancing.

**25. Will students be allowed to go to the bathroom during classes?**

A bathroom schedule has been created in order to allow students bathroom breaks within each class period. Students will be restricted as to how many can be in the bathroom at one time. Students with special needs that may require more frequent trips to the bathroom must have a current doctor's note on file.

**26. My child has online classes. Will they have to stay at school for these classes?**

We had made the decision last year to keep all students on campus for the entire day even if they had online classes. Our reasoning at the time was to try to reduce the chaos across the campus with online students coming and going all day long. When we were closed due to COVID-19 and started planning for this school year, we revisited the decision but decided to stick with it once we realized that the online classes could be maintained with the six foot social distancing requirements met. Once we began to plan for the details of what school would look like under Plan B, it reinforced our decision in

thinking about the difficulties in personnel it would create in monitoring and screening students coming and going throughout the day.

**27. Will rooms be cleaned before I enter?**

All classrooms should be disinfected prior to students entering. At the last five minutes of class, teachers will position students away from their desks in order to disinfect them prior to the end of class. This will allow students to enter their next class without being held up in the hallways and will allow the desk enough time to completely dry.

**28. I have asthma. Will I be required to wear a face mask?**

Face masks are one of the main ways that schools can ensure a student's safety while at school under our current conditions. State guidelines require all students to wear a face mask at all times while at school. However, there are some rare situations in which a student may not wear a mask. If a student has an **existing** 504 Plan or IEP that documents a medical/behavioral condition or disability, **the relationship between the known disability and face coverings is reasonably obvious, and there is a written statement from a physician stating that the student should be exempt from wearing a face mask**, then schools may exempt the student based on the documentation in the 504 or IEP.

**29. What do I do if I need to speak with a counselor about personal issues?**

Counselors are available throughout the school day whether you are remote or F2F. During class, you will need to request permission from your classroom teacher before going to the Student Services Department. Students will not be allowed to go by Student Services during transitional times.

**30. Can I wear a face shield instead of a face mask?**

Students may wear a face shield if they feel uncomfortable with just a face mask. However, even if a student is wearing a face shield, a face mask will be required to be worn also.

**31. How will dismissal look like at the end of the day?**

At the end of the day, student drivers will be allowed to leave first since they can all enter their vehicles at the same time. **Bus riders will be called out of class next.** Once bus riders have loaded, car riders will be called to leave class. They will need to wait either on the breezeway or on the sidewalk with social distancing until their ride arrives.

**32. What will change once everyone returns to class?**

As soon as we can get a vast majority of our students back onto our campus, the first thing that will change is how instruction will be delivered to F2F students. With full classrooms, instruction will move away from a majority “online” mode, and switch back to a more direct instruction with full dialogue and give & take conversations between students and teachers. We can’t say for sure what all will change once we get everyone back to class, but we can say with 100% assurance that our teachers, staff, and administrators are more than ready for our students to come back home to us! **ONCE A PANTHER, ALWAYS A PANTHER!!!!**