



Grant Parish School Board Strong Start Guidance 2020-2021

The Louisiana Departments of Education (LDOE) and Health (LDH) have worked collaboratively to develop public health guidelines and best practices to support school reopening. This guidance is relative to operating schools in Phases 1, 2, and Phase 3 of reopening and is subject to change based on current information. Governor Edwards recently moved Louisiana to a modified phase 2. This guidance allows schools to determine their phase protocols. Grant Parish schools will remain in phase 3 protocols for now and will monitor numbers closely.

GPSB will review and update information as needed.

Preventative Measures: In accordance with CDC strategies to curb the spread of the virus and promote good personal hygiene as well as requirements from the Louisiana Department of Education and Louisiana Department of Health, the following standards are expected while at a Grant Parish facility.

	Following in All Phases
Facility Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Intensified cleaning and disinfection measures will be implemented for physical spaces, equipment, and materials staff and students come into contact with to remain safe. ● High-touch surfaces such as desks, handrails, light switches, doorknobs, technology, etc. are cleaned before and after each group's use. ● Restrooms will be cleaned more frequently throughout the day. ● Plexiglass barriers in various locations throughout the campuses, such as front office counters and teacher workspaces. ● Each classroom will have access to a thermal digital thermometer, hygienic supplies, including soap, hand sanitizer, disinfectant spray, paper towels, and tissues. Face coverings will be provided as needed. ● Water fountains will be closed. Students will be encouraged to bring water to school with bottled water provided in emergency situations. ● Playground equipment and athletic equipment should be cleaned daily or as necessary, depending on frequency of use.
Personal Hygiene	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Students and teachers should have scheduled handwashing with soap and water or hand sanitizer every two hours as well as at times advised by the CDC including arrival to school, before and after eating, before and after using outdoor play equipment and upon exiting school. ● Students should strive to wash their hands or use hand sanitizer after transitioning between classes. ● Teachers in the classroom should strive to wash their hands or use hand sanitizer every time a new group of students enters the room. ● Teachers and students should minimize sharing of materials between students.

<p>Face Masks</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All students in third grade and up will wear masks while in school. ● While inside the school facility, students in grades prekindergarten through grade 2 may wear a face covering. ● Masks that are deemed vulgar or controversial in nature will not be allowed. Students will be provided a mask if they bring an excluded mask. ● All staff will wear masks throughout the workday. ● A face shield is not recommended by the CDC. ● Face coverings should be worn in all areas of the school. This includes classrooms. Most importantly, face coverings should be worn during arrival, dismissal, and any other transition within the school building. ● Exceptions to wearing a face mask must be made for whom it is not possible to wear a mask due to a medical condition, behavioral issues, disabilities or other health and safety issues. Appropriate documentation is required. <p>* A mask is defined as a piece of material used to cover both the nose and mouth for the purpose of forming a barrier to droplets or airborne particles that are coughed, sneezed, or exhaled when talking.</p>
<p>Student and Staff Screening Protocols</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The student and/or staff should stay home if he/she is symptomatic, sick or has been in direct contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. ● All students and staff will have their temperatures taken each day at the start of the school day. ● For temperatures at or above 100.4 F and for COVID-19 symptoms, the site will implement its exposure protocol (isolation room) ● Each school must establish an area used to isolate anyone showing signs of being sick. The isolation area must be cleaned after it is occupied by any sick student or adult. ● Parents and staff are strongly encouraged to notify the school principal if a student or someone they have been in direct contact with tests positive for COVID-19.
<p>Exposure Protocol</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All students with symptoms will be placed in a sick/isolation room and provided with the proper adult supervision until the student is able to return home. ● It will be the responsibility of the parent/guardian to promptly pick up the student from school. ● Parents should monitor students for symptoms and consider contacting a healthcare provider. ● In the case of a student who tests positive for COVID-19, the parent/guardian is strongly encouraged to notify the school principal of the student's health status.
<p>Signage</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Display highly visible signage that promotes everyday protective measures and describes how to stop the spread of germs such as proper hand washing and wearing a mask. (District Provided Examples)

The Grant Parish School Board will be in close contact with the Louisiana Department of Health. The regional director's office will give guidance for employee and student exposure to COVID-19. In the event a GPSB employee or student has been directly exposed to the virus, the first concern is for the health and safety of those who may be at risk for additional exposure. GPSB will notify parents if there is a positive case in their child's class. The LDH may follow up with contact tracing.



Transporting Students: These standards are derived from school operating procedures and from the best practices given feasibility constraints.

	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3
Maximum Bus Capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 25 percent 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 50% capacity for 71 passenger bus = 35 riders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 75% capacity for 71 passenger bus = 53 riders
Seating	<p>Student seating charts should be established and maintained. Passengers on a school bus must be spaced to the greatest extent possible as follows:</p>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Passengers must ride one per seat. Every other seat must remain empty. Members of the same household may sit in the same seat or adjacent seats Ensure space between seats in accordance with six feet of social distancing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce the number of passengers per seat and, when possible, ensure space between seats. Six feet of social distancing is NOT required. Stagger unloading of buses at school to minimize student group size as they enter school and to allow six feet of distance while entering. Phase 2 - One student per seat. Exception - siblings can sit together. Maximum capacity is 35 students. Could be as few as 24 riders due to the number of seats on the bus. Phase 3 - One student per seat. Exception - siblings can sit together. Maximum capacity is 53 students. Could be as few as 24 riders due to the number of seats on the bus. 	
Field Trips	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not permitted 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permitted only as approved by the district which will review all requests. 	
Face Mask	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adults and students grades 3 and above are required to wear face masks at all times. 		
Personal Hygiene	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health screening checks are NOT required before students onboard for regular education buses. Students who ride special needs buses WILL have their temperature checked prior to loading. 		
Ventilation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To increase airflow, windows should be open to the maximum extent possible. 		
Cleaning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cleaning high-touch surfaces such as seats and handrails are cleaned after each group's use. 		
Logistics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Due to social distancing, please expect an increase in the amount of time that routes may take to complete. GPSB strongly encourages families to drop off their student(s) and pick them up from school to the maximum extent possible. 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Possibility exists that a bus route could be cancelled or have the pickup/dropoff times extended if a driver shortage occurs.
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Group Sizes & Gatherings: According to CDC guidelines, a gathering refers to a planned or spontaneous event, indoors or outdoors, with a small number of people participating or a large number of attendance such as a community event or gathering or sporting event.

	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3
Maximum Group Size	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 10, including adults 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 25, including adults 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 50, including adults
Assembly Spaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No use of gyms or auditoriums 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Use of gyms, auditoriums, etc. for group gatherings can be used as multiple teaching stations if separated by a partition or wall. ● Ensure physical distance, and clean between each group use. ● Partitions must be at least 6 feet high. Hanging dividers are acceptable if as long as they meet all other safety regulations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Limit use of indoor shared space to maximum group sizes, ensure physical distance, wear face masks, and clean between each group's use.
Outdoor Standards	Groups are separated but do not require a physical barrier.		



Entering and Exiting School Buildings: To limit contact with students and staff entering and exiting the school facility, schools will implement the following standards.

	Following in All Phases
Entry and Exit Points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Maintain maximum group sizes and physical distance recommendations to the maximum extent possible. ● Students should clean their hands as they begin the school day with frequent opportunities for handwashing throughout the day. ● Limit number of entry points, if possible. ● Establish entry and exit points that enable the flow of students to move in a single direction. ● During entry and exit times, and times of transitions doorways may be open.

	During school hours, schools will follow established safety protocols.
School Visitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visitors (parents/volunteers) in the school building are limited to extenuating circumstances. • Parents or volunteer groups that are not core to the development of the student in the instructional setting should refrain from entering the school building except under extenuating circumstances. • Visitors are encouraged to make an appointment to visit school offices.
Visitor Protocols	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visitors may be subjected to simple screening questions and/or temperature checks upon entering the building. • Visitors should wash or sanitize their hands upon entering the building. • Visitors must wear face masks at all times.



Child Nutrition: We will maintain a healthy environment and continue to offer healthy school meals to our students whether they receive instruction virtually or in person.

	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3
Meals	The Child Nutrition Department will offer curbside pickup on Friday afternoons. Times to be established. A sign up will be available to participate.	All GPSB students will be offered free breakfast and free lunch.	All GPSB students will be offered free breakfast and free lunch.
Meal Distribution	Students are encouraged to be in the vehicle to pick up the meals.	Principals will establish a time schedule to enter the cafeteria serving line that best suits the specific school.	
Groups	The parent will need to sign off confirming the meal pickup for their students.	Students will enter the cafeteria in groups no larger than 25 students unless separated by a partition.	Students will enter the cafeteria in groups no larger than 50 students.
Meal Locations	Parents will be contacted before curbside pickup begins to decide the best	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teachers may take student groups to eat in other designated areas of the campus as determined by the principal. 	

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	location for their students meal pickup.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students will be directed to their assigned location, maintaining 3-6 ft of social distancing. 	
Take Home Meals	The meals picked up weekly will include 5 breakfast meals and 5 lunch meals.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A/B schedules: Students will be given meals to take home Breakfast/ Lunch for the 3 days they are virtually learning. Virtual pickup continues weekly. 	Virtual pickup continues weekly on a day to be determined.
Guidance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All regulations and guidelines from the CDC, USDA, LDOE, CNP and LDHH, will continue to be followed in all processes of meal service, including delivery, storage, preparation, serving and cleaning. Students will wash their hands upon entering the cafeteria. Students should use hand sanitizer before and after meals in other locations. Meals will be served in disposable containers All meals will be prepared and offered to students by the cafeteria staff. Students and faculty will not be allowed to share food tables, food, or beverages. Extra sale items will be limited but will be offered on certain days and in certain phases. Adults still have the option to purchase meals. 		



Special Education Services: Schools must ensure that students with disabilities receive all services listed in their IEP to the greatest extent possible. This means that every attempt possible will be made to ensure equitable access for students with disabilities.

	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3
Instruction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most students participating in distance learning • Special education students requiring significant support levels may have the opportunity to attend in person for 4 days per week as determined by the IEP team. Class size cannot exceed 10 people, including the teacher and paraprofessionals. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most students participating in a hybrid learning model (combination of in-person days and virtual days) • Special education students requiring significant support levels may have the opportunity to attend in person for 4 days per week as determined by the IEP team. Class size cannot exceed 25 people, including the teacher and paraprofessionals. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All students attending school in person
Related Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All related services (Speech, PT, OT) will be provided through virtual or in-person methods. Methods will be determined by phasing and individual needs of students. 		
Masks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All students in third grade and up will wear masks while in school. All staff will wear masks throughout the workday. • Exceptions to wearing a face mask must be made for students who are unable to wear a mask due to a medical condition, behavioral issues, disabilities or other health and safety issues. Appropriate documentation is required. Please contact your child’s special education teacher with face mask concerns. • Guidelines for face coverings/masks are released by the school system in accordance with LA Dept of Health, LA Governor’s Office, and CDC recommendations 		

Technology: The school system will strive for a 1:1 student ratio for devices (laptop or tablet) and internet connectivity for every student. If Internet access is unavailable, the school system will provide alternatives to the greatest extent possible.

	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3
Devices & Internet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Virtual or distance learning for all students. ● 1:1 family ratio with the goal being 1:1 student ratio. ● WIFI hotspots available at all schools, libraries and certain other areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Devices: For students not registered in Virtual Learning, devices are available in a 1:1 family ratio. ● School level determinations on take home technology. 	
Documentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Each school develops a plan to assign chromebooks and distribute code of conduct, technology agreement form for students. ● Elementary age students and students with profound need will be supplied with a Clever badge. ● Secondary students will be supplied with usernames/passwords. ● Virtual Code of Conduct required (provided by the district) for students participating in online learning. ● Signed student/parent district contract with listing of technology devices, books, and materials checked out by the family. (Technology equipment checkout form is provided by the district) A copy will be kept at the school level. ● Technology Repair/Replacement plan option \$20 (choice involved) Must be opted in at time of equipment pickup. Paid upfront and no additional costs incurred if the device is damaged. Stolen technology must be reported by the student/parent to the police and provide a copy of the police report. Parents must reimburse GPSB for any damages to devices if they do not purchase an insurance plan. ● All equipment will be checked out from the student's school of record regardless of phase. ● MIFI equipment can be requested from GPSB to those demonstrating need will be filtered with an access control list so that only educational sites can be accessed. Usage will be monitored. 		

Grant Parish Teaching and Learning Plans for School Reopening

The fall semester will begin on August 10th. There will be a soft start to school for students with either a distance learning option or a hybrid option for learning. This hybrid start will allow students and teachers the opportunity to review procedures, including new routines due to CDC guidelines, assess students using diagnostics, and also allow for time to effectively orient students on devices and internet programs. It is our goal to provide learning opportunities for our students while continuing to follow all CDC-recommended safety precautions.

The spring semester will begin on January 11th. This semester will begin with students attending in person 5 days a week, with Wednesday as a half flex day, or full time at home distance learners. The schedule will be analyzed monthly in response to current information.

The recommendations below may change or be adjusted as situations change or develop during the current health emergency. Phase 1, 2, 3 determinations are made by state officials based on advice of public health experts.

Distance Learning

A distance learning option will be available to families who do not wish for their student(s) to attend school face-to-face. In Phases 1, 2, and 3, all families will have the option to learn from home.

This option is available for students in grades prekindergarten through 12 grade at their home school. Student placement in a distance or in-person education program will be made in consultation with the parent or custodian. Families choosing the distance learning option are asked to commit for the semester. Attendance will be verified and students will receive a grade for all assignments in accordance with Board policy.

Students should communicate with his/her school in regards to returning to school face to face. Several factors will be considered for requests to return, including phase guidance for class size and transportation.

If at any time during the 2020-2021 school year the governor's office declares that we must enter Phase 1, Grant Parish schools will continue to provide educational services and all students will transition to distance learning. If at any time, it is determined that a school should practice stricter guidelines, students may revert to a hybrid learning environment or at home learning environment. Instruction in these environments will be done using take home packets, Google Classroom, Edgenuity, and additional district purchased online programs. Students would continue to have access to high quality instruction and would be required to login regularly, submit graded assignments, and complete tests.

In Distance Learning:	Students will	Parents will	Leaders/Teachers will
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Set aside a specific time during the day - the best time for your schedule ● Engage in remote learning ● Communicate with teacher for concerns or additional support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Monitor school and teacher communication for up to date information ● Support student in setting up calendar/time management system ● Communicate with teacher for concerns or additional support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Offer options for delivery, format, and due dates ● Offer alternatives to online resources if requested ● Provide office hours to connect with students and parents

Hybrid Learning

Based on Phase 2 guidance provided by the CDC and LDOE, Grant Parish schools will reopen for students Monday through Friday in a hybrid format. In this phase, class sizes will be limited to the maximum extent possible in GPSB schools based on group sizes of 25 and transportation limited to 50% on school buses.

All students/employees will be socially distanced to the maximum extent possible with an ideal of six feet. Static groups will be defined and groups of students will stay together to the maximum extent possible throughout the day, including breakfast, lunch, recess, and dismissal. Movement will be minimized as much as possible. Schools will plan for scheduled transitions during arrival, lunch, between class periods (as necessary), and dismissal. Schools will limit the number of students in the hallway at one time, and students will move in the same direction when possible. Playground use will be scheduled. Student belongings will be separated from others. The sharing of electronic devices, toys, books, and other games or learning aids shall be avoided when possible and cleaned/disinfected between users. Students should not engage in physical contact with each other throughout the school day.

Families with more than one student, who may attend different schools, will be grouped together to attend on the same days.

In Hybrid Learning:	Students will	Parents will	Teachers will
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Attend 2/4 days Face to Face instruction: teacher led new 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Monitor school and teacher communication for up 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Prepare lessons and facilitate learning and discussion

	concepts & grade-level curriculum <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Complete 3 days of distance learning assignments and tasks ● Communicate with teacher for concerns or additional support 	to date information <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Support student in setting up calendar/time management system ● Communicate with teacher for concerns or additional support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Provide additional learning time to address unfinished learning based on diagnostics ● Provide distance learning assignments and tasks with instructions ● Hold office hours to answer questions and provide support as needed
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Addressing Unfinished Learning: Diagnostic assessments provide the school system and school leaders, teachers, and parents a sense of whether students are prepared for grade-level content or whether they need additional support to access grade-level content. Teachers will use content-specific guidance and resources to tailor their approach to addressing unfinished learning in the 2020-2021 school year. Teachers will begin the year teaching on-grade-level learning and embed previous grade-level skills and supports throughout the school year.

	ELA	Math
Pre-K	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● TS Gold 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● TS Gold
K	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● DRDP ● CKLA ● Dibels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● DRDP
1st - 2nd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CKLA ● Dibels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Zearn
3rd - 5th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Leap 360 ● Dibels (3rd) ● LZ Digital Access 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Leap 360 ● Zearn
6th - 8th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Leap 360 ● LZ Digital Access ● My Path 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Equip (Eureka) ● Edulastic ● My Path
High School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Leap 360 ● LZ Digital Access 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Equip - Alg I

Communication: GPSB will implement a strategic communications plan to connect with every student daily, provide feedback on student work at least weekly, and help families understand their role in supporting their child’s continuous learning. Schools should be the first point of contact.

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- Teacher and/or parent email
- Google Classroom/Google Meet
- Parent Command Center
- JText and/or other communication apps
- Grant Parish School Board website: www.gpsb.org
- Individual School websites
- Grant Parish School Board Facebook Group
- Grant Parish School Board email: parents@gpsb.org

Parents/guardians must ensure that the school has current contact phone numbers to receive JTexts. This will also help to communicate with families in case their child becomes sick at school or if the parent/guardian needs to be notified of a COVID-19 positive case at the school.



Student and Staff Well-Being: The school system will ensure the wellbeing of all students and educators by providing social and mental health supports, including mental health screening upon return to school.

Each school will establish a Well-Being Leadership Team (WLT) consisting of 2-3 staff members (principal or assistant principal, counselor/social worker/mental health professional/LEAD Special Education Teacher/HSE, and a veteran teacher). This team will oversee the screening of students and staff, will analyze data from the screeners to create plans for addressing the needs of students and staff, and will implement school-wide protocols and procedures to address the needs of students and staff.

Grant Parish will utilize the following screeners to assess the well-being of students and staff:

1. SRSS-IE

After obtaining parental consent, schools will screen students to determine if there are any social and/or emotional supports needed for the student.

2. PHQ-9/GAD-7

Staff will rate themselves on provided depression and anxiety scales. These screeners will be scored by the WLT. Staff will be directed to self-care resources and emotional and behavioral health supports.

We will provide families and employees access to resources the Emotional Support Line, staffed by experienced mental health professionals.

Social Emotional Learning courses through Edgenuity will be utilized for students.

Attendance: Attendance will be monitored whether students are on campus or at home as prescribed by the Louisiana Department of Education during the 2020-21 school year.


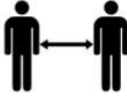




	Distance	Hybrid	Traditional
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Log in daily to platform - Google Classroom, Edgenuity, or other assigned learning program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attend in person 2/4 days a week Parent note, Dr. Note, excuses, should be submitted as soon as the student returns to school. If absent, students will be assigned virtual assignments to stay on pace with peers. This may be virtual or paper packets. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attend in person 5 days a week. Parent note, Dr. Note, excuses should be submitted as soon as the student returns to school. If absent, Students will be assigned virtual assignments to stay on pace with peers. This may be virtual or paper packets.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Satisfactory completion of daily course assignments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Log in to platform - Google Classroom, Edgenuity, or other assigned learning program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attendance regulations are enforced. Teachers take attendance.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Virtual students should follow the same pacing guides and grading deadlines determined by the GPSB calendar 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Satisfactory completion of daily course assignments (paper based and/or virtual) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students may fail a course due to attendance, be assigned seat time to complete, and be referred to truancy court.

To receive credit and attendance for courses during this school year, students are expected to complete assignments provided by the teacher. At this time, current laws and policies relative to compulsory attendance, instructional minutes, and state assessments remain in place.

Keeping our students and staff safe is our top priority. Although attendance will be taken each day by your students' teacher regardless of the delivery method for instruction chosen, we will be encouraging parents to strictly adhere to the safety precautions regarding COvid-19 symptoms and keeping your student(s) home when any symptoms are present.

Students will be excused for days missed without presenting a doctor verification at any time when a parent/guardian (1) determines their student may be symptomatic; (2) if they have been exposed to the virus; (3) when they are sent home from school symptomatic. Since distance learning will be available, students should continue to complete assignments and check in with teachers. It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to communicate absences with the school. Although official medical excuses are preferred, parent notes will be accepted for all COVID-19 related absences.

KEY SAFETY MEASURES

					
Wash Hands/ Sanitize Hands Often	Practice Social Distancing (6 feet)	Wear a Face Covering	Cover Coughs/ Sneezes	Avoid Touching Eyes/ Nose/ Mouth	Be Cautious with At-Risk Students <small>(Underlying Health Conditions)</small>

THREE KEY PRINCIPLES



1 Wash
Hands Often

+



2 Wear a
Face Covering

+



3 Practice
Social Distancing

THREE KEY PRINCIPLES



1 Wash
Hands Often

+



2 Wear a
Face Covering

+



3 Practice
Social Distancing

WHAT ARE THE STEPS WHEN A STUDENT IN SCHOOL TESTS POSITIVE FOR COVID-19?

- 1** If a school becomes aware of a presumptive positive or positive case of COVID-19, the child should not attend school until determined to be non-infectious by their doctor.
- 2** Parents may be notified by the Office of Public Health if their child may have been exposed to the case of COVID-19, along with any next steps.
- 3** If it is determined that a school was the focus of infection for COVID-19, the school superintendent, in consultation with the Office of Public Health, will determine if the school should remain open or close for a period of time. A positive case of COVID-19 does not necessarily warrant classroom or school closure.