



City Schools of Decatur COVID-19 FAQ

Updated March 10 at 11:00 am

How is City Schools of Decatur working and staying informed of the situation with COVID-19?

The City Schools of Decatur Emergency Operations Team is continuously monitoring the coronavirus (COVID-19) situation. The District is working with and following the guidance of local, state, and federal agencies including the Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH), the Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE), and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

How will parents know what is going on in the school system regarding COVID-19?

The District will provide updates via our website, newsletters, and other communication mechanisms as appropriate. Please visit <https://www.csdecatur.net/covid19>.

Will the system close schools?

Should it become necessary, all decisions to close schools will be in consultation with the Georgia Department of Public Health, the CDC, the DeKalb Department of Public Health, and/or other state and federal agencies as appropriate.

How will parents be informed of a school closing?

As with any emergency closing, parents will be notified via our communications mechanisms including phone calls, text, email, and website notifications.

If schools close, is there a plan in place to continue instruction?

District leaders and principals are developing contingency plans should an extended closure be necessary. The Georgia Department of Education is also working to support school systems with digital resources in the event schools must close for an extended period.

What should parents do?

Contact information: Parents should make sure contact information, including emergency contact information, is up to date. If your cell phone or work numbers have changed, please update the information in the [parent portal](#) or contact your school's office.

Healthy Habits: Remember to reinforce the guidance from the [Georgia Department of Public Health](#) to prevent the spread of illness:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick. **CSD requires keeping students home until they are 24 hours fever-free without medication.**
- Cough or sneeze into your elbow or use a tissue to cover it, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

Answer the Call: In the event that your child becomes ill at school and needs to be picked up, it is imperative that we are able to reach you immediately. We also request that students be picked up within 1 hour of notification.

Are resources available to help me talk to my child about COVID-19?

We have placed resources for parents under the Resources tab on this site: <https://www.csdecaturnet/covid19>

The [National Association of School Psychologists](#) has compiled resources to help parents talk to their children about COVID-19. This resource is also available on the CSD site.

What are the schools doing to help students understand COVID-19 and healthy habits?

Our School Nurses are creating educational tools to share with students/families and staff (handwashing/cover your cough videos, live handwashing demonstration for students, COVID-19 videos on school sites). The nurses are providing opportunities for students to ask questions and receive relevant information from the CDC.

Other Healthy Habits we are reminding our students that can affect their health:

- Use proper handwashing techniques
- Eat a healthy diet
- Stay hydrated
- Get proper sleep
- Exercise regularly
- Be careful with medications (read labels to see if medications can interact)
- Stay away from others who are sick

Where can parents go to learn more about the symptoms, spread, prevention, and treatment of COVID-19?

In addition to the links provided on our [site](#), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has provided a comprehensive [FAQ page](#).

Should we notify the district if we travel to an area experiencing an outbreak?

The [CDC](#) indicated that schools are not expected to screen students or their family members.

Will field trips, athletic events, and other events be canceled?

We are closely monitoring the situation and have provided guidance to the schools about proceeding with planned field trips and other events. At this time we have not canceled any activities.

Is the district thoroughly cleaning the buildings and “high touch” areas?

Yes. We have stepped up cleaning in all facilities to focus on “high touch” areas on all campuses. We are using products that have demonstrated effectiveness against viruses similar to the 2019 novel coronavirus-Wuhan (also 2019-nCoV). In addition, we have plans in place to address cleaning should a case of COVID-19 be identified in our schools.