

OFFICE OF

Superintendent of Education

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Dear Parents:

Schools all across America have struggled with finding creative solutions to problems created by the COVID-19 pandemic. Clarke County Schools are certainly no exception to this. Our goal from the beginning has been to balance student and staff safety with academic progress. In an effort to maintain that balance, beginning Wednesday, December 9th, Clarke County Schools will transition to a 4/1 schedule.

I am sure that everyone is aware that COVID-19 case numbers are on the rise nationwide. I recently received a letter from Dr. Scott Harris, the Alabama State Health Officer. In the letter, Dr. Harris asked school systems to amplify their efforts already underway in schools to keep students and staff safe. These efforts include environmental cleaning procedures.

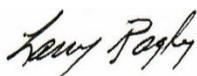
The decision was made to dedicate each Wednesday as an off-campus learning day. Students will not attend school on campus on Wednesdays beginning December 9th, until we reevaluate in late January. (The dates for these Wednesdays will be December 9th and 16th and January 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th.) This day will be used as a weekly deep cleaning day on all campuses. These Wednesdays are designed to benefit learners and staff alike. Our goal is to limit COVID-19 exposure for everyone. Tens of thousands of dollars have been spent on each campus for equipment and cleaning supplies designed specifically to eradicate the COVID-19 virus. All of this will be utilized to an even greater degree on Wednesdays.

Virtual students should continue on with their assignments on these days as they normally would. Traditional students should also utilize this day to complete assignments. Teachers will be on campus each Wednesday and available to conference with parents and students by appointment. (You may call the office to schedule an appointment.)

The Child Nutrition Program will be sending a sack home with students each Tuesday that will include a breakfast and lunch for Wednesday. Food items will vary and may include frozen items like pizza that can be cooked or other cold items such as milk that will need to be refrigerated. Please look for a note in the bag sent home with directions on meal preparation.

Several school systems have utilized this schedule and have seen positive results. Hopefully, our system will, as well. As with everything with the pandemic, we will monitor the situation and will reevaluate in late January. We have been fortunate to have very few positive cases. Our desire is to make decisions that allow that trend, along with student learning, to continue.

Sincerely,



Larry Bagley
Superintendent
Clarke County Schools