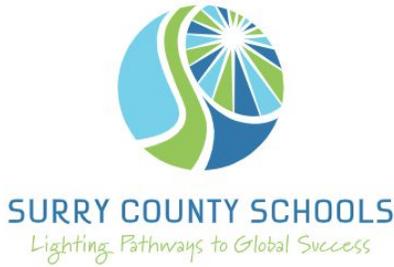


Travis L. Reeves, Ed.D.
Superintendent
Jill Y. Reinhardt, Ed.D.
Associate Superintendent
Kevin T. Via
Assistant Superintendent



BOARD OF EDUCATION

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Dear Parents/Guardians of Students in Grades 6-12:

As the Surry County School System continues to make decisions regarding face-to-face learning for students in our school system, we are asking families to make decisions regarding face-to-face learning or full remote learning. We understand that you will make decisions that are best for your children and your family. **However, we do ask that you make the final decision for your family for each grading period of the school year.** We understand that families may need to change their family plan based on COVID-related issues/health decisions (a family member becomes sick, for example). If that is the case, families will be given an option to change the chosen plan. This change will need to be reviewed and approved by the principal.

As a school system, we are working daily to ensure we have the appropriate staffing, spacing, and equipment to appropriately serve our students and families moving forward in these challenging times. More consistency with our numbers (the numbers of students face-to-face and the numbers of students in remote learning), will help us make the best decisions for all of our students as a whole.

Additionally, we believe that student engagement, whether in face-to-face learning or remote learning, is imperative in regards to your child's academic success and progress. Therefore, attendance *and* engagement in learning are both important. Please review the attendance information below.

If parents and students decide to commit to face-to-face learning and NOT to full remote learning, there is no need to sign and or return this document. However, if a student is choosing or remaining in full remote learning, please sign the [attached document](#) and return to your student's principal (you may either sign, scan, and return electronically; or, you may mail it to the school).

Thank you for your continued partnership to support all of our students. Together we are stronger!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Travis L. Reeves" with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Travis L. Reeves, Ed.D.

Attachments

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

209 North Crutchfield Street / Post Office Box 364 / Dobson, North Carolina 27017 / 336.386.8211 / 336.386.4279 fax

Return to Learn Commitment and Attendance

6-12

Grades 6-12	Blended Learning Cohort A: 2 days per week / Remote Learning 3 days per week Cohort B: 2 days per week / Remote Learning 3 days per week or Full Remote Learning
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6-12 Attendance: Face-to-Face Instruction	6-12 Attendance: Full Remote Learning (see attached agreement)
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<p>Students selecting face-to-face instruction will commit to face-to-face instruction two days per week either in Cohort A or Cohort B. Attendance will be taken daily (Monday/Tuesday OR Wednesday/ Thursday) and on remote learning days for the week.</p> <p>If a student is unable to attend school on any given day as assigned in Cohort A or Cohort B, the absence will be coded as excused or unexcused depending on the reason for the absence (Policy 4400, Middle School Student Handbook, High School Student Handbook, and **Family/Educational Trips on the Surry County Schools website at <u>www.surry.k12.nc.us.</u>)</p> <p>*Students are encouraged to stay home if sick.</p> <p>A student is considered present for the purposes of daily attendance during all remote instruction days if the following applies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● a student completes his/her daily assignments for each remote instruction day either online or offline, or ● a student has a daily check-in through a two-way communication (phone call, email, Google Meet) with the appropriate teacher(s). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In grades 6-8, homeroom teacher ○ In grades 9-12, each course teacher as scheduled 	<p>Students selecting full remote learning for all five days per week will follow the guidelines below regarding attendance.</p> <p>A student is considered present for the purposes of daily attendance during all remote instruction days if the following applies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● a student completes his/her daily assignments for each remote instruction day either online or offline, or ● a student has a daily check-in through a two-way communication (phone call, email, Google Meet) with the appropriate teacher(s). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In grades 6-8, homeroom teacher ○ In grades 9-12, each course teacher as scheduled <p>(See Policy 4400, Middle School Student Handbook, High School Student Handbook, and **Family/Educational Trips on the Surry County Schools website at <u>www.surry.k12.nc.us.</u>)</p> <p>(see attached agreement)</p>
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Return to Learn Attendance Procedures

Reference: SCS BOE [Policy 4400](#) Attendance

School attendance and class participation are integral parts of academic achievement and the teaching-learning process. Through regular attendance, students develop patterns of behavior essential to professional and personal success in life. Regular attendance by every student is mandatory. The State of North Carolina requires that every child in the State between the ages of 7 (or younger if enrolled) and 16 attend school. Parents and legal guardians are responsible for ensuring that students attend and remain at school daily. ~ **SCS BOE [Policy 4400](#)**

These guidelines apply for the 2020-2021 school year while we are operating in *Return to Learn* mode during COVID-19. Student attendance *and* engagement in learning are vital to a student's success in school.

****In order to protect our SCS family, please keep children at home when sick. With a parent's note, the absence will be excused. (SCS BOE [Policy 4400](#) will apply with excessive absences.)***

-If a student is quarantined due to COVID-19 and meets the requirements for remote learning as outlined below, the student can be counted present.

-If a student is absent due to a COVID-19 diagnosis and meets the requirements of remote learning as outlined below, the student can be counted present.

-If a student is absent due to a COVID-19 diagnosis and does not meet the requirements of remote learning as outlined below, the absence will be excused with a doctor's note.

*****Family/Educational Trips may apply in some circumstances. See details below.***

The Surry County Schools must capture daily attendance of students, whether they are engaged with learning on-site (at school) or off-site (remote). Attendance must be taken each day of the school year.

In order to be considered in attendance, a student must be present on-site (at school on assigned face-to-face days) for the school day or at a place other than on-site with the approval of the appropriate school official (principal) for the purpose of attending an authorized school activity. If the student is not attending an authorized school activity, the absence may not be approved (**Family/Educational Trips may apply).

****Family/Educational Trips**

Students who have good attendance and the permission of the principal may be excused up to five days per school year for a family trip(s). Before a student may be excused from school for a family trip, written arrangements must be made by the parents or guardians with the principal *five days prior* to the trip. Qualified students who leave school for an extended trip will be coded in the following manner: excused the first five days and all additional absences are unexcused. The student is responsible for obtaining and completing all classwork. Absence during End-of-Course testing should be avoided at all costs! Please note that absences approved for Family/Educational Trips are still considered absences for exam exemption and excessive absence considerations.



Agreement for Full Remote Learning

Although parents have the choice of whether their students return to learn face-to-face or remain in full remote learning, it is our goal that all students are successful. SCS will partner with parents and students in remote learning to the best of our ability to ensure students are making good academic progress. We will make every effort to ensure students have access to computers and the internet. Teachers will include assignments in PowerSchool Learning/Haiku and will offer office hours daily in order to help serve remote students. If students are not successful through remote learning, SCS will develop a transition to face-to-face instruction.

Student Name: _____ **Grade:** _____ **School:** _____

Parent Name: _____ **Date:** _____

By signing below, you accept the following:

Parent:

- I understand that if my student is unsuccessful in remote learning, he/she will be asked to return to face-to-face instruction.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Student:

- I understand that it is my responsibility to log into my online course daily and complete all assignments.
- I understand that I am responsible for the necessary computer equipment and internet access to participate in SCS remote learning and/or college courses. Please contact the school if you do not have a computer at home or access to the internet.
- I will do all work myself and refrain from plagiarizing/copying anyone else's work.
- I will email or call my teacher if I have questions or need assistance.
- I will attend optional Google Meets and participate in all assigned activities, including meeting the requirements for daily attendance.
- I will take all required state assessments and exams in person at my base school on the day assigned.
- I understand that all grades earned will appear on my report card / transcript and will be calculated into my GPA (for high school students).
- I understand that I will be expected to remain in the SCS Full Remote Learning Option through the current assigned grading period.
- I understand that I will not be on a SCS campus during the school day, unless asked to report to campus by school officials.

Student Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Please print, complete, sign, and return this agreement to your assigned school. You can return it via mail, email it electronically, or bring it directly to the school.