

Pocahontas County Board of Education
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Terrence C. Beam, Superintendent

October 14, 2020

To: All Parents/Guardians of Pocahontas County Students

At the October 13, 2020 Pocahontas County Board of Education meeting, it was decided that all PK-12 students may return to school for face-to-face instruction on Monday, October 26, 2020 contingent on approval from the County Health Department, which has been granted.

There are a few of stipulations that must be followed. First, all students and employees will be required to wear a face covering at any time that they cannot social distance at least six feet. Secondly, parents still have the option to only send their child to school two times a week if they choose. Also, face-to-face instruction will continue to be Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday with Wednesday being a deep-cleaning day. Next, masks must be worn on the bus at all times. Finally, all students will still be required to have their meals six feet apart since they will not be wearing masks at those times.

We understand that there will be some concern of potential cases that arise from more students attending on a daily basis. After much discussion and considering many different things, the board felt it was extremely important to get our children back in school on a more regular basis. I totally support their decision.

If you decide to continue to send your child to school only two times per week, please let the principal know in advance of October 26. Otherwise, we will assume that your children will be coming.

Students that are currently being taught through virtual schools have the option to continue doing so.

Students at Marlinton Elementary, Hillsboro Elementary, and Marlinton Middle are already transitioning into four days of face-to-face instruction. Those schools may continue the path that they are currently on.

In conclusion, 2020 has been a very trying year for many reasons. The Pocahontas County Board of Education is dedicated to educating the students of Pocahontas County while providing as much protection and safety possible. I commend them for their decision and we will work with our principals and schools to make this a successful transition.

Sincerely,



Terrence C. Beam, Superintendent
Pocahontas County Schools

