

SES Reopening Q&A from the week of July 27th

1. The first part of the Return to School states Indiana is in Phase 5. While at the current time, we are not in Phase 5. Will that affect anything? ***The main consideration for SES in regards to 4.5 are any time that we may have more than 250 people in the same room. For us, this is very rare.***
2. Will there be any Meet the Teacher nights or scheduled days/times to drop off school supplies?
 - a. ***WHS: We are here from 8-3 Monday through Friday everyday leading up to the first day of school. Students and family members may come in to practice opening lockers, walk through class schedules, and bring in supplies during those hours. Schedules are also available on PowerSchool.***
 - b. ***MHS: Students have access to their schedules on PowerSchool. If a student would like to come to the building before the first day of school to open their locker, walk class schedules, please contact the office. Someone is here from 8:00-3:00 every day.***
 - c. ***MES: There will not be a Meet the Teacher Night this year, however, teachers have been provided parent emails and will be reaching out to families to welcome them to their class. Parents should receive notification later this week that they can log-in to PowerSchool and see who their child's teacher is. If they are unable to do so, they may contact Mr. Corn or Mrs. Essex.***
 - d. ***WES will host a Back to School Night on August 4th 5:00-6:30. Teachers will have areas set up outside the building to meet students and families. Students will be allowed to drop off their personal belongings in their classroom. Staff members will be available to assist students. Masks are required. The elementary school parking lot will be blocked for entrance. Parking available at the HS.***
3. Will there be a 6th Grade orientation?
 - a. ***WHS has posted a virtual orientation to their Facebook page and it has also been sent via email to all 6th grade parents. If you need help accessing the orientation program, please contact the school and we will be happy to assist you.***
 - b. ***MHS: Students in 6th grade are able to come and walk the building on July 30th from 8:00-12:00 and 1:00-3:00 and July 31st from 8:00-3:00 to walk the building, get their schedules, and practice with their lockers.***
4. If I decide to send my kids to in class learning, can I pull my child out if another student in school tests positive for COVID-19? ***Yes, as a parent you absolutely have the option of pulling your child from school. However, it is important for parents to understand that there absolutely is a risk of a positive test at some point this school year. SES will be communicating details of any known cases to parents.***
5. Once students are enrolled in either in person or eLearning, do they have to stay with that method until the end of the month, 9 weeks, or semester? ***SES believes it provides the most consistency for students to stay in one placement or the other for an extended period of time, but we also recognize that every situation is different. If there is a need for a change in placement, the first discussion would be with the principal.***

6. How can a parent or guardian change from in school to eLearning for their child if they feel it is necessary? **See # 5**
7. How exactly will eLearning be set up this semester? **eLearning at SES is designed to be an extension of the physical classroom to the home for students who select that option. An SES teacher at their grade level will establish and maintain an online virtual classroom and work to keep students engaged in the same work (or very similar) to what is taking place in the regular classroom at school. Expectations for students will be very similar to those who attend on a daily basis.**
8. How will the students enrolled in eLearning be managed? Will each classroom teacher be expected to manage both in-person and virtual students? If so, what extra time/resources will be provided to those teachers to ease the burden of a double workload?
9. Do you have any idea what the eLearning platform is going to look like for the younger students (e.g., Kindergarten and 1st Grade)? **Kindergarten and 1st grade will use SeeSaw, while grades 2-8 will use Google Classroom. Grades 9-12 will be outsourced.**
10. Do you plan to continue eLearning as long as needed? **eLearning is intended to be a one year solution. We hope we don't need to continue it next year.**
11. Do you have a set number or scenarios in place that would cause an entire school to be placed on eLearning? **Yes, but the closing of an entire school will be a joint decision between SES and the Shelby County Health Dept. Based on the guidance from the state, one case will not shut down a classroom, let alone a school. To shut an entire school down would take multiple cases across multiple grade levels of students.**
12. If we would have to go to eLearning, will we have the option for paper homework instead of online? **Some paper assignments may be included, but the majority of the work will be online.**
13. Will the school close if a student tests positive? **No.**
14. What will happen to classes, students, and teachers if someone tests positive for COVID-19? **When positive cases occur the school will be partnering with the parents and the health department to do contact tracing lists. If students and or staff are identified as close contacts to the person who tested positive, recommended quarantines will be applied. In the event an entire classroom has to be quarantined, that classroom would shift to online during that quarantine period.**
15. What are the quarantine requirements in the event of a positive case or possible exposure at school? Who will have to quarantine? **Anyone identified as a close contact (15 consecutive minutes at less than 6 feet without a face covering) will be asked by SES and or the health department to quarantine for a period of 10 days.**
16. If a teacher/employee contracts or comes into contact with or is asked to self quarantine for the 14 day time frame mandated by the state and school, do those days come out of personal days, sick days, or other "owned" days by the teacher/employee? Will the school be providing special days for COVID leave? **Teachers are considered critical workers and will not be asked to quarantine unless they themselves tests positive or become**

symptomatic. All staff can receive up to 80 hours of paid time for COVID related absence prior to using their own sick days.

17. Do we have to call the nurse each time our child is sick, even if they could have just the flu or cold? **Increased communication with our school nurse will be important for all nurses this year. Students who have the presence of multiple symptoms should contact the school nurse for a consult prior to coming to school.**

18. Will our child have to be seen by the doctor., and get tested, each time they show one or more symptoms? If so, do they have to stay out of school until the results come in? **No, the health department does not recommend getting tested in the event your child is exposed. They do however, recommend quarantining a student in the event they are identified as a close contact.**

19. If my child does needs to get tested the same day they're sick, what if they can't get into the doctor right away? **Students who are symptomatic should not attend school. Students who are symptomatic should be tested at the recommendation of their family physician. Any missed school time for those reasons will be excused and students will be able to make up any missed work.**

20. Will there be any rules regarding traveling from hotspots? For example, if Florida is still a hot spot when Fall Break approaches, will we encourage families to not travel there or request they quarantine upon return? **The SES daily screener asks this question. More important than traveling to a hot spot is what social distancing considerations took place while you were traveling. Traveling to a hot spot does not automatically exclude you from school, but may prompt a phone call for additional information.**

21. If they do have to stay home, will they have online work to do? **Yes, with any quarantine or illness, SES staff will provide classwork for students and they should be able to keep up through online learning.**

22. Will students have to wear masks? **Yes, Students will be given guidance by their classroom teachers as to when to wear their masks and when not to. We hope to minimize the amount of time students wear masks each day while at the same time abiding by our States mask mandate.**

23. With the new guidelines from Governor Holcomb, what will be the “repercussions” of an elementary age student taking their mask off? **There will not be any punishment from SES for students who take their mask off. Teachers will remind students who forget or take it off in situations where it should be worn. If families do not wish to wear a mask or refuse, they should consider opting for online instruction.**

24. Governor Holcomb announced that children 8 and up are required to wear masks, what are the plans for kids younger than that? **SES would still like for all students under the age of 8 to have masks and will recommend those students wear them at certain times of the day, but we will not require them.**

25. Will face shields work for a mask? **Yes, per the Governor’s executive order, a face shield that covers both the nose and mouth qualifies as a face covering just like a mask.**

26. Will special needs students be required to wear a mask on the bus? ***Unless it presents a health risk, or they are unable to do so, yes.***
27. Will face masks be required on the bus?
Yes, per Governor Holcomb's recent Executive Order (School Buses would be included under subsection "c." - using public transportation or while in a taxi, private car service, or ride-sharing vehicle), masks will be required for all students over the age of 8.
28. Will the bus driver have extra help with making sure everyone is wearing a mask and sanitizing their hands?
Sanitizing stations are not compliant with the State of Indiana's School Bus Specifications and therefore not allowed to be installed. While we may have limited quantities of hand sanitizer available on each bus, students are encouraged to bring their own. We will not have additional Aides/Monitors on our General Education routes.
29. How will students stay 6-feet apart when classrooms are only so big? ***Most classrooms will be able to accommodate students maintaining six feet of social distancing. In those that aren't able to, students will be asked to wear masks for that period of time they are in the classroom and not six feet apart from their peers***
30. What will spacing look like in classrooms? ***Most classrooms will provide a setup where social distancing can occur naturally. There will still be times for collaborative work by students, but those times will be monitored and students will be required to wear face coverings when in close contact with other students.***
31. Will there be any extra precautions taken for special needs students? ***Yes, students who have health risks or require other accommodations will maintain those same extra precautions.***
32. Will students with IEPs still be followed if they need to leave the classroom to go to another class? ***Yes.***
33. How are preschool classrooms expected to go day by day?
Preschool classes will operate in much the same way as other classrooms. During times when students are not able to be socially distant, we will encourage them to wear a mask. Extra sanitizing will take place throughout the day to increase cleanliness.
34. How will students eat lunch together without exposing each other? How are the tables going to be set up? Will they be facing one another when seated?
MES: It will not be possible to have all students not facing each other in the cafeteria. Every effort will be made to socially distance students as much as possible. There will be additional seating added to the stage. Classroom assistants will be creating assigned seats in efforts to help with tracing efforts when/if needed. In going along with matters of the cafeteria, we encourage parents who pack their child's lunch to please send items with them they are able to open to reduce the instances where they need assistance in opening.

35. Why are students eating lunch in the cafeteria? ***Other options that we considered were either not viable, or required too many additional layers of personnel and supervision. We are spacing students out greater than before in the cafeteria and have redesigned our food service line experience for students to make it safer.***
36. Has there been any consideration to keeping kids in their classroom (Elementary) to eat lunch? *(The parent was concerned about the possibility of a High Schooler/Middle Schooler at MHS possibly exposing younger students from the Elementary School.)* ***See above.***
37. How will athletics work in terms of social distancing, limiting exposure to students from other schools, etc.? ***Athletic teams will utilize social distancing while not engaged in physical activity. It is not possible to compete in most sports and social distance at the same time, so there is an inherent risk associated with participation. If we learn of an outbreak at a certain school, it is possible that event will be delayed, rescheduled, or canceled.***
38. Will athletics be canceled? ***Not by SES.***
39. Is choir safe? ***Yes, choir will participate in the same social distancing practices as in other classes, we have also purchased some additional items to help choir and band perform safely.***
40. Could music/art classes be held in main classrooms to reduce the interaction between classes? ***This is something we considered and discussed, but decided was not necessary. It could be reviewed at a later date.***
41. Due to the current policies surrounding COVID-19, will truancy laws change or will the status quo remain in place? ***Attendance laws for all students are still in place. We will work with parents to determine the reason for absences. School recommended quarantine will not count against a student's attendance record.***
42. When vaccines are available, will in person learning students be required to have the vaccine to continue in person learning? Those that are opting for at home/online learning, will their children be required to get the vaccine if they choose to enroll/move their child/ren to in person at a later date? ***SES will follow all state and local guidelines in regards to immunization requirements. We will not require vaccinations that aren't already required at the state level.***