



Habersham Central High School

For Immediate Release
August 31st, 2020

I am looking forward to having our students back on campus at Habersham Central for the 20-21 school year. Amid all the changes as we navigate school during the pandemic, rest assured that safety will remain Habersham Central's top priority. HCHS will continue to put STUDENTS FIRST and strive to graduate every senior. My promise to parents and guardians is timely and transparent communication concerning all aspects of school. Our success this year is contingent on getting the same timely and transparent communication from our families. Successful, ideal education is a result of the student, their parents/guardians, and the school working together.

There will be many changes to the daily procedures at Habersham Central in order to minimize the chance for virus transmission. Some of those changes include:

- Buses will unload one at a time limiting congestion as students enter the building
- Students not eating breakfast at school will report directly to classrooms beginning at 7:30 limiting crowding in hallways and preventing large gatherings
- Only students eating breakfast will be allowed in the cafeteria in the mornings maximizing distance between students.
- Lunch shifts dining in the cafeteria will be reduced. Students will eat in their classroom one week, and in the cafeteria the next.
- Teachers will be assigned duties of maximizing lunch line distancing.
- Afternoon dismissal will be staggered limiting crowding.
- Class changes will operate using one-way hallways to maximize distancing.
- Additional supervision duties will be assigned to maximize distancing in hallways.
- Additional travel routes, including outdoor transitions between class changes, will be implemented to relieve congestion in hallways and maximize distancing.
- Guest speakers, and visitors at HCHS will require administrative approval and must be deemed essential.
- Chorus, band, and drama instruction will be modified to maximize spacing. Outdoor spaces will be utilized when possible.
- Outdoor learning spaces have been created so that teachers of all subjects can maximize instruction outside as weather allows. Four additional outdoor classrooms have been created.
- Face coverings are required for all school nutrition staff.
- Faculty and staff have received safety training related to Covid-19 by a qualified medical professional.

- The school nurse has been relocated to a larger clinical space that includes a waiting area, evaluation area, an isolation area, and an exterior exit for pick-up.
- Enhanced custodial services have been implemented and include special attention to high-touch areas such as desktops, door handles, and plumbing fixtures using a hydrostatic disinfectant sprayer with Bioesque cleaning solution.
- Air Filtration systems have been enhanced through upgrading air filters in HVAC units.
- Additional custodial support has been allocated for day-time shifts
- Physical education class procedures will allow for maximum distancing and enhanced sanitation of equipment.
- Additional security features will be added in the front office area to decrease congestion

I will do everything in my power to keep our students healthy and in school. Please help us by not sending your children to school if they exhibit any COVID-19 symptoms, reminding your students to maximize distance between themselves and others in hallways and common areas, and by encouraging them to wear a face covering when social distancing is not possible. Community support is a critical component of a successful school. Habersham Central is great because Habersham County is great, and I am fortunate to serve our students as their principal.

Jonathan H. Stribling
Principal, Habersham Central High School