



COLUMBUS MUNICIPAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Cherie Labat, Ph.D.

Superintendent

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Dr. Glenn Dedeaux

Asst. Superintendent of District and School Operations

Dear Columbus Municipal School District Parents and Employees,

Thank you for your patience during this unprecedented situation. We are in constant communication with the Mississippi Department of Education and health officials to develop procedures to address the safety needs of our employees and students. We are committed to reopening school with cautionary measures of following CDC guidance with a priority on sanitization and safety. We value the essence of learning and will continue to have high expectation of students as we work to pursue standards-based instruction that will assist students in becoming college and career ready.

We are asking employees to work in different capacities and in different ways in their jobs in order to provide a safe learning environment for students. We will prioritize the social emotional needs of students as we return to school in August. We understand that students, parents and employees must feel safe and comfortable as we prepare for instruction. Employees of the Columbus Municipal School District are committed to making the transition back to school in a manner that will comfort parents while providing support that will make students confident about learning. We will be equipped with Personal Protective Equipment that will reduce and help prevent the spread and exposure of COVID 19, while providing the best instructional support to meet the educational needs of students.

Columbus Municipal School District will focus on filling in the gaps in achievement (learning loss) by focusing on diagnostic assessments in English Language Arts and Math during the first three weeks of school. This information is an imperative to providing quality instruction to students. The data will allow us to detail and deliver focused grade level instruction. We know that learning loss is an unfortunate attribute of the pandemic, but we are ready to support parents and students with our detailed instructional plan that is part of the logistics for reopening the Columbus Municipal School District. We need employee and parent commitment as we move forward in preparing for reopening. We are grateful for your input gathered from our parent survey in the last three weeks. This vital information has assisted us with planning by allowing some flexibility in the approach of how students learn.

We are grateful for the opportunity to serve students in these difficult times. Your patience and understanding are to be commended. We will continue to communicate with you about registration and reopening plans using Falcon Blast, social media and the website. Thank you for your dedication and commitment to the Columbus Municipal School District.

Respectfully,

Cherie Labat, Ph.D.

Superintendent

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