



Re-Opening Plan for
Face to Face Learning
November 2020

FAST Return to School Plan Through December 18, 2020

Survey responses from 512 parents indicate our families are equally divided as to whether to return or stay remote. Both are equally compelling and speak to two competing concerns: social/emotional well-being and physical well-being.

The declining rate of positive testing in Fulton County had dipped to below 5% and was a determining factor. At this point in late October, we are still preparing to open although numbers are starting to climb and we will monitor the ever-changing realities. We believe the safety precautions of greatest concern to parents and staff can be managed.

Key Points of the Plan:

1. Re-open for face-to-face learning with a phased plan beginning on November 2nd.
2. Phased plan dates:
 - K-1 returns November 2nd*
 - 2-4 returns November 5th
 - 5-8 returns November 9th
3. Families who do not wish to send their child to school will continue with remote learning.
4. Students who opt-in for face-to-face learning will attend school 4 days per week (M, T, Th, and F).
5. Wednesday will be an asynchronous day for face-to-face learners and remote learners. Wednesdays will be for teacher hours, assemblies, and teacher planning.
6. Classrooms will be limited to no more than 12 students.
7. School hours on M, T, Th, and F will be 7:40-3:20. There will be no early dismissal day. **Morning carpool will open at 7:15am.**
8. Parents were asked to choose either face-to-face or remote learning for their child between October 13th-16th. 32% of the student population will be returning.
9. This plan will be in place through December 18th. FAST will reevaluate its direction for the second half of the school year based on the current public health climate at that time.

*Note that November 3rd will remain a teacher workday and school will be closed.

Plan Details:

Homerooms may have no more than 12 students for face-to-face learning. A waiting list was not needed though several parents have asked to be on it for a potential return in January. In middle school, there will be several instances where there may be a period in which classes have 13-14 students. Spanish I has 20 students and will be held in Innovation Hall so that social distancing can be maintained.

Social distancing will be a minimum of 3 feet with class dividers used. Dividers are already purchased and located in each classroom.

All students and staff will be required to wear masks in public areas and classrooms.

Daily Schedule details:

The FAST schedule will return to 7:40am-3:20pm. For children continuing to be remote in grades K-4, the schedule will be laid out on PowerSchool, and teachers will be in communication about when students should be on. Specials such as health and computer science will take place on Zoom with the entire class (face to face and remote). Both face to face and remote students in grades 5-8 will follow the same schedule. Remote learners will participate in their classes that will be live-streamed via Zoom. Remote learners will not participate in specials (PE, Art, Music) but will have a project to complete that will be Pass/Fail. Specials will be considered a Study Hall for remote learners.

Wednesday will be asynchronous for all face-to-face and remote learners. Students will have projects to work on at home and limited screen time except for a morning meeting and assemblies (when scheduled). A few classes such as computer science and 2nd grade TAG science will have sessions on Wednesday. There will be no early dismissal day on Thursday.

COVID PROTOCOLS FOR FACE TO FACE LEARNING**Visitors:**

Until the school returns to a traditional 5-day a week face-to-face daily learning model, visitors will be limited to work people and PTO board members and committee chairs. All guests will have their temperature checked upon initial entry to a FAST building.

Handling Emerging Cases/School Closure:

FAST protocols will be based on the [FCS COVID-19 Closure Matrix](#).

Masks/Social Distancing

FAST Mask Policy:

Masks will be required by all staff and students in public areas and classrooms.

Mask Time Off:

There will be times where masks may be removed in order to give students relief. This will generally be outside at the discretion of the teacher or staff member. Spaces will be set aside for children who need a mask off moment. Social distancing (6ft) will be observed during mask time off.

Social Distancing in Classrooms:

Rooms will be set up with seating between 3-6 ft apart. Seats will be assigned. This follows the guidelines of the American Pediatrics Association.

Social Distancing for Fire drills, Intruder Alert Drills, etc.:

Fire drills can be done with social distancing. However other scheduled drills will be explained verbally and demonstrated without actually bringing groups of students close together (e.g. tornado drills).

Recess:

The larger playground structures will be off-limits. The K-1 play structure will be cleaned with electrostatic technology after each use. Masks will need to be worn when children are in close proximity. Mask off time at recess will be closely monitored by staff.

Bathroom Breaks:

Students in grades 1-4 will have assigned bathroom breaks where social distancing can be monitored. Grades 5-8 will receive an orientation about bathroom policy

including the maximum number allowed in each restroom. Kindergarten has restrooms in the classrooms which will be cleaned after usage.

Hallway Transitions:

Transitions will be done as quickly as possible. While social distancing is not possible in middle school, the plan is to move expediently to the next room with masks on. Hallways will be marked off to keep traffic moving.

Lockers:

To prevent creating areas of constant contact, lockers and cubbies will not be used. Students will be allowed to use backpacks.

Supplies:

Face-to-face students should bring their supplies to school in marked bags, pouches, or plastic bins. This is to prevent the sharing of crayons/scissors etc. Students are expected to bring a set of headphones to be used just at school. Names should be placed on the headphones or the bag containing them. Students in grades 2-8 are asked to purchase a case for their devices if they are using a school computer that is being transported. For students using a personal device at home, a school laptop will be assigned for school use only. A more detailed list will be provided the week of October 26.

Water/Hand Washing

Water Fountains:

The only water fountains students will be able to use will be the ones that are used to fill water bottles. Drinking spouts on all water fountains have been turned off. We ask that each student bring their own water bottle to school each day. Teachers will have disposable cups available for students who would like water but forgot their water bottles that day.

Handwashing Throughout the Day:

Many classrooms are equipped with sinks which will allow students to wash their hands at regular intervals. Classrooms will also have hand sanitizer and students will be required to use it each time they enter their classroom. Automatic foam cleanser dispensers have been installed outside rooms

Student/Staff Health

Watch for Symptoms of COVID-19:

According to the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#), people with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported – ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. People with these symptoms may have COVID-19:

Fever or chills
Cough
Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
Fatigue
Muscle or body aches
Headache
New loss of taste or smell
Sore throat
Congestion or runny nose
Nausea or vomiting
Diarrhea

This list does not include all possible symptoms. CDC will continue to update this list as we learn more about COVID-19.

DO NOT send your child to school:

1. If they are displaying the above symptoms or are otherwise unwell.
2. If you suspect your child may have COVID-19 or you are waiting for the results of a COVID-19 test.
3. Your student has been in close contact in the past 15 days with someone diagnosed with COVID-19.

Equipment:

FAST has purchased a large number of infrared thermometers, remodeled the clinic, and obtained desk dividers for use in classrooms. Industrial filters (MERV-13) are being installed.

Air Filtration:

Industrial air filtration systems have been purchased for each classroom.

Temperature:

Students will have their temperature taken by infrared thermometer before they are dropped off for carpool. Students who have a temperature equal to or greater than 99°F will have to park and be evaluated by the nurse and have their temperature taken with an in-ear thermometer. Determination of the next steps will be considered on a case by case basis. Final determination by the Nurse will be based on further triage and indications. Students who are sick or have a temperature of 100.4°F will not be permitted to attend school.

Pick Up and Drop off:

Children will go directly to the classroom from carpool/bus instead of Innovation Hall. Students riding on the bus will go directly to the stop to board in the afternoon. Carpool students will be dismissed and go outside for pick up as their numbers appear on the board in their classroom.

Becoming Ill at School:

Any student who develops a fever will stay in the new isolation area of the clinic until a parent or guardian comes to pick them up. When the parent arrives, they will need to call the school (678-321-1100) to announce their arrival and the school nurse will walk the sick child to the door indicated in the picture. The parent should meet the nurse and child at the clinic pick-up door.



Any staff member or student who develops a fever will immediately leave the classroom and the room will be sanitized. Students will be relocated during that process.

If a student or staff member becomes sick while at school and reports to the clinic, they will be sent home even if they do not have a fever. The sick student or staff member is not permitted to return to school until they have been fever-free for one full school day. For example, a student who leaves school sick with a fever on Monday morning may not return to school until Wednesday at the earliest. Students will continue to learn remotely so that work is not missed.

We ask every family to make arrangements for alternate pick up for their child from FAST in the event that circumstances prevent a parent from picking up their child in a timely manner. Failure to cooperate with this will potentially result in the child being placed into the remote learning program for the remainder of the semester. Email teamzuber@fastk8.org if you need to add an emergency contact for your child.

COVID Contract for Face to Face Learners:

All parents will have to agree to a COVID Commitment Statement that provides community norms by which to abide by. The six components all parents must agree to are:

1. I understand that masks are required and my child must abide by this rule.
2. I will check to see if my child is healthy each morning (take temperature/assess how student is feeling).
3. I will not give my child medication that would lower his/her temperature before coming to school.
4. If I am called because my child is suspected of having the virus, I will get to the school as soon as possible or arrange to have someone else pick him/her up.
5. I will contact the school, if my family travels out of state or out of the country for a reentry consultation.
6. I understand that the school cannot provide supplies and I will provide them.

If a parent gives fever reducer medicine prior to school and fever comes back and it is discovered, there will be a conversation with administration and the child will be placed in the remote program for the remainder of the semester.

If a family has plans to or has traveled to areas of known outbreak, please notify FAST administration and considerations will be made on a case by case basis. Considerations may include: rapid testing to return to school or quarantine with remote learning option for up to 14 days. Case by case implication variables include place of travel, reason(family member has passed of COVID), and so on.

Quarantine/Reporting

If a Student/Staff Tests Positive for COVID-19:

Depending on the number of cases in the area, school could close for 24-72 hours. The school will follow FCS protocols. If FAST is informed of a student or staff positive COVID-19 test result **before 11:30am** on a school day, FAST will dismiss all students and staff early.

If a Household Member of a Face-to-Face Student Tests Positive for COVID-19:

The face-to-face student will be required to stay home from school for 2 weeks. They will switch to remote learning during this time.

Mandatory Reporting:

If your FAST student fits into one or more of these categories, parents are required to let the school nurse and principal know to allow for proper tracking and the protection of others:

1. Has tested Positive for COVID-19 in the past 15 days
2. Currently waiting for the results of a test for COVID-19
3. Has been in close contact (within 6 feet for at least 15 minutes) in the past 15 days with someone diagnosed with COVID-19

If your student is sick but does not fit into any of the above categories, a COVID-19 report is not required at this time. Monitor your child's symptoms and follow-up with your healthcare provider or contact the school nurse, if you have any concerns.

Facilities/Cleaning

Classrooms and Hallways:

Daytime staff will continually wipe down surfaces (e.g. doorknobs, public areas, water dispensers) and clean the facilities. In the evening, the cleaning service will do a thorough cleaning of floors and all surfaces. The cleaning service has gone through a certification process and will follow protocols using the appropriate approved supplies. A detailed cleaning schedule/protocol will be used with CDC guidelines as a framework. In classrooms, areas will be wiped down after a student leaves his/her workspace to transition to another room. Child safe cleansers will be used.

Playground:

The Large Playground structures will be roped off for the time being. The K-1 play structure will be cleaned with an electrostatic machine after each time it is used.

Proper Air Circulation/Ventilation:

The air handling system was inspected and evaluated to see what improvements were needed to help prevent viruses from being circulated throughout our buildings. As a result, FAST is purchasing MERV-13 filters to help trap virus-containing particles/droplets in the air as it circulates. In addition, industrial air filtration units are being placed in each room. All air intakes and exhausts are functional. FAST also has a maintenance program in place that will ensure the MERV-13 filters are changed frequently enough to maintain performance.

Bus/Shuttle

Bus service will begin on Monday, November 9th.

Bus Lottery:

The Bus Lottery application closed in July 2020. At this time we will not be re-opening the bus lottery for additional applicants. Seat assignments on the bus were communicated to parents on 10/21/2020.

Riding the Bus:

All FAST students will be required to wear a mask while riding the bus. Each student will have his/her own seat. Siblings can sit together.

FCS requires all their bus drivers to wear masks or face shields and will clean each bus after every route has been completed.

Shuttles:

Mr. James Transportation is still available for families interested in shuttle service to and from FAST for those in the South Fulton area. Parents should reach out to him directly if you are interested in his shuttle service.

Afternoon activity shuttles will need to be arranged privately by parents.

Lunch

Atlanta Lunch Company will continue to provide lunch service. All lunches will be prepackaged and can be ordered by size for different age groups and appetites. The free and reduced lunch program will also continue as normal. Lunch will be delivered to student classrooms.

Uniforms

All face to face students are required to wear uniforms while attending school on the FAST campus. At this time, remote learners are not required to wear uniforms while attending classes remotely. Uniforms are not required on asynchronous Wednesdays. We will reevaluate this uniform policy later in the year.

After School Program (ASP)

ASP will begin the week of November 9th. There will be 8 school days in November and 11 days in December and FAST will offer only full-time after-school (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday). After-school tuition for the months of November and December would be \$342.

ASP will be held in the Innovation Hall with groups separated into different pods. Class sizes will be kept small and all procedures listed above will be maintained. ASP hours are from dismissal to 6:30pm.