



- **If I choose the Hernando eSchool option will I lose my school choice or magnet seat?**

No. If you choose to enroll in Hernando eSchool for one or both semesters of 2020-2021 school year, you will not lose your school choice or magnet seat. However, if you enroll your student in homeschool, FLVS, private school or any other school outside of the Hernando County School District, you will lose your school choice/ magnet status.

- **Now that we know what the options are, what comes next?**

Take time to understand the options in the Return to School Plan, and then choose the option that works best for your student. Option 1 is to return your student to school. Option 2 is to enroll your student in Hernando eSchool.

- **Once I choose an option, can I change my mind later?**

In order to maintain a consistent learning environment we ask that you stay with your decision for a minimum of one semester.

- **Is the Hernando eSchool option the same as the distance learning we experienced in March – May 2020?**

No. It is important to understand that the distance learning system implemented for the last 9 weeks of the 2019-2020 school year was in response to the immediate requirement for school closure. Hernando eSchool is one of established schools where curriculum is pre-planned, available for self-motivated learners and taught by HCSD teachers. Devices and access to the internet will not be provided to students and traditional grading policies are followed. Students are expected to stay enrolled through the semester.

Hernando eSchool Contact Information: web: <https://ehernando.weebly.com> Ph. (352) 797-7072

- **Under Option 1, “Face-to Face” Return to School, will elementary students be able to have recess?**

Yes. Recess will be provided but will be organized to allow for fewer students in any one recess location.

- **Has the start date for the 2020-2021 school year changed?**

No. We expect to start the school year on August 10.

- **Will parents and volunteers be allowed on campus?**

At this time, parents, volunteers, and visitors will be limited to essential business only. Parents will not be permitted to eat lunch with their child at school.

- **Will students wear masks in classrooms?**

At this time, students will not be required to wear masks or cloth face coverings, however, they will be encouraged to wear them in school and on buses. All masks and face coverings must adhere to the Hernando County School District Student Code of Conduct dress code. Face shields are acceptable.

- **Will students be expected to socially distance?**

Every effort will be made to provide for social distancing across all school settings.

- **What steps will be taken to ensure that classrooms are clean?**

Environmental Services Technicians will clean frequently touched surfaces throughout the day and conduct overall cleanings at the conclusion of every day. Other non-custodial staff members will be expected to do their part in keeping surfaces clean and will be provided with the necessary products for additional cleaning. Teachers will have access to cleaning supplies for their classroom.

- **What other steps are being taken to ensure a healthy environment?**

Schools will educate students on the importance of hand washing, hygiene, and social distancing. Hand sanitizer will be made available in classrooms and workplaces. Additional custodial equipment has been purchased to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of cleaning protocols. Classrooms will be set-up to allow for maximum distance between student stations as physical space allows. Shared items will be discouraged.

- **What will happen if a student or staff member becomes ill?**

Hernando Schools will encourage staff or students to stay home if they are experiencing any COVID – 19 symptoms. If a staff member or student exhibits symptoms at school they will be taken to an isolated location in or near the school clinic and their parent or guardian will be notified to take them home or to visit a medical professional.

- **What if a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19?**

The Hernando County Health Department will notify the district if a student or staff member tests positive. We will cooperate with the Health Department as they conduct the appropriate notifications of individuals who have been in contact with the person infected. The Department of Health will give direction on possible school closure as well as intensive cleaning protocols as necessary. If there is a short-term, temporary school closure, the closure will be treated similar to school closures during hurricane season. This information can be found under “Contingency Plan” in the Return to School Plan document.

- **How will Individualized Education Program (IEP) meetings take place in the Fall?**

IEP meetings will continue to be held whether in-person or an alternative format, such as videoconferencing or by phone. ESE staff will work with families to schedule meetings in a format that works best for the parents and families.

- **Will students with Individual Education Plans (IEPs) or 504 Plans receive accommodations in Hernando eSchool?**

All students attending Hernando eSchool will have access to many accommodations that naturally occur in the virtual setting. Please note - some accommodations may not be possible to implement in an online educational setting. If you plan to enroll your child in Hernando eSchool, please contact your school Staffing Specialist to discuss a possible IEP meeting to review services.

- **What steps will be taken to limit exposure in the school cafeteria?**

Schools will utilize all available space in an effort to promote social distancing. Hand sanitizer will be available in all dining areas. Meals will be pre-packaged and include all necessary utensils and condiments in an effort to reduce the number of touch points on surfaces. Parents will not be permitted to eat lunch with their children at school.

- **What steps will be taken to limit exposure on school buses?**

Students and drivers will be encouraged to wear masks or cloth face coverings on school buses. Hand sanitizer will be available on buses and students will be encouraged to use when entering/exiting the bus. Buses will be disinfected between runs and go through a deep cleaning at the end of each day.

- **Will sports still be offered next school year?**

Yes, we will offer sports in the 2020-2021 next year. We will offer the same sports as usual with some restrictions on social distancing and implementation of increased cleaning protocols.