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**DE LA HOWE**  
SCHOOL FOR AGRICULTURE

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# COVID-19 OPENING PLAN

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2020-2021 ACADEMIC SCHOOL YEAR

# FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear John de la Howe Family,

It is no secret that COVID-19 has shaken our world, but as a community, it is important that we stay strong, safe, and healthy. Every decision made by our staff is student-centered and as President, it is my #1 goal to provide a safe home away from home for our incoming students.

We assembled a task force including our teachers, administration, and school consultants to consider our options and capabilities during this unprecedented time. We carefully considered the guidelines provided both on the state and federal level and received input from our incoming JDLH parents, employees, legislative, and community stakeholders.

Based on these findings, the task force and JDLH administration have decided to offer in-person learning this school year, with social distancing enforced in all school facilities. Our students will move into their residential housing on August 15, 2020, and our school calendar will begin on August 17, 2020.

We realize that agriculture is an essential industry and the curriculum that our students will partake in requires hands-on learning in the safest way possible. Students learning on our 1,300-acre campus in this unique school setting is essential, not only to our mission and vision but for our students to achieve their full potential and gain the proper experience within the field of agriculture.

To protect the health and safety of students and staff on campus, we will:

- Require students to self-quarantine and continue strict social distancing two weeks before our student move-in weekend.
- Limit residential housing to one student per room, unless the room allows for two students to sleep more than 6-feet apart, in each of the six residence halls currently available on campus. Following these residential guidelines, the school can house a maximum of 54 students.
- Allow staff the option to work or teach virtually from home, as need be, if there are health concerns or if they are considered high-risk.
- Enforce protocols for frequent hand-washing and sanitizing.
- Provide and require face coverings for students and staff to be worn throughout the school day and in common areas.
- Place signs as reminders for students and staff to wear their protective equipment and to keep a safe distance.
- Ensure frequent cleaning of both the educational and residential spaces on campus.

With a lower student population and our one-of-a-kind campus setting it is our belief that we will be able to provide the ideal location to enforce social distancing protocols and procedures this school year. We will continue to monitor the current happenings and guidelines provided concerning the coronavirus (COVID-19), and adjust our plan as we see fit.

These are hard decisions and we realize that there is no right answer on how to operate during these times. In our first year with a new mission, we are committed to providing a top-notch agricultural education program that contributes to the state of South Carolina. We appreciate our JDLH parents and families who have entrusted us in keeping their children safe and we will continue to do just that. **GO AGGIES!**

**Timothy Keown**

President

*V. Stephen Moss  
First Vice Chairman*

*Roger K. Kirby  
Secretary*

*Lucas Atkinson  
William H. Bailey  
Bruce M. Bryant  
James M. Burns  
William M. Chumley  
Cally R. Forrest  
Patrick B. Haddon*

*David R. Hiott  
Chairman*

*William M. Hixon  
Second Vice Chairman*

## **Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs Committee**



*Rosalyn D. Henderson -Myers  
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Richard Martin  
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The House Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Environmental Affairs Committee supports the John de la Howe School for Agriculture in their reopening of their school in August.

The John de la Howe administration formed a COVID-19 Task Force to create a plan to protect students and staff for the school's first year as a residential high school for agriculture. The task force gathered information through surveys from staff and parents of accepted students for the upcoming school year. Some of the findings include: 92% of the parents would send their child to school if plans were to reopen 100% in person, 82% of parents do not have concerns about about face masks requirements for their child. Parents and staff also voiced their concerns that the virtual option would lack the hands on learning that is needed for an agriculture school. The staff's top priorities for opening face to face are enhanced cleaning, adequate cleaning supplies, and strict social distancing in common areas.

The plan consists of the students moving in their residential housing on August 15, 2020 and classes beginning August 17, 2020. The students will be on an A/B block schedule throughout the 5-day school week. This schedule will reduce the class sizes during in-class instruction. The school is also planning to hold a large portion of student learning outside, utilizing the school's 1,300-acre campus.

Our committee supports the reopening of the John de la Howe School for Agriculture, and trusts that the school will follow the Department of Health and Environmental Control and the Centers for Disease Control guidelines for schools. Please reach out to our committee office with any questions concerning our support of their reopening at 803-734-3022.

Sincerely,



Chairman David Hiott



Representative Lucas Atkinson



Representative Bruce Bryant



Representative Bill Chumley



Representative Patrick Haddon



Representative Roger Kirby



Representative Josiah Magnuson



Representative Steve Moss



Representative Michael Rivers



Representative William Bailey



Representative Mike Burns



Representative Cal Forrest



Representative Bill Hixon



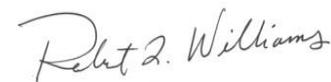
Representative Randy Ligon



Representative Rick Martin



Representative Marvin Pendarvis



Representative Robert Williams

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# INTRODUCTION

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and state of emergency declared by Governor Henry McMaster, South Carolina school facilities were closed for in-person instruction from March 16, 2020, to the end of the 2019–2020 school year. As a new school, scheduled to open August 2020, this affected our current staff as we did not have students on our campus. As we move into the 2020-2021 school year, we realize that our opening will be faced with challenges and will require extensive research and planning as we prepare for the start of school. For this reason, the John de la Howe School administration formed a COVID-19 Task Force to create a plan to protect student and staff health and wellbeing for the school's first year as a residential high school for agriculture.

## COVID-19 TASK FORCE MEMBERS

- Timothy Keown, *President*
- Gregory Thompson, *Principal*
- Dr. Michael Price, *Assistant Principal & Social Studies Teacher*
- Hayley Belton, *Director of Public Relations & Marketing*
- Erin Suber, *School Nurse*
- Kinsley Miller, *Director of the Education Center*
- Deputy Steve Osborne, *School Resource Officer*
- Dana Martin, *Residential Life Coordinator*
- Cadie Giba, *Coordinator of Outreach & Student Services*
- Jordan Glace, *Science Teacher*
- Elizabeth, Templeton, *Agricultural Education Teacher*
- Hunter Morton, *Agricultural Education Teacher*
- Russell Abrams, *Agricultural Education Teacher*

## ADVISORY MEMBERS

- Hugh Bland, *John de la Howe Board Chairman*
- Dr. Sharon Wall, *Consultant*
- Gerald Moore, *Consultant*
- Patrick Haddon, *SC Representative - District 19*
- Thomas “Randy” Ligon, *SC Representative - District 43*

## TASK FORCE MEETING DATES

*All meetings were held both face-to-face and virtually.*

- Wednesday, July 8, 2020
- Wednesday, July 15, 2020
- Wednesday, July 22, 2020

# JDLH STAKEHOLDER FEEDBACK

## Employee Feedback

The John de la Howe School staff includes teachers, maintenance, farm, administrative, and business employees. Our staff as of, July 2020, were surveyed to determine their perceptions of how the first year should run and which learning model would serve our mission and students best. 38 total responses were received, the findings of this survey indicated the following:

- 68% of staff stated that they hope that the school opens completely in-person.
- 62% of staff would prefer the school administration to focus its efforts on making it safe for students and staff to provide traditional learning.
- The staff's top three priorities for opening face-to-face would be enhanced cleaning of campus facilities and surfaces, an adequate amount of cleaning supplies, and strict social distancing guidelines in common areas.
- Concerning remote or hybrid learning, staff voiced concerns that this would not fit with the school's hands-on learning experience and would increase the risk of exposure and teacher workload.

Our staff will have the option to work or teach virtually from home, as need be, if there are health concerns or if they are considered high-risk.

## Parent Feedback

Parents of the accepted students as of, July 2020, were asked to respond to a short survey about their preference for educational models for the 2020-2021 school year. 36 total responses were received and indicated the following:

- 92% of parents would send their child to school if plans were to reopen 100% in-person.
- 82% of parents do not have concerns about face mask requirements for their child.
- 87% of parents stated that they hope the school opens completely in-person.
- Concerning remote virtual learning, parents voiced their concerns that this option would lack the hands-on learning that is needed as an agriculture school.

# DHEC RECOMMENDATIONS

The following information is guidance provided by the SC Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC). Information may be updated as new information on this novel virus and evolving situation become available.

## Cleaning

- Routinely clean and disinfect surfaces and objects that are frequently touched (e.g., doorknobs, light switches, classroom sink handles, countertops). Using an appropriate disinfectant, wipe down items (e.g. desks, chairs) and equipment before each use.
  - Clean with soap and water or a cleaner typically used. Use all cleaning products according to the directions on the label.
  - After cleaning, disinfect with a product that is EPA-approved for use against the virus that causes COVID-19 or with a diluted bleach solution (5 tablespoons, or 1/3 cup, bleach per gallon of water or 4 teaspoons bleach per quart of water).
- For electronics such as tablets, touch screens, keyboards, and remote controls, remove visible contamination if present.
  - Consider the use of wipeable covers for electronics.
  - Follow the manufacturer's instructions for all cleaning and disinfection products.
  - If no manufacturer guidance is available, consider the use of alcohol-based wipes or sprays containing at least 70% alcohol to disinfect touch screens. Dry surfaces thoroughly to avoid the pooling of liquids.
- Follow the manufacturer's instructions for all cleaning and disinfection products (e.g., concentration, application method, and contact time).
- Ensure adequate supplies to support frequent cleaning and disinfection practices.
- The CDC provides additional information on Cleaning and Disinfecting a Facility, including guidance on appropriate personal protective equipment to wear while cleaning and disinfecting.
- Increase the ventilation (air exchange) rate and the percent outdoor air in ventilation.

## Social Distancing

- To the extent possible, maintain at least six feet of distance between each person.
  - If desks are used, increase the space between them. Rearrange them to maximize the space between students. Make desks face in the same direction (rather than facing each other).
- Stagger arrival and dismissal times.
- Avoid students congregating in common areas. For example, have students eat meals in their classrooms rather than mixing in the cafeteria or other common areas.
  - If it is not possible to suspend the use of common areas, try to limit the extent to which students mix with each other, and particularly with students from other classes.
  - Restrict hallway use through the staggered release of classes.
- Limit people present to only students and essential faculty and staff.
- Avoid assemblies or other congregate events.
- Encourage frequent hand washing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available and hands are not visibly dirty, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.
  - Ensure adequate supplies (e.g., soap, paper towels, and hand sanitizer).
  - Put up posters in key locations (e.g., bathrooms) encouraging hand hygiene.
- Strongly encourage faculty and staff to wear masks or cloth face coverings as much as possible. Consideration may be given to recommending them for students. Cloth face coverings should not

be used on children under two years old, anyone who has trouble breathing, or anyone unable to remove the face covering without assistance. The CDC has a pattern and a video available demonstrating how to make a cloth one.

## Testing

A student or staff member who develops symptoms of COVID-19 but does not get tested could limit DHEC's ability to appropriately respond to new cases and ensure the health and safety of other students and staff. PCR testing (nose or throat swab) or similar rapid test that directly detects the virus is required as there is delay in developing detectable antibodies. A negative antibody test is insufficient to rule out a new infection.

- Location of testing sites is available on the DHEC website:  
<https://scdhec.gov/infectiousdiseases/viruses/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19/covid-19-screening-testing-sites>
- Location of DHEC mobile and pop-up testing sites:  
<https://www.scdhec.gov/infectiousdiseases/viruses/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19/covid-19-mobile-pop-clinics>

## Cases in the Classroom

Contagious period: If a child or staff member tests positive, they could have been contagious with the virus up to 48 hours before their symptoms began. If they tested positive but had no symptoms, their contagious period begins 2 days prior to the date the specimen for their test was collected.

A person not in the facility when contagious: If a child or staff member is determined to be a case of COVID-19, they must be excluded until they meet the criteria for return (see "Quarantine" below). Anyone who lives in the same household with the person with COVID-19 will also need to be excluded. No further steps need to be taken if it is determined they were not in the facility during their contagious period.

Person contagious while in the facility: Facility should not reopen until the following measures are in place to prevent further spread in the event a person is determined to have been contagious with COVID-19 while in the facility.

- Anyone who spent fifteen (15) minutes or more within six (6) feet of the case during their contagious period is considered a close contact and must quarantine until fourteen (14) days after their last contact with the case.
- Cohorted classes: If proper cohorting measures were followed in the facility, only children and staff in the classroom cohort with the case and any other identified close contacts will be required to quarantine for fourteen (14) days after the last time the case was in the facility.
- The classroom will need to be closed for cleaning and disinfection before it can be used again.

## Quarantine

Some students or staff may have been told they were a close contact to a case of COVID-19 and have to complete a quarantine period. This means they will be required to stay in isolation or return home so they do not risk exposing others to COVID-19 if they become sick. For students, a parents' note that they have been cleared from quarantine may be used to allow a return to school.

- **Close Contact:** The standard quarantine period is fourteen (14) days after last close contact with a person while they were contagious with COVID-19.
- **Household contact:** If the student or staff lives in the same household as the case and has daily close contact, they will have to quarantine for an additional fourteen (14) days after the day their household member has been cleared from their isolation period.
- **Other household members in quarantine:** If the student or staff lives in the same household as someone in quarantine, they will not necessarily need to quarantine themselves unless the household member in quarantine is then determined to be a COVID-19 case. DHEC will notify those who are required to complete quarantine.

# OPERATIONS & LOGISTICS

## Student Population

The John de la Howe School for Agriculture is a statewide school with limited acceptance of out-of-state students. For the first year, we will limit our student population to a total of 54 rising 10th and 11th-grade students. This number is determined based on residential housing currently available on campus. As of July 2020, the school has received 87 admissions applications for the upcoming school year and over 200 student inquiries. After carefully reviewing student transcripts, teacher recommendations, personal essays, and interviews, the John de la Howe Admissions team has accepted 41 students.

The campus has six residential buildings, three boys, and three girls' halls, that were recently updated and renovated. Each student will have a room to themselves unless the room allows for two students to sleep more than six feet apart. Within these residence halls, there will be one full-time residential advisor, as well as part-time residential advisors to assist on the weekends.

## Masks & Temperature Screening

- Face masks or coverings are required for students and staff daily when they are not able to social distance at least six feet apart and in common areas in both the educational and residential facilities.
- Five washable face masks will be provided to all incoming students. Students are encouraged to bring their own masks as well. Residential Advisors will ensure that students have clean and usable masks at the start of each school week.
- Staff have been provided face masks and have extras located in their office buildings.
- Gloves will be provided for staff as needed.
- Employees, both living on campus and returning home at the end of the day, should not report to work if they have a temperature of 100.3 or higher.
- Students and their parents will be temperature screened on Orientation/Move-In Day during the drive-thru Check-In/Registration. Students will only be allowed to bring two persons with them. Any children not moving in, will not be allowed to attend.

## Educational and Residential Facility Cleaning

All school facilities will implement a cleaning protocol and follow guidelines from the CDC and DHEC.

- The school will contract a disinfecting company to disinfect all classrooms, offices, residence halls, gym, and cafeteria prior to and during the school year.
- The school's maintenance and custodial staff will wipe down and sanitize common areas and high-touch surfaces (e.g. doorknobs, phones, printers, countertops, handrails, etc.) throughout the day.
- Hand sanitizer will be available throughout the school campus, buildings, and office areas.
- Teachers will clean their classrooms at the end of each day. Guidelines will be provided on how to properly clean and sanitize.
- All restrooms will be sanitized routinely throughout the day by the custodial staff.

## Outdoor Learning

As an agricultural school, a large portion of our student's curriculum will be instructed outside, weather-permitting. Our school is located on 1,300 acres of forest and farmland, an ideal location for our students to spread out and socially distance themselves. While outside, students will not be required to wear masks or face coverings, unless deemed necessary for the activities they participate in.

## On-Campus Transportation

Students will be allowed to bring their vehicles and bicycles to campus. Motor vehicle use will be limited to the weekend. Driving off campus for any reason other than returning home with permission from a parent/guardian or for an extended weekend is not permitted. Students will have an opportunity to travel with the school throughout the month for shopping trips to local stores.

For these outings, staff will utilize the school's mini buses and state vehicles. Students will be required to wear their masks and face coverings for the duration of the ride and outing. The buses will also be utilized to transport students to the parts of campus that cannot be walked to. Each bus seat will be cleaned and disinfected before and after each instance of use.

## Meal Services

As a residential high school, students will be offered breakfast, lunch, and dinner throughout the school week, with brunch and dinner served on the weekends. All large meals will be held in the school's Cafeteria, with strict social distancing enforced. Students will also have access to a full kitchen within their residence hall, closely monitored and cleaned by their residential advisors. The school's cafeteria is large enough and has multiple types of seating to accommodate our student population. Staff who choose to eat lunch in the Cafeteria will stagger their eating times to limit occupancy.

- Students and staff will be strongly encouraged to wash their hands with soap and water before and after eating.
- All food and items provided will be individually plated or boxed and disposable plates and utensils will be utilized.
- The dining staff will wear masks or face coverings during preparation and serving.

## Visitors

- Off-campus visitors will be limited.
- Visitors will not be allowed into student areas.
- Deliveries must be coordinated through the school's Welcome Center and will be screened prior to entering the campus.
- Parent-teacher conferences may be held virtually or by phone.
- Whenever face-to-face meetings are held in common areas, guests should have their temperature checked prior to entering the facilities and wear a mask or appropriate face covering for the duration of the meeting.

## Daily Bell Schedule

Each morning students are required to report to the Cafeteria by 7:45 a.m. for the morning announcements and to be accounted for.

1st Block	8:00 a.m. - 9:25 a.m.
2nd Block	9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
Lunch Transition	11:00 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.
Lunch	11:15 a.m. - 11:55 a.m.
3rd Block	12:00 p.m. - 1:25 p.m.
4th Block	1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Extended Learning	3:05 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

## Early Release Day Bell Schedule

Once a month, students will be required to go home for the weekend and will be released from class early. These days typically fall on holidays or holiday weekends. The purpose of these days is to allow for the deep cleaning of the residence halls and educational facilities.

Breakfast	7:00 a.m. - 7:30 a.m.
Morning Check-In	7:35 a.m.
1st Block	7:45 a.m. - 8:35 a.m.
2nd Block	8:40 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.
3rd Block	9:35 a.m. - 10:25 a.m.
4th Block	10:30 a.m. - 11:20 a.m.
Lunch & Dismissal	11:25 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

## Mock Class Schedules

Students will follow an A/B block schedule throughout the 5-day school week, with general education classes in the morning and agriculture education and other elective classes in the afternoon. This schedule will reduce class sizes during in-class instruction, following recommendations to reduce the risk of exposure. A large portion of student learning will be outside, weather-permitting, utilizing the school's 1,300-acre campus.

### A Day

	1st Block	2nd Block	3rd Block	4th Block
Language Arts	English 10 A	English 10 B		
Math	Math 10 B	Math 10 A		
Science	Science 11 A	Science 11 B		
Social Studies	Social Studies 11 B	Social Studies 11 A		
Virtual SC	As Needed	As Needed	As Needed	As Needed
Agriculture Teach 1			Ag. Science & Technology	Introduction to Horticulture
Agriculture Teach 2			Ag. Business & Marketing	Forestry
Agriculture Teach 3			Equipment Op. & Maintenance	Cattle Production
Spanish			Spanish 1	Spanish 2

### B Day

	1st Block	2nd Block	3rd Block	4th Block
Language Arts	English 11 A	English 11 B		
Math	Math 11 B	Math 11 A		
Science	Science 10 A	Science 10 B		
Social Studies	Social Studies 10 B	Social Studies 10 A		
Virtual SC	As Needed	As Needed	As Needed	As Needed
Agriculture Teach 1			Ag. Science & Technology	Nursery, Greenhouse, etc.
Agriculture Teach 2			Ag. Business & Marketing	Env. & Natural Resources Mgmt.
Agriculture Teach 3			Equipment Op. & Maintenance	Animal Science
Spanish			Spanish 1	Spanish 2

## Start Dates

- July 27-31, 2020 | Teacher Pre-Planning
- August 15, 2020 | Student Move-In & Orientation
- August 17, 2020 | First Day of School
- September 4-7, 2020 | Early Release & Labor Day Holiday

*\*Students are highly encouraged to stay on campus until the Labor Day Holiday weekend. They will be screened upon their return to campus and will be briefed on proper social distancing and health precautions to implement prior to their return home.*

## Academic Calendar

July 2020						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

August 2020						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

September 2020						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

October 2020						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

November 2020						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

December 2020						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

John de la Howe School for Agriculture	
192 Gettys Road 864-391-2131 McCormick, SC 29835	
Jul 04	Holiday (Independence Day)
Aug 10-14	Teacher Work Days
Aug 17	First Day of School
Sept 04	Early Release Day
Sept 07	Students Return to Campus by 8 PM
Sept 07	Labor Day (School Closed)
Sept 15	Progress Report (PowerSchool)
Oct 14	PSAT (All 10th graders, 11th optional)
Oct 15	End of 1st Grading Period
Oct 19	Report Cards (PowerSchool)
Oct 30	Early Release Day
Nov 01	Students Return to Campus by 8 PM
Nov 13	Progress Report (PowerSchool)
Nov 24	Early Release Day
Nov 25-27	Thanksgiving Break
Nov 29	Students Return to Campus by 8 PM
Dec 17	End of 2nd Grading Period/Early Release Day
Dec 18	Teacher Work Day (Student Holiday)
Dec 21-31	Winter Break
Jan 01	New Year's Day (School Closed)
Jan 03	Students Return to Campus by 8 PM
Jan 04	Beginning of 3rd Grading Period
Jan 15	Early Release Day
Jan 18	Students Return to Campus by 8 PM
Jan 18	Martin Luther King Day (School Closed)
Feb 03	Progress Report (PowerSchool)
Feb 12	Early Release Day
Feb 15	Students Return to Campus by 8 PM
Feb 15	President's Day (School Closed)
Feb 23	ACT Test Day (All 3rd Year Students)
Mar 03	SAT Test Day (All 3rd Year Students)
Mar 08	End of 3rd Grading Period
Mar 11	Early Release Day/Report Cards
Mar 12	Teacher Work Day (Student Holiday)
Mar 14	Students Return to Campus by 8 PM
Mar 24	WIN Test Opens (All 3rd Year Students)
Apr 01	Early Release Day
Apr 02	Good Friday (School Closed)
Apr 05-09	Spring Break
Apr 11	Students Return to Campus by 8 PM
Apr 16	Progress Report (PowerSchool)
May 25-27	School Exams
May 28	Last Day of School
Jun 01-04	Teacher Work Days

January 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

February 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

March 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

April 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

May 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

June 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Teacher Work Days	First/Last Day of School	Testing	Holiday (School Closed)
Progress Report/Report Cards	End/Beginning of Grading Period	Early Release Day	
Students Return to Campus			

# HEALTH & SAFETY PROTOCOLS

## Staff & Student Guidelines with Symptoms at School

1. Report to an isolation area with their mask on. The John de la Howe School has designated the Wellness Center and spare residence halls as isolation areas.
2. Students should be supervised by a staff member who maintains at least six feet distance and uses appropriate PPE.
3. Parents will be notified to pick-up their student(s) to pack up their belongings and return home.
4. Advise parents to contact their healthcare provider for guidance and to determine if testing is needed. Advise them to report test results to the school's nurse.
5. Close off any residential and educational areas used by the sick person and do not occupy until they are thoroughly cleaned and disinfected.
6. The administrative and communications staff will make proper notification in accordance with state and local laws while maintaining confidentiality.

## COVID-19 Symptoms

Students and staff should be excluded from school if they have:

- Any one (1) of the following
  - Fever – or-
  - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing -or -
  - Loss of taste or smell -or –
  - New or worsening cough
- Any two (2) of the following:
  - Sore throat
  - Muscle or body aches
  - Chills
  - Fatigue
  - Headache
  - Congestion or runny nose
  - Diarrhea
  - Nausea or vomiting

Any child with any one of these symptoms should consider not attending school regardless of meeting exclusion criteria. If these symptoms are explainable by an underlying condition (such as shortness of breath or cough for an individual with asthma) exclusion may not be necessary.

Schools should plan to have a room identified to isolate students or staff with symptoms of COVID-19 identified during the school day.

- Students and staff should be moved safely, respectfully, as well as in accordance with any applicable privacy laws or regulations, to the isolation room for evaluation. The individual should be provided a mask if they are able to use one, and students should be supervised by a staff member who maintains at least six feet of distance and uses appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) if available.

## When to Return to School

The following information is guidance provided by DHEC. Information may be updated as new information on this novel virus and evolving situation become available.

- Advise sick staff members and children not to return until they have met the criteria for return.
- Students or staff excluded for these symptoms should not return until they have either tested negative for COVID-19 or a medical evaluation determines that their symptoms were more likely due to another cause (e.g. sore throat due to strep throat). In this latter case, the individual can return when they meet the criteria for that condition.
- Students or staff that require testing for COVID-19 will require a negative PCR test (mouth or nose swab) or similar rapid test that directly detects the virus or must complete the current isolation criteria for COVID-19 to return to school.
- Current isolation criteria for COVID-19:
  - Students and staff who test positive for COVID-19 and persons with symptoms of COVID-19 who do not get tested should isolate until:
    - Ten (10) days have passed since symptoms started - and -
    - Three (3) days (72 hours) have passed since last fever without taking medicine to reduce fever - and -
    - Overall improvement in symptoms.
  - Those who test positive by a PCR test but do not have symptoms will be required to stay out of school until ten (10) days after the specimen was collected.
  - The criteria above should be used to determine eligibility to return to school. Negative PCR test results are not required after meeting these criteria.

## When to Close Class/School

Recommendations below are from DHEC regulations on viral outbreaks:

1. If a classroom has 20% or more of the student population test positive for COVID-19 within a two week period OR
2. If a building has 10% or more of the total student enrollment test positive for COVID-19 within a two week period

In the case of an outbreak on campus involving our residential advisors and/or teachers, students will be sent home and we will transition to the school's virtual learning plan.

# VIRTUAL LEARNING PLAN

In the event that the John de la Howe School or South Carolina schools are closed due to COVID-19, students will transition to virtual learning at home.

For virtual learning, the teachers will utilize the Learning Management System, Schoology, for delivering instruction, assignments, and assessments. Schoology will be used during in-class instruction so that students and teachers are familiar and comfortable with the platform. Teachers will implement their own lessons created using a variety of resources and applications. Feedback will be given and grades will be assigned in Schoology and inputted into PowerSchool.

IEPS will be amended, as needed, to reflect the instructional delivery model chosen by the parent so that appropriate special education and related services, supports, accommodations, and modifications are designed to provide meaningful educational benefit (FAPE) in the least restrictive environment.

The John de la Howe School will provide each student with a Microsoft Surface Go tablet. Students will be able to use their tablet or any other personal device to access the course content from anywhere online. Teachers will communicate with and assist students using Schoology, email, and video conferencing.

## COMMUNICATION

- Present the community with school updates via social media accounts. Keep community and public aware of when changes are made to learning operations via social media, local media, and websites.
- Gather feedback and recommendations from the campus community (students, parents, and employees).
- Health protocols will be communicated clearly to students, staff, and parents.
- School administrators and the nurse will notify local public health authorities and DHEC of any confirmed case or cluster of COVID-19 among staff or students.
- All COVID-19 related news, information, and resources will be housed on the school's website [www.delahowe.sc.gov/covid-19](http://www.delahowe.sc.gov/covid-19).