



Hynes Charter School Corporation
Operational Plans
2021 – 2022

OVERVIEW

The operational plan for Hynes Charter School Corporation for the fall of 2021, prioritizes the education, health, safety, and well-being of the valued members of our community— students, faculty, and staff. This plan is based upon the current guidance from federal, state, and local agencies. These operational guidelines are developed based on current context of the pandemic and are likely to change as context and the science of vaccinations change. In late July, the New Orleans Public Schools (NOLA-PS) released a re-opening plan which included thoughtful engagement with stakeholders and health professionals. The NOLA-PS COVID CARE plan is [HERE](#). The Hynes plan gives operational guidelines based upon the NOLA-PS plan and CDC guidelines.

Together, we know that we can convert these current challenges and requirements into wonderful opportunities for all, especially our students who thrive in a supportive community and positive school culture. Know that we all look forward to working with you to create a successful school year. We want you to know that we are prepared with operational protocols in place.

Our mission at Hynes Schools is to provide quality education shaping leaders for a changing world. For us, this mission is more critical now than ever before. While the health and emotional well-being of students have always been priorities, extra measures will be implemented to ensure that the needs of students and staff are addressed. This plan prioritizes the Hynes core elements: 1.) student-centered instruction using high-quality and Tier 1 curriculum, 2.) inclusive and positive school culture, 3.) invested and committed community, 4.) tailored enrichment opportunities for students, and 5.) sustainable organization.

At Hynes, we attribute our success to the model that we have built which includes a continuous cycle of reflection, planning, and action using equitable and fair practices. By doing things “the Hynes way”, we will get through this difficult time together.

The 2020-2021 school year afforded us the opportunity to maximize the use of Microsoft Teams. This platform will continue to be used with our in-person program.

ACADEMIC PLAN

All students attend school DAILY with significant safety guidelines in place.

In-person, daily static classes of students and adults using physical distancing between static groups in grades PreK-8. Field trips will be limited, must follow curriculum, and adhere to strict health protocols. Some teachers may rotate to classrooms for instruction or supervision. We will continue to follow guidance from NOLA-PS and the City of New Orleans.

LEARNING PLATFORMS AND CURRICULA

Hynes Charter Schools will utilize the following **platforms**: Microsoft Teams for instruction, Parent Square for home-school communication, and student subscriptions to Achieve 3000/Smarty Ants, iReady, IXL, and DBQ for middle school. Microsoft Teams will be used for in-person as well as whole group distance learning (if needed) so that students are prepared for any scenario and their futures.

High Quality and Tier I Curricula:

- **Mathematics** – Grades K-7 Eureka; Grade 8 Algebra I - Big Ideas
- **ELA** – Success for All using books and novels; CKLA for language skills and writing; Louisiana Guidebooks, novels, and Sadlier-Oxford Vocabulary Workshop
- **Science** – Amplify Science; SciEd (These are both new adoptions and we expect them to arrive prior to the start of school.)
- **Social Studies** – Studies Weekly; Louisiana Scope and Sequence with Document Based Question Project (DBQ)

Academic screenings will continue to take place at the beginning of the year, middle of the year, and end of the year. Individual plans will be generated as needed and based upon data.

Health and wellness checks will be implemented in all phases of school for students, faculty, and staff. Our Student Assistance Team (SAT), social workers, nurses, or administrators will be available for academic or social/emotional referrals.

Grading policies, formative and summative assessments, student attendance, behavioral expectations, and the integrity of our academic programs are in place.

SPECIAL EDUCATION OR RESOURCE

Teachers may push-in to the static groups. Teachers may provide small group services to students by pulling students out of their static groups into the sanitized resource area according to their IEPs. Gifted and talented courses will be delivered using project-based learning.

HEALTH, SAFETY, AND HYGIENE PROTOCOLS

Physical distancing in hallways (6ft) and social distancing in static groups. Groups convene indoors in rooms with walls or partitions.

Temperatures will **no longer** be scanned by duty teachers upon car or bus arrival. Parents/guardians should monitor temperatures prior to students leaving for school.

Students wash hands in the classrooms or restrooms upon arrival, mid-morning, prior to and following any meals, and following any movement that may be necessary.

Classrooms are disinfected and sanitized prior to the next use. Extra disinfecting supplies are given to each teacher or staff member to disinfect the workspace before and after each use. High touch surfaces such as desks and doorknobs are cleaned before and after each static group's use.

Masks must be worn by all students and staff to the maximum extent possible, including during transitions, arrival, or dismissal. Students and staff should provide their own masks and may wear face shields and protective glasses. It is recommended that all reusable masks have the student's name clearly written on them. Students and adults should always have an extra mask on hand. Hynes will maintain a supply of extra masks for emergencies.

Crowding is limited at entrances and exits. Hand sanitizing stations are provided in areas where handwashing is not possible or accessible.

Signage has been placed throughout the campuses to provide reminders and guidance for good health and hygiene.

Plexiglass barriers have been placed on staff desks in open areas.

Parents/guardians or visitors who are not vital to the development of students are restricted except for extenuating circumstances.

Water fountains are open for general use. Students are encouraged to bring a clear water bottle to school clearly labeled with students' names. Students will be allowed to refill water bottles at the water fountains.

Wellness and attendance checks will be conducted by the Mental Health Leadership Team (MHLT) comprised of school leaders, school health professionals, and teachers.

MEALS

Meals will be consumed in the cafeteria, in the classroom, or outdoors. Due to the prevalence of allergies and health/safety concerns, campuses will be nut-free. Students will either go through the food service line in the cafeteria or food may be delivered to the classroom. Students will eat with their static group. For non-static group dining, students must maintain 6 feet of distancing.

SCHOOL BUS

Buses may be occupied at 100% capacity and will be sanitized between trips.

However, when possible, parents/guardians are asked to provide transportation to further ensure the health and safety of their child(ren).

BEFORE AND AFTER CARE

The Husky Care Program is available at each campus for a fee. Static groups, physical distancing of 6ft indoors, and classrooms will be sanitized prior to the group entering. Students will wash their hands frequently. Outdoor static playgroups will be maintained and masks may be required outdoors.

RECESS/FIELD TRIPS

Playtime is with a static group and distanced from other static groups on the yard. If indoors, the total group size is limited to spacing capacity. Masks may be removed outside depending upon guidance from the City of New Orleans or NOLA-PS.

Field trips may be approved by administration if all current COVID-19 protocols are in place.

ENRICHMENT CLASSES

Enrichment classes will be assigned by each site principal. Classes must maintain static grouping.

At this time all singing and playing instruments can only take place outside. Music and band teachers are encouraged to teach music appreciation and other music concepts which do not require the production of voice or wind sounds.

SPORTS

Hynes will follow all guidance from the LHSAA including limiting the number of spectators at events. Sports are considered extra-curricular and vaccinations for student participants who are eligible are strongly encouraged.

CLUBS

Hynes will provide extra-curricular activities while incorporating safety guidelines and protocols. These decisions will be made on a case-by-case basis and communicated to families in advance. Our focus is on our core curriculum during these unusual times.

VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

For students requiring an interim plan for home-schooling due to health conditions, families must gain documentation from an attending healthcare provider and submit it to the school Principal for consideration and approval. To review a list of the populations who are at higher risk for illness, please visit the CDC website. [LINK](#)

ILLNESS OR COVID-19 POSITIVE TESTS

Hynes will follow the LDH/CDC guidelines for positive tests. Students and staff who are ill must stay home. Anyone who tests positive for COVID-19 must stay home for five days (asymptomatic) or until symptoms subside. More information regarding protocols for unvaccinated and vaccinated persons is available [HERE](#). Quarantine guidelines vary depending upon the facts. As such, students who are involved in a small scale quarantine will be provided with asynchronous learning in the form of assignments and use of online platforms. If a quarantine is more extensive, the school may take a hybrid approach using both synchronous and asynchronous methods.

VACCINATION STATUS

Those faculty, staff, and students who have received the COVID-19 vaccine should provide proof of the vaccine (including booster) to the school nurse. This information is valuable to know which protocol to follow when contact tracing. Vaccination status of students will also be verified in the State portal for vaccines. As a reminder, the vaccination status of a person is considered a health record, and therefore will not be made public. Students must be vaccinated by February 1, 2022 or parent/guardian must submit a waiver. [LINK](#)

FLEXIBILITY

We must remember to be flexible given the context and situation of the pandemic. Hynes will continue to provide high-quality education in this changing world. If any Hynes campus is faced with a school closure, students and teachers will pivot to a distance learning model to minimize disruption to the in-person educational model.

CLOSE CONTACTS

A close contact is someone who has been in the presence (within 6 feet and 15 minutes or more) of another person who tests positive for COVID-19. Any close contact who is fully vaccinated will not need to quarantine, but must test within 5-7 days if symptoms do not present themselves. If close contacts become ill, close contacts must follow quarantine guidance. Any close contact who has recently recovered from COVID-19 (within 90 day) will not need to quarantine.