

# BACK TO THE HAWK'S NEST

## Sumner Academy's Return to School Plan 2020-2021

When faced with great challenges, sometimes we find it difficult to maintain a balanced perspective. In order to do so, we have continuously reached out and listened to diverse feedback. We are extremely grateful that we have a staff that is devoted to promoting the safety of our community to the best of their ability.

In the following pages, you will find our thoughts and plans going into the 2020-2021 school year. Our plans must continue to be adaptable in the case of increasing illness in our area. We are extremely lucky to be in the position where we have the ability to stay agile and still provide our students with an excellent education.



In order to efficiently, effectively, and, most importantly, safely reopen our campus, Sumner Academy is actively gathering information while continuously developing new procedures and guidelines to help us best serve our community.



We understand that some members of our community are at higher risk for COVID-19 and many of our community members go home to others who are at high risk. Our students, for the most part, may not develop the most severe symptoms, but our employees and families are at a greater risk.

Sumner Academy is meant to be an on-campus program, and while we cannot completely eliminate the risks of COVID-19 while it is still a threat, we will strive to minimize any risk as much as possible to protect our students, families, and staff.

## A Flexible Plan for Uncertain Times

Our plan is to begin the school year on July 30 with all students being on campus. There are two basic assumptions that are guiding our planning of the 2020-2021 school year:

- \* COVID-19 will continue to impact schools until a vaccine is widely available.
- \* Our school must be prepared for future waves of infection.



# FLEXIBILITY PLANS

Sumner Academy's plan is to begin school on campus. As long as Sumner Academy remains at **low or moderate risk**, we will remain on campus. We will shift to remote learning as we are instructed or if we are put into a situation where our community is at **high risk**.

1. **On-campus school:** on-campus learning with any necessary accommodations made to provide a safe environment for our students, staff, and families for **low or moderate risk**.

- Health department protocols and CDC regulations implemented.
- Hand washing, hand sanitizer, masks, thermometers, sanitizing areas, social distancing as necessary.
- Planning daily schedule changes to increase social distancing.  
Cafeteria schedules, class transitions, visitor protocols.
- Planning instructional changes  
Reducing transitions, distancing in the classroom, digital learning

2. **Remote School:** Distance learning program for **high risk**.

- Establishing schedules for classes to be held daily for all students.
- Digitizing curriculum for minimum in-person contact while planning to engage students without internet access.
- Continual support to ensure all students' academic success.

## Low to Moderate Risk:

Low to moderate number of cases with most cases from known source.

## High Risk:

Widespread cases, numbers growing quickly with many undetected cases likely.

# SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

We are certain that our community will help us by following necessary requirements from the local, state, and federal levels. Specific decisions and plans regarding on-campus modifications will be an ongoing process that will be finalized in the next few weeks. There are certain considerations and strategies that we will be taking as school begins.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• We do not plan on making calendar changes for the 2020-2021 school year.</li><li>• Athletic offerings will be determined with our administration team and TNCAA administration.</li><li>• Extracurricular activities, afterschool, and before-school care are under current consideration.</li></ul> | <p>The following are strategies Sumner Academy will use, but is not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Distancing students in classrooms and altering traffic patterns to promote distancing.</li><li>• Temperature screening of student, faculty, and staff as needed.</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Campus access for parents and visitors is under review.</li><li>• Ventilation system filters have been replaced and outdoor air will be circulated.</li><li>• Students and faculty will be educated on proper hygiene.</li><li>• Students and faculty must have a cloth face covering with them at school but will not be required to wear unless an emergency arises.</li></ul> |
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For the protection of our community members, students and faculty will need to bring cloth face coverings to school each day. The use of cloth face coverings is part of an overall strategy to reduce risk. Cloth face coverings allow for additional scheduling flexibility and reduce the restrictions on students' interactions with faculty and other students. The degree to which they will be required and circumstances when they will be required will depend upon the scenario. Sumner Academy will continue to review the guidelines for cloth face coverings as additional guidance from medical professionals is provided.

Sumner Academy is first and foremost a community of learners. Our faculty and staff share the same love of learning and problem-solving that they work each day to cultivate in their students. We promise to keep learning about COVID-19 as long as it impacts the health and safety of our community and to revisit our mitigation strategies and safety enhancements as the medical community provides updated research and guidance.