

July 2, 2020

Superintendents:

As you know [ADPH has released their COVID-19 Risk Indicator Dashboard](#) which identifies four colored-coded risk alert levels indicating if a county is in the very high, high, moderate, or low risk level. Several factors influence the county's risk alert level. Dr. Harris and I continue to have almost daily conversations. At this point, we do not anticipate changes to the [Roadmap to Reopening Schools](#) which was distributed last week. School systems should continue to focus on the recommendations in **DO NOW** section of the [Roadmap](#). The recommendations found in **DO NOW** are applicable to all ADPH risk alert levels. We will continue to consult with ADPH and may add recommendations for school systems for red and orange risk alert levels in the coming weeks.

Facial Coverings

ADPH has provided funding for 2.5 million facial coverings (approximately three per staff member and three per student). The facial coverages will be shipped directly to central offices and should arrive mid-August. We will provide more shipping details and we get closer to that date.

American Academy of Pediatrics Guidance

This week, the [American Academy of Pediatrics \(AAP\) released guidance for school re-entry](#). In this guidance, AAP firmly states, "the AAP strongly advocates that all policy considerations for the coming school year should start with a goal of having students physically present in school." You may find this guidance helpful when communicating with local officials, parents, and community.

Cash for College

Thank you for participating in Cash for College. More than 340 schools with over 48,000 students representing all 67 counties of the state participated in Cash for College during the 2019-20 school year. In Alabama, more than 26,000 seniors, or around 52 percent of the Class of 2020, completed the FAFSA by June 19, leveraging around \$66M in Pell Grant aid.

Professional Development for Math and Reading Assessments

We have received questions as it pertains to professional development for math and reading assessments. ALSDE did not purchase any of the assessments. We only provided a vetted list of options for school systems to select from, and sent funding based on ADM. Professional development is individualized by the assessment vendor and is not automatically included. Each school system will need to contact the vendor and discuss options.

CLAS-hosted webinars for 2020-21 School Year

In conjunction with the release of the [Roadmap to Reopening Schools](#), CLAS is working with ALSDE staff to present a series of webinars that detail topics in the [Roadmap](#). The dates of the webinars will be July 6 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., July 7 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., and July 9 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Please contact CLAS to register for the webinars.

Thank you for all you do. Have a safe and Happy Independence Day!

Eric S. Mackey

State Superintendent of Education

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