

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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For media inquiries only, contact:  
Lynthia Ross  
(706) 533-8176

**Richmond County School System Staff and Students to Return from Winter Break as Scheduled with Mask Requirement**

(AUGUSTA, GEORGIA) – The Richmond County School System (RCSS) announced today plans to return from Winter break as scheduled. RCSS employees return on Monday, January 3, 2022 and all RCSS students return to school on Tuesday, January 4, 2022. The school system will resume second semester operations with its mask requirement in place.

Masks continue to be required for students, staff, and visitors to all Richmond County School System facilities and on school buses, regardless of vaccination status.

During the December meeting of the Richmond County Board of Education, Dr. Kenneth Bradshaw, RCSS Superintendent, announced that the system would work with the Department of Public Health (DPH), review current Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recommendations and monitor COVID-19 conditions in Richmond County prior to making a recommendation regarding the mask requirement during the Board of Education’s regularly scheduled meeting on January 18, 2022.

Students and staff awaiting test results or experiencing COVID-19 symptoms should stay home and follow the CDC and DPH guidance for quarantine. Staff should notify their supervisor and students/families should notify the school.

As COVID-19 conditions in our community change and guidance from the CDC and DPH is updated, the Richmond County School System will update COVID-19 mitigation plans throughout the 2021–22 school year.