BACK TO SCHOOL

AAP COVID-19 GUIDANCE FOR SAFE SCHOOLS

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LOSS DURING THE PANDEMIC

• Family members and friends
• Freedom of movement – quarantine
• Routine- change in routine – school, community, religious
• Services
  • Therapies (OT, PT, Speech, Mental Health)
  • In home services nursing, home health aides
• Academic advancement-
• Stability – housing, financial and food insecurity
CREATIVITY, FLEXIBILITY, RESPONSIVENESS AND FORGIVENESS

We have learned to PIVOT
CHILDREN SHOULD BE IN SCHOOL IN PERSON
SAFETY – MULTIPRONGED LAYERED APPROACH

• COVID Vaccination those who are eligible (over 12) – staff and students (and parents)
• Masking of all (staff and students) those over the age of 2 years
• Distancing 3-6 feet in the classroom
• Hand washing
• Routine vaccinations – including influenza vaccine
• Testing for COVID
• Ventilation
• Staying home if sick
CONSIDERATIONS

• Rate of COVID and rate of transmission in the community
• Masking- most should be able to wear
• Mental health issues including anxiety, depression and bereavement (parent and children)
• Children and Adults who are at high risk for complications of COVID
• Digital Divide
CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

- Loss of services
- Mental health issues
- Transitions back to in-person
- Importance of reviewing IEP – what students received or not
SHARED DECISION MAKING

• Parents
• Children
• Pediatricians
• Therapists
• Schools
WHAT CAN WE DO?

• Encourage vaccination
• Reach out to our families who are at highest risk – housing, food, mental health, medical complexity – find out what their needs
• Reach out to pediatricians for assistance – AAP local chapters
• Reach out to the schools/educators and the school nurses
RESOURCES

- COVID-19 Guidance for Safe Schools (aap.org)
- Caring for Children and Youth With Special Health Care Needs During the COVID-19 Pandemic (aap.org)
- School Settings | COVID-19 | CDC