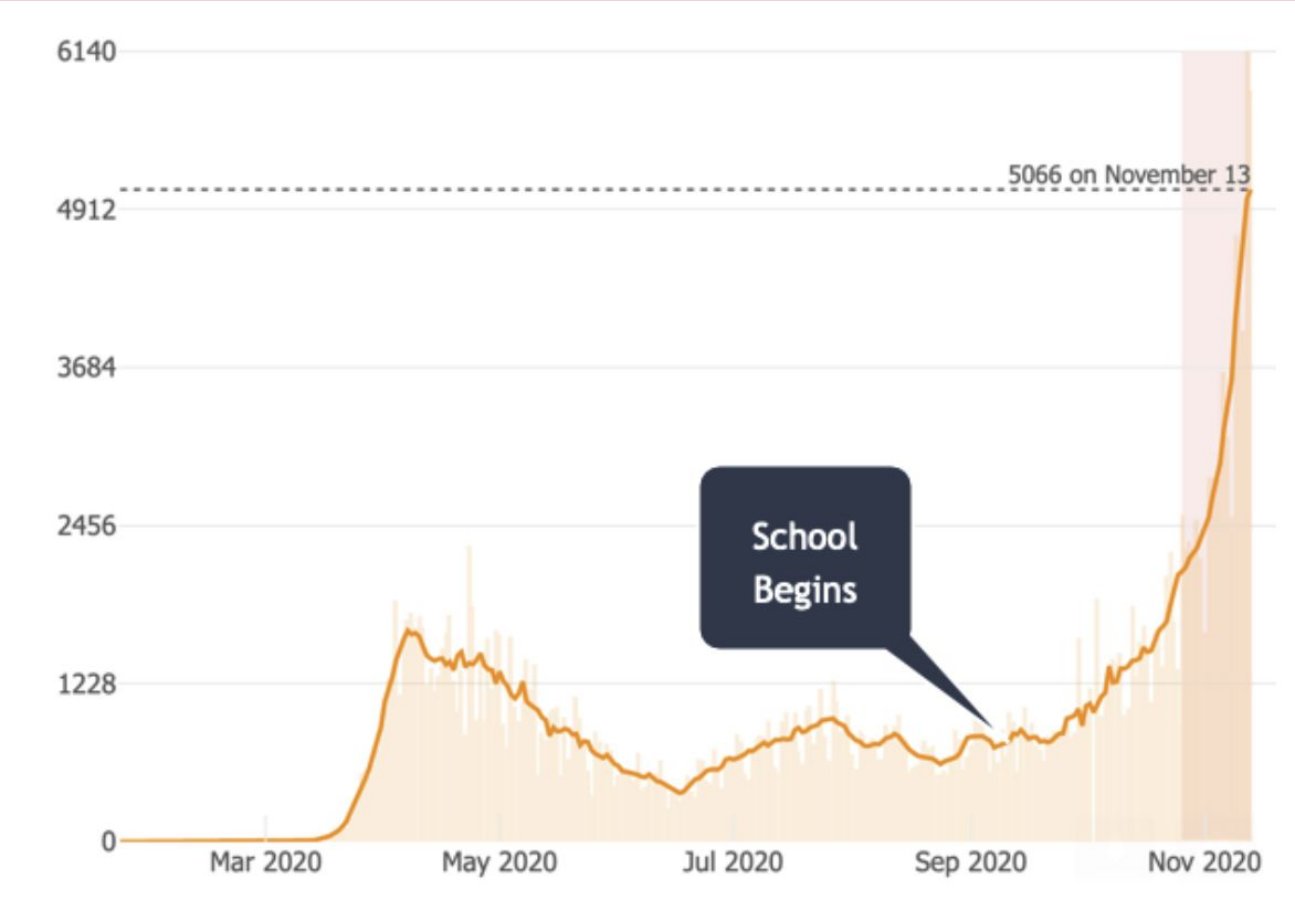
PALMERTON AREA
SCHOOL DISTRICT

Health & Safety Plan Proposed Changes

November 17, 2020 - School Board Meeting

COVID Transmission Level Updates

PA COVID-19 Cases



59 of PA's 67 counties are now seeing "substantial" spread.

Determining Instructional Models

The Departments of Health and Education issued recommendations to Pre-K to 12 schools to use when making decisions related to the instructional models during the 2020-21 school year.

Guidance relies on two standard public health metrics: **incidence rate** and the **percent positivity of diagnostic testing** reported **by county**. These metrics are available on the COVID-19 Early Warning Monitoring System Dashboard.

Difference in confirmed cases - The number of confirmed cases identified in the most recent 7-day period minus the number of confirmed cases identified in the previous 7-day period

Incidence rate (per 100,000 residents) - (Number of new confirmed cases in the most recent 7-day period/2018 county population) x 100,000

PCR Percent Positivity - The number of persons who tested positive by PCR during the most recent 7 day-period / the number of persons who were tested by PCR during the most recent 7 day-period, expressed as a percent. Retested persons are included. Since many people who are routinely retested as part of universal testing programs repeatedly test negative, the percent positivity is lower than what would be calculated if one used the number of new cases and the number of people tested for the first time in the most recent 7-day period.

Source: COVID-19 Early Warning Monitoring System Dashboard

pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Week of November 6-12, 2020

pennsylvania DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

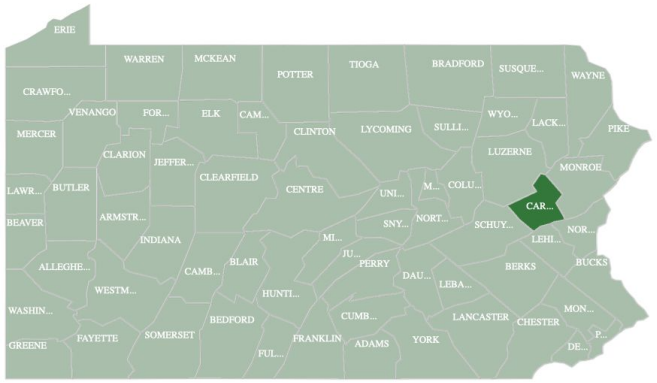
COVID-19 Early Warning Monitoring System Dashboard

Updated on 11/13/2020

Select a county or multiple counties (CTRL+click) in the map to filter the table.

Page Navigation

By County



Pennsylvania

+9,569 Confirmed cases (diff.)	204.7 Incidence rate per 100,000 (curr.)
9.6% PCR percent positivity (curr.)	+536.4 Avg. daily hospitalizations (diff.)
+55.0 Avg. daily ventilators (diff.)	1.2% Hosp. visits due to CLI (curr.)

diff. - difference between the most recent 7-day period and the previous 7-day period.
curr. - most recent 7-day period

Most recent 7-day period: November 6-November 12

Previous 7-day period: October 30-November 5

For detailed county progress hover over the metric.

County	Difference in confirmed cases (most recent 7 days vs previous 7 days)	Incidence rate (most recent 7 days) per 100,000 residents	PCR percent positivity (most recent 7 days)	Difference in the average daily number of COVID-19 hospitalizations**	Difference in the average daily number of COVID-19 patients on ventilators**	Percent of hospital emergency department visits in the most recent 7 days due to COVID-like-illness*
CARBON	+51	219.5	11.3%	+0.9	0.0	0.3%

Source: COVID-19 Early Warning Monitoring System Dashboard

Transmission Rates & Determining Instructional Models

October 23-29, 2020

Level of Community Transmission in the County	Incidence Rate per 100,000 Residents (Most Recent 7 Days)	AND/OR	PCR Percent Positivity (Most Recent 7 Days)	Recommended Instructional Models
Low	<10	AND	<5% 4.8	Full in-person Model OR Blended Learning Model
Moderate	10 to <100 65.4	OR	5% to <10%	Blended Learning Model OR Full Remote Learning Model
Substantial	≥100	OR	≥10%	Full Remote Learning Model

November 6-12, 2020

Level of Community Transmission in the County	Incidence Rate per 100,000 Residents (Most Recent 7 Days)	AND/OR	PCR Percent Positivity (Most Recent 7 Days)	Recommended Instructional Models
Low	<10	AND	<5%	Full in-person Model OR Blended Learning Model
Moderate	10 to <100	OR	5% to <10%	Blended Learning Model OR Full Remote Learning Model
Substantial	≥100 219.5	OR	≥10% 11.3	Full Remote Learning Model

Source: Determining Instructional Models During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Transmission Rates & Determining Instructional Models

August 13, 2020

Level of Community Transmission in the County	Incidence Rate per 100,000 Residents (Most Recent 7 Days)	AND/OR	PCR Percent Positivity (Most Recent 7 Days)	Recommended Instructional Models
Low	<10	AND	<5%	Full in-person Model OR Blended Learning Model
Moderate	10 to <100	OR	5% to <10%	Blended Learning Model OR Full Remote Learning Model
Substantial	≥100	OR	≥10%	Full Remote Learning Model

21.8

3.1

October 23-29, 2020

Level of Community Transmission in the County	Incidence Rate per 100,000 Residents (Most Recent 7 Days)	AND/OR	PCR Percent Positivity (Most Recent 7 Days)	Recommended Instructional Models
Low	<10	AND	<5%	Full in-person Model OR Blended Learning Model
Moderate	10 to <100	OR	5% to <10%	Blended Learning Model OR Full Remote Learning Model
Substantial	≥100	OR	≥10%	Full Remote Learning Model

65.4

4.8

November 6-12, 2020

Level of Community Transmission in the County	Incidence Rate per 100,000 Residents (Most Recent 7 Days)	AND/OR	PCR Percent Positivity (Most Recent 7 Days)	Recommended Instructional Models
Low	<10	AND	<5%	Full in-person Model OR Blended Learning Model
Moderate	10 to <100	OR	5% to <10%	Blended Learning Model OR Full Remote Learning Model
Substantial	≥100	OR	≥10%	Full Remote Learning Model

219.5

11.3

Source: Determining Instructional Models During the COVID-19 Pandemic

pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Level of Community Transmission Table

Recommendations for Pre-K to 12 Schools in Determining Instructional Models:

Low: Full in-person model or; blended learning model

Moderate: Blended learning model or; full remote learning model

Substantial: full remote learning model

More information on recommended instructional models and levels of community transmission: education.pa.gov/COVID19

September 4, 2020	Low
September 11, 2020	Low
September 18, 2020	Low
September 25, 2020	Moderate
October 2, 2020	Moderate
October 9, 2020	Moderate
October 16, 2020	Moderate
October 23, 2020	Moderate
October 30, 2020	Moderate
November 6, 2020	Substantial
November 13, 2020	Substantial

Source: Determining Instructional Models During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Recent Updates

Sunday, November 15 - PDE Meeting Notification

- All Carbon County superintendents were contacted and directed to attend a meeting on Monday, November 16 with the PA Department of Education

Monday, November 16 - PDE Meeting

- Carbon County superintendents attended the meeting
- Guidance to move to a full remote learning plan was reinforced and strongly recommended

Tuesday, November 17 - Dr. Levine's Press Meeting

- "Aggressive, unrelenting community spread"
- "Containment, Mitigation, Vaccine"
- "Biggest public health crisis that we've seen since 1918"
- Recommendation to follow the State's guidance to implement a full remote plan for all

Health & Safety Plan Proposed Changes

Recommendations from the Superintendent

Full Remote Learning Model

- The district will move to full virtual/remote instruction at all grade levels beginning after the Thanksgiving Break (Tuesday, December 1, 2020). Again, this is the recommendation from PDE/DOH.
- This is two weeks from today. Families are encouraged to begin planning for this change.

When will we transition out of a full virtual remote plan?

- Beginning with the 7-day reporting period of January 1-7, 2021, when 3 out of 4 weeks are designated at the “moderate” COVID-19 transmission level in Carbon County, the transition out of the full remote plan will occur.

Sports & Other Extracurriculars:

- Sports are cancelled during the full remote instruction plan.
- Other board-approved clubs may only occur remotely and they must follow the club’s approved health and safety plan.

Questions?

If you have a question regarding tonight's presentation, please send it to the email address and it will be directed to the appropriate person. Questions that would benefit a district as a whole will be added to the district's FAQ page.

pasd@palmerton.org

Please visit the FAQ page on the district's COVID-19 page for additional information during the remainder of the week.

As always, thank you for your continued support as we make hard decisions during these challenging times.