

Palmerton Area School District

Path to Reopening Schools: Health and Safety Plan – Updated on 11/25/20

The Palmerton Area School District's *Path to Reopening Schools: Health and Safety Plan (HSP)* outlines our school district's reopening activities and instructional plan for the 2020-2021 school year. As directed by the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE), the HSP was developed and tailored to meet the unique needs of the district. It has been created after reviewing recommendations from various health organizations. All district activities have been informed by [Governor Wolf's Process to Open Pennsylvania](#), [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#), [July 16 DOH/PDE Guidance](#) and the [American Academy of Pediatrics](#). The most up-to-date information can be found on the [What's New](#) page and the [Frequently Asked Questions link](#).

Governor Wolf's plan originally categorized the reopening into three broad phases: red, yellow, and green. These designations signal how counties and/or regions may begin easing some restrictions on school, work, congregate settings, and social interactions. The [categories](#) primarily utilized now are substantial, moderate, and low. This revised plan incorporates these new phasing designations in the headers of each focus area.

Depending upon the public health conditions in Carbon County, there could be additional actions, orders, or guidance provided by PDE and/or the Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH). There may be times when the county moves into a different phase as public health indicators improve or worsen in our local area. The Palmerton Area School District's HSP accounts for changing conditions to ensure fluid transition from more to less restrictive conditions in each of the phase requirements as needed. Without school board approval, the superintendent is authorized to clarify/update information in this plan particularly when/if additional directives or guidance is provided by the Governor, DOH, PDE, etc.

Questions regarding the plan should be sent to the following email addresses:

General Plan Questions: pasd@palmerton.org

Technology Related Questions: tech.dept@palmerton.org

Note: I attempted to highlight all important and/or large-scale changes/updates since the last HSP was approved.

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Introduction: Key Strategies, Guidelines, Procedures and Addressing Community Spread

This action plan documents the Palmerton Area School District's thorough plan for each of the requirements outlined in the *Pennsylvania Department of Education's Preliminary Guidance for Phased Reopening of K-12 Schools*. The tables included identify a detailed summary describing the key strategies, guidelines, and procedures the PASD will employ to ensure the health and safety of stakeholders in the local education community. The HSP includes key information for employees, students, and families regarding the phased reopening of schools. Please be reminded that the purpose of the HSP is to address, as the name indicates, "health and safety" issues of the entire district. Other issues that are not directly related to health and safety will be addressed separately.

As required by PDE, our HSP was school board approved prior to the reopening of schools. It should be noted that this is a fluid document and, as such, may be changed if/when needed. The plan will not be reauthorized by the Board of School Directors unless the change is needed for PDE approval. Guidance that mandates Board reauthorization of the HSP to ensure compliance will require a Board agenda item for action. All other changes will be made at the superintendent's discretion.

The following resolution was adopted and approved at the July 21, 2020 school board meeting:










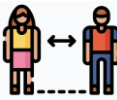
WHEREAS, the World Health Organization has declared the current outbreak of COVID-19 a global pandemic; and
WHEREAS, the Pennsylvania Department of Education has determined that the COVID-19 pandemic constitutes an "emergency" within the meaning of Section 520.1 of the Public School Code; and
WHEREAS, the Board of School Directors has determined that the risks COVID-19 presents to our students, faculty, and community requires an extraordinary response;
NOW THEREFORE, the Board finds and declares that the COVID-19 pandemic is an emergency within the meaning of Section 520.1 of the Pennsylvania School Code.

For the duration of said pandemic but in no event for any period exceeding four years, the Superintendent shall have the duty and the authority to develop a Health and Safety plan in a form and manner prescribed by the Pennsylvania Department of Education that ensures a minimum of 180 days of instruction, allowing for a minimum of 900 hours of instruction at the elementary level and 990 hours of instruction at the secondary level, employing any combination of in-person, virtual, and distance learning as the Superintendent deems appropriate to address the health and safety of students, faculty, and community, and the learning needs of students. Such instruction shall comply in full with the requirement of Chapter 4 of the regulations of the State Board of Education and with the curriculum standards published in accordance therewith.

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Plan Highlights

<p>Teaching & Learning</p> 	<p>The PASD is offering several options to meet the varying needs of our students. Parents will have the opportunity to select which option they prefer.</p> <p>A proactive shift to a temporary remote learning plan is included in this section.</p>	<p>Hygiene Practices</p> 	<p>Staff and students are expected to adhere to hygiene practices set forth by CDC and DOH (handwashing, sanitizing, respiratory etiquette). Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) will be utilized by staff and students in accordance with current CDC and DOH recommendations.</p>
<p>Daily Wellness Checks</p> 	<p>Prior to leaving home, students and staff members are required to take their temperature. Anyone with a temperature of 100 or greater and/or experiencing COVID-19 symptoms should not report to school/work and should contact his/her healthcare provider.</p>	<p>School Visitors</p> 	<p>Non-essential visitors and volunteers will not be allowed to enter the school building. Essential visitors should schedule an appointment, will be required to wear a face covering and complete a COVID-19 questionnaire upon entry into the building.</p>
<p>Face Coverings</p> 	<p>It is expected that all staff and students will wear approved face coverings in accordance with the PA Department of Health (DOH)/ Governor's order(s). Students must provide their own approved face covering/mask. Parents should put in place a cleaning process at home which will allow for routine cleaning of face coverings/masks.</p>	<p>Transportation</p> 	<p>Bus riders must wear a face covering/mask. Buses will operate with a maximum of two students per seat if needed. Cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched surfaces will occur. Walking to school and parent drop-off/pick-up are encouraged.</p>
<p>Cleaning & Disinfecting</p> 	<p>All cleaning supplies will meet or exceed local, state, federal, and CDC recommendations and guidelines. PASD staff use approved disinfectant and a process that ensures the cleaning and disinfecting of high-touch surfaces.</p>	<p>Meals</p> 	<p>PASD will implement alternate meal serving methods and may utilize additional spaces to establish a minimum of 6 feet of social distancing during breakfast and lunches. Meal areas will be cleaned and disinfected before and after eating.</p>
<p>Students or Staff Showing COVID-19 Symptoms While at School</p> 	<p>Anyone showing signs of illness will be quarantined and sent home immediately. If a case of COVID-19 is <u>confirmed</u>, the Department of Health (DOH) will provide guidance related to contact tracing, testing, quarantine, etc. This may result in a change to the instructional method, classroom/school closure, and/or a transition to online learning.</p>	<p>Social Distancing</p> 	<p>The PASD is planning for 6 feet of social distancing at all times. An exact 6 feet distance may fluctuate at various points during the day depending on the room size, number of students in attendance, etc. We will maximize the amount of space between students whenever possible.</p>


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Focus Area #1	Substantial Transmission or Red Phase	Moderate Transmission or Yellow Phase	Low Transmission or Green Phase
<p>Teaching and Learning</p> 	<p>All information in the red column of Focus Area #1 has been updated. Please review it carefully.</p> <p><u>Attestation Ensuring Implementation of Mitigation Efforts:</u> The district will follow the 11/24/20 Order of the Governor of the Commonwealth of PA Directing Public School Entities in Counties with Substantial Community Transmission to Attest to Health and Safety Protocols. Adoption of this Attestation will allow the district to continue offering the hybrid learning plan and in-person instruction IF the following conditions are met: - The district must read and comply with the 11/18/20 Updated Order of the Secretary of the PA Dept. of Health Requiring Universal Face Coverings including necessary exceptions and associated guidance, and affirm the public - Affirm the public school entity is complying and will continue to comply with and enforce the Updated Order of the Secretary of the PA DOH Requiring Universal Face Coverings, including necessary exceptions and associated guidance AND - The District has read and agrees</p>	<p>Please refer to the Low Transmission / Green Phase.</p>	<p><u>Instruction:</u> - The district's primary instructional method at all grade levels will include live instruction provided by PASD teachers.</p> <p>The PASD recognizes and acknowledges that there may be families that prefer a full virtual option during these challenging and uncertain times.</p> <p>We believe that the options provided will give students structure and routine, while being flexible enough to allow parents to be included in the decision-making process that they believe is in the best interest of their child.</p> <p><u>Instructional Day:</u> Elementary Level: Standard hours (no changes) Junior/Senior High: Dismissal will be at 2:05. The start time is unchanged.</p> <p>Please note that the Superintendent reserves the right to alter the instructional day as needed in accordance with the Resolution that was approved at the July 21 school board meeting.</p> <p>=====</p>


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<p>Teaching and Learning (cont.)</p> 	<p>to follow the Recommendations for Pre-K to 12 Schools Following Identification of a Case(s) of COVID-19 when cases of COVID-19 occur within the school entity.</p> <p><u>Temporary Remote Instruction Plan:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The district will implement a temporary move to full remote instruction at all grade levels from December 1-23. - Beginning on Monday, January 4, 2021 (after returning from the winter break) the hybrid, face-to-face option will be available again. <p><u>Summary/Clarification:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - December 1-23: Full remote learning (no hybrid/in-person instruction) - December 24-January 1: Winter break - January 4: Hybrid/In-person instruction resumes <p><u>Additional Full Virtual/Remote Instruction Information:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Students will attend all classes remotely from December 1-23. - Students will follow their regular daily schedule. - Students will receive instruction and support from their teachers and instructional assistants (as applicable). - Attendance is mandatory, as it is on all other instructional days. - Employees will receive additional direction from the superintendent or her designee. <p><u>Superintendent's Authority:</u> The superintendent is authorized to</p>		<p><u>PHASED, FULL RETURN TO IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION:</u> A full return to in-person instruction will be implemented based on careful consideration and balancing of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. PDE/DOH Instructional Models During COVID-19 2. Parent/Guardian survey results 3. Teacher survey results 4. Administrative team recommendations <p><u>Phase-In Order:</u> Phase 1: Grades K-2 Phase 2: Grades 3-6 Phase 3: Junior Phase 4: Senior High</p> <p><u>Phase-In Start Dates:</u> Phase 1: Phase 1 will begin when 3 out of 4 weeks have been designated at the "low" transmission level in Carbon County Phase 2: Two-weeks after Phase 1 Phase 3: Two weeks after Phase 2 Phase 4: Two weeks after Phase 3</p> <p><u>Phase-In Options & Clarification:</u> OPTION 1: Full, in-person OPTION 2: Full virtual OPTION 3: Blue Bombers Academy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The hybrid option is removed once a phase is implemented. - The only switches that will be approved are those that occur at the end of a marking period, semester, or with the approval of the building principal.
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<p>Teaching and Learning (cont.)</p> 	<p>temporarily close schools at any point due to COVID-19 positive cases as required in the Attestation Ensuring Implementation of Mitigation Efforts, per the requirement to follow the Recommendations for Pre-K to 12 Schools Following Identification of a Case(s) of COVID-19.</p> <p>Travel: All travel-related information on page 10 is in effect and may be updated at any time.</p> <p>Resources: DOH/PDE Recommendations for Schools COVID-19 PA Data</p>		<p>NOTE: Until the described phases are school board approved and implemented, the original options approved in July are listed below (with a few modifications) and will remain in effect:</p> <p>=====</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>JULY’S APPROVED OPTIONS</u></p> <p>IMPORTANT: There are two main options listed below. Parents will have the opportunity to select which option they prefer. Changes to the selected option will only be allowed at designated times throughout the school year. Please review all options carefully.</p> <p><u>OPTION 1: HYBRID</u></p> <p>Hybrid learning is a combination of in-person instruction at school and remote instruction at home via the computer.</p> <p><u>Student Groups:</u> Each classroom will be divided into two groups, which have been assigned by the principal.</p> <p>Group 1: M & Tu: In-person W, Th, & F: Remote learning</p> <p>Group 2: W & Th: In-person M, Tu, & F: Remote learning</p> <p>NOTE: On the remote learning days during</p>
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<p>Teaching and Learning (cont.)</p> 			<p>the hybrid option, there will be a mixture of synchronous and asynchronous instruction. This will allow teachers to have autonomy in their classroom so that they can balance their in-person and at-home learners in a manner that works best for the curriculum, lesson, activities, etc. This means that the structure of the day and student schedules may vary within buildings and across the district. Principals will be in charge of working with the teachers in their building to determine remote learning schedules.</p> <p><u>OPTION 2: VIRTUAL</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Parents can opt to have their child participate in virtual learning through remote instruction with a teacher.- Students will be enrolled in their school and assigned to a PASD teacher (or teachers) just as they would be if they were in the actual face-to-face school setting.- Students will be able to see and hear his/her teacher(s) conduct instruction and participate in lessons just as they would if they were physically in the classroom. <p><u>NOTE:</u></p> <p>The full virtual option will include a mixture of synchronous and asynchronous instruction. This will allow teachers to have additional autonomy in their classroom and balance their in-person and at-home learners in a manner that works best for the curriculum, lesson, activities, etc. This means that the structure of the day and</p>
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<p>Teaching and Learning (cont.)</p> 			<p>student schedules may vary within buildings and across the district. Principals will be in charge of working with the teachers in their building to determine remote learning schedules.</p> <p><u>Note for Teachers & Paraprofessionals:</u> Instruction will occur from the school/classroom unless directed and/or approved by the Superintendent.</p> <p><u>OPTION 3: CYBER SCHOOL</u> The PASD offers a full cyber academy option called Blue Bombers Cyber Academy. Although the instruction is accessed virtually, students <u>will not</u> receive live instruction with PASD teachers. For additional information regarding the district's cyber academy option, please contact Mr. Dan Heaney at dheaney@palmerton.org.</p> <p>=====</p> <p><u>Special Education Students</u> For additional information, please contact Mrs. Suzanne Rentschler at srentschler@palmerton.org.</p> <p>=====</p> <p><u>Targeted interventions and supports:</u> Additional instructional supports will be provided to at-risk students, students with disabilities, and English Language Learners.</p> <p>=====</p> <p><u>Internet Access:</u> If you do not have internet access at home, please contact your child's</p>
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<p>Teaching and Learning (cont.)</p> 			<p>principal for additional information. =====</p> <p>All of the information on this page has been updated. Please review it carefully.</p> <p><u>Travel:</u> The information in this section applies to employees and students. Please keep this information in mind prior to planning vacations, trips, etc. that are outside of PA.</p> <p><u>Traveling Outside of PA:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Per the Order of the Secretary of the PA DOH for Mitigation Relating to Travel and clarified by the PA Department of Health's COVID-19 Information for Travelers website, you are responsible for reviewing and abiding by all information on these websites. - Pennsylvanians visiting other states are required to... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - have a negative COVID-19 test within 72 hours <u>prior</u> to their return to PA <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - quarantine for 14 days upon return to PA <p>- The PASD is enforcing these requirements. The same requirements will be enforced for all travel to Level 3 High Risk countries per the CDC's COVID-19 Travel Recommendations by Destination.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - During a quarantine, students must attend class remotely. <p><u>Resources:</u> COVID-19 Information for Travelers</p> <p>Order of the Secretary of PA DOH for Mitigation Relating to Travel</p>
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Focus Area #2	Substantial Transmission or Red Phase	Moderate Transmission or Yellow Phase	Low Transmission or Green Phase
<p>Prevention Practices</p> 	<p>Please refer to the Low Transmission / Green Phase.</p>	<p>Please refer to the Low Transmission / Green Phase.</p>	<p>District Cleaning Plan - The district's cleaning plan is posted on the PASD website. The cleaning plan is a supplemental document that is used in conjunction with (not in lieu of) the district's HSP.</p> <p>Masks/Face Shields - Employees, students, and visitors must wear an approved face covering (mask and/or face shield) per the 11/17/20 Updated Order of the Secretary of the PA Dept. of Health Requiring Universal Face Coverings. Face shields will be provided for all teachers, paraprofessionals, and other employees upon request. - Students are expected to bring their own mask/face covering to school every day. The district will have some extra masks available in case a student's original mask is soiled throughout the day (i.e. bloody nose, dropped on the floor, etc.)</p> <p>Cleaning, Sanitizing, Disinfecting, and Ventilation Cleaning, sanitizing, disinfecting will be performed in accordance with current CDC, and DOH guidelines. EPA approved products will be used in accordance with labeling requirements and staff will be</p>


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<p>Prevention Practices (cont.)</p> 			<p>trained on how to appropriately use these products</p> <p><u>Custodial Duties & Responsibilities</u> Please refer to the district's cleaning plan for custodial information.</p> <p><u>Custodial/Maintenance PPE</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Masks, face shields, gloves, and safety glasses/goggles - Maintenance and custodial staff will be required to wear proper PPE for each daily task - Gloves will be changed frequently throughout the workday - Areas or surfaces should first be cleaned with soap and water <p><u>PPE Professional Development</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All staff will receive training on how to properly apply and remove PPE <p>CDC PPE Professional Development/Training</p> <p><u>Ventilation</u> Please refer to the district's cleaning plan for ventilation information.</p> <p><u>Hygiene Practices for Students and Staff</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Staff and students are expected to adhere to hygiene practices set forth by CDC and DOH. - Staff and students will utilize PPE in accordance with current CDC and DOH recommendations. - Hand soap will be available in all bathrooms. - Hand sanitizer will be provided in all classrooms and high-traffic
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<p>Prevention Practices (cont.)</p> 			<p>areas*.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Paper towels and no-touch trash cans will be in all bathrooms, classrooms, and high-traffic areas.- Teachers will review hygiene practices with their students on the first day of school. <p><u>Signage</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Signage will be posted at entrances, bathrooms, and in other areas. <p><u>Limiting the sharing of materials among students</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Whenever possible, items should not be shared between students.- Items that may need to be shared (for example, laptops/computers) must be disinfected by the teacher after each use. Teachers will be provided with pre-soaked cleaning supplies and gloves.- Water fountains will be turned off. Students and staff will be encouraged to bring a full water bottle from home each day. <p><u>Cleaning Student Desks:</u> Faculty and staff will assist with student desk cleaning as described in the district's cleaning plan.</p> <p><u>Materials, Resources and/or Supports Needed</u> Hand washing toolkit</p> <p>Types of PPE</p> <p>Personal Protective Equipment</p>
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Focus Area #3	Substantial Transmission or Red Phase	Moderate Transmission or Yellow Phase	Low Transmission or Green Phase
<p>Transportation</p> 	<p>If/When the district is physically open, please refer to the Low Transmission / Green Phase.</p> <p>If/When the district is following a Full Remote Instruction plan, this section is n/a.</p>	<p>Please refer to the Low Transmission / Green Phase.</p>	<p>Daily Student Health Screening</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Parents are expected to conduct the Daily Student Wellness Screening with their child/children each morning before school. <p>Bus Stops</p> <p><u>The PASD agrees to enforce the following steps:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Parents/Guardians will be encouraged to stay at the bus stop with their child to provide adequate supervision and encourage and/or enforce social distancing. - Masks are required at the bus stop. <p><u>George's Transportation Co. agrees to take the following steps:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Employees will be instructed to screen for symptoms of illness and take their own temperature every morning. They will be directed to stay home if ill. - Bus drivers will receive training to ensure proper cleaning of the buses. - Symptomatic or sick employees will not be permitted on the bus. - Symptomatic or sick students will be sent home if a parent is at the bus stop when picked up. If not, the driver will put the student in a designated seat at the front of the bus away from other children. Upon arrival at the school, the principal and/or nurse will be immediately


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<p>Transportation (cont.)</p> 			<p>notified. The student will be taken to the nurse's office and screened for symptoms.</p> <p><u>Riding the Bus</u></p> <p><u>The PASD agrees to enforce the following steps:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Students will be required to wear face shields and/or masks when entering, riding, and exiting the bus.- Students will be required to sit in their assigned seat.- Siblings will be seated together.- Students will not consume food/drinks on the bus. <p><u>George's Transportation Co. agrees to take the following steps:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Buses will operate with no more than 2 students per seat to the maximum extent possible.- Tape will be used to put an "X" on each seat to indicate where students are required to sit.- An assigned seating chart will be created and available on each bus.- Bus drivers will be required to wear face shields and/or masks when students enter, ride, and exit the bus. Drivers must wear a mask at all times when students are present. Guidance from Governor Wolf's office will be followed regarding exceptions.- Students will be encouraged to open the windows when the weather is appropriate.- Drivers will not consume food/drinks on the bus. <p><u>Preventative Measures</u></p> <p><u>The PASD agrees to provide the following steps:</u></p>
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<p>Transportation (cont.)</p> 			<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Parents are expected to conduct the Daily Student Wellness Screening with their child/children each morning before school.- School personnel reviewed bus rules, bus stop rules, mask enforcement guidelines, etc. on the first day of school. <p><u>George's Transportation Co. agrees to take the following steps:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- High-touch surfaces on all buses will be disinfected after each scheduled run.- Hand sanitizer will be provided for drivers and students.- Bus drivers will be required to wash hands before and after shifts.- PPE will be provided for bus drivers.- Posters encouraging staying at home when sick, covering coughs and sneezes, and washing hands often will be placed on the bus in sight of all passengers.- Buses will be aired out when not in use. <p>Field Trips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Field trips will not be permitted until further notice. This includes Community Based Instruction trips planned through the special education department. <p><u>Materials, Resources and/or Supports Needed</u></p> <p>Types of PPE</p> <p>CDC What bus transit operators need to know about COVID-19</p> <p>CDC Educational Materials</p>
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Focus Area #4	Substantial Transmission or Red Phase	Moderate Transmission or Yellow Phase	Low Transmission or Green Phase
<p>Entering School Buildings</p> 	<p>Please refer to the Low Transmission / Green Phase.</p>	<p>Please refer to the Low Transmission / Green Phase.</p>	<p>Visitors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The only visitors allowed in the school during regular school hours will be law enforcement, Children and Youth employees, TSS, BSC, IU employees and other non-PASD employees who are either providing services identified in a child's IEP or medical health plan or are pre-approved by the Superintendent. - Parents will need to wait outside if picking up their child from school. Office personnel will bring the child to the front door to meet the parent. - The only exceptions will be extreme behavioral and/or medical issues, which will be solely at the discretion of the principal. -Volunteers are not permitted. <p>Meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Remote meetings are <u>strongly encouraged</u> whenever possible. This includes, but is not limited to, IEP meetings, parent/teacher conferences, PTO meetings, booster/athletic meetings, and school board meetings. - If a meeting can be held remotely, it should be conducted in this manner. - Please refer to Focus Area #8 regarding "Large Group Gatherings" for additional requirements and guidance.


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<p>Entering School Buildings (cont.)</p> 			<p><u>Permissible visitors (as identified previously) must follow these screening procedures upon entrance or they will be directed to leave:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Visitors are required to take their own temperature prior to coming to the school and remain at home if warranted.- Visitors must call/ring the front office before entering. Screening of symptoms of illness will be required for staff and visitors prior to entering the school.- Temperature checks will be required before entering buildings - completion of Daily Wellness Screening Questionnaire- Symptomatic or sick visitors will not be permitted into the school.- Face coverings/masks will be required for all visitors entering the building and while visiting the building. <p><u>Preventative Measures:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Signage will be posted at entrances to communicate how to stop the spread of COVID-19 symptoms, preventative measures (including staying home when sick), proper hygiene, and school/district specific protocols.- Spaced lines marked to enter the building, designate entrance and exit flow paths, and promote social distancing will be provided.- Hand sanitizer will be accessible for all visitors.- Meeting rooms will be sanitized at the conclusion of the meeting. <p><u>Staff and Students:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Symptomatic or sick employees,
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<p>Entering School Buildings (cont.)</p> 			<p>students and visitors will not be permitted into the school.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Wellness screening procedures have been created for employees <p>School-Specific Procedures Please refer to the building-level health and safety plans for details.</p>
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Path to Reopening Schools: Health and Safety Plan – Updated on 11/25/20

Focus Area #5	Substantial Transmission or Red Phase	Moderate Transmission or Yellow Phase	Low Transmission or Green Phase
<p>Serving Meals</p> 	<p>If the district is physically open, please refer to the Low Transmission / Green Phase.</p> <p>If the district is following a Full Remote Instruction plan, additional meal information will be provided to families.</p>	<p>Please refer to the Low Transmission / Green Phase.</p>	<p>Serving Models:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Meals must be served in a location where 6 feet of social distancing can be provided. - Alternate locations (such as the gym) should be considered. - Meals can only be served in the cafeteria if all of the following guidelines are met: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spaced serving lines (marked on floors) • Spaced seating at least 6 feet apart • Longer meal periods for more staggered meal delivery <p>Safety Items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Staff and students will be required to wash hands or use hand sanitizer before and after meal service. - Staff will be required to wear face masks/coverings during meal preparation and service. - Hand sanitizer will be available for students and staff. - While wearing PPE, a cafeteria department employee will enter all student payment information on the terminal. - Disposable plates, utensils will be utilized as needed. - Sharing food, drinks, and/or utensils is not permitted. - Hand sanitizer will be accessible for all visitors.

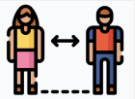
Palmerton Area School District

Path to Reopening Schools: Health and Safety Plan – Updated on 11/25/20

<p>Serving Meals (cont.)</p> 			<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Cleaning of high-touch surfaces will be conducted after each meal service <p><u>Preventative Measures</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Spaced lines will be marked to enter the cafeteria and serving lines- Designated entrances and exits to assist with flow paths to serving lines will be visibly marked.- The principal will create a meal schedule that allows additional time between sections/periods if needed for appropriate cleaning.- Posters encouraging covering coughs and sneezes, and washing hands often will be placed in cafeteria in sight of all students and staff <p><u>School-Specific Procedures</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Please refer to each school's building plan for information. <p><u>Materials, Resources and/or Supports Needed</u></p> <p>Types of PPE</p> <p>CDC Educational Materials</p>
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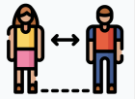
Palmerton Area School District

Path to Reopening Schools: Health and Safety Plan – Updated on 11/25/20

Focus Area #6	Substantial Transmission or Red Phase	Moderate Transmission or Yellow Phase	Low Transmission or Green Phase
<p>Social Distancing and Other Safety Protocols</p> 	<p>If the district is physically open, please refer to the Low Transmission / Green Phase.</p> <p>If the district is following the Full Remote Instruction plan, this section is n/a.</p>	<p>Please refer to the Low Transmission / Green Phase.</p>	<p><u>Classroom/Learning Space and Recess</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Approximately 6 feet of separation (to the maximum extent feasible among students and staff) will be provided in all classrooms. - During recess, 6 feet is required. <p>July 16 DOH/PDE Guidance</p> <p><u>Cafeteria</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Meals will be served in a location where 6 feet of social distancing can be provided. - Alternate locations (such as the gym) should be considered if needed. - Please see Focus Area #5 for additional details. <p><u>Buses</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Buses will operate with approximately 24 students per bus, with a maximum of 2 per seat if needed. - Tape will be used to put an “X” on each seat to indicate where students are required to sit. - Please see Focus Area #3 for additional details. <p><u>Materials, Resources and/or Supports Needed</u></p> <p>Types of PPE Signage Samples Floor markings- Tape</p>

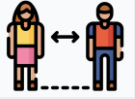
Palmerton Area School District

Path to Reopening Schools: Health and Safety Plan – Updated on 11/25/20

Focus Area #7	Substantial Transmission or Red Phase	Moderate Transmission or Yellow Phase	Low Transmission or Green Phase
<p>Transitioning in Congregate Settings</p> 	<p>If the district is physically open, please refer to the Low Transmission / Green Phase.</p> <p>If the district is following the Full Remote Instruction plan, this section is n/a.</p>	<p>Please refer to the Low Transmission / Green Phase.</p>	<p><u>District/School Transitioning Considerations</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We will limit mixing between groups (to the maximum extent feasible based on student schedules, IEP needs, etc.). <p><u>Arrival & Dismissal:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The administration and bus company will work together to devise a plan that allows for staggered bus drop-off and pick-up. - Specific details regarding walkers, bus students, door use, etc. will be outlined in each building plan's procedures and guidelines. The junior and senior high school will work together on this section because they have the same start/end times. - Bus hall at the secondary level is eliminated. <p><u>Meal Service</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Please refer to each building level plan for additional details. <p><u>Handwashing/Hand Sanitizing Before/After Meals</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Please refer to each building level plan for additional details. - Hand sanitizer dispensers will be available for student/staff use. <p><u>Staggering the use of communal spaces and hallways</u></p> <p>Please refer to each building level</p>

Palmerton Area School District

Path to Reopening Schools: Health and Safety Plan – Updated on 11/25/20

<p>Transitioning in Congregate Settings (cont.)</p> 			<p>plan for additional details.</p> <p><u>For class changes and other transitions throughout the school day:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Additional time for transitions will be provided.- Lanes in the hallways will be created and marked to keep students separated.- Principals will plan staggered class changes (i.e. by hall, odd/even room numbers, grade/discipline) to decrease the number of students in hallways at one time- Whenever possible, the teachers will change classrooms instead of the students. <p><u>Lockers</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Please refer to the high school building plan for additional details. <p><u>Bathrooms</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Please refer to each building level plan for additional details. <p><u>Other Areas</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Please refer to each building level plan for additional details. <p><u>General Preventative Measures (as applicable in each school)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Principals will designate entrances and exit flow paths to serving lines in the cafeteria (if/when applicable)- Posters encouraging covering coughs and sneezes, washing hands often, etc. will be placed in high-traffic areas in sight of all students and staff.- As a preventative measure,
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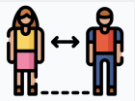
Palmerton Area School District

Path to Reopening Schools: Health and Safety Plan – Updated on 11/25/20

<p>Transitioning in Congregate Settings (cont.)</p> 			<p>spaced lines will be marked to enter the cafeteria and serving lines (to the maximum extent possible)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Hand sanitizer will be available in all classrooms, cafeteria, etc.- Cafeteria tables will be cleaned in between each lunch period. <p><u>Materials, Resources and/or Supports Needed</u></p> <p>Signage to be Posted (samples)</p>
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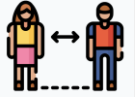
Palmerton Area School District

Path to Reopening Schools: Health and Safety Plan – Updated on 11/25/20

Focus Area #8	Substantial Transmission or Red Phase	Moderate Transmission or Yellow Phase	Low Transmission or Green Phase
<p>Large Group Gatherings</p> 	<p>Please refer to the Low Transmission / Green Phase.</p>	<p>Please refer to the Low Transmission / Green Phase.</p>	<p><u>Limitations:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The PASD will adhere to the 11/23/20 Order of the Secretary of the PA Dept. of Health for Mitigation and Enforcement. Per the guidance, there will be 10% maximum occupancy for indoor events, and a 15% occupancy rate for outdoor events. - The district reserves the right to alter the limitation numbers listed above at the discretion of the Board or Superintendent based on Governor Wolf's updated gatherings guidelines. <p><u>Preventative Measures:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mitigate the congregation of students in parking lots and common areas. - Stagger the schedule for large group gatherings (i.e. recess and school meals) - Identify and utilize large spaces (i.e. gymnasiums, auditoriums, outside spaces – as weather permits) for social distancing <p><u>Fire Drills:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We will maintain social distancing guidelines to the maximum extent possible during drills. - Principals will conduct all drills in accordance with public school code of 1949 - 1949 Act 14 - Pa General Assembly and your school's Emergency Operations Plan.

Palmerton Area School District

Path to Reopening Schools: Health and Safety Plan – Updated on 11/25/20

<p>Large Group Gatherings (cont.)</p> 			<p>- In order to better practice social distancing, principals will consider utilizing a multi-faceted response approach such as modified building and classroom evacuations.</p> <p>Use of Facilities:</p> <p>- Until further notice, outside organizations will not be allowed to use district facilities. This includes but is not limited to the following organizations: youth groups, parent groups, PTO, sports boosters, youth sports groups, paying organizations, etc.</p> <p>Materials and Resources:</p> <p>10/6/20 Updated Gathering Limits from Governor Wolf and the DOH</p> <p>11/23/20 Updated Gathering Limits from Governor Wolf and the DOH</p>
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Path to Reopening Schools: Health and Safety Plan – Updated on 11/25/20

Focus Area #9	Substantial Transmission or Red Phase	Moderate Transmission or Yellow Phase	Low Transmission or Green Phase
<p>Behavioral Health Supports</p> 	<p>Please refer to the Low Transmission / Green Phase.</p>	<p>Please refer to the Low Transmission / Green Phase.</p>	<p><u>Employees have access to a variety of Behavioral Health Supports that may include:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EAP Program • Behavioral health support through employee benefits plan • Community resources <p>Please contact Dr. Frankelli's office for additional information.</p> <p><u>Students, families, and PASD employees have access to the following Behavioral Health Supports:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carbon County residents • Lehigh County residents • Northampton County residents <p><u>Materials, Resources and/or Supports Needed</u> SEL Instructional Practices/Supports (Trauma Impacts of COVID-19)</p>


Palmerton Area School District

Path to Reopening Schools: Health and Safety Plan – Updated on 11/25/20

Focus Area #10	Substantial Transmission or Red Phase	Moderate Transmission or Yellow Phase	Low Transmission or Green Phase
<p>Protecting Students and Staff</p> 	<p>Please refer to the Low Transmission / Green Phase.</p>	<p>Please refer to the Low Transmission / Green Phase.</p>	<p><u>Daily Pre-Screening: Students:</u> Parents are required to pre-screen their child/children each morning before the start of school.</p> <p>Students: Daily At-Home Wellness Screening/Questionnaire</p> <p><u>Daily Pre-Screening: Employees</u> Every employee is required to pre-screen themselves each morning before the start of school.</p> <p>Employees: Daily Pre-Screening Questions</p> <p><u>Protecting students and staff at high risk for severe illness</u> - Staff had the opportunity to self-identify as high risk so accommodations can be made prior to returning to face-to-face instruction. Please refer to the CDC webpage for additional guidance.</p> <p><u>Use of face masks and/or face shields by all staff</u> - All employees are required to wear a face covering/mask. Updated definitions are available in the Updated Order of the Secretary of the PA Dept. of Health Requiring Universal Face Coverings.</p> <p><u>Use of face coverings/masks by</u></p>


Palmerton Area School District

Path to Reopening Schools: Health and Safety Plan – Updated on 11/25/20

<p>Protecting Students and Staff (cont.)</p> 			<p><u>students:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Students are required to wear a face covering/mask unless, as stated in the July 16 DOH/PDE Guidance, they have a “medical or mental health condition or disability, documented in accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act or IDEA, that precludes the wearing of a face covering in school.”- Per the Updated Order of the Secretary of the PA Dept. of Health Requiring Universal Face Coverings, face covering may be removed during face covering breaks as long as children are at least six feet apart and breaks last no longer than 10 minutes. They can also be removed while eating or drinking when spaced at least six feet apart. <p><u>Check-ins with vulnerable students:</u></p> <p>At each school, the principal (or a designee) will check in on vulnerable students on a daily basis during in-person instruction. The nurse and special education office should be consulted to assist with the identification of students.</p> <p><u>Unique safety protocols for students with complex needs or other vulnerable individuals</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The nurse and special education office should be consulted to assist with the identification of students.- Allow vulnerable students to complete their coursework virtually- Allow an early transition for vulnerable students to go to classes
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Palmerton Area School District

Path to Reopening Schools: Health and Safety Plan – Updated on 11/25/20

<p>Protecting Students and Staff (cont.)</p> 			<p>Point of Contact The Superintendent is the point-of-contact with local health officials, local doctors, and the DOH. These individuals have provided and will continue to provide guidance when/as needed but will not be identified in this plan by name.</p> <p>Materials & Resources Updated Order of the Secretary of the PA Dept. of Health Requiring Universal Face Coverings “Determining FFCRA Eligibility” webtool Lehigh Valley COVID-19 Testing Locations PA COVID-19 Testing Locations St. Luke’s “Feeling Sick” Coronavirus Information</p>
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Palmerton Area School District

Path to Reopening Schools: Health and Safety Plan – Updated on 11/25/20

Focus Area #11	Substantial Transmission or Red Phase	Moderate Transmission or Yellow Phase	Low Transmission or Green Phase
<p>When a Student, Staff Member, or Visitor Becomes Sick</p> 	<p>Please refer to the Low Transmission / Green Phase.</p>	<p>Please refer to the Low Transmission / Green Phase.</p>	<p>Note: Medical information and guidance is changing regularly and will be followed as directed by the Superintendent.</p> <p>COVID Cases:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We will follow guidance provided by PDE, DOH, and/or local health officials regarding when/if classrooms/schools should close. - All contract tracing is conducted by the DOH. To assist in this area, the PASD will cooperate with providing contact information as needed. <p>Isolating or Quarantining</p> <p><u>What will happen if someone becomes symptomatic during school hours?</u> The student or teacher will leave the classroom immediately and report to the nurse's office. The nurse will fully assess the individual, which will include a temperature check, questions about pre-existing conditions, prior travel history, etc. As the situation warrants, the nurse should contact a child's parent for pick-up and a referral for further medical care. Staff and students with elevated temperatures will leave the building</p>


Palmerton Area School District

Path to Reopening Schools: Health and Safety Plan – Updated on 11/25/20

<p>When a Student, Staff Member, or Visitor Becomes Sick (cont.)</p> 			<p>regardless of cause. The teacher/student’s desk will be sanitized and disinfected prior to further usage. The student/teacher would then need to either get a COVID-19 test or medical clearance return. The school should continue to operate as normally as possible until additional information becomes available on the student/teacher’s status. It must be noted that there are many common reasons other than COVID-19 that could explain someone not feeling well at a particular time. Notifications would not be warranted at this time.</p> <p><u>Quarantine Room</u> Each school will have a designated room available for symptomatic students and staff. This room will be specified on each building level plan.</p> <p><u>Notification Regarding Students/Employees Who Test Positive for COVID-19:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - When there is a positive case, a letter will be posted on the website and a “robo” phone call will be made. - Contact tracing will occur by the DOH. - Quarantine/Isolation guidance will be provided by the DOH. - Depending on the number of positive COVID-19 cases in a particular school, the superintendent may initiate a temporary closure of a school. <p><u>Quarantine/Isolation Directive:</u> If the district and/or the PA DOH</p>
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Path to Reopening Schools: Health and Safety Plan – Updated on 11/25/20

<p>When a Student, Staff Member, or Visitor Becomes Sick (cont.)</p> 			<p>directs an employee or student to quarantine, this directive is non-negotiable.</p> <p><u>Point of Contact</u> The Superintendent is the point-of-contact with local health officials, local doctors, and the DOH. These individuals have provided and will continue to provide guidance when/as needed but will not be identified in this plan by name.</p>
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Palmerton Area School District

Path to Reopening Schools: Health and Safety Plan – Updated on 11/25/20

Focus Area #12	Substantial Transmission or Red Phase	Moderate Transmission or Yellow Phase	Low Transmission or Green Phase
<p style="text-align: center;">Sports and Extra-Curricular Activities</p> 	<p>Clubs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Board-approved extracurricular clubs may occur if/when they adhere to their approved health and safety plan. <p>Sports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sports will follow the approved Colonial League schedule including any future scheduling changes that may come from the League. - Any postponed portion of the sports season may be rescheduled by the Colonial League. - All PASD athletes and coaches must wear an approved face mask/covering at all times. 	<p>Please refer to the Low Transmission / Green Phase.</p>	<p>Elementary Recess:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recess will be provided when the teacher can assure that 6 feet of social distancing can occur. Masks will be worn per the Updated Order of the Secretary of the PA Dept. of Health Requiring Universal Face Coverings. - Outdoor recess is encouraged whenever possible. - Playground equipment cannot be used until further notice. - Recess times should be staggered as much as possible. - Recess procedures will be specified in each building level plan. <p>PE Class:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PE class will be provided in an area where the teacher can assure that 6 feet of social distancing can occur. Per the Updated Order of the Secretary of the PA Dept. of Health Requiring Universal Face Coverings, masks must be worn at all times unless it during a 10-minute mask break. - Outdoor PE class is encouraged whenever possible. <p>Clubs/Extracurricular Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All PASD approved clubs and extracurricular activities must be school board approved. - Once school board approved, the advisor must complete and submit

Palmerton Area School District

Path to Reopening Schools: Health and Safety Plan – Updated on 11/25/20

<p>Sports and Extra-Curricular Activities (cont.)</p> 			<p>a Health and Safety Plan to the school principal for approval.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Once approved, plans are posted on the district website.- Club/Extracurricular Health and Safety Plans do not require school board approval. They are approved by the building principal, who will ensure adherence to the district's HSP guidelines.- Please refer to the "Limitations" section of Focus Area #8 for gathering information. <p>Sports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Coaches must follow the PASD Resocialization Plan.- Colonial League guidance will be followed regarding the sports season when school board approved.- Please refer to the "Limitations" section of Focus Area #8 for gathering information. These limitations apply to sporting events until further notice.- Please refer to the Spectator Guidelines FAQ page for additional information. <p>Materials & Resources</p> <p>PASD Resocialization Plan</p> <p>PA Guidance for All Sports Permitted to Operate During the COVID-19 Disaster Emergency</p> <p>Clubs/Extracurricular Activities Health and Safety Plan Template</p>
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Path to Reopening Schools: Health and Safety Plan – Updated on 11/25/20

Focus Area #13	Substantial Transmission or Red Phase	Moderate Transmission or Yellow Phase	Low Transmission or Green Phase
<p style="text-align: center;">Other/ Miscellaneous</p>	<p>Please refer to the Low Transmission / Green Phase.</p> <p>District personnel, at the direction of the Superintendent, will contact the organizations in the green phase column.</p>	<p>Please refer to the Low Transmission / Green Phase.</p>	<p><u>Coordination with the following organizations will occur:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CCTI (high school students) - LVCC (Pre-K classrooms) - CLIU21 (special education) - Leon George (transportation) - Local child cares - All other outside organizations <p><u>Use of Facilities:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Until further notice, outside organizations will not be allowed to use district facilities. This includes but is not limited to the following organizations: youth groups, parent groups, PTO, sports boosters, youth sports groups, paying organizations, etc.

Palmerton Area School District

Path to Reopening Schools: Health and Safety Plan – Updated on 11/25/20

Type of Reopening

Based on your county's current designation and local community needs, which type of reopening has your school entity selected? **(SELECT ONE BOX BELOW)**

- Total reopen for all students and staff (but some students/families opt for distance learning out of safety/health concern).
- Scaffolded reopening: Some students are engaged in in-person learning, while others are distance learning (i.e., some grade levels in-person, other grade levels remote learning).
- Blended reopening that balances in-person learning and remote learning for all students (i.e., alternating days or weeks).
- Total remote learning for all students. (Plan should reflect future action steps to be implemented and conditions that would prompt the decision as to when schools will re-open for in-person learning).

Anticipated launch date for in-person learning (i.e., start of blended, scaffolded, or total reopening): **August 31, 2020**

Palmerton Area School District

Path to Reopening Schools: Health and Safety Plan – Updated on 11/25/20

District Level Pandemic Team

Listed below are the names of those who provided input, updates, and guidance into the district-level health and safety plan.

Individual(s)	Stakeholder Group Represented
Dr. Jodi Frankelli	Superintendent
Dan Heaney	District Administration
Ryan Kish	District Administration
Suzanne Rentschler	District Administration
Joe Faenza	Facilities Department
Mary Brumbach	Principal
Christine Steigerwalt	Principal
Rich DeSocio	Principal
Paula Husar	Principal
Timothy Lynch	Interim Principal
Michelle Muffley	Teachers, PAEA President
Tammy Muniz	Teachers, PAEA Vice President
Laura Thomas	Nursing Staff
Megan Zurn	Nursing Staff
Michelle Bisbing	Nursing Staff
Timothy Kleintop	Nursing Staff

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Kathleen Fallow	School Board, President
Audrey Larvey	School Board, Vice President
Kate Baumgardt	School Board
Sherry Haas	School Board
Brandon Mazepa	School Board
Earl Paules	School Board
Tammy Recker	School Board
Barry Scherer	School Board
Doris Zellers	School Board
Parents/Guardians	All parents were given opportunities to provide input via surveys that were conducted in June, July, and September.
Leon George	Transportation/Bussing
Rose LeVan	Metz / Dining Services
Andrew Chandler	Metz / Dining Services

The Superintendent is the established point-of-contact with local health officials, local doctors, and the DOH. These individuals/organizations have provided and will continue to provide guidance when/as needed but will not be identified in this plan by name.

Palmerton Area School District

Path to Reopening Schools: Health and Safety Plan – Updated on 11/25/20

[Building Level Pandemic Teams](#)

As referenced throughout this document, there is a building specific plan for each PASD school. Principals created building level pandemic teams to gather input and feedback from stakeholders during the creation of each document. Faculty, staff, parents, and others were directed to contact the building principal if interested in serving on this team. There are many people who provided their assistance in developing these plans. Those people are identified on each individual plan.

Please click on the links below to access each building level plan:

[Senior High](#)

[Junior High](#)

[Towamensing](#)

[Palmer/Parkside](#)

Palmerton Area School District

Path to Reopening Schools: Health and Safety Plan – Updated on 11/25/20

Roles and Responsibilities for Health and Safety Preparedness and Response Planning

- Prevent accidents, injuries, and work/school-related illnesses in the schools.
- Create and implement health and safety policies in accordance with the latest legislation and to ensure that these policies are implemented by staff.
- Create and implement health and safety procedures/protocols/practices in accordance with the latest guidance and recommendations for the Department of Health (DOH) and Center for Disease Control (CDC) and to ensure that these procedures/protocols/practices are implemented by staff.
- Create a Health and Safety Plan and ensure it is regularly updated to reflect any changes to the law and/or guidance from federal, state, and local health officials. It's their responsibility.
- Ensure that each member of staff is aware of and adheres to the Health and Safety Plan.
- Provide regular inspections and risk assessments and ensure that any hazards or defects are rectified immediately.
- Maintain records and thoroughly investigate any accident, community spread illness, and recommend any improvements in health and safety standards if required.
- Provide training to all staff in health and safety issues and advise them on protective clothing and equipment where necessary.
- Serve as the key point of contact for any member of staff who has a query or concern regarding the health and safety of the workplace.
- Work closely with management, as well as health and safety inspectors.

Palmerton Area School District

Path to Reopening Schools: Health and Safety Plan – Updated on 11/25/20

Health and Safety Plan Professional Development / Training

The success of this plan requires all stakeholders to be prepared with the necessary knowledge and skills to implement the plan as intended. Professional learning plans are documented with the following components listed in the table below. This section will be updated throughout the summer as planning is finalized at all levels.

Topic	Audience	Lead Person and Position	Session Format	Materials, Resources, and/or Supports Needed	Start Date	Completion Date
COVID-19 CASD Custom Training: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coronavirus Awareness • Coronavirus: Managing Stress & Anxiety • Coronavirus: CDC Guidelines for Making and Using Cloth Face Coverings • Coronavirus: Cleaning and Disinfecting Your Workplace 	All employees	Dan Heaney	Safe Schools Online Training or Group Face to Face Training	Device and Internet Connection	August 2020	By the first day of school
COVID-19	Students	Teachers	Teachers will provide students with general COVID related information on the first day of school.	Traditional Instruction, Morning Announcements, Hallway Signage, Daily Reminders, etc.	First day of school	Repeated as needed
Technology-themed training	Teachers	Jodi Frankelli & Dan Heaney	- Possible “flex” option for training teachers over the summer - This is tentative at this point. Further discussions will need to occur prior to moving further.	Computer/Laptop	TBD	By the first day of school

Palmerton Area School District

Path to Reopening Schools: Health and Safety Plan – Updated on 11/25/20

Health and Safety Plan Communications

Timely and effective family and caregiver communication about health and safety protocols and schedules is critical. The district has established and will maintain ongoing communication with local and state health authorities to determine current mitigation levels in the county and surrounding counties. Health and Safety Plan Communications is documented with the following components listed in the table below.

This section of the plan will be updated as needed.

** “PASD Community” refers to PASD employees, parents/guardians, students, school board members, and all other members of the larger PASD community.*

Topic	Audience*	Lead Person and Position	Mode of Communications	Start Date	Completion Date
General information provided to the community in my opening letter on the superintendent’s page.	PASD Community	Jodi Frankelli, Ed.D. Superintendent	Website	July 1, 2020	ongoing
The public was notified that the plan’s tentative release date is July 15.	PASD Community	Jodi Frankelli, Ed.D. Superintendent	School board workshop (via Zoom)	July 7, 2020	July 15, 2020 (with ongoing updates as needed)
Decision Tree	PASD Community	Jodi Frankelli, Ed.D. Superintendent	Website	August 2020	
Building-Level Plans and district HSP discussion and dissemination	PASD Community	Principals	Plans are posted on the district’s website and can be accessed via the red banner at the top of the home page.	August 2020	ongoing
Department-specific plans and district HSP discussion and dissemination	PASD Community	Directors	Plans are posted on the district’s website and can be accessed via the red banner at the top of the home page.	August 2020	ongoing
HSP updates	PASD Community	Jodi Frankelli, Ed.D. Superintendent	Zoom school board meetings- Presentations Information/Documents are posted on the district’s website and can be accessed via the red banner at the top of the home page.	July 2020	ongoing
Frequently Asked Questions	PASD Community	Jodi Frankelli, Ed.D. Superintendent	Information/Documents are posted on the district’s website and can be accessed via the red banner at the top of the home page.	August 2020	ongoing

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Website Recommendations

There are many valuable resources available for staff, parents, and students. The list provided below highlights some of the online resources that are available. Others have been provided throughout this document.

- CDC Considerations for Schools: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/schools.html>
- CDC the Schools Decision Tree: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/Schools-Decision-Tree.pdf>
- CDC the Interim Guidance for Schools and Day Camps: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/php/CDC-Activities-Initiatives-for-COVID-19-Response.pdf#page=46>
- Process to Reopen Pennsylvania: <https://www.governor.pa.gov/process-to-reopen-pennsylvania/>
- CDC People Who Need Extra Precautions: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/index.html>
- CDC Print Resources: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/communication/print-resources.html?Sort=Date%3A%3Adesc>
- CDC Considerations for Youth Sports: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/youth-sports.html>
- PA Guidance for Businesses Permitted to Operate During the COVID-19 Disaster Emergency to Ensure the Safety and Health of Employees and the Public: <https://www.governor.pa.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/20200504-COVID-19-Business-Guidance.pdf>
- DOH Guidance on Home Isolation or Quarantine and Returning to Work: <https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/Documents/Diseases%20and%20Conditions/Quarantine-Isolation%20Work%20Guidance.pdf>
- CDC Important Information About Your Cloth Face Coverings: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/cloth-face-coverings-information.pdf>
- Guidance on Homemade Masks During COVID-19: <https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/Documents/Diseases%20and%20Conditions/Homemade%20Mask%20Guidance.pdf>
- PA COVID-19 PPE and Supplies Business-2-Business Interchange Directory: <https://dced.pa.gov/pa-covid-19-medical-supply-portals/pennsylvania-covid-19-ppe-supplies-business-2-business-b2b-interchange-directory/>
- CDC How to clean and disinfect: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/disinfecting-building-facility.html>
- AAP Interim Guidance to School Re-entry: <https://www.aappublications.org/news/2020/06/26/schoolreopening062620>
- Pennsylvania School Reopening Task Force Report: https://www.psba.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/School-Reopening-Task-Force-Report_FINAL-061820.pdf
- Faust's Compensatory Services Determination Process chart: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1bqq06lm6jNyTFVnpQB5ld81yIObHbTE/view>
- Faust's Compensatory Services Worksheet: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ITywt8_jbnM9eG5KJnMZGR7yHAyotgrf/view
- PA's COVID-19 Information for Travelers: <https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/coronavirus/Pages/Travelers.aspx>
- CDC COVID-19 Travel Recommendations by Destination: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/map-and-travel-notices.html>
- PDE's What's New: <https://www.education.pa.gov/Schools/safeschools/emergencyplanning/COVID-19/Pages/WhatsNew.aspx>
- DOH COVID-19 Early Warning Monitoring System Dashboard: <https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/coronavirus/Pages/Monitoring-Dashboard.aspx>
- Attestation Form: [Attestation Ensuring Implementation of Mitigation Efforts](#)
- Updated Mask Guidance: [11/17/20 Updated Order of the Secretary of the PA Dept. of Health Requiring Universal Face Coverings](#)
- Attesting Order: [11/24/20 Order of the Governor of the Commonwealth of PA Directing Public School Entities in Counties with Substantial Community Transmission to Attest to Health and Safety Protocols.](#)

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Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors/Trustees for Palmerton Area School District reviewed and approved the Phased School Reopening Health and Safety Plan on July 28, 2020. Revisions were reviewed and approved on October 6, 2020, November 17, 2020, and November 25, 2020.

The plan was approved by a vote of:

Yes No

Affirmed on: July 28, 2020 (original), October 6, 2020 (revisions), November 17, 2020 (revisions), and November 25, 2020 (revisions and Attestation form addition)

By:

Kathleen Fallow, PASD School Board President

**Electronic signatures on this document are acceptable using one of the two methods detailed below.*

Option A: The use of actual signatures is encouraged whenever possible. This method requires that the document be printed, signed, scanned, and then submitted.

Option B: If printing and scanning are not possible, add an electronic signature using the resident Microsoft Office product signature option, which is free to everyone, no installation or purchase needed.

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Attestation Ensuring Implementation of Mitigation Efforts

Whereas, the commonwealth is experiencing its highest daily case counts since the beginning of the 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, resulting in increased hospitalizations, nearly 10,000 deaths, and heightened risk to the most vulnerable Pennsylvanians;

Whereas, the Wolf Administration has identified new mitigation efforts, including an attestation process for public school entities that elect to continue in-person instruction for students in counties designated as exhibiting "Substantial" transmission of COVID-19 for two or more consecutive weeks based on a disease incidence rate of 100 or more cases per 100,000 residents and/or a polymerase chain reaction (PCR) percent positivity rate of 10 percent or greater;

Whereas, as of November 23, 2020, 59 of Pennsylvania's 67 counties met one or both of these standards;

Whereas, Pennsylvania recommends that school entities in counties with [Substantial disease transmission transition to remote-only instructional models](#);

Whereas, as of November 20, 2020, many public school entities have exercised their local discretion to continue in-person instruction for all or some students;

Whereas, the resurgence of COVID-19 across the nation, region, and commonwealth requires more consistent and intensive implementation of disease mitigation efforts;

Whereas, these mitigation efforts include an attestation process for any public school entity (a "public school entity" is defined as a school district, intermediate unit, charter school, cyber charter school, or a career and technical education center) that elects to continue in-person instruction as of November 30, 2020 while the county in which it is located is under a Substantial disease transmission designation for at least two consecutive weeks; and

Whereas, this attestation process supplements and does not supplant existing public health guidance issued by the Pennsylvania Department of Health and the Pennsylvania Department of Education;

AND NOW, THEREFORE, the president/chair of the school entity's governing board and chief school administrator, in accordance with the Order of the Secretary of Health dated November 24, 2020, entitled [Order of the Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Health Directing Public School Entities in Counties with Substantial Community Transmission to Attest to Health and Safety Protocols](#), attest to one of the following (SELECT ONE OPTION):

All or some of the students within the public school entity are currently receiving in-person instruction and:

1. We have read the [Updated Order of the Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Health Requiring Universal Face Coverings](#), effective November 18, 2020, including necessary exceptions and [associated guidance](#), and affirm the public school entity is complying and will continue to comply with and enforce the Updated Order of the Secretary of the Pennsylvania

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Department of Health Requiring Universal Face Coverings, Including necessary exceptions and associated guidance; and

2. We have read and agree to follow the Recommendations for Pre-K to 12 Schools Following Identification of a Case(s) of COVID-19, when cases of COVID-19 occur within the public school entity.

OR

- The public school entity has transitioned to a fully remote learning model and will continue to use a fully remote learning model until the county (or counties) in which the public school entity is located is no longer experiencing Substantial disease transmission for two consecutive weeks.

*** A public school entity in a county with Substantial level of disease transmission that is currently providing a fully remote learning model and that elects to transfer to in-person instruction must resubmit this attestation prior to providing in-person instruction.

Palmerton Area School District

(Name of Public School Entity)

affirms that it has

attached this signed Attestation to its Local Health and Safety Plan (the "Plan") in order to reflect provisions above, and that, by doing so, this attestation becomes part of the Plan and has been or will be fully implemented by November 30, 2020, or three business days after the county in which the public school entity is located has been designated as exhibiting Substantial disease transmission for the first time, should the public school entity in a county with Substantial level of disease transmission for two or more consecutive weeks elect to offer or continue offering in-person instruction for all or some students; and

Further, the Local Health and Safety Plan, inclusive of this attestation, has been posted on the public school entity's publicly accessible website and filed with the Pennsylvania Department of Education by email submission at RA-EDCONTINUITYOFEDD@pa.gov.

Signed:



(Signature of Governing Board President/Chair)

President, Governing Board

Chair, Governing Board

Kathleen Fallow

(Printed Name of Governing Board President/Chair)

Date Signed: 11/25/20



(Signature of Chief School Administrator)

Chief School Administrator

Jodi Frankelli, Ed.D.

(Printed Name of Chief School Administrator)

Date Signed: 11/25/20