

Piqua City Schools Parents,

Piqua City Schools will be offering two options for the 2020-2021 school year. You can read about each option below and the guidelines that have been established for successful implementation.

Option One

Attend a Piqua City School with the following guidelines:

Daily Self-Monitoring for Students and Staff

- Students and staff should check their temperature and health should be monitored on a daily basis before coming into a school setting.

Student and Staff Illnesses

- Any student or staff member with a fever over 100F should stay home.
- Any student or staff member that has the following symptoms of COVID-19 should stay home from school and should be assessed for COVID-19:
 - Any of the following symptoms: cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing,
 - OR**
 - Two of the following symptoms: fever, chills, rigors (shakes), myalgia (muscle ache), headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, GI issues (nausea or vomiting or diarrhea),
 - OR**
 - Any of the following symptoms: cough, shortness of breath, or difficulty breathing, fever, chills, rigors (shakes), myalgia (muscle aches), headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, GI Issues (nausea and vomiting or diarrhea) **AND** an epidemiological link to a case of COVID-19.

Returning to School after Illness

- If a student or staff member is **diagnosed through testing** as having COVID-19, they must meet the following criteria to return to school:
 - 3 days with no fever (without using fever reducing medication) **AND**
 - Other symptoms improved **AND**
 - 10 days since symptoms first appeared
- Students and staff that only have a fever and no other symptoms and have not had any contact with an individual that has COVID-19 may return to school after they are fever free for 24 hours without using any fever reducing medications.
- Any other illnesses should be handled in the routine manner according to district policies as outlined in the student handbook.
- To return to school after a COVID-19 diagnosis, the student must be transported to the school by the parent/guardian and must be checked by the school nurse at a scheduled appointment.

- Staff may be required to provide documentation from a physician to return to work or abide in accordance with updated guidance from the CDC or the Piqua Health Department.
- The Piqua Health Department will determine who needs to be quarantined and the appropriate duration of time.

Communications when a student/staff member test positive for COVID-19

- Communication will be developed in conjunction with the Piqua Health Department and the school district.
- Necessary and appropriate information will be shared with staff. Student names will not be shared.
- The school district will cooperate with the Piqua Health Department's work in contact tracing.
- A quarantine will be required of any student or staff member who test positive with COVID-19 and anyone who is determined to have "exposure" as determined by the Piqua Health Department. The length of the quarantine will be determined by the Piqua Health Department.

Wash and Sanitize Hands to Prevent Spread

- Hand washing and sanitizing are important tools in preventing the spread of COVID-19 by killing the virus. Students and staff will practice frequent handwashing for at least 20 seconds when hands are dirty, before and after eating, and after using the restroom. Schools will provide opportunities throughout the day for handwashing as necessary. To supplement handwashing, schools will provide hand sanitizer (60% to 95% alcohol based) in high traffic areas including entrances to buildings and classrooms and instruct students and staff to use the sanitizer when appropriate. Additionally, students and staff should avoid touching their mouths, noses, and eyes since the virus easily enters the body through these membranes.

Thoroughly Clean and Sanitize School Environment to Limit Spread on Shared Surfaces

- Schools will clean surfaces frequently, paying close attention to high touch areas and shared materials, and make sanitation wipes or disinfectants labeled for use against SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) available. The sharing of supplies, materials, and space will be minimized and if items must be shared, they will be sanitized between each user.

Food Service

- Piqua City Schools will offer food service. Additional details regarding breakfast and lunch will be communicated by each school at a later date. Logistics will be in compliance with the Piqua Health Department and ODH Dine Safe Ohio Order based on:
 - Limited capacity/occupancy of the school cafeteria
 - Possible alternative locations for student dining to allow for proper social distancing
 - No self-service food stations
 - Individual condiments will be provided as necessary

Classroom Occupancy

- Students who attend school in person will incur some level of risk. Piqua City Schools will decrease the likelihood of infection with hygiene, cleaning, and safety procedures, but being in any public setting has a certain level of risk that cannot be eliminated.
- Classroom occupancy will be determined based on each individual circumstance with the maximum amount of safety considerations possible.
- Piqua City Schools will strive for six feet of social distancing in classrooms to the best of our ability, but may go as low as four feet in some instances.

Face Coverings

- Properly worn face coverings that are aligned with the District dress code and that meet standards created by the CDC and Ohio Department of Health are required for all students, staff, and approved guests at all times in classrooms and including when entering, exiting, and moving throughout the District facilities.
- Face coverings are not required when an individual staff member is working in isolation in his/her classroom/office/bus.
- The following individuals are exempt from wearing a face covering as directed by Governor DeWine:
 - Children under the age of two (2) years
 - Any child unable to remove the face covering without assistance
 - A child with a significant behavioral/psychological issue undergoing treatment that is exacerbated specifically by the use of a facial covering (e.g. severe anxiety or tactile aversion)
 - A child living with severe autism or with extreme developmental delay who may become agitated or anxious wearing a face covering
 - A child with a facial deformity that causes airway obstruction
- We will have 'Face Mask Breaks' throughout the day for staff and students.
- We will not be requiring face masks for physical education that is outdoors or when appropriate, indoors.

Public Access to buildings

- To limit building capacity and reduce COVID-19 exposure, we are required to limit public access at this time.
- For the safety of staff and students, protocols such as taking temperatures and health screening questions may be implemented for all visitors.
- Visitors are required to properly wear a face covering at all times when in the building.
- Public access will be limited to square footage occupancy in the office areas to meet social distancing requirements. This may require visitors to wait outside until there is proper space for entry.
- We greatly appreciate everyone's understanding with these safety guidelines.

Transportation

- Piqua City Schools will allow two students per seat and in some instances three students if the children are younger and from the same family.
- We will attempt to seat children from the same household together when possible.

- Seating charts are required and will be available to assist with contact tracing if needed.
- Properly worn face coverings are **required for drivers and students** the entire time they are on the bus. The district may deny future transportation to a student who refuses to properly wear a face covering.
- Students and drivers that are exempt from wearing a face covering must present documentation prior to riding district transportation without a face covering.
- In the event state policies require school districts to use alternative schedules, Piqua City Schools may be required to adopt state minimum requirements for transportation to reduce the number of students who are eligible for school district transportation.

Recess

- Piqua City Schools believes recess is an important part of a child's school day.
- Hand sanitizer stations will be provided near equipment and children will be instructed to use it after using all equipment.
- Face masks will be optional for recess.
- Students must wash their hands and/or sanitize their hands before and after each recess.
- Equipment will be cleaned frequently between uses.

Option Two

Remote Learning:

- Piqua City Schools will offer a free remote learning option for families who have children that may be at high risk or are concerned about learning in a school building environment.
- Parents will be required to complete all student registration requirements for enrollment.
- Students engaged with the remote learning option are required to complete all State and District testing requirements.
- Due to the cost associated with remote learning, students that select this option must complete a full semester at a time before transitioning back to a classroom setting.

Curriculum

- The remote learning curriculum will be aligned to all Ohio State Standards.
- Although the Standards will be the same, remote learning curriculum will not be paced in the same format as classroom instruction that is taking place in the Piqua City Schools setting.
- Remote learning will be done through the Internet. There will be no option for work packets.
- Not all high school classes are NCAA approved to meet athletic program requirements. Students choosing this option that wish to engage in the sports program should consult with their school counselor first.

Technology

- Students engaged with the remote learning option must use a computer to complete all work assignments.
- If a student does not have access to a computer, the school will provide one with a signed parent agreement regarding proper care, use, maintenance and return policy.

- The district will provide free tech support for students and parents that may need assistance.
- Students that did not return their school-loaned computer from 19-20 school year may not select the remote learning option until their computer has been safely returned to the Piqua City School inventory or the District has been reimbursed for its loss.

Internet Connection

- Students engaged with the remote learning option must be able to access the Internet.

Attendance

- The remote learning option will require students to log in and complete assignments on a daily basis to meet attendance and passage requirements.
- Students choosing this option will have the same holidays and days off as students in the school setting.

Extracurricular

- Students choosing this option may still participate in extracurricular activities at a school district setting if all requirements are met.

Food Service

- Students choosing this option may still receive food prepared by Piqua City Schools through a safe pick up method at a specified location that will be outlined and communicated at a later date.

Contact Information

Principals:

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Piqua Board of Education

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