



# 2020-21 Reopening Plan

## Frequently Asked Questions

Updated October 6, 2020

### Table of Contents

<b>DECA's Return to School Plan</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Hybrid Learning Option</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Remote Learning Option</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Health and Safety</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Food Services</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Transportation</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Illness</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Extracurriculars and Specials</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>DECA High Specific</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>More Information</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Staff Only</b>	<b>16</b>

This frequently asked questions document will be regularly updated as we develop answers to new questions that arise. Please check back often for new content.

### DECA's Return to School Plan

**Q. What are DECA's plans for the Second Quarter of the 2020-21 Year?**

A. We recognize there is no completely safe way to reopen schools; however, based on the feedback of hundreds of DECA parents and observing the health guidelines from the CDC, the Ohio Department of Health (ODH), and Public Health Dayton, we have decided to return to school via a phased in return process offering two days of in-person instruction for students during the second quarter. This hybrid approach will allow us to maintain the six foot social distancing guidelines widely established as best practice within our schools.

Families who remain uncomfortable returning to school can opt to select a remote learning only option.

- **Hybrid Learning:** This is the default for students, and it combines two days of in-person instruction at school with three days of online instruction at home each week. Chromebooks will be provided by DECA for all students who select the Hybrid Learning Option and are in need of a device.

Group	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Group A	At School	Learning at Home	At School	Learning at Home	Learning at Home
Group B	Learning at Home	At School	Learning at Home	At School	Learning at Home

- **Remote Learning Option:** Families selecting the remote learning option for their children are choosing to remain remote for the duration of the second quarter. Remote learners will engage in at-home learning through instruction by DECA teachers. Chromebooks will be provided by DECA for all remote students in need of a device.

**Q. Why is DECA not returning for five days a week at this time?**

A. We've spent the past several months planning and researching the best approach for returning to school. We have also spent time listening to hundreds of our parents about what matters most to them. Our parents made it very clear to us that the health and safety of our students needs to be our highest priority--and we agree. We cannot effectively maintain social distancing and other safety precautions if we brought all of our students back; therefore, we believe that our hybrid option provides the best combination of safety, social interaction, and academic rigor for our students.

**Q. Why is DECA returning to school if the guidance from Public Health is to remain in remote learning as long as Montgomery County is at Risk Level 3 (Red)?**

A. DECA has been working in consultation with Public Health in making our plans to safely return to in-person instruction. Since late August, Montgomery County's 7-day moving average of COVID-19 cases has been steadily decreasing, and we believe soon the county will drop below 100 cases per 100,000 people. In other words, we are monitoring the data for our county closely, and we are coordinating with the local experts to ensure that we are making sound decisions that will keep our students and staff safe.

**Q. When will students begin in-person classes? What is the first day of in-person learning?**

A. *Beginning November 2nd, all three buildings will begin a phase-in process, allowing us to safely bring our buildings to 50% capacity with the hybrid models.* While the first day of in-person learning will not be the same for every student, every student will continue to have access to their teachers, content, and classwork through remote learning in the interim. Families

will be notified two weeks before students are set to return to in-person learning for those who have selected the hybrid option.

<b>DECA PREP</b>		
<b>Grade Level</b>	<b>Hybrid Start Date</b>	<b>Confirmation Date*</b>
<b>Kindergarten</b>	<b>November 2, 2020</b>	<b>October 19, 2020</b>
<b>1st Grade</b>	<b>November 16, 2020</b>	<b>November 2, 2020</b>
<b>2nd Grade</b>	<b>November 30, 2020</b>	<b>November 16, 2020</b>
<b>3rd Grade</b>	<b>November 16, 2020</b>	<b>November 2, 2020</b>
<b>4th Grade</b>	<b>November 30, 2020</b>	<b>November 16, 2020</b>

<b>DECA Middle</b>		
<b>Grade Level</b>	<b>Hybrid Start Date</b>	<b>Confirmation Date*</b>
<b>5th Grade</b>	<b>November 2, 2020</b>	<b>October 19, 2020</b>
<b>6th Grade</b>	<b>November 16, 2020</b>	<b>November 2, 2020</b>
<b>7th Grade</b>	<b>November 30, 2020</b>	<b>November 16, 2020</b>
<b>8th Grade</b>	<b>November 30, 2020</b>	<b>November 16, 2020</b>

<b>DECA High</b>		
<b>Grade Level</b>	<b>Hybrid Start Date</b>	<b>Confirmation Date*</b>
<b>9th Grade</b>	<b>November 12, 2020</b>	<b>October 28, 2020</b>
<b>10th Grade</b>	<b>November 11, 2020</b>	<b>October 28, 2020</b>
<b>11th Grade</b>	<b>November 11, 2020</b>	<b>October 28, 2020</b>
<b>12th Grade</b>	<b>November 11, 2020</b>	<b>October 28, 2020</b>

**\*The Confirmation Date is the date DECA staff will confirm to families of children that they are on track to begin hybrid instruction.**

Note: DECA High is returning to school earlier than the other two campuses because the

classrooms and hallways are ideally suited to serving a larger number of students.

**Q. Is this updated plan the plan for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year?**

A. Yes, but this plan could change as more information becomes available about the COVID-19 global pandemic. DECA will monitor all guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Ohio Department of Health (ODH); updated guidance from the Ohio Department of Education (ODE), Governor Mike DeWine, or Public Health Dayton and Montgomery County.

**Q. When do I have to decide? Whom do I notify?**

A. We are asking all families to make their selection by completing this [form](#). The form is also available on our website at:

<https://www.daytonearlycollege.org/remotelearning/choosereMOTE> for each child enrolled. The deadline for opting into remote learning is **Wednesday, October 14, 2020**.

**Q. What if I change my mind? Can we switch back and forth between remote and in-person instruction?**

A. Students enrolled in remote learning must remain in remote learning through the end of the second quarter. At the start of the 3rd quarter, families will again have the option to continue in remote learning or switch to hybrid. If, however, a family becomes uncomfortable at any point with their child attending school two days a week due to COVID concerns, they are able to switch to remote learning. If a student switches back to remote learning mid-quarter, they will not be able to go back to the hybrid model until the start of the next quarter. For the 3rd quarter, families must decide by December 11, 2020, if they would like to make a change.

**Q. Does DECA have a plan in place to return to all remote learning if needed? Under what circumstances would the switch be made?**

A. Yes. Should circumstances change and require all students and staff to go to a full remote only option for a time (short or long-term), we are prepared to do so. Circumstances that may require us to make this switch include updated guidance from the Public Health or the governor or based on consultation with Public Health.

**Q. This plan requires access to technology, including a computer and the internet. What is DECA doing so that all students have access to the necessary technology?**

A. DECA is committed to ensuring that all students who need one will have a working device. Of course, we encourage families who have their own devices to use them as they feel so inclined. To date, DECA has distributed chromebooks and hotspots to all families who have indicated a need. *Students still in need of a device or support with an internet connection can reach out to DECA at [help@daytonearlycollege.org](mailto:help@daytonearlycollege.org) or visit DECA Middle between 9:00 and 3:00 Monday through Friday for help.*

**Q. Will state tests be given and will end of year exams be required to pass?**

A. At this time schools in Ohio are working under the presumption that state tests will be administered as previously scheduled.

## Hybrid Learning Option

**Q. Will children from the same family attend school on the same days?**

A. Yes. Sibling groups living in the same home will be prioritized when determining which days students are scheduled to be in school.

**Q. Will elementary and middle school students be allowed to have recess?**

A. An outside, social-distanced recess will occur at the elementary and middle schools when weather permits. Classroom breaks will also happen in the classrooms. During recess and classroom breaks, students will still be expected to wear masks.

**Q. Are there additional school supplies I need to buy related to COVID-19? Will my child share school supplies with other students?**

A. We ask that families provide their child with an approved face covering and a filled water bottle each day they are in school. Disposable masks will also be made available to ensure that everyone wears one while in school. We will reach out to our families and to the broader community for other supplies to help with the hefty costs associated with the coronavirus.

As a rule, students will not share any school supplies with other students.

**Q. Will students be required to wear uniforms on days when they are learning in-person?**

A. No. DECA PREP and Middle remain uniform schools and will continue to adhere to a uniform policy in the future, but we believe it would be impractical to enforce the uniform policy for the remainder of the school year.

**Q. If students are not required to wear uniforms, does DECA have updated dress code expectations?**

A. Yes, Students at all three campuses must wear each of the following each day students are present for in-person learning:

- A shirt with a minimum of a one inch wide strap and fabric in the front, back, and side immediately underneath the armpits;
- Pants (e.g. jeans, dress pants, sweatpants, opaque leggings), shorts, a dress, OR a skirt;
- Shoes that are appropriate for their environment and activities

Students are not permitted to wear clothing that contains or alludes to profanity, violence, hate speech, or illegal items.

We will have additional details about our dress code soon.

**Q. If two different groups of students are coming into a building on different days, how will they keep books, computers, desks, tables, etc. clean?**

A. DECA staff will thoroughly clean and disinfect school buildings each night after in-person classes. As part of its typical cleaning procedures, DECA uses a CDC-approved disinfectant. Rest rooms will be cleaned throughout the day. DECA has increased custodial staff at all three campuses to ensure this will happen.

**Q. How will classrooms be set-up?**

A. The districts' logistics team is creating sample layouts for desks, chairs, tables, etc. We will also ensure social distancing in classrooms and common areas, avoiding crowds, and staying at least six feet away from others whenever possible. Physical barriers will be installed where it is difficult to maintain proper social distancing. Hallways will be one-way as much as possible. Ample hand sanitizer will be provided in all buildings, and appropriate hand washing will be encouraged.

**Q. Will students be in the same classroom all day or will they be transitioning from one class to another? How will DECA handle that?**

A. Scheduling is being planned to minimize the movement of classes. When students are required to transition in the halls (especially at the high school), students will move in a directional pattern (e.g. one way hallways).

**Q. If a student becomes ill during the school day, where would they stay until they can leave school?**

A. Families must make arrangements for pick-up of students who become ill during the school day. Each school will have an isolation room for a student who is feeling ill and is awaiting pick-up from their parent or guardian. We are asking that families make backup plans for picking up a child who becomes ill at school. More guidance about illness can be found in the health and safety section of this FAQ document.

**Q. How will schools take attendance for the hybrid learning model?**

A. Attendance for students present for school will be taken traditionally. For learning at home, DECA will continue to track attendance in live sessions and completion of assignments.

**Q. If I change my mind can I switch to the remote option of instruction?**

A. Yes, students attending school in-person (hybrid) may switch to the remote option. However, students participating in remote learning may not choose to participate in in-person learning until the start of the 3rd quarter, January 6, 2021. Families must update their learning option preference for the 3rd quarter by December 11, 2020.

## Remote Learning Option

**Q. How will schools take attendance for the remote learning option?**

A. Attendance will be taken when students log on to their virtual lessons. We will also continue to track student work completion and engagement through Google Classroom as an additional measure of attendance. It is imperative that students are present for their live lessons as they will miss significant pieces of content otherwise.

**Q. What will remote learning look like if I choose that option?**

A. Students choosing remote learning will receive live instruction at least two days each week from a DECA teacher. At the elementary level, students will receive their live instruction via small groups daily. At the middle and high school level, students will follow their school period schedule online (via Zoom) two days each week. The schedules for remote learning (class

times, small group times, etc.) will have likely changed from the first quarter. Outside of live sessions, students will be required to complete asynchronous (independent) work each day. At the middle and high school level, students will complete asynchronous work two days each week when they are not attending live class. At the elementary level, students will complete asynchronous (independent) work each day. It is recommended that students follow a daily school routine/schedule even while learning from home.

### Sample Student Schedules

DECA PREP				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Live Small Group (Rdg)  Reading Activity, Math Video & Activity	Live Small Group (Math)  Math Activity, Rdg Video & Activity	Live Small Group (Rdg)  Reading Activity, Math Video & Activity	Live Small Group (Math)  Math Activity, Rdg Video & Activity	Work independently in Google Classroom

Middle				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Complete all regularly scheduled classes live via Zoom	Complete class work independently in Google Classroom	Complete all regularly scheduled classes live via Zoom	Complete class work independently in Google Classroom	Work independently in Google Classroom

High				
*Synchronous and asynchronous days will differ depending on grade level				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Complete all regularly scheduled classes live via Zoom	Complete class work independently in Google Classroom	Complete all regularly scheduled classes live via Zoom	Complete class work independently in Google Classroom	Work independently in Google Classroom

**Q. What ways will DECA help support my child? During what hours will teachers be available for help?**

A. Teachers and other building support staff will be available during school hours to help. On synchronous learning days, teachers' responses may be delayed as they will be teaching classes all day. Additional supports and tutoring may be available on an individual basis based on student needs.

**Q. Will there be specific teachers devoted just to students who are learning remotely?**

A. All remote instruction will be delivered by DECA teachers. Students at PREP will work with teachers at their grade level that have been designated to teach fully remote students only. Students at Middle and High will be taught by their regular subject and grade level teachers. Students at Middle may be directed to their grade level support staff for urgent questions as their teachers will be live, in front of students, throughout the day.

**Q. Will it be different than what my child experienced in the first quarter?**

A. Yes, families who select remote learning for their student in the second quarter will be required to log in for more synchronous/live lessons than before. At both the middle and high school level, they will spend two full days each week following their school-schedule via Zoom. At PREP, students will have live small groups every day. It is imperative that students be present for their live sessions as they will miss significant pieces of content otherwise. Students will also see their teacher less frequently via video. While assignments and directions will continue to be posted in Google Classroom, an instructional video for the day may not always accompany it. Instruction will happen primarily via synchronous/live sessions.

**Q. If I change my mind, can I switch to the hybrid option of instruction?**

A. Yes, at the end of the quarter families will be able to make a switch. The second semester starts January 6, 2021 and families must decide by December 11, 2020 if they would like to make a change.

**Q. When do I have to decide? Whom do I notify?**

A. We are asking all families to make their selection by completing this [form](#). The form is also available on our website at:

<https://www.daytonearlycollege.org/remotelarning/chooseremote> for each child enrolled. The deadline for opting into remote learning is **Wednesday, October 14, 2020**.

## Health and Safety

**Q. Will my child have to wear a face covering? If so, will the school provide one? What kinds of face coverings are permitted?**

A. Yes, all staff and students grades K-12 are required to wear a face mask. We encourage students to bring their own masks; however, if students are unable to provide a face covering for a student, the school will provide a disposable one. No one will be permitted to be on school grounds or on school transportation without a face covering.

**Q. Can my student wear a face shield instead of other forms of face coverings?**

A. No, students will not be permitted to substitute a face shield for masks or other forms of face coverings. The Ohio Department of Health [determined](#) that face shields are not alone an appropriate substitution for masks. Students and staff can wear a face shield in addition to a



mask, but a face shield cannot be worn alone.

**Q. Will all students, including those in Kindergarten-2nd grade, be required to wear masks?**

A. Yes, while initial suggestions exempted younger students from wearing masks, new requirements include all students Kindergarten-12th grade in the mask requirement. Families that have concerns about students being able to wear their mask, please reference [this resource](#) for normalizing mask usage.

**Q. What if I don't want my child to wear a face covering?**

A. All students attending face-to-face instruction at a DECA campus are required to wear a face covering. Additionally, all staff across our buildings will be required to wear a face covering at all times as well. If a family prefers that a student not wear a face covering, it is suggested that they choose the remote learning option.

**Q. How is DECA going to maintain social distancing at school? Will there be six feet between desks?**

A. To the best of our abilities we will ensure students are social distancing in classrooms and common areas, avoiding crowds, and staying at least six feet away from others as much as possible. We will, of course, need families to help convey the importance of maintaining distance while at school to their children.

Physical barriers will be installed where it is difficult to maintain proper social distancing. Ample hand sanitizer will be provided in all buildings, and appropriate hand washing will be encouraged.

**Q. How will my child's temperature be screened?**

A. DECA encourages families to check their child for [COVID-19 symptoms](#) before sending them to school, but we will also screen each student and staff member's temperature upon entering the school each day. If a temperature or COVID-19-like symptoms are detected, the student will be returned to their car or asked to stay in the waiting area until a ride home can be arranged. Only students and staff with a temperature under 100<sup>0</sup> F will be permitted to remain on school grounds.

**Q. What nursing staff will be available for my child?**

A. For many years, DECA has contracted with Public Health Dayton for our nurses. Instead of one full-time nurse between PREP and Middle, we will now have a full-time nurse at both PREP and Middle and we will have a nurse at High through lunch time each day. Among many other things, our nursing staff will be able to help oversee our temperature and symptoms screenings and will handle communication with parents and staff about potential health issues.

**Q. What kind of hand sanitizing products and procedures will be in place?**

A. DECA has hand sanitizer that meets the standards of the CDC. Families are encouraged to send hand sanitizer with their child each day, as well. Students will be asked to sanitize their hands upon entering the building each day. They will also be asked to sanitize when entering and leaving classrooms.

**Q. Will my child be permitted to use the drinking fountains?**

A. No, to prevent the spread of illness we will be closing all drinking fountains. Students should come to school with a filled water bottle every day labeled with their name.

**Q. What about teachers and staff? Will they be screened every day?**

A. Yes, like students, all DECA employees will be screened at the start of each day. Like students, staff will be required to have their temperature checked and required to check for COVID-19 symptoms.

**Q. Given there is more risk in closed areas like restrooms, what new procedures will be in place to protect my child?**

A. Restroom breaks will be monitored so that only very small groups are in the restrooms at one time. Students will be expected to maintain social distancing while inside restrooms. Restrooms will be cleaned frequently throughout the day and again at night.

**Q. Who is giving medical advice to our district?**

A. DECA will be guided by the Public Health Dayton, Dayton Children's, and private health providers, such as epidemiologists who specialize in infectious diseases.

**Q. Will DECA allow visitors?**

A. Sadly no visitors, including volunteers, will be permitted on any of our DECA campuses. We deeply regret restricting access to our larger community, but believe that ensuring as few people interact with our students as possible is key. Student teachers who report to DECA for extended periods will follow the same guidelines as employed.

**Q. Will DECA parents be permitted to enter the building?**

A. Parents are permitted to enter the main office area; however, parents will not be permitted to access the rest of the building. Like staff and students, parents will be required to wear face coverings while on school grounds. As much as possible, we ask parents to allow their children to stay for the whole day to maximize their learning time at school and to limit the number of people in the main office area.

Parents are not permitted to drop off food, birthday treats, supplies, etc. for their children. We also will not allow food deliveries from food delivery services.

We recognize that these policies are contradictory to DECA's values, but we are putting them in place at this time to ensure that we keep our students and staff as safe as possible while COVID-19 is still a threat.

## Food Services

**Q. Where will students eat lunch and breakfast when attending face-to-face instruction?**

A. DECA PREP and DECA Middle students will eat lunch in their classrooms. DECA High students will have staggered lunch times to permit only small groups of students in the cafeteria

at one time. Students will not be expected to wear face coverings while eating.

**Q. Will the district provide meals on the days students are not in school?**

A. Yes, DECA is currently working on ways to ensure that children can bring meals home for the days they will be learning from home.

**Q. In the past DECA has required students complete a form to be eligible for free or reduced lunch, will this be true this year?**

A. Yes, all students will be required to complete a Free and Reduced Lunch form; however, DECA is exploring options to ensure that every student will be provided with a free breakfast and lunch during the 2020-21 school year. We will need families' help completing this form to ensure that we can afford to support all of our children in this way.

## Transportation

**Q. How will DECA students be transported to school for in-person learning days?**

A. DECA PREP and Middle students will be transported via yellow buses provided by Dayton Public Schools. We will provide bus passes to DECA High students who live at least two miles away from the school. Families need to ensure DECA has an accurate address on file to ensure DPS is able to route children.

**Q. Are there any changes to transportation in light of the pandemic?**

A. Yes, DPS will only pick up and drop off students from their home address. They will not transport to daycare facilities or other third parties.

DPS (K-8th grades) and RTA (9th-12th grades) will be enacting safety protocols on their respective buses. We will provide additional information about safety as it is made public.

## Illness

**Q. When should my child stay home if they are experiencing symptoms?**

A. Anyone with the following symptoms should remain at home until they have had none of the following within 48 hours: new cough, fever (100° F or higher), new onset of severe headache, sore throat, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain or loss of taste/smell. If symptoms are present, the family should seek evaluation by a health care provider.

**Q. What will DECA do if someone in the school building tests positive for COVID-19?**

A. If a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19 or is presumed to have COVID-19, DECA staff will communicate with Public Health Dayton Montgomery County and close contacts of a confirmed case. After consultation with Public Health, DECA will determine if a short term closure is necessary for a classroom or school. DECA will also follow CDC guidelines for cleaning.

**Q. Will parents be notified if staff or students test positive for COVID-19?**

A. In the instance of a student or staff member testing positive for COVID, DECA and/or Public Health will immediately notify all individuals considered in close contact with the person confirmed to have COVID-19.

In order to protect the privacy of staff and students, DECA will not disclose the name or identity of any individual suspected of contracting the virus. As is required by law, DECA will notify the state of any positive cases. Additionally, DECA will maintain a webpage with a listing of positive cases.

**Q. If one of DECA's campuses is forced to shift to remote learning for a time due to a positive incident of COVID-19, will other schools in the DECA district follow suit?**

A. We do not anticipate requiring other campuses transition to remote learning unless we have reason to believe that students attending them have contracted COVID-19. We will, of course, make decisions like this in consultation with local health professionals.

**Q. What do I do if my child or a member of our household contracts COVID-19?**

A. Families will need to immediately notify the building leader of the campus their child(ren) attend(s). If a member of the household contracts COVID-19 or is presumed to have COVID-19, the children attending DECA schools will need to quarantine (stay home as a precaution because they've been exposed to the virus) for two weeks after their close contact with the infected person. If close contact continues, the period of quarantine will need to be longer (that is 14 days after the last point of close contact).

**Q. What do I do if I realize my child, or a member of my household, has been exposed\* to COVID-19?**

A. If a child has possibly been exposed to COVID-19, families should immediately contact the building leader of the campus where the child(ren) attend(s). The child will be required to quarantine for a minimum of two weeks, starting the date of exposure. We strongly encourage families to seek evaluation by a licensed health care provider and communicate the results with the school.

\*We define exposed as within six feet of someone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 or is presumed to have the virus for 15 or more consecutive minutes.

**Q. If my child has a fever but tests negative for COVID-19, when can they safely return to school?**

A. Students who exhibit a fever can return to school after 3 days if the fever has passed even with a negative COVID-19 test. Families are also encouraged to communicate with the school nurse to potentially arrange for quicker return.

**Q. If my child contracts COVID-19, how many days will they have to stay out of school? Will these absences be excused?**

A. If a student contracts COVID-19 and is symptomatic, they must meet all of the following criteria to return to school:

- Isolate for a minimum of **10** days from the symptoms first appearing
- Have gone **24 hours** with no fever (without the usage of fever-reducing medication)

- Other symptoms improved

If a student contracts COVID-19 and is without symptoms (asymptomatic), they must meet the following criteria to return to school:

- Isolate for a minimum of **10** days without any symptoms developing

Any absences related to COVID-19 will be excused. Students will be permitted to make up any relevant missing assignments and assessments. Simply put, we do not want anyone who may have the virus to come to school until they have been cleared medically.

**Q. If a student or staff member starts running a fever at school or becomes sick, will there be an isolation area? Where?**

A. Each school has a dedicated waiting area for those who develop a fever and/or other COVID-19 symptoms. We will follow our local Public Health's guidance for the operation of these areas. Anyone with a fever or exhibiting other COVID-19 symptoms will be immediately sent home.

**Q. What happens if I can't leave work to pick up my child who starts running a fever?**

A. It will be **absolutely critical** that families have back-up and more back-up plans for picking up a child who becomes sick at school. Since we are in the middle of a dangerous pandemic, families must make arrangements that can be counted on quickly and safely.

## Extracurriculars and Specials

**Q. Will my child attend special area classes and/or elective classes this year with Hybrid Learning?**

A. We are working with special area and elective teachers to maintain programming in these areas. Instruction may look different (students staying in the classroom for special area classes, not using shared supplies, etc.), but we are working to ensure students are able to have a balanced academic experience through special area classes like art, PE, STEM, etc.

**Q. Will students have options to participate in extracurricular activities?**

A. DECA will permit only a limited number of DECA-sponsored extracurricular activities to take place during the 2020-21 school year. While most extracurriculars will move forward virtually, any extracurricular activities that require use of school facilities will only be permitted should Montgomery County move to Risk Level 2 (Orange) and must be approved directly by Mr. Taylor.

**Q. Will students be permitted to participate in sports?**

A. As of a July 7 release, OHSAA said "OHSAA Office is proceeding as if fall sports will occur, meaning practices will begin on August 1 and we will conduct our usual series of tournaments in 10 fall sports." Additional information can be found on [OHSAA-COVID-19-Correspondence](#).

**Q. Can my 7th-12 grader participate in sports?**

A. Yes, students who reside within the Dayton Public School district can play for their community school. Community school is defined as the school the student would attend if they were enrolled at a Dayton Public school.

**Q. What do I need to do for my 7th-12 grader to participate in winter sports?**

A. In order for students to participate in sports, families must first fill out the Non-Enrolled Student form here: [2020-2021 Non-Enrolled Form](#) (must be notarized, submitted with two forms of address verification, and submitted by the legal parent/guardian.) Address Verification Documents Accepted: ID/Drivers License, Utility Bill, Voters Registration form, lease, mortgage statement, etc.

Next, all students must have a signed COVID-19 waiver on file, in addition to all other forms, prior to returning to practices or games. These forms can be found here: [Athletics Forms](#).

**Q. What sports take place during the winter?**

A. Basketball (girls/boys), bowling, gymnastics, ice hockey, swimming/diving, and wrestling. (Please contact Dayton Public Schools Athletic Department for their winter specific sports)

**Q. When are Dayton Public School Non-Enrolled Student forms due?**

A. Winter sport forms are due on or before Friday, November 6, 2020 at 4:30PM.

**Q. Who do I submit my Non-Enrollment Student form to?**

A. Completed Non-Enrolled Student forms, photo ID of parent, and two address verification documents should be submitted to Welcome Stadium (1601 S. Edwin C. Moses Blvd., Dayton, OH 45417) to Mrs. Raina Watkins for processing. Student athletes will be assigned to a designated school based on the school closest to the parent address. Once assigned, take assignment paper to coach at the assigned school.

**Q. Does my student-athlete need a physical?**

A. Yes. In order for any student-athlete to participate in winter sports, they must have a physical completed by a licensed physician. The student-athletes physical must be up to date and submitted to the coach and/or the assigned athletic trainer for the designated school. If the student has had a physical within the last 12 months, this physical can be used and a new one will not be required. Physical forms can be found here: [2020-2021 OHSAA Physical Form](#)

**Q. How is high school eligibility established?**

A. At the conclusion of the preceding grading period, the student must have received passing grades in a minimum of five (5) one-credit courses or the equivalent, each of which counts toward graduation. For the purpose of this bylaw, the term “immediately preceding grading period” refers to the grading period of the school which immediately precedes the grading period in question. In conclusion, a student must have passed five (5) one-credit hour courses (not including physical education (PE) during the first quarter of the 2020-2021 school year.

**Q. How is middle school eligibility established?**

A. At the conclusion of the preceding grading period, the student must have received passing

grades in a minimum of four (4) one-credit courses or the equivalent, each of which counts toward graduation. For the purpose of this bylaw, the term “immediately preceding grading period” refers to the grading period of the school which immediately precedes the grading period in question. In conclusion, a student must have passed four (4) one-credit hour courses (not including physical education (PE) during the first quarter of the 2020-2021 school year.

**Q. Where can I find necessary forms and more information on Dayton Public School Athletics?**

A. [Athletics Handbook for Athletes and Parents](#)

**Q. Will field trips happen this year?**

A. It is highly unlikely that DECA will allow students to participate in field trips during the upcoming school year; however, we will reevaluate our position as circumstances in our area change.

## DECA High Specific

**Q. What will the academic year look like? What courses will be offered?**

A. In an effort to maintain as much consistency as possible, the courses offered this year will be nearly identical to ones offered in previous years. Student’s schedules will continue to be adjusted at the end of the semester. Students will still have access to Sinclair courses as well as rigorous courses here at DECA. We anticipate the need to eliminate some elective classes, but we will attempt to keep as many options open as an outlet for students.

**Q. Will DECA be making changes to the Gateway requirements?**

A. We will continue to make accommodations to the Gateway requirements that will be impacted by changes to our school structure brought about by the pandemic. These requirements include, but may not be limited to, community service, job shadows, and internships. For example, the Class of 2021 is only being required to complete one internship (as opposed to two) for Gateways 4 and 5 at this point. As situations continue to develop, we will continue to update the requirements in ways we believe are fair and still ensure that students are getting the most out of the Gateway experience. Any changes outside of the ones mentioned above will be relayed to students and families as they become necessary.

**Q. What about graduation requirements? Will those change also?**

A. The Ohio Department of Education will make the final decision about courses and test scores required for graduation. As guidance becomes available about any changes, we will communicate these with families. Gateways are the one requirement that is within our agency. Please reference to the previous question as it relates to our current plan for accommodations to Gateways amid the pandemic.

**Q. Will students be permitted to go to Brown Street for lunch? Can I have food delivered to my student for lunch?**

A. Students, regardless of their Gateway status, will not be permitted to leave the building once the school day has started. This restriction includes during lunch time and Advisory.

Students are permitted to pack their lunch or consume the lunch provided by the school. Brown Street privileges have been suspended, to minimize the risk of contracting/transmission of the virus. Families are also **not permitted** to have food delivered to students. Students are not permitted to place food orders for delivery to the school from store or through third party vendors (e.g. DoorDash, UberEats etc.)

**Q. Will students be permitted to come to the building to work on days not included in their hybrid schedule?**

A. No. Students will not be permitted to be present at the school on days they are not assigned in the hybrid model. Teachers may choose to allow a student to come into the building for specific interventions, but that must be arranged and approved previously by the teacher.

## More Information

**Q. How can I ask questions or learn more?**

A. As we engage in this new way of learning, we are here to support families through the transition. If there are questions not outlined in this document or additional questions about policies and procedures, devices, school work, or anything at all, please reach out by email at [help@daytonearlycollege.org](mailto:help@daytonearlycollege.org) or by text to 937-985-DECA (3322) and a staff member will respond within one business day.

---