

Parkland School District



“Educating for Success, Inspiring Excellence”

Revised Health and Safety Plan for the 2021–2022 School Year

Updated for January 18, 2022, Board Meeting - Updates are highlighted in yellow

Reviews and Submissions

Date of Last Review: January 18, 2022

Date of School Board Approval: July 27, 2021; August 24, 2021;
January 18, 2022

Effective Date: January 19, 2022

Submitted to the Department of Education: July 28, 2021

Health and Safety Committee

Name	Position	Roles and Responsibilities
Dr. Mark Madson	Superintendent	Plan Development and Response Team
Dr. Rod Troutman	Assistant Superintendent	Plan Development and Response Team
Dr. Michelle Minotti	Assistant Superintendent	Plan Development and Response Team
Leslie Frisbie	Director of Business Administration	Plan Development and Response Team
Sheri Deeb	Director of Health and Wellness, Pandemic Coordinator	Plan Development and Response Team
Brenda DeRenzo	Director of Student Services	Plan Development and Response Team
Pam Kelly	Director of Human Resources, Parent	Plan Development and Response Team
Kelly Rosario	Director of Curriculum & Instruction and Professional Development	Plan Development and Response Team
David Keppel	Director of School Services	Plan Development and Response Team
Lori Seier	Director of Food Services	Plan Development and Response Team
Tom Derhammer	Director of Technology	Plan Development and Response Team
Nicole McGalla	Director of Communication and Development, Parent	Plan Development and Response Team
Dr. Anthony Naradko	Director of District Safety and Security, Parent	Plan Development and Response Team
Bill Dreisbach	Director of Athletics, Parent	Plan Development and Response Team
Frank Anonia	Director of Visual and Performing Arts	Plan Development and Response Team
Andrew Weber	Supervisor of Special Education, Parent	Plan Development and Response Team
James Moniz	Principal, Parkland High School	Plan Development and Response Team
Dr. Jude Sandt	Principal, Springhouse Middle School	Plan Development and Response Team
Todd Gombos	Principal, Orefield Middle School	Plan Development and Response Team
Karen Aulisio	Principal, Kratzer Elementary School	Plan Development and Response Team
Scott Bartman	Principal, Parkway Manor Elementary School, Parent	Plan Development and Response Team
Tim Chorones	Principal, Fogelsville Elementary School, Parent	Plan Development and Response Team
Karen Dopera	Principal, Veterans Memorial Elementary School, Parent	Plan Development and Response Team
Dr. Jamie Giaquinto	Principal, Cetronia Elementary School, Parent	Plan Development and Response Team
Michael Gehringer	Principal, Kernsville Elementary School	Plan Development and Response Team
Damian Goodman	Principal, Schnecksville Elementary School	Plan Development and Response Team
Rob Holmes	Principal, Ironton Elementary School	Plan Development and Response Team
Jeff Bartman	Principal, Jandl Elementary School	Plan Development and Response Team
Dr. Elise Jones	School Physician for Parkland School District, St. Luke's University Health Network	Plan Development and Response Team
Jeffrey Kowalski	Senior Network Director of Urgent Care and Occupational Medicine, SLUHN	Plan Development and Response Team



Introduction

The purpose of this Health and Safety Plan is to provide the Parkland School District Community with an outline for full in-person instruction five days per week. This plan was developed by a Health and Safety Pandemic Team using recommendations from the Center for Disease Control (CDC), Pennsylvania Department of Health (PA DOH), Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE), and continuous dialogue with our local health care provider: St. Luke's University Health Network (SLUHN). This plan specifically addresses the needs of the Parkland School District. Additionally, the plan will be monitored and revised as federal, state, and local agencies dictate and through continual monitoring of community transmission data.

Decision Making

The Parkland School District Health and Safety plan aligns with current recommendations from the Pennsylvania Department of Health (PA DOH), Center for Disease Control (CDC), and the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE). These health and safety recommendations are designed to guide school districts as they prepare for the 2021-2022 school year and make full day, in person K-12 instruction a priority.

We are committed to maintaining the health and safety of our students and staff. The District continues to strongly encourage eligible individuals to get vaccinated and recommends that unvaccinated individuals wear face coverings unless required to wear a face covering in accordance with this Revision #2 Plan. Please contact your health care provider for more information regarding vaccinations.

[CDC Recommendations for K-12 Schools](#)

Feedback

This plan was posted for public review beginning July 21, 2021. Utilizing a feedback form, community and staff members submitted comments/feedback regarding the plan. All feedback was reviewed and taken under consideration by administration prior to July 27, 2021. Upon board approval on July 27, 2021 administration will continue to monitor federal, state, and local regulations as well as the community transmission of COVID-19. Changes may be made as needed throughout the 2021-2022 School Year.



Since the School Board's adoption of the Health and Safety Plan for School Year 2021-2021 on July 27, 2021, the School Board has received public comment about the Plan, especially that portion of the Plan that addresses face coverings as one of the many mitigation strategies set forth in the Plan. The School District has developed a decision-making tool matrix to assist the District when a change is needed regarding the wearing of face coverings. The decision-making tool matrix was sent to the Parkland community on August 20, 2021, for review and comment. Revision #1 Plan adopted on August 24, 2021, has taken into account community comments.

This Revision #2 of the Health and Safety Plan for School Year 2021-2022 was approved on January 18, 2022. The School Board has received public comment about the Plan, especially that portion of the Plan that addresses face coverings as one of the many mitigation strategies set forth in the Plan. The School District continues to utilize a decision-making tool matrix to assist the District when a change is needed regarding the wearing of face coverings. Administration presented the revised Health and Safety Plan on January 18, 2022 at the regular Public School Board meeting. The revised Health and Safety Plan was posted on the publicly accessible website on January 12. Public comment was available through a google form and Revision #2 Plan adopted on January 18, 2022 has taken into account community comments.

Revisions

Parkland School District will make changes and updates to this plan as necessary based on the level of community/building spread. Additionally, the School District will adhere to federal, state, or local governmental restrictions and/or mandates. Revisions will be highlighted and notification of revisions will be communicated with our school community.

American Rescue Plan (ARP) Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Requirements

1. How will the LEA (Local Education Authority), to the greatest extent practicable, support prevention and mitigation policies in line with the most up-to-date [guidance from the CDC for the reopening and operation of school facilities](#) in order to continuously and safely open and operate schools for in-person learning?

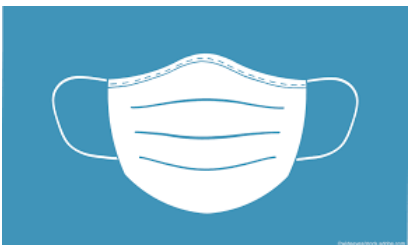
Mitigation Strategies- Parkland School District will continue utilizing disinfecting products that kept students and staff safe during the 2021-2022 school year. No change to procedure during school and after school. Buildings will continue with social distancing to the maximum extent feasible. Facilities Improvements- The district plans to utilize American Recovery Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARP ESSER) dollars to upgrade aging HVAC systems to enhance air quality in schools where equipment has aged and is in need of repair or replacement.




2. How will the LEA ensure continuity of services, including but not limited to services to address the students' academic needs, and students' and staff members' social, emotional, mental health, and other needs, which may include student health and food services?

Continuity of Services: How will LEA use funds to sustain services to address students' academic needs; students' and staff social, emotional, and mental health needs; and student nutrition and food services? The following positions have been added or additional positions have been created; Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) to assist with behavioral issues, school psychologist and a school counselor to assist with mental health needs. Additional learning support teachers and an additional school nurse have also been hired to meet the needs of students. The district also plans to hire additional staff to reduce class sizes or offer online instruction. Access to instruction; how will LEA use funds to support the goals of increasing opportunity to learn and equity in instructional delivery? (attendance/ chronic absence) Attendance meetings will be held monthly by the CORE Teams in each building. Students with attendance concerns will be identified. Student Attendance Improvement Plans will be developed with the parents and students. Interventions may include but are not limited to mentoring, guidance seminars, or home school visitor meetings. Home school visitors make home visits to intervene when attendance and disengagement is a concern. We will also partner with our community agencies such as K/S Consultants Truancy. The district will again be providing breakfast and lunch to all Parkland-enrolled students free of charge, as well as providing meals to go for students within the school district who may opt to remain fully online as their method of instruction.

3. Use the table below to explain how the LEA will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff and the extent to which it has adopted policies, and a description of any such policy on each of the following safety recommendations established by the CDC.

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
<p>a. Universal and correct wearing of mask</p> 	<p>The District will comply with all Federal and State mandates regarding face coverings. When making its decision regarding the wearing of face coverings, the Administration will take into account the metrics as recommended by the CDC, PA DOH, PDE and its local health care advisors. The community will be notified of any changes.</p> <p>Wearing a face covering may be subject to change at any time during the school year starting with the first day of school and ending with the last day of school.</p>

	<p>The Parkland School District has developed a decision-making tool in partnership with St. Luke’s University Health Network and in consultation with Lehigh Valley Health Network. This evidence-based approach is designed to assist Parkland School District when a change may be needed to our face covering policy.</p> <p>Indoor face covering requirements (Appendix A) are a priority mitigation strategy across the tiers. Individual schools or the District may transition between tiers depending on the metrics set forth. Movement among tier levels will be considered after two consecutive weeks from the indicated change of the criteria. Immediate changes may be necessary as a result of outbreaks within a building.</p> <p>All face coverings shall be compliant with the School District's dress code.</p> <p>Updated Order of The Secretary of The Pennsylvania Department of Health</p> <p>CDC Guidelines for Masks</p> <p>CDC Masking for Transportation</p> <p>PA DOH Monitoring System Dashboard</p> <p>CDC COVID Data Tracker</p>
<p>b. Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);</p> 	<p>Elementary Return to School 2021-22</p> <p>Secondary Return to School 2021-22</p> <p>Arts Education Guidance 2021-22</p> <p>Athletics Return to Play 2021-22</p> <p>Classroom</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools will maintain physical distancing practice per recommendations of the CDC and/or PA DOH to the maximum extent feasible.



- Field trips will be reviewed on an individual basis for approval by administration.

Face coverings are required while riding District transportation.

CDC Guidance K-12 Schools

- Water Fountains will be closed this year, therefore students and staff should bring their own water. Touchless hydration fill stations and classroom sinks will be available.

Transportation


- The front seat behind the driver should remain vacant to the greatest extent feasible.
- Face coverings will be required while riding District transportation for all individuals, vaccinated or unvaccinated. This includes, field trips, sporting events, activities and regular riding of buses/vehicles to and from school.
- Assigned seats may be implemented based on level of community/building spread.
- Secondary school buses will be loaded from back to front.
- Elementary School buses will be loaded back to front with the exception of kindergarten and first grade students who will sit in the front of the bus.
- Morning bus run - students will disembark from front to back. Afternoon bus run - students will disembark by bus stop.

Food Services

Cafeteria Capacity and/or Alternative Serving Models:

- Maximum capacity will be determined to accommodate social distancing to the maximum extent feasible.
- Meals will be served in the cafeterias and other spaces as appropriate with limited, spaced and/or assigned seating.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entrance and exit flow paths, with appropriate spacing, will be determined at each building. • Cohort seating will exist at the elementary level.
<p>c. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette;</p> 	<p>Hand Washing Etiquette will be encouraged for everyone.</p> <p>Elementary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Handwashing will occur prior to leaving the classroom for lunch and prior to any snack. • Hand sanitizer will be used prior to and after breakfast, after lunch, and after snack; upon return from recess; prior to and after gym class; entering specials, and when entering and exiting the nursing suite. <p>Middle School/High School</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frequent hand washing will be encouraged with students and staff at a minimum of two (2) times per day including before and after gym class. • Hand sanitizer will be available as students and staff enter serving areas. • Each classroom will have a supply of disinfectant. • Children may bring individual bottles of hand sanitizer to keep on their desk or in a backpack. <p>Hand sanitizing stations will be available throughout the buildings.</p> <p>Respiratory Etiquette:</p> <p>Students/Staff will be encouraged to use proper respiratory etiquette.</p> <p>Building School Nurse's will provide respiratory etiquette vignettes via electronic means, in person, and/or with posters that are visibly displayed throughout the buildings.</p> <p>Sample video: https://youtu.be/AOQCrvDgv4c</p>

d. Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation;



School Services

[CDC Disinfecting Your Facility](#)

Sanitization Requirements

- Each classroom, restroom, hallway and touch points will be cleaned and sanitized per CDC requirements throughout the course of the school day.
- Students/Staff may clean their own personal contact areas and electronics. Cleaning products will be provided by the district as requested.

Restrooms

- The restrooms will be cleaned and sanitized when the students arrive for school. Additionally, the common area restrooms will be cleaned and/or sanitized a minimum of one time between the start of school and lunch, and once after lunch.

Hallways

- Door knobs, handrails and touch points in hallways will be routinely sanitized throughout the course of the day.

Transportation

- Hand sanitizer will be provided for students and drivers on each bus/van.
- Students entering and exiting the bus/van will be encouraged to use hand sanitizer.
- Buses will be disinfected after the morning runs and following the end of the day runs.
- Buses/vans will be aired out before and after runs, weather permitting.
- If a student/staff is diagnosed with a case of COVID-19, the bus/van will be removed from service for cleaning and disinfecting.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>CDC What Bus Operators Need to Know about COVID-19</u> <p>Ventilation Systems</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Routinely, School Services will check/monitor the operation of the ventilation systems. • Windows may be opened, weather permitting, to increase air circulation <p>Kitchens/Cafeteria</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kitchens will undergo additional cleaning routinely. • Food Services staff will clean and sanitize kitchen equipment, surfaces, hand washing stations, and all other frequently touched surfaces throughout their work day. • Serving lines will be sanitized after breakfast and each lunch period. <p>Cafeteria tables will be disinfected as follows:</p> <p>ELEMENTARY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After breakfast • After each lunch period <p>MIDDLE SCHOOL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After breakfast • After each lunch period <p>HIGH SCHOOL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After breakfast • After second period study hall • After each lunch period • After school
<p>e. Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State and local health departments;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current CDC and PA DOH guidelines will be utilized in assessing potential cases and exposure. • The Director of Health and Wellness or designee will be in communication with the PA DOH with suspected cases of COVID-19.





- Parkland School District nursing department will assist with contract tracing as directed by the PA DOH.
- Close contacts to a case impacting school will be identified and sent home.
- Notifications will come via letter, email, District website, and/or School Messenger.
- Self reported positive cases will be confirmed by the PA DOH prior to notifications.
- Nursing staff will wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) during the school day when deemed appropriate and based on the level of community and building spread.

When an Employee/Student becomes ill or demonstrates a history of exposure:

- Isolation areas exist in each building to separate anyone from the general population who may be exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms.
- Decision Flow Charts for return to work/school and any necessary quarantine/isolation will be used by the school nurses based on the latest guidance from the PA DOH.
- Reports to the PA DOH will be made by the school nurse or Director of Health/Wellness.
- Increased cleaning and disinfecting of exposed classrooms and buses will be based on CDC guidance.
- Notification to potential close contacts will occur once a positive case, impacting a school, has been identified.
- All persons who have been in the presence of a positive case up to 48 hours prior to symptoms/testing will be excluded from school/work until the individual has met the PA DOH criteria to discontinue quarantine.
- Classroom instruction for quarantined/isolating students will move to virtual learning via Schoology and teacher direction.



- Individuals must be fever free for 24 hours prior to return to work/school without fever reducing medication. If a provider states there is an alternate diagnosis and feels the individual can return to school/work, a doctor's note may be required.


Returning quarantined staff, students or visitors to school.


- Return to work/school will be permitted in accordance with the current CDC and PA DOH guidelines. A doctor's note may be required.

Return to School/ Work (after COVID-19 diagnosis with mild symptoms (not hospitalized)).

- The District will follow the most recent recommendations provided by the PA DOH for return to school/work.
- Employees/Students should communicate with the Director of Health and Wellness and/or the building nurse to determine the timeline for return.
- Students/staff should be evaluated and may provide a return to school/work note from a medical provider (MD (Medical Doctor), DO (Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine), NP (Nurse Practitioner), PA (Physician Assistant), and (PA DOH).
- Visitors/Volunteers/Outside organizations may be limited from entering a district building based on level of community/building spread.
- Individuals without a medical provider may contact one of the following local public health agencies:
 1. Lehigh Valley Health Network: E-Visits for coronavirus (COVID-19) exposure.
 2. St. Luke's University Health Network: Hotline for Coronavirus COVID 19 Inquiries 1-866-STLUKES (785-8537), option 7 OR coronavirus@sluhn.org



<p>f. Diagnostic and screening testing;</p>	<p>Based upon the community and building level spread, a wellness screener for students, staff, visitors, and volunteers may be utilized during the school year. Everyone is encouraged to self monitor for illness.</p> <p>Students and Staff are encouraged to remain home if ill.</p> <p>Employees are required to notify their building supervisor if diagnosed with a positive case of COVID-19.</p> <p>Parents are required to notify their child's building nurse with a diagnosis of COVID-19.</p> <p>Suspected cases of a communicable disease will be masked while waiting for departure.</p> <p>Diagnostic testing opportunities will be provided by the community-based testing sites as directed by the employee/student's doctor.</p>
<p>g. Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities;</p> 	<p>COVID-19 vaccine clinics were held in May 2021 and June 2021. An onsite clinic is to be held on August 25, 2021 and September 16, 2021 at PHS.</p> <p>Flu vaccine clinics for employees are scheduled for the fall 2021 with CVS Pharmacy for each building.</p> <p>Booster COVID-19 clinics will be available if/when needed, partnering with our local health networks.</p>
<p>h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and</p>	<p>Additional accommodations for staff at high-risk for severe illness for COVID-19 will be considered on a case by case basis.</p> <p>Individualized decisions regarding programming for students with disabilities will be made in accordance with 504 and IDEA requirements.</p> <p>Social/Emotional Needs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Availability of counseling services on site for staff experiencing trauma/anxiety.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Class Chats and/or other activities will occur to develop connectedness, classroom routines, stamina, and attention. • During the first month of school, core teams will review student crisis data that occurred from the previous year. Counselors will meet individually with the students who were identified and communicate with parents. • High school and middle school students in need of support may participate in counselor-run seminars and/or be referred for counseling services. • Elementary school students in need of support may participate in the BounceBack or other programs with school counselors.
<p>i. Coordination with state and local health officials.</p> 	<p>The Director of Health & Wellness will continue coordinating with our CMHD (County Municipal Health Department) directly and through our participation on the Emergency Preparedness Council CLIU 21 .</p>

Additional Resources

- [CDC K-12 School Operational Strategy](#)
- [PDE Resources for School Communities During COVID-19](#)
- [Roadmap for Education Leaders](#)
- [Accelerated Learning Through an Integrated System of Support](#)
- [PA Department of Health COVID-19 website](#)



Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors/Trustees for Parkland School District reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on July 27, 2021, with Revision #1 on August 24, 2021 and Revision #2 January 18, 2022.

The plan was approved by a vote of:

☒ Yes

☐ No

Affirmed on: July 27, 2021, August 24, 2021, January 18, 2022

By:

David J. Hein, President, Parkland Board of School Directors

*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.



Appendix A

Updated Indoor Face Coverings Matrix

January 2022





Parkland School District

Indoor Face Covering Decision Matrix

effective January 19, 2022

The Parkland School District has developed a decision-making tool in partnership with St. Luke's University Health Network and in consultation with Lehigh Valley Health Network. This evidence-based approach is designed to assist Parkland School District when a change may be needed to our face covering policy. Indoor face covering requirements are a priority mitigation strategy across the tiers. Individual schools or the District may transition between tiers depending on the metrics set forth. Movement among tier levels will be considered after two consecutive weeks from the indicated change of the criteria. Immediate changes may be necessary as a result of outbreaks within a building.

Our goal is to have all schools remain open for five days a week of in-person instruction. All guiding metrics will be analyzed in determining Tier changes. Decisions may not be based upon any one single factor.

	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3
	<u>Metrics that help guide decision:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 0-49 cases/100,000 residents in Lehigh County in a rolling 7-day period 0%-7.9% test positivity rate Monitoring of building and community data. High community and student/staff vaccination rates (60% and higher) based upon entire population 	<u>Metrics that help guide decision:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 50-100 cases/100,000 residents in Lehigh County in a rolling 7-day period 8-9.9% test positivity rate Monitoring of building and community data. No evidence of community spread in school(s) Moderate community and student/staff vaccination rates (40- 59.9%) based upon entire population 	<u>Metrics that help guide decision:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100+cases/100,000 residents in Lehigh County in a rolling 7-day period ≥ 10% test positivity rate Cases exceed 2.5% of the school building population of students and staff Evidence of community spread in school(s) Low community and student/staff vaccination rates (0-39.9%) based upon entire population
Students/Staff -K-12/ ALL	No Recommendations	Recommended Indoors	Required Indoors
Students -Visual/Performing Arts and Athletics	No Recommendations	Recommended Indoors	Required Indoors except while physically playing interscholastic sports or performing a dance
Nursing Suite(s)/ Training Room(s)	No Recommendations	Required indoors	Required Indoors
Transportation	Required per federal order		

Parkland School District will continue to work with our local Healthcare Providers to determine decision making factors as well as on-going review of recommendations from Center for Disease Control (CDC). The CDC states: In general, people do not need to wear masks when outdoors. CDC recommends that people who are not fully vaccinated wear a mask in crowded outdoor settings or during activities that involve sustained close contact with other people. Fully vaccinated people might choose to wear a mask in crowded outdoor settings if they or someone in their household is immunocompromised.

*Small School: less than 500 staff & students : (IR)

*Medium School: 500-900 staff & students : (CE, FO, JL, KR, KV, PM, SC, VM)

*Large School: 900 + staff & students: (OMS, SMS, PHS)