

On December 21, 2021 The Millville Area School Board held a special Zoom meeting to discuss revisions to the 2021-2022 MASD School Health and Safety Plan and pertinent matters. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

#### ROLL CALL

The following Board members answered roll call: Brynn Clark, Sue Farr, Michael Farrell, Greg Hemsarh, Heather Mausteller, Susan Myers. Absent: William Berger, Deborah Price, and Jessica Whitmoyer.

Also present were Joseph Rasmus, Ed Sanders, Whitney Holloway, Noah Adams, and Kathy Musselman.

#### GUEST RECOGNITION AND COMMENTS

Andy Hemsarh:

Safety and the best education is most important. Has seen a huge improvement moving from synchronize learning to face-to-face. Synchronize learning works but it is not the best option.

Susan Myers:

It is good to see the kids in the classroom.

Joe Rasmus:

Health and safety is the forefront of vision.

Thanked the teachers and staff members. He does not take their efforts lightly.

COVID is challenging as the transmission rate is well above 20 cases and 80 close contacts for faculty, staff, and students.

Masking is a work around and keeping open for face-to-face learning.

COVID is unmanageable to the nursing staff at a rate of 21 students per hour.

Students quarantined, especially on the secondary level are more apt to stay home. It is difficult to support VIS 5 hours after school.

Mr. Rasmus detailed the MASD Health and Safety Plan with revisions highlighted in turquoise.

### **Millville Area School District Health and Safety Plan December 21, 2021**

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Section 2001(i) (1) of the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act requires each local education agency (LEA) that receives funding under the ARP Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund to develop and make publicly available on the district's website a *Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan*, hereinafter referred to as a *Health and Safety Plan*.

Based on ARP requirements, 90 percent of ARP ESSER funds will be distributed to school districts and charter schools based on their relative share of Title I-A funding in FY 2020-2021. **Given federally required timelines, LEAs eligible to apply for and receive this portion of the ARP ESSER funding must submit a Health and Safety Plan that meets ARP Act requirements to the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) by Friday, July 30, 2021, regardless of when the LEA submits its ARP ESSER application.**

Each LEA must create a Health and Safety Plan that addresses how it will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff, and which will serve as local guidelines for all instructional and non-instructional school activities during the period of the LEA's ARP ESSER grant. The Health and Safety Plan should be tailored to the unique needs of each LEA and its schools and must take into account public comment related to the development of, and subsequent revisions to, the Health and Safety Plan.

The ARP Act and U.S. Department of Education rules require Health and Safety plans include the following components:

1. How the LEA will, to the greatest extent practicable, implement prevention and mitigation policies in line with the most up-to-date guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for the reopening and operation of school facilities in order to continuously and safely open and operate schools for in-person learning;
2. How the LEA will 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;

3. 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:
  - a. Expectations for wearing face coverings
  - b. Expectations for Physical and/or Social Distancing
  - c. Expectations for cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities; including improvements to ventilation
  - d. [Expectations for contact tracing](#) in combination with [isolation](#) and [quarantine](#), in collaboration with State and local health departments
  - e. Expectations for [Diagnostic](#) and screening testing;
  - f. Expectations to coordinate COVID-19 [vaccinations for school communities](#);
  - g. Expectations to provide the appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and
  - h. Expectations for coordination with state and local health officials.

The district's Health and Safety Plan must be approved by its governing body and posted on the LEA's publicly available website. The ARP Act requires school districts to post their Health and Safety Plans online in a language that parents/caregivers can understand, or, if it is not practicable to provide written translations to an individual with limited English proficiency, be orally translated. The plan also must be provided in an alternative format accessible, upon request, by a parent who is an individual with a disability as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act. Each LEA will upload in the eGrants system its updated Health and Safety Plan and webpage URL where the plan is located on the LEA's publicly available website.

The ARP Act requires LEAs to review their Health and Safety Plans at least every six months during the period of the LEA's ARP ESSER grant. LEAs also must review and update their plans whenever there are significant changes to the CDC recommendations for K-12 schools. Like the development of the plan, all revisions must be informed by community input and reviewed and approved by the governing body prior to posting on the LEA's publicly available website.

According to the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE), each school entity must create a Health and Safety Plan which will serve as the local guidelines for all instructional and non-instructional school reopening activities. As with all emergency plans, the Health and Safety Plan developed for each school entity should be tailored to the unique needs of each school and should be created in consultation with local health agencies. Given the dynamic nature of the pandemic, each plan should incorporate enough flexibility to adapt to changing conditions.

Utilizing the framework offered by the Pennsylvania Department of Education, the Millville Area School District has developed a comprehensive School Health and Safety Plan which delineates the mitigation strategies that will be employed to reduce the risk transmitting serious illness and the instructional modalities that will ensure that diverse educational needs of all students are well met.

As per PDE guidance, the Millville Area School District's Health and Safety Plan must be approved by the Board of Education and posted upon the district's website well prior to the start of the 2021-22 school year to ensure that stakeholders are adequately informed and can plan make preparations accordingly. Due to the fluid nature of the COVID-19, the Millville Area School District will continue to monitor the 2021-22 School Health and Safety Plan and update and revise the plan in accordance to the health and welfare needs of its school community as well as instructional needs of its valued students. All revisions implemented to the Millville Area School District's Health and Safety Plan will be reviewed and approved by the Board of Education prior to implementing updated policies, procedures, practices, and/or strategies. When necessary, the Superintendent of Schools is authorized to modify the plan when directives are imposed by the state and/or when changes are necessitated in response to community outbreak.

Subsequent to board approval, the Millville Area School District's 2021-22 Health and Safety Plan will be submitted and archived with the Pennsylvania Department of Education. District stakeholders: Parents, guardians, faculty, staff, students, and community members can review the 2021-22 Health and Safety Plan which will be accessible on the district website: <https://www.millsd.us>.

In the event that a district stakeholder has a specific question or concern related to the MASD 2021-22 School Health and Safety Plan, they should contact the Office of the Superintendent of Schools at (570) 458-5538 X 3221 or [jrasmus@millsd.us](mailto:jrasmus@millsd.us).

December 21, 2021

The 2021-22 School Health and Safety Plan which was developed through collaboration amongst district stakeholders including members of the Millville Area Board of Education, administration, faculty, staff, parents, and community members identifies the procedures, practices, and strategies that the district will implement during the 2021-22 school year in order to limit and minimize the spread of COVID-19.

In order to develop the 2021-22 School Health and Safety Plan, the district's leadership team has reviewed and considered the following: 1.) Guidance and recommendations from the Pennsylvania Department of Health (PaDOH); 2.) CDC's *Guidance for COVID-19 Prevention in K-12 Schools*; 3.) PDE's *COVID-19 Resources for Pre-K to 12 Schools*; 4.) CDC's *K-12 School Operational Strategy*; 5.) PDE's *Roadmap for Education Leaders*; 6.) PDE's *Accelerated Learning Through an Integrated System of Support*; 7.) PA Supreme Court decision regarding previous masking mandate; 8.) *Legal Guidance from Kegel Kellin Litts & Lord LLP*; and 9.) *COVID-19 data specific to school and community outbreak*.

*This plan is a fluid document that will be modified and edited to ensure that the mitigation strategies employed by the Millville Area School District most appropriately address the status of the pandemic and its impact upon students, faculty, and staff. The district leadership team will provide the MASD Board of Education with up-to-date data as it relates to positivity and quarantine rates within the schools to ensure that all reasonable and appropriate safeguards are implemented to ensure the safety and welfare of all stakeholders and maintain continuity of Face-to-Face instruction to the greatest extent possible.*

#### Health and Safety Plan Summary: Millville Area School District

Initial Effective Date: 7/27/21

Date of Last Review: 12/21/21

Date of Last Revision: 12/21/21

To the greatest extent practicable, the Millville Area School District will support prevention and mitigation policies that are consistent with the most up-to-date guidance from the CDC, PADOH, and PDE in order to continuously and safely open and operate schools for **in-person learning for K-12 students**.

To the greatest extent practicable, the MASD will continually monitor community transmission, vaccination coverage, screening testing, and occurrence of outbreaks to guide decisions on the level of layered prevention strategies.

To the greatest extent practicable, the MASD policies, procedures, and practices will emphasize the COVID-19 prevention strategies that are conducive to **in-person learning for K-12 students**.

- Consistent with recommendation from the CDC, PADOH, and PDE, the MASD will employ the following for the 2021-22 school year:
  - The MASD will maintain **Face-to-Face (F2F) instruction** for ALL K-12 students within its community schools.
  - Recognizing that families may not prefer their child to access their educational services in the F2F context, the MASD will continue to provide K-12 students with the opportunity to access **ASYNCHRONOUS instruction via the Millville Virtual Academy (MVA)**. Families who may be interested in their child participating in ASYNCHRONOUS instruction are encouraged to **contact their school guidance counselor and/or principal to ascertain additional information**.
  - Based upon the Appeal from the Commonwealth Court Order dated November 10, 2021 at No. 294 MD 2021. ARGUED: December 8, 2021 whereby the PA Supreme Court issued a per curiam order holding that the Commonwealth Court's decision in *Corman et al v. Beam* is affirmed, the Millville Area School District will no longer impose mandatory universal masking. Rather, the Millville Area School District will yield masking protocols to the discretion of parents and guardians to make the most informed decision for their children.
  - The PA Supreme Court decision rendered on December 10, 2021 indicates that the Department of Health's Mask Order has been deemed illegal and cannot be unilaterally enforced. Consequently, school entities are no longer required to have students, staff and visitors wear face coverings inside of school buildings, **unless their health and safety plans independently impose that requirement**.
  - While the Millville Area School District has instituted discretionary masking on December 13, 2021, the district continues to encourage faculty, staff, and students to wear appropriate face coverings when in school buildings in an effort to reduce the transmission of COVID-19 and its variants.
  - In the event that rates of transmission of COVID-19 increase, the MASD may reconsider and re-institute universal face covering within the district in order to reduce transmission and maintain face-to-face instruction.

- In the event that an individual has been identified as a close contact of a positive case, the close contact will be required to mask within school for a period not to exceed 14 days. The student's masking duration may be abbreviated in response to negative COVID testing results.
  - Vaccinated students who are identified as close contacts may "unmask" after a PCR or Rapid Antigen Test rendering a negative test result when tested on day 2 to 5 after close contact with a positive.
  - Unvaccinated students who are identified as close contacts may "unmask" after a PCR or Rapid Antigen Test rendering a negative test result when tested on or after day 5. Students who test on day 5 may unmask on day 7.
- When the MASD implements the Testing to Stay (TTS) program in 2022, students who are identified as close contacts will be encouraged to participate in district-provided COVID testing. For additional guidance regarding TTS, see Testing to Stay Protocols on page 33.
- Please note the PA Supreme Court decision does NOT impact the federal directive requiring all passengers and drivers to wear a mask on school buses, including on buses operated by public and private school systems; these requirements remain in effect. It also does not impact the federal masking mandate issued for Head Start and Early Head Start grantees.
- The elimination of the statewide PreK-12 school mask requirement does not change how schools respond to COVID-19 cases in schools, address outbreaks, or report data to the PA Department of Health (DOH).
- The following scenarios have been identified as situations and contexts within which students are discouraged from wearing masks:
  - When engaged in an activity that cannot be performed while wearing a mask, such as eating and drinking, or playing an instrument that would be obstructed by the face covering.
  - When participating in high intensity aerobic activities, including during a physical education class in a well-ventilated location and able to maintain a physical distance of six feet from all other individuals.
  - When participating in a sports practice activity or event, whether indoors or outdoors.
- Due to the increased probability of transmission that occurs when students, faculty, and staff who enter the health office, when entering the health suite, individuals will be afforded with a mask prior to being afforded with access.
- In the event that a faculty, staff, and/or student removes their face masking during the close contact period prior to being released by the district nurse, the individual will be directed to complete their respective quarantine period from home.

Social Distancing:

- In an effort to minimize the transmission of disease and ensure the safety and welfare of faculty, staff, and students, the district make every effort to maintain **3-6 feet of social distance between all individuals to the MAXIMUM EXTENT POSSIBLE.**
- While the district will employ social distancing to the maximum extent possible, in the 2021-22 school year:
  - Elementary students will NOT remain contained to one classroom.
  - Elementary students will be permitted to travel within the building to access instruction in multiple classrooms as is most appropriate to their learning (Art, music, PE, computers, careers, and library classroom settings will be utilized as deemed appropriate).
  - Elementary students within the intermediate grades (grades 3-6) will adhere to a departmentalized model whereby students will travel to multiple classrooms to access core instruction (Social Studies, Science, and Writing).
  - While some elementary students will eat their lunches within the school cafeteria, designated elementary students will be assigned to eat their lunch within their respective homerooms. This measure is being implemented to reduce the number of students within the cafeteria at any one given time. Additionally, students who eat lunch in the cafeteria will be given an assigned seat. This measure is being undertaken to reduce the number of individuals who may be impacted via close contact with a probable/positive case and thus reduce the potential for transmission. Additionally,

this measure enables district administration to readily identify impacted individuals when contact tracing.

- ALL elementary students will receive a packaged breakfast upon arrival and travel to their homerooms where they will eat their breakfast.
- In an effort to minimize the transmission of COVID 19 and to maintain efficient contact tracing protocols and procedures, the district will maintain disaggregated recess for elementary students. Consequently, elementary students will be limited to engaging in recess activities with their respective homeroom ONLY. In an effort to reduce the spread of illness, students will be relegated to distinct recess areas which are individuated from other groups and/or grades of students.
- While some secondary students will eat their lunches within the school cafeteria, designated Jr./Sr. High School students will be assigned to eat their lunch within the gymnasium. This measure is being implemented to reduce the number of students within the cafeteria at any one given time. Additionally, students who eat lunch in the cafeteria and gymnasium will be given an assigned seat. This measure is being undertaken to reduce the number of individuals who may be impacted via close contact with a probable/positive case and thus reduce the potential for transmission. Additionally, this measure enables district administration to readily identify impacted individuals when contact tracing.
- ALL secondary students will receive a packaged breakfast upon arrive and travel to their homerooms where they will eat breakfast.
- Within the Jr./Sr. HS, students will maintain utilizing one directional stairwells to reduce congestion and close contact when traveling between classes.
- MASD will encourage cooperative and project-based learning to the greatest avail of student learning outcomes.

#### **Cleaning and Sanitizing Practices:**

- The MASD will maintain the highest standards of cleanliness and sanitize classrooms regularly to reduce the transmission of COVID-19. In the event that a faculty, student, and/or staff presents with illness, the district will remove other students from the instructional environment while the district personnel sanitize classroom prior to re-introducing faculty, staff, and students.
- District custodial staff utilizes disinfectants that are consistent with CDC's recommendations for they have identified to be effective in killing the viruses that cause COVID-19.
- The district has implemented Bipolar Ionization technology within its existing HVAC systems as a measure to reduce the spread and transmission of COVID-19. Bipolar Ionization mitigates and reduces the spread of bacteria and viruses. Bipolar Ionization works by introducing positive and negative ions into the air. The ionization causes production of clusters of hydroxyl (OH) radicals, which are formed on the surface of microbes, removing hydrogen from the microbes' cell walls, thereby inactivating potentially infectious particles.
- The district will undertake comprehensive cleaning and sanitizing of district buildings every Sunday to ensure that buildings are prepared for occupancy and risk of transmission of COVID 19 is reduced. ALL district buildings are closed on Sundays prior to school reopening on Monday morning.

#### **Quarantine and Close Contact Guidelines:**

In effort to prevent the spread of illness and to maintain the safety of all district stakeholders, district stakeholders should refer to the guidance below in the event that a faculty member, staff, and/or student comes in close contact of an individual who has a confirmed positive COVID-19 diagnosis.

- The CDC provides the following guidance regarding what constitutes close contact.
  - Close Contact: within 6 feet for 15 consecutive minutes (PA HAN 533).
  - Although the close contact definition is generally 15 consecutive minutes, there are circumstances where 15 cumulative minutes, or less than 15 minutes, may be used. Additional factors that should be considered when assessing close contacts include:
    - Being in extremely close proximity (e.g. face to face)
    - Having a prolonged exposure time
    - The infected person exhibiting symptoms

- The infected person generating respiratory aerosols (e.g., coughing, singing, shouting).

CDC guidance adds the following exception to the definition of close contact: In the K–12 indoor classroom setting, the close contact definition *excludes* students who were within 3 to 6 feet of an infected student (laboratory-confirmed or a clinically compatible illness) if BOTH the infected student and exposed student(s) correctly and consistently wore well-fitting masks the entire time. In the event that only ONE student is masking during the interaction, the student who comes in close contact with the positive individual will be subject to contact tracing.

The Millville Area School District will maintain compliance with the PaDOH by reporting ALL contact tracing, quarantining, and isolation data weekly with the PaDOH to inform state official of transmission rates and the efficacy of school-based mitigation strategies.

#### Responses to Close Contact with a COVID-19 Positive Case:

**Vaccinated person exposed, no symptoms:** If a fully vaccinated person who does NOT present with hallmark symptoms of COVID-19 is exposed to someone with COVID-19, the district will NOT RECOMMEND the need to quarantine. However, the MASD will RECOMMEND that the close contact will get tested 2-5 days after exposure, even if they don't have symptoms; Wear a mask indoors in public for 14 days following exposure or until their test result is negative; Isolate for 10 days if their test result is positive.

\*In order for a close contact to NOT MASK for the recommended timelines, parents/ guardians MUST PRESENT VERIFICATION OF NEGATIVE TEST RESULT to school nurse. Parents may forward either documentation of a negative PCR test or photographic representation of a rapid antigen test to the school nurse for review and approval\*

When students participate in the TTS program, parents and guardians will not be responsible to present testing results.

**Individuals with a CONFIRMED COVID-19 diagnosis within the previous 3 months:** In the event that an individual has had a COVID diagnosis within the past three calendar months, recovered, and remains without COVID-19 symptoms (e.g. cough, fever) will NOT be recommended quarantine by the district when exposed to someone with COVID 19.

**Vaccinated person with symptoms:** Any fully vaccinated person who experiences symptoms consistent with COVID-19 should isolate themselves from others, be clinically evaluated for COVID-19. In the event that the symptomatic fully vaccinated person tests positive for COVID-19, they must isolate for 10 days.

\* Someone is considered fully vaccinated when: At least two weeks have passed after the receipt of the second dose in a 2- dose vaccine series, or, at least two weeks have passed after receipt of one dose of a single-dose vaccine.

**Unvaccinated person exposed:** If an unvaccinated person is exposed to someone with COVID-19 while in school, the district will contact families of the close contact and RECOMMEND that they quarantine. However, students who are identified as close contacts will NOT be REQUIRED to quarantine provided that they are NOT symptomatic.

When an individual comes in close contact with a positive, the district will recommend that he/she quarantines at home for 10 days without symptoms. When calculating the length of quarantine, exposed unvaccinated individuals should consider the date of close contact as Day 0.

The CDC guidance indicates that unvaccinated person who has come in contact with a confirmed positive case is eligible to take a COVID test on or after day 5 after close contact. In the event that the unvaccinated person who was exposed tests negative, they may return from quarantine with a negative test result on day 7.

In an effort to address the overwhelming demands of contact tracing, the district will utilize substitute nursing personnel. The district will endeavor to schedule substitute nursing staff to the greater extent as necessary to address the health and safety needs of faculty, staff, and students. The substitute nursing personnel will assist in all aspects of contact tracing including, but not limited to assessing students, reviewing information necessary to inform contact tracing assignments, contacting parents, documenting COVID data, and administering Test To Stay protocols.

#### District Response to Household Members of a Presumptive Positive:

- When a student becomes symptomatic when in school, the school nurse, serving as the district health practitioner will send the student home. Quarantined students must present a negative COVID test in order to return to school consistent with the aforementioned timelines.

- In the event that a presumptive positive case is sent home from school to quarantine, the district will permit siblings from the household who do NOT display any COVID 19 symptoms to remain in school. In the event that a member of the household ascertains a positive COVID 19 test, then all household contacts will quarantine from school in a manner that adheres to the aforementioned timelines.
- When a student cohabitates with a positive case, the student will be required to quarantine from school for the quarantine period of the infected individual. After the positive individual's quarantine is complete (10 days from onset of symptoms or positive test), the household member must undertake an additional 10 day quarantine. The household member may abbreviate the length of their required quarantine if they remain asymptomatic and test on day five of the second quarantine period. If the test yields a negative result, the student may return on day 7 of second quarantine (Day 17).
- In the event that an individual cohabitates with a COVID positive individual who isolates themselves, the close contact will follow the aforementioned guidelines for a community close contact. When cohabitating individuals isolate, they must not share nor interact within common living areas, bathrooms, and/or bedrooms.

#### Testing to Stay (TTS) In-District COVID-19 Testing:

- Test-to-Stay (TTS) is a COVID-19 strategy that enables students and staff to continue in-person learning while minimizing the disruption of quarantine on students, families, and schools.
- TTS has been highlighted as a "promising practice" in recent statements by the CDC. The Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH) has issued the following preliminary guidance for school district leaders who wish to adopt a policy of test-to-stay in their schools.
  - TTS is a program that, when combined with regular mitigation measures (e.g., masking, social distancing, etc.), allows unvaccinated or partially vaccinated individuals who are identified as a [close contact to a case of COVID-19 in certain school settings](#) to continue in-person learning, so long as they remain asymptomatic and serially test negative for COVID-19.
  - Since fully vaccinated students and staff who are exposed to COVID-19 do not need to isolate or quarantine, so long as they remain asymptomatic, these individuals do not need to participate in TTS.
  - The objective of TTS is to enable students and staff who have been exposed at school, but are at low-risk of contracting or transmitting COVID-19, to remain in school. Vaccination continues to be the best strategy to reduce the spread of COVID-19, and these recommendations are intended to help support schools in reducing disruptions to in-person learning as vaccines for younger school-age children are being rolled out.

#### Guidelines on Implementing TTS:

- After being identified as a close contact, TTS program participants can continue in-person learning/teaching if they remain asymptomatic and continue to test negative for COVID-19 according to the following schedule:
  - 1<sup>st</sup> test: Within 2 – 4 days post-exposure
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> test: Within 5 – 7 days post-exposure
  - The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> tests must be administered on non-consecutive days (i.e., a test on Day 4 and a second test on Day 5 would not meet this criteria)
- In-line with CDC guidelines, even with diagnostic testing, individuals exposed to COVID-19 are considered active in the TTS program for at least 7 days. A student or staff member will have completed TTS and will no longer be considered a close contact or active in the program:
  - After Day 7 if they receive a negative result from at least one test administered between Day 5 and Day 7
  - If an individual is not able to receive a test between Day 5 and Day 7, they will be released from test-to-stay as soon as they receive a negative test result (on or after Day 7), or after Day 10 assuming no symptoms, whichever comes first

\*\*\*Note that Day 0 is considered the day of exposure, and this timeline is irrespective of when the close contact is identified e.g., if the student/staff member is identified on Day 3 post-exposure, they are eligible for testing that day, should it be available\*\*\*

\*\*\*If a student/staff member is notified of exposure on or after Day 5, the student/staff member should receive at least one test, administered within Days 5-7\*\*\*

\*\*\*If school is not in session on Days 5-7, or testing is not otherwise available, students/staff must receive their final test on the next available testing day, or receive a test through a health care provider or administer a Rapid Response Antigen Test at home and share results with school nurse for review\*\*\*

- It is recommended that TTS programs utilize rapid antigen tests for quick results and to minimize disruption to learning. All tests conducted for TTS must be for individual students & staff members (i.e., negative pooled test results are not sufficient unless results are individually identifiable).
- TTS is only intended for school-based exposures. Individuals who were exposed to COVID-19 in non-school settings (e.g., household exposure) are not eligible for TTS under any circumstances and should continue to follow the latest quarantine protocol.
- TTS is designed for unvaccinated or partially vaccinated students/staff who are asymptomatic.
- If an individual tests positive or becomes symptomatic at any point, they should immediately be isolated and sent home. Symptomatic individuals will no longer be able to participate in TTS, should isolate in accordance with DOH and CDC guidelines, and should seek diagnostic testing.
- Parents/guardians of students and individual staff members who choose to enroll in a TTS program offered by their school must actively consent to testing conducted for the program. A record of written consent should be maintained by the school.
- The Millville Area School District will publish explicit guidelines regarding protocols for parental consent and testing confidentiality prior to administering the TTS Program.
- The TTS program will tentatively be administered January 2022. MASD will disseminate communication regarding TTS guidelines and protocols via Sapphire and district website prior to full implementation.

#### **Instructional Programming for Students who must Quarantine/Isolate:**

- The MASD will continue to collaborate with the PaDOH when a faculty member, staff member, and/or student(s) present(s) with a positive or probable case. The Millville Area School District will recommend quarantines upon individuals who have come within close contact with a confirmed positive/probable case. Furthermore, the MASD will impose isolation upon individuals who are determined to be positive. Please see the contact tracing guidelines within this plan for details and operating procedures.
- In an abundance of caution, the MASD will consider all available information to inform their response to a positive and/or probable cases within its schools. While all efforts will be undertaken to maintain continuity of F2F instruction, the district may have to recommend quarantining of students, faculty, and staff in order to reduce the spread of COVID-19. Each scenario that presents will be addressed individually and all variables will be considered to maintain the highest degree of safety.
- **OPTION #1: Students who must quarantine due to close contact with a positive case and/or isolate due to testing positive will be afforded with SYNCHRONOUS instruction.**
- In order to maintain continuity of learning, when students are required to quarantine, they are expected to access instructional blueprints that are posted daily by district instructional staff on Microsoft Teams.
- The MASD will NOT permit students to engage in synchronous instruction who have NOT been quarantined or directed to isolate by the school nurse.
- **ONLY STUDENTS WHO ARE IDENTIFIED AS CLOSE CONTACTS and elect to QUARANTINE or those who test POSITIVE may access SYNCHRONOUS INSTRUCTION.**
- In the event that a student is absent from school for reasons other than quarantine or isolation directed by the school, he/she MAY NOT access SYNCHRONOUS INSTRUCTION. Unauthorized students will be marked absent despite their degree of participation. Parents may not call into

the school and request that their child accesses synchronous instruction. Rather, the student may access synchronous instruction the subsequent day after the beginning of the quarantine/isolation period.

- **OPTION # 2:** When students have been recommended quarantine or directed to isolate, they may access recorded academic lessons posted to teacher's Microsoft Team. Teachers will post video recordings of academic lessons upon their Microsoft Teams by the conclusion of the next school day. Therefore, quarantined/isolated students can access video recorded instruction that is one day post facto. While instruction will not be in real time, quarantined/isolated students can benefit greatly from viewing the teacher-led instruction. In the event that a teacher is employing a collaborative activity that will not translate well to recording, the teacher will post a developmentally appropriate alternate assignment with which to engage students.
- Quarantined/Isolated students who have a confirmed positive diagnosis by a medical practitioner or those who have chosen to quarantine due to a **CONFIRMED CLOSE CONTACT** with a positive/probable case will receive **VIRTUAL INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT** at the request of the parent/guardian.
- Elementary quarantined/isolated students will be afforded up to 2 hours of VIS for every five days of medically excused days from school.
- Secondary quarantined/isolated students will be afforded up to one hour of VIS for every five days of medically excused days from school.
- Upon a quarantined/isolated student's return from quarantine/isolation period, VIS will cease to be provided.
- Virtual Instructional Support (VIS) will be conducted at mutually agreed upon dates and times situated between the student's parent/guardian and designated VIS teacher that occur after the regular school day.
- Subsequent to quarantine beginning, the school guidance counselor will contact families to coordinate Virtual Instructional Support based upon family interest.
- While students will have access to instructional blueprints daily via Microsoft Teams, teachers may modify learning activities that are not conducive for self-directed learning within the home environment. Furthermore, upon return from hiatus from virtual instruction, the instructional staff will administer any and all assessments to students in school that were undertaken during his/her absence. Students will be given the same number of days that he/she was absent due to quarantine/isolation to submit and makeup missed academic work. Ex. In the event that the student was absent 7 days from school, the student will be afforded up to 7 days to submit missed work. Work NOT submitted may negatively impact a student's grade in courses
- In order for students to garner an EXCUSED absence from school due to COVID-19, the student's parent/guardian must provide the district nurse with documentation from medical practitioner and/or COVID test results which can be corroborated with the PADOH that substantiates that the student has been diagnosed with COVID-19.
- In the event that a student necessitates quarantine, the student's parent/guardian will participate in contact tracing with PADOH in order to substantiate the necessity of quarantine. ONLY once the aforementioned documentation is provided to the district will the student be afforded with excused absences and/or virtual instruction be considered.
- In the event that a student is absent from school for non-COVID related matters, the student will be afforded makeup academic work upon their return to school unless they provide documentation from a medical practitioner describing medical necessity for virtual.
- Students may not transition between instructional models without the approval of the building principal or superintendent. Approval cannot be afforded to families by building secretaries or instructional staff.

### Social Emotional Wellness and Mental Health:

In an effort to ensure continuity of services, the MASD will maintain services that address not only address students' academic needs, but also those which address students' and staff members' social, emotional, mental health, as well as other safety and welfare needs.

- In an effort to address the educational and learning needs of K-12 students, the MASD will be providing students with an opportunity to participate in additional hours of standards-aligned instruction. In November 2021, the MASD implemented the Extended Learning Day Program to provide K-12 students identified as performing below grade-level readiness with opportunities to access personalized learning so that any instructional gaps that have developed as an outcome of COVID-19 during the 2019-20, 2020-21 school years can be addressed.
- Subsequent to diagnostic assessments conducted within the first ten days of school, parents of students who have been determined to be eligible for the ELDP will be contacted by district administration and services will be coordinated accordingly.
- The MASD will provide ALL students who participate in ELDP instruction with a nutritious snack daily.
- The MASD will provide ALL students who participate in the ELDP with district-provided transportation.
- Understanding that students may possess a heightened need for social and emotional learning in order to effectively manage their anxiety, stress, and mental health, the district will maintain its K-12 Social Emotional Program: *Positive Action* that students will access daily with fidelity. K-12 students necessitate continuity in these stressful times, and *Positive Action* provides a research-based, whole-child approach to mental health.
- The MASD will continue to maintain an Outreach Coordinator from CMSU who is available in both the elementary and secondary settings to students to address their social, emotional, and mental health needs. This program is critical for it provides at-risk students with programming and interagency supports and services that extend beyond the school day into the home/family setting.
- The MASD will continue to maintain Positive Behavioral Intervention and Support (PBIS) within its elementary setting to promote positive, prosocial, and healthy behaviors.
- The MASD will provide students with school meals FREE OF CHARGE for the 2021-22 school year. Over the course of the 2021-22 school year, the MASD will distribute nutritious meals no less than twice a week to all individuals who reside within the district up to the age of 18 years old. These distributions will ensure that individuals up to the age of 18 years will have their daily nutritional and welfare needs well met. While the district will distribute food twice a week, families will access nutritionally balanced meals for a 7 day time period.
- Through the collaboration with the CS Health Trust, the MASD will provide faculty and staff with access to an Employee Assistance Program (EAP). This program can be accessed by school personnel to address mental health and social emotional wellness needs.

The table below explains how the MASD 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
a. Universal and correct wearing of <u>masks</u> ;	<p>The MASD recommends that faculty, staff, students, and visitors wear an appropriate mask that covers both the mouth and nose when inhabiting community schools. While the MASD no longer requires universal mask wearing, faculty, staff, students, and visitors may elect to wear masks in order limit exposure to COVID-19.</p> <p>ALL students, faculty, and staff who ride district-provided transportation are required to wear an appropriate face covering when on school buses. The privilege of participating in district-provided transportation may be withheld from individuals who fail to comply with masking expectation on buses.</p> <p>The MASD will REQUIRE all students and bus operators to wear an appropriate face covering when students are being transported on</p>

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
	<p>district-provided transportation. Students, faculty, and staff should not elect to wear masks when eating or when engaged in physical activities.</p>
<p>b. Modifying facilities to allow for <a href="#">physical distancing</a> (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);</p>	<p>The MASD will maintain practices to ensure that social distancing is achieved to the maximum extent possible. The MASD will maintain markers on floors to delineate social distancing expectations. The MASD will maintain directional staircases in the Jr./Sr. High School to minimize congestion when traveling between classes. The MASD will serve student meals within student homerooms to maximize social distancing and minimize the number of individuals identified as close contact when a positive or probable case presents itself. The MASD will disaggregate student groups during lunch whereby students will be assigned to eat their lunch in locations in addition to the school cafeterias in order to reduce congestion and potential for transmission of illness across grade-levels and cohorts of students. Elementary students will be limited to interaction with classmates from their respective homerooms during recess. Students will NOT be allowed to comeingle with students with students from other class sections and/or grades. Students who possess medical vulnerabilities and/or prefer not to access instruction in the F2F context may be afforded with ASYNCHRONOUS instruction via the Millville Virtual Academy (MVA). Subsequent to the approval of the 2021-22 School Health and Safety Plan, the BOE will situate policies accordingly.</p>
<p>c. <a href="#">Handwashing and Respiratory Etiquette</a>;</p>	<p>In an effort to maintain the highest degree of hygienic standards, students will have access to hand sanitizer in every district classroom and community environment. School personnel will prompt to students to sanitize hands as they enter and leave classrooms. Students will be prompted to maintain respiratory etiquette consistent with CDC recommendations. The district will post respiratory etiquette and handwashing and sanitizing etiquette signage throughout district campuses. The district will maintain water bottle filling stations throughout all district buildings to reduce the transmission of COVID-19 via surface contact with water fountains.</p>
<p>d. <a href="#">Cleaning</a> and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving <a href="#">ventilation</a>;</p>	<p>The MASD will maintain a rigorous cleaning and sanitizing regiment of all district classrooms. The district custodial personnel maintain</p>

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
	<p>cleaning and sanitizing schedules which documents cleaning and sanitizing priorities that occur on a consistent basis.</p> <p>All district classrooms and community spaces will be sanitized daily.</p> <p>The district custodial personnel will utilize cleaning and disinfecting agents that are consistent with CDC recommendations for COVID-19 mitigation.</p> <p>When a student, faculty, or staff member present with a positive and/or probable case for COVID-19, the environment will be sanitized with approved cleaning and sanitizing agents prior to reintroducing students and personnel into the environment.</p> <p>The district has completed a Bi-Polar Ionization retrofit upgrade to its existing HVAC system in the summer of 2021. The Bi-Polar Ionization should reduce 99+% of bacterial, viral, and mold particles in the air. The system should improve air quality in the elementary and secondary campuses and thus reduce illness.</p>
<p>e. <a href="#">Contact tracing</a> in combination with <a href="#">isolation</a> and <a href="#">quarantine</a>, in collaboration with the State and local health departments;</p>	<p>The district will continue to partner with the PaDOH in order to contact trace all faculty, staff, and students who present with a positive and/or close contacts.</p> <p>The district will consider all variables including, but not limited to: CDC guidelines, transmission rates, vaccination rates, and local and situational variables when making recommendations regarding isolating and quarantining students, faculty, and staff.</p> <p>When a faculty, staff, or student is a close contact of a positive case, the district will identify students and contact parents to recommend quarantine and/or TTS (when available).</p> <p>The district will require quarantine for students who are symptomatic. However, in the event that a student is asymptomatic, the parent/guardian may opt for the student to remain in school.</p> <p>In the event that an asymptomatic close contact who opted to remain in school begins to display COVID -19 symptoms, the MASD will send the student home to be isolated.</p> <p><b>In the event that a close contact removes their mask contrary to nurse's direction, the individual will complete quarantine period from home residence.</b></p>
<p>f. <a href="#">Diagnostic</a> and screening testing;</p>	<p>In December 2021, in collaboration with the PADOH and Ginkgo Laboratories, the MASD will implement School-Based COVID testing that will be made available to faculty, staff, and students provided that they have been identified as a close contacts.</p> <p>The MASD has submitted a Statement of Assurances to the PaDOH. In order to ascertain the free Individual Diagnostic Rapid</p>

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
	<p><b>Antigen Testing to be implemented within our schools</b></p> <p><b>The Statement of Assurances ensures that the district will:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Obtain explicit consent from parents and guardians prior to administering COVID testing of students.</li> <li>○ Adhere to FERPA Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act whereby it does NOT share COVID testing data unless consent is rendered.</li> <li>○ Adhere to the testing guidance provided by the PaDOH.</li> <li>○ Provide professional development for school nurse and administration regarding testing protocols, logistics, contact tracing, quarantining, and isolating.</li> </ul> <p><b>Guidelines on Implementing TTS:</b>  <b>After being identified as a close contact, TTS program can continue in-person learning/teaching if they remain asymptomatic and continue to test negative for COVID-19 according to the following schedule:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 1<sup>st</sup> test: Within 2 – 4 days post-exposure</li> <li>○ 2<sup>nd</sup> test: Within 5 – 7 days post-exposure</li> </ul> <p><b>The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> tests must be administered on non-consecutive days (i.e., a test on Day 4 and a second test on Day 5 would not meet this criteria)</b></p> <p><b>In-line with CDC guidelines, even with diagnostic testing, individuals exposed to COVID-19 are considered active in the TTS program for at least 7 days. A student or staff member will have completed TTS and will no longer be considered a close contact or active in the program:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ After Day 7 if they receive a negative result from at least one test administered between Day 5 and Day 7</li> <li>○ If an individual is not able to receive a test between Day 5 and Day 7, they will be released from test-to-stay as soon as they receive a negative test result (on or after Day 7), or</li> </ul>

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
	after Day 10 assuming no symptoms, whichever comes first.
g. Efforts to provide <a href="#">vaccinations to school communities</a> ;	<p>The MASD will continue to collaborate with the CSIU and local health agencies to support and organize opportunities to provide vaccinations for students and families situated within our learning communities.</p> <p>While the MASD will respect the privacy of all students, families, and community members, it will provide stakeholders with information relative to accessing COVID vaccines.</p>
h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and	<p>The MASD provides a continuum of supportive services for students with disabilities. Students with disabilities will be afforded with accommodations, adaptations, and modifications consistent with their respective IEPs and 504 Service Plans.</p> <p>Students with disabilities who are unable to access educational services within their community school will be provided a free and appropriate public education in a manner so that their needs are well met.</p> <p>In the event that COVID 19 presents a challenge to a student's access to education and supportive services, the district will provide accommodations, modification, adaptations, and work provided in alternative settings such as the home.</p>
i. Coordination with state and local health officials.	<p>The MASD will maintain close collaboration with the PADOH.</p> <p>In the event of a positive case, the district will report cases to PADOH and/or corroborate cases reported to district through the PADOH.</p> <p>The district will continue to re-evaluate and modify its School Health and Safety Plan to ensure that it reflects the current guidance from PaDOH, CDC, and PDE. Furthermore, the plan will be revised to ensure that the safety and welfare of district stakeholders are maintained.</p> <p>In the event of a health related crisis or a directive/mandate from state health agencies, the superintendent of schools may alter this plan to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of all district stakeholders.</p>

**Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement**

**The Board of Directors/Trustees for the Millville Area School District has reviewed and approved the MASD Health and Safety Plan on December 1, 2021.**

**The plan was approved by a board vote of:**

☐ Yes

☐ No

**Affirmed on: December 21, 2021**

**By:**

**Signature: Ms. Susan Myers, Board President**

**Printed: Ms. Susan Myers, Board President**

After Mr. Rasmus detailed the revisions for the MASD Health and Safety Plan the Board favored option #2 with masking for two-weeks upon arrival back from winter break with additional time or changes if the Superintendent deems necessary.

Eric Masters:

The Supreme Court gave the decision back to local districts. Will masking exceptions be honored?

Mr. Rasmus:

Guidance from the solicitor is to wear facemasks. We will follow protocol. After the holiday, we will mask for two-weeks and reassess.

#### REVISIONS TO THE 2021-2022 MASD SCHOOL HEALTH AND SAFETY PLAN

A motion by Michael Farrell and seconded by Susan Farr that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve adopting revisions to the 2021-2022 MASD School Health and Safety Plan under option two with masking for two-weeks upon arrival back from winter break with additional time or changes to the plan whereby the Superintendent is permitted to make changes to the plan.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 5 Yes; 1 No (Greg Hemsarh); 3 Absent

#### SECONDARY FIELD TRIPS

A motion by Greg Hemsarh and seconded by Michael Farrell that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve the following field trips: PMEA District 8 Band, January 28, 2022, Williamsport, PA, currently three students auditioning; Jr/Sr High Columbia County Band, February 3 and 4, 2022, Central Columbia HS, three experienced band students attending; PMEA District 8 Chorus, February 11, 2022, Williamsport, PA, six experienced chorus students; PA FFA Agricultural Cooperation Establishes Success (ACES) Conference, February 5 and 6, 2022 or February 12 and 13, 2022, up to 8 FFA students.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 6 Yes; 0 No; 3 Absent

#### RESIGNATION

A motion by Brynn Clark and seconded by Greg Hemsarh that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve with regret the notice of resignation from Ashley Hennig, effective January 4, 2022.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 6 Yes; 0 No; 3 Absent

#### SECONDARY SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER

A motion by Michael Farrell and seconded by Brynn Clark that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve employing Madison Welliver, as a Secondary Special Education teacher, at step B-1.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 6 Yes; 0 No; 3 Absent

MILLVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Millville Area School Board Meeting Minutes

December 21, 2021

VIS

A motion by Michael Farrell and seconded by Heather Mausteller that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve the following VIS facilitators: Cariea Robbins, Jillian Yevics, Maddison Minalda, Kia Grimes, Liz Hower.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 6 Yes; 0 No; 3 Absent

CSIU GUEST TEACHERS

A motion by Brynn Clark and seconded by Heather Mausteller that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve Megan Haines and Cariea Robbins as CSIU Guest Teacher Substitutes.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 6 Yes; 0 No; 3 Absent

VOLUNTEER GIRLS BASKETBALL COACH

A motion by Brynn Clark and seconded by Heather Mausteller that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve Madison Welliver, as a volunteer coach for Girls Basketball.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 6 Yes; 0 No; 3 Absent

VOLUNTEER BOYS BASKETBALL COACH

A motion by Michael Farrell and seconded by Susan Farr that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve Tyler Albertson, as a volunteer coach for Boys Basketball.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 6 Yes; 0 No; 3 Absent

GAME STAFF

A motion by Brynn Clark and seconded by Michael Farrell that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve Miranda Pell, as game staff.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 6 Yes; 0 No; 3 Absent

2021-2022 MASD CALENDAR REVISIONS

A motion by Greg Hemsarh and seconded by Michael Farrell that the Millville Area School Board consider and approve revisions to the 2021-2022 District Calendar whereby January 3, 2022 is designated as a districtwide Act 80 Day. Elementary and Secondary students will not attend school on January 3, 2022.

The motion carried by roll call vote. 5 Yes; 1 No (Brynn Clark); 3 Absent

ADJOURNMENT

A motion by Heather Mausteller and seconded by Brynn Clark to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Kathy Musselman  
Assistant Board Secretary