

Pulaski County Elementary School

2020-2021 Reopening Action Plan



To all our parents and students,

We know the last few months have caused anxiety and uncertainty about what the upcoming school year will look like. We know that our families need to know our plans as early as possible so that you can make the proper arrangements and decisions for your family. Thank you for your patience as we develop an action plan for reopening our school. Because the dynamics of the current COVID-19 situation, this action plan may be revised at any time.

Families and students should use this action plan to understand what health practices will be in place when students return to school. At this time, we will not mandate that students and staff wear masks; however, it is a highly encouraged health practice.

Cleaning and Hygiene

Washing hands with soap for 20 seconds or using hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol reduces the spread of disease.

- Adequate supplies will be provided to support healthy hygiene behaviors throughout the day (ex. hand soap, hand sanitizer, paper towels, wipes). Parents may also send in donations of hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol, disinfecting wipes, and facial tissues for their child's classroom.
- Staff will review with students the proper handwashing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and allow for regular handwashing breaks throughout the school day.
- Hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol will be provided at main building entrances, in the cafeteria, and at strategic areas throughout the building. These will be systematically checked and refilled. Children will be supervised in the use of these products.
- Staff and students will be encouraged to cough and sneeze into their elbows or to cover with a tissue.
- PCES custodial staff will clean and disinfect on a regular basis to ensure viral spread via surfaces is minimized. The entire school will be sanitized daily.
- Shared items that cannot be consistently disinfected will be discouraged (stuffed toys, balls, etc.)
- Student personal items (such as pens, crayons, and scissors) should be kept separately in individual cubbies or containers.
- Doors at main entrances to schools will be held open at the START and FINISH of each school day to limit touching door handles.
- Areas used by a sick person will be closed off and not used before cleaning and disinfection by custodial staff.

Monitoring for Symptoms

Conducting regular screening for symptoms and ongoing self-monitoring throughout each school day can help reduce exposure. Staff and students are encouraged to self-monitor for symptoms,

such as fever, cough, or shortness of breath. If a student develops symptoms throughout the day, he/she must notify an adult immediately.

Periodic health screenings, including temperature checks, may be applied as directed by the principal and school nurse.

Upon arrival to school each day, temperature checks will be performed using no-contact thermometers for all staff and students. Principals will coordinate screening stations for parent/student drop-offs (temp screened from the car), student walk-ups, staff arrivals, etc. Students who ride the bus will have their temperature screened before they will be allowed to ride the bus.

Those who have been in direct contact as described by the CDC with someone who has tested positive for the virus should not attend work or school. This is a critical tool in controlling the spread of the virus. Thus, no staff or student who has a temperature of 99.5 or higher, is COVID-19 positive, or has been exposed to someone confirmed to have COVID-19 within the previous 14 days will be allowed to be in school. Students and staff must be fever free if they have a temperature of 100.4 or higher for 72 hours prior to the return to school.

Limited visitors will be allowed into the schools. If it is deemed necessary to access the building, outside visitors to schools (parents, vendors, etc.) will need to make appointments and abide by the following guidelines: wear a mask covering both nose and mouth, **complete a symptom checklist**, and submit to a temperature screening before entering the building.

Transportation

Physical distancing is challenging on a school bus due to the limited space available. Strict physical distancing between riders of 6 feet is not practical, as it would require as few as 12 riders per bus. It is recommended that all students wear a cloth face covering while riding the bus to and from school. Pulaski County School System is taking the following steps:

- Temperatures will be taken before students will be allowed to board the school bus. Anyone with a temperature of 99.5 or higher will not be allowed to board. If the temperature is 100.4 or more then the student will not be allowed to return to school until fever free for 72 hours. There will be a bus sent out to pick up any students who have not been allowed to get on a bus because of their temperature. We will attempt to take the child to their home or make arrangements to take them somewhere in the district to house until parental/guardian pickup.
- All buses will be sanitized after the morning and afternoon routes.

Cafeteria and Meal Service

The following practices will be implemented at PCES.

- Students will be provided the opportunity for handwashing before and after meal service. In addition, hand sanitizing stations will be at the entrance of the cafeteria and proper use will be encouraged.
- Breakfast will be served as grab and go meals and will be available to students upon arrival. Students will eat breakfast in their classroom.
- Various mitigation measures will be used as much as possible during lunch serving times, including:
 - Physical distancing at tables between students
 - Classes eating together with distance between classes
 - Sitting on one side of the table, with students all facing the same direction
 - Staggered mealtimes to allow more time between groups
 - Additional cleaning and sanitizing of tables between groups
 - Meals may also be served in the classroom to reduce the number of students congregated in the cafeteria if/when needed.
- No self-serve for any items (including condiments) will be permitted. Cafeteria staff will place all items on trays.
- All meals will include disposable utensils and will be served on disposable trays.
- Any leftover waste from breakfast or lunch eaten in classrooms will be placed in heavy duty trash bags and placed in hallways after each meal.
- Numerical charts will be utilized for meal counting and claiming so students do not have to use pin pads to enter their lunch number.
- Cleaning of the meal serving area, cafeteria, and high touch surfaces will be conducted throughout the school day.

Learning Options for 20-21

Pulaski County School System is committed to reopening schools in a way that is safe and responsive to the needs of our families and community. Pulaski County School System students in Pre-K through 12th grade will have two options: (1) Traditional in- person learning or (2) Distance Online Learning.

Open House will be held virtually by grade levels. Days and times will be announced later.

A.) In-Person Learning Plan

Learning will occur in the traditional classroom setting as a full school day Monday-Friday.

Beginning the school day:

- Bus driver or designated personnel will check students' temperatures before they get on the bus.
- Designated school personnel will check all car riders' temperature before they get out of their vehicle.

- Students with a temperature of 99.5 or more will return home to follow up with proper medical care. If the temperature is 100.4 or greater then the student may not return to school until fever free for 72 hours.

Medical release is required for those who test positive for the COVID virus.

- Parents/caregivers/visitors are restricted from entering the school building.
- Designated school personnel will be in the front lobby to assist students to classrooms.
- During the school day, all visitors will be required to wear their own mask from home and have their temperature checked before entering school building.
- Students and staff members with health concerns are encouraged to wear their own mask from home. The use of hand sanitizer will be highly recommended to students and staff with health concerns.

Student Arrival/Breakfast:

- Students that ride the bus will unload on the back-bus ramp and go directly to the cafeteria to pick up their breakfast and go to their classroom to eat.
- Students that are dropped off will go to the cafeteria, pick up their breakfast and go directly to their classroom to eat. Teachers will be placed strategically throughout the hallway to direct and assist students with safety procedures.

Instructional Day:

Social Distancing is highly encouraged in the building. All classrooms will be situated to maximize distance between students and teachers. All small group sessions will be 12 minutes or less. Face mask are encouraged, but not mandated. The following guidelines will be in place for the instructional day.

- Students will not classes.
- Students' desk will be placed in rows to avoid students being face-to-face.
- All students will be assigned their own Chromebook for use during the school day. The student will be the only person who touches the Chromebook to which he/she has been assigned. They will not take them home.
- Sanitizing stations are being installed throughout the school building in strategic locations. Throughout the school day, the use of hand sanitizer will be highly recommended.
- Classes will have an assigned Media Center visitation schedule to limit student movement and face-to-face contact of students. Teachers will have additional books available for student use.

- The computer rotation teacher will conduct computer class in the student's classroom using their individual assigned Chromebook.
- Students will become familiar with digital platforms that may be utilized in case a school closure is warranted.

B.) Distant On-Line Learning Plan

Students engaged in the online learning plan will participate in a virtual learning environment. Distance/Digital learning will be much different than that which took place the last two months of the previous school year. Students will be required to be engaged the full school day.

- Students will receive quality instruction on grade-level standards.
- If you choose Distance Learning, you will be required to sign a contract to certify that you have access to a device, have high speed internet, and are committed to the remote learning environment for the duration, as outlined within the contract by the Superintendent.
- The expectations and rigor will mirror in-person instruction, and there will be a significant commitment from families to help facilitate Distance Learning students should understand there will be:
 - o Daily attendance requirements
 - o Graded assignments
- Full school day, Monday-Friday, students will follow a daily schedule outlined by Accelerate Education.
- Students will be subject to the PCES Code of Conduct while participating in Distance Learning.
- PCES is planning to utilize Accelerate Education which allows students to be enrolled in self-paced, on-grade level, online classes through the online learning management system.
- Students in grades K-5 will need significant assistance from a parent/adult in the home. This adult will become the student's Learning Coach.
- Parents/guardians agree to have their student participate in required district assessments depending on student grade level. Such assessments will be outlined at the beginning of the program and will include both at-home test taking options as well as options to take at school (in a controlled environment) The type of assessment will determine where it is taken.