

## Health and Safety Plan FAQ 8/20/2021

### Attendance, Contact Tracing and Quarantine

- 1. What point, if any, would the “virtual today” option be reinstated for students choosing Option A - Face to Face? (Mask mandate, high Covid transmission, etc.)**

*Virtual Today will not be an option for the 2021-2022 school year. It was extremely difficult for faculty to manage their work with this option in effect.*

*Face to face students who are absent will bring in excuses as they did prior to COVID-19. Students who are quarantined by the school nurse or a health official will be treated as present as long as they log in to their Google Classroom and communicate with their teacher.*

*Virtual students will work asynchronously and log in to their Google Classroom or eAcademy Course as required per their virtual agreement.*

- 2. How will quarantined students receive instruction? If the teaching staff is not doing synchronous online instruction, how will students who are required to quarantine stay caught up with their class?**

*Quarantined students will work asynchronously in their Google Classrooms. Teachers will check in with quarantined students to ensure they are progressing in their understanding and assignments.*

- 3. What will the specific plan be about contact tracing and testing for students and staff that have been vaccinated? Will they need to test and or quarantine?**

*Staff or students identified as close contact will be required to quarantine unless they are fully vaccinated. Proof of vaccination will be required to be exempt from quarantine. Vaccinated individuals with symptoms will have to quarantine.*

*The district will continue to work with the Department of Health to complete contact tracing for individuals diagnosed or exposed to COVID-19. A close contact is someone who was within 6 feet of a person diagnosed with COVID-19 for a total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period. The CDC has added the following exception to the definition of a close contact for students. 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) where both students were engaged in consistent and correct use of a well-fitting face mask and other K-12 school prevention strategies were in place in the K-12 setting.*

*Students and staff identified as close contacts who are not vaccinated must quarantine for 10-14 days depending on symptoms. Those with a negative test after day 5 may return after day 7.*

- 4. Will it be possible for the district to release information about teachers' vaccination status to parents?**

*The District cannot release a teacher's vaccination status to parents.*

## **Cafeteria**

### **1. Will lunches continue to be selected each week through a Google form?**

*K-5 students will not have to complete a google form to order lunches in advance. Lunch counts will be taken in their homeroom every morning. 6-12 students will continue to choose their lunch when they come through the line.*

## **Face to Face Learning Option**

### **1. Will the high school teachers return to a traditional teaching mode or will the students be on the laptops (excluding h.w. and tests) like the last school year?**

*All the staff will still work from Google Classroom for assignment collection, etc. However, they will also do in person traditional strategies such as labs, pencil and paper, manipulatives, etc. Shared materials will be cleaned between each group of students.*

### **2. Will Bon Air children enjoy their specials (Art, Music, etc.) outside of their classrooms and in the designated special rooms?**

*Yes, students will go to their specials (Art, Music, etc.) classrooms this year. Students will be helping to clean their workspace between cohorts of students.*

## **Virtual Learning Option**

### **1. Will virtual students have a daily teacher?**

Virtual students will have assigned teachers in the virtual learning environment. They will also have a Virtual Case Manager who will check academic progress each week.

### **2. Can I please have contact information for someone who can assist me with virtual or cyber options for my child?**

*The District will be contacting families who choose a virtual option the week of August 23 with virtual learning information.*

## **PPE**

*Masks are optional at this point, however, if cases continue to rise, the District may require masks. Also, if there is a mandate, the District will require masks.*

*The current plan does not require unvaccinated staff or students to wear a mask.*

**1. Why would you make masks optional?**

*Masks are optional for now. The CDC does recommend masks for everyone indoors. The District has chosen to make them optional for the emotional and social wellbeing of the students and to give families choices. Should community spread become an issue or a mandate is ordered, the District will require masks.*

*Masks are required on school buses.*

**2. If masks are not mandatory will children that choose to wear masks be all in a room with other masked children and children who choose not to mask be in a different room?**

*At this time, we do not intend to separate masked children from unmasked other than the 3 feet recommended. However, we will encourage students to wear masks when they cannot social distance.*

**Social Distancing**

**1. Why are we still social distancing to the greatest extent possible when the recommendation is modified to 3 feet?**

*Although the Centers for Disease Control has reduced the social distancing recommendation to 3 feet, the District will still use greater than 3 feet whenever possible to increase mitigation layers.*

**Transportation**

**1. Why is there still a mask requirement on buses?**

*There is a federal mandate for masks on all public transportation. Public school district transportation is considered public transportation, therefore, masks are required. Per the CDC's order on wearing masks on public transportation, regardless of the school mask policy, masks are required to be worn by passengers and drivers on school buses.*

<https://www.education.pa.gov/Schools/safeschools/emergencyplanning/COVID-19/SchoolReopeningGuidance/ReopeningPreKto12/CDCGuidanceInformation/Pages/default.aspx>

**Miscellaneous**

**1. Will the Accelerated Reader incentive program for Bon Air Elementary be reinstated?**

*Classroom teachers will continue to have the opportunity to run Accelerated Reader out of their classrooms.*

**2. Is the safety plan for Burrell, the same as the Vo Tech? If not, are they able to be virtual and**

### **still attend Vo Tech?**

*The CTC is not offering a virtual option. CTC students will need to attend in person to properly complete competency requirements. Students will be able to be virtual at Burrell High School and in-person at the CTC.*

#### **3. If decided on virtual would the student be allowed to switch to in person after the end of the semester?**

*Families will be able to switch their learning option at the end of the nine weeks. The District is asking for a 9 week commitment to Option A or Option B.*

#### **4. Since elementary students aren't able to be vaccinated at all right now, what different procedures are being implemented at Bon Air and Stewart?**

*The District's mitigation efforts will remain in effect. Masking is the only change at this time. Cleaning, sanitizing and other routines remain in effect.*

*The Board has noted that the District may require masking based on community spread if needed.*

#### **5. What is the threshold of community spread that will trigger a change to district policies?**

*The District did not set a trigger to change the masking policy. Instead, we will monitor community factors.*

#### **6. In order to catch outbreaks before they grow large, is there any plan to institute routine covered testing within the schools?**

*The District does not want to test students for COVID-19 at school. We do not believe it is appropriate. As new information is provided, the board will review their position.*

#### **7. Will you require proof of Covid-19 vaccination from board approved volunteers?**

*At this time, volunteers will not be allowed in the buildings. The board will review this decision at each nine weeks. The District does not intend to require vaccination from anyone.*

#### **8. I understand the need for children to clean their "space," but would like additional information on what exactly they will be using to clean their spaces?**

*All products are purchased through Hillyard. Students and staff use QT Plus and paper towels to clean work spaces (desks and chairs). This product has been used for the last two years.*