



Health & Safety Plan Modification Recommendation

Dr. Cheryl Griffith - Dr. Jeff Hadley

August 9, 2021



Opening Remarks, Dr. Cheryl Griffith, Acting Superintendent

- Acknowledgements
- Statement of Recommendation to the Board
- Presentation Format



Current COVID Data Update

- Allegheny County reached the **Substantial Level of Transmission**
 - 52.9 cases per 100K over last 7 days
 - 4.9% positivity rate over last 7 days (increase of @ 1%/wk last 4 wks)
- Allegheny County Positive COVID Cases for Children (ages 5-18)
 - June 7 - July 21 (6.5 weeks):
 - Ages 5-12 = 47 New COVID Cases
 - Ages 12-18 = 67 New COVID Cases
 - July 22 to Present (2.5 weeks):
 - Ages 5-12 = 141 New COVID Cases
 - Ages 12-18 = 128 New COVID Cases



Current COVID Data Update

- Emsworth - Highest transmission rate in Allegheny County (last 3 months) as reported by the Allegheny County Health Department
- August 4 - CDC Update - Recommend universal indoor masking for all students, staff, and visitors in K-12 schools, regardless of vaccination status.
 - This recommendation is supported by Dr. Brink and Dr. Bogen at the Allegheny County Health Department



Health & Safety Plan Requirement

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 public an updated, board-approved Health and Safety Plan for the 2021-2022 school year. The Pennsylvania Department of Education required that all Pennsylvania school districts submit their updated, board-approved Health and Safety Plan by July 30, 2021.



Health & Safety Plan Information

- Outlines mitigation strategies implemented to maintain the health and safety of students and staff
- Must include:
 - Prevention & mitigation strategies in line with the most up-to-date guidance from the CDC
 - How the LEA will ensure continuity of services for students
 - Address each of the following recommendations by the CDC
 - Masks; Physical Distancing; Handwashing & Respiratory Etiquette; Cleaning & Ventilation; Contact Tracing & Quarantine; Promoting Vaccination; Diagnostic



Health & Safety Plan Information

- The Health & Safety Plan must be reviewed at a minimum of every 6 months
- The Health & Safety Plan can be revised at any time in response to updated guidance from the CDC
- Proposed revisions will be shared with the public for public review and comment
- The public will have the opportunity to comment on proposed revisions at a public Board meeting
- The Board will vote to approve revisions to the Health & Safety Plan



District Goals & Mitigations to Reach Goals

Goals:

1. Maximize full time, in-person instruction for all students.
2. Minimize quarantines to the extent possible for all students.
3. Keep students, staff, and community healthy to the extent possible.

Mitigations:

- Universal masks for K-12 students, staff, and visitors (pending Board approval)
- Masking on school buses per federal order
- Maintain 3ft distance at the primary building in classrooms
- Distancing of 6ft at lunches when masks are off to eat and drink
- Use of outdoor spaces for instruction, lunches, etc.
- K-6 Cohorting/Seating Charts



CDC Quarantine Changes/Updates

K-6 Quarantine

- With universal masking in place students will **not need to quarantine** if
 - All students identified as close contacts are masked and not within 3 feet of each other for 15 min. or more

7-12 Quarantine

- Students identified as a close contact **will not need to quarantine** if
 - fully vaccinated
 - diagnosed with COVID within the previous three months
 - All students identified as close contacts are masked and not within 3 feet of each other for 15 min. or more



Education During Quarantine

K-6

- Quarantine substitute teacher hired at each building; 100% dedicated to support students in quarantine
- Students will receive work from classroom teacher
- Quarantine substitute teacher will provide a daily schedule for google meetings to provide instruction and support of quarantined students

7-12

- A quarantine student list will be provided to teachers daily
- Teachers will turn on cameras and microphones during any class that has a student in quarantine
- Students may reach out to teachers via email with questions
- Teachers will respond within 24 hours to students and provide support via email or a scheduled google meeting



Closing Remarks, Dr. Cheryl Griffith, Acting Superintendent

- Continuous monitoring through
 - Medical Professionals
 - Allegheny County Health Department
 - Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
 - American Association of Pediatrics
 - COVID Working Group
- Continuous Monitoring of
 - Operations of our Schools
 - Cases
 - Quarantines
 - Mitigation Strategies
- Weekly Communication
- Response for a student who may not have a mask.