

Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan



Pulaski Community School District

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Introduction

The Pulaski Community School District's **Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Service Plan** is intended to provide support and guidance to District and school leaders by adjusting plans to ensure safety of our students and staff members as the COVID-19 Pandemic evolves. PCSD has established practices and procedures to be implemented in the 2022-2023 school year. The district medical advisor provides guidance to student health services, the district superintendent, and the school board, to assist in making informed decisions related to school planning and best health/safety practices.

This plan describes how the Pulaski Community School District will provide a safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services for all schools, including those that have already returned to in-person instruction.

Maintaining Health and Safety

Overview

Given the fluid nature of the COVID-19 virus and corresponding effects, it is necessary for Pulaski Community School District Administration to have oversight to ensure students experience in-person learning while at the same time being in a safe learning environment. As we have in the past, the administration will work in collaboration with local health officials to make necessary decisions to mitigate the transmission of the COVID-19 virus in our schools based on collective conclusions related to guidance from the CDC, AAP, and other health organizations. When interpreting this guidance, the administration will make decisions based on all available data. Accordingly, the District:

- Strongly recommends masking, regardless of vaccination status
- Promotes hand hygiene by placing visual cues such as handwashing posters and other materials in highly visible areas
- Continues to social distance the best we can in various settings when feasible, and avoiding large groups of students in indoor spaces will continue, however some large groups may be necessary
- Introduced outside air into all spaces within the buildings along with increased filter ratings

The Pulaski Community School District will offer in-person learning five days a week according to the Board adopted [2022-23 Raider Roadmap](#). The school district has also provided families the option to enroll their students in virtual learning. In the event of school closure due to the pandemic, the district has provided iPads for all students to continue virtual learning.

The Pulaski Community School District employs two full-time school nurses who will continue to offer health services in-person or virtually.

Mitigation Measures

Universal and correct wearing of masks

Pulaski Community School District strongly encourages students, teachers, staff and visitors to wear masks indoors, regardless of vaccination status in accordance with current health department guidance.

Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing

We will continue to social distance the best we can in various settings when feasible. Some large groups may be necessary. We will take advantage of nice weather and encourage teachers to conduct instructional activities outdoors

whenever possible.

Handwashing and respiratory etiquette

The district will continue to promote hand hygiene by placing visual cues such as handwashing posters and other materials in highly visible areas. Hand sanitizer will be available in school entrances and high traffic areas. Washing your hands is easy, and it's one of the most effective ways to prevent the spread of germs. Clean hands can stop germs from spreading from one person to another and throughout the entire school community.

Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation

Buildings are cleaned and disinfected nightly. Outside air is being introduced into all spaces within the buildings along with increased filter ratings. Hand sanitizer will be available in every classroom and throughout common spaces and all high-touch surfaces disinfected daily.

Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments

It is the expectation of the Pulaski Community School District:

- Students and staff who are ill will not attend school.
- PSCD will send ill students home.
- Testing is recommended for people with [symptoms of COVID-19](#) as soon as possible after symptoms begin.
- Students and staff who test positive should [isolate](#) for 5 days, followed by 5-day recommended masking if attending school.
- Educational support will be provided to students who are ill (e.g., providing homework, posting on Canvas, etc.)
- Students in extracurricular activities should consult with their family physician to determine readiness to return to practice, competition, etc.
- Any individual who wishes to continue to mask, including those who face higher risk from COVID-19, will be supported in their choice.
- No bullying or harassment of students or staff will be tolerated regarding the individual's decision whether or not to wear a face covering.

Diagnostic and screening testing

The Pulaski Community School District recommends students and staff get tested for COVID by their medical provider, at-home test, or a local pharmacy.

Efforts to provide vaccinations to educators, other staff, and students, if eligible

All eligible staff employed in 2022-2023 were provided information on sites and scheduling procedures necessary to be vaccinated.

Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies and practices

When circumstances require specific policies or procedures designed to protect the health and safety of students, 504 and IEP teams will determine if modifications and/or reasonable accommodations are needed for individual students with disability-related issues.

Coordination with state and local health officials

The CDC recommends that all decisions about implementing school-based strategies should be made locally, collaborating with local health officials who can help determine the level of transmission in the community. The Pulaski Community School District continues to work with local County Public Health Departments to implement mitigation strategies for the safety of students and staff.

Continuity of Services

Overview

The Pulaski Community School District will continue in-person learning on September 1, 2022. With that in mind, we understand the importance of flexibility in being able to shift our plans and methods of instruction should the need arise. The Pulaski Community School District is prepared for virtual learning, should this become necessary, and has an established framework in place to provide digital instruction via the use of our Learning Management Systems, Seesaw and Canvas.

District response on continuity of services

The District will provide for continuity of services as follows:

Student Academic Needs

The Pulaski Community School District understands the importance of meeting our students where they are and aims to provide instructional methods that will continue advancing the learning of all students. As individual barriers to learning are met, methods will be differentiated so as to address gaps in learning that may have become more pronounced over the last year.

Student Social, Emotional, and Mental Health Needs

We understand that the 2020-2021 and 2021-22 school year presented unique challenges for our students and staff. As a result, the overall emotional health and well-being of our students and staff will remain at the forefront of all planning efforts. In coordination with the District's Teaching and Learning Department including the Student Services Department, a continued focus will be placed on building a positive and supportive culture among students and staff. During the past two years we have added positions to help support student social, emotional, and mental health needs across the district including a social worker, school counselor, and school psychologist

Other Student Needs (which may include student health and food services)

As USDA changes in regards to our food services, we will communicate to our families these changes. We will continue to follow the guidelines of the USDA food provisions as well as the health department guidelines.

Staff Social, Emotional, and Mental Health Needs

The District has provided staff with opportunities for social and emotional supports through Professional Development days. Other trainings have also been provided like Compassion Resilience, New Teacher Education Programs, sessions

at staff meetings, etc. The staff's social, emotional, and mental health needs may also be addressed through the Employee Assistance Program provided through the District insurance program.

Other Staff Needs

The District will follow national, state, and local governing agencies' laws and directives concerning staff employment and benefits.

Periodic Review

Overview

Districts are required to review and, as appropriate, revise their Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan at least every six months through September 30, 2023, including seeking public input and taking such input into account in determining whether to revise the plan and, if revisions are determined necessary, on the revisions it makes to its plan.

District response on ensuring periodic updates to its plan

The Pulaski Community School District will periodically review and, as needed, revise the plan for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services. Plan revisions will address updated CDC and County Public Health guidance on safely reopening schools if any are issued.

Public Input

Overview

The ARP Act requires that school districts make their Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan available to the public online and that the plans be in an understandable and uniform format; to the extent practicable, are written in a language that parents can understand or, if not practicable, orally translated; and upon request by a parent who is an individual with a disability, provided in an alternative format accessible to that parent. Before making its plan publicly available, school districts must seek public comment on the plan and develop the plan after taking into account public comment.

District response on public input in the development of its plan

The Pulaski Community School District has taken the following steps to make its plan available to the public:

- The plan is posted at <https://www.pulaskischools.org/reopening>
- Q&A accessible on our website for parent questions and feedback
- An update of the revised plan was shared at the Pulaski Community School District Board of Education meeting on July 20, 2022. The ESSER Stakeholder group was given an opportunity for feedback prior to the Board meeting.
- Upon request, a parent who is an individual with a disability as defined by the ADA may be provided with the plan in an alternative format accessible by contacting our district office.