



RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SAFETY

Here's a look at some of the guidelines from health and education organizations to protect students and staff when schools reopen:

Pennsylvania Department of Education:

- Face masks required when 6 feet of social distancing isn't possible.
- Establish procedures to limit the sharing of materials among students.
- Establish protocols for classroom/ learning space occupancy that allow for 6 feet of separation.
- Establish transportation schedules and practices that create social distance between students.
- Establish methods of staggering the use of communal spaces and hallways and ensuring regular cleaning.
- Establish procedures for the safe use of cafeterias and other congregate settings.
- Create processes to limit non-essential visitors and volunteers.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:

- Face coverings should be worn by staff and students when physical distancing is difficult.
- Discourage sharing of items that are difficult to clean or disinfect.
- Space seating/desks at least 6 feet apart when feasible.
- Turn desks to face in the same direction.
- On school buses, seat children one child per row, skip rows, when possible.
- Install physical barriers, such as sneeze guards in tight spaces.
- Put markings on floors to encourage social distancing.
- Close dining halls and playgrounds with shared playground equipment or stagger use.
- Have children bring their own meals as feasible, or serve individually plated meals in classrooms.
- Stagger arrival and drop-off times/ locations or plan to limit contact between different-aged students.

PA School Reopening Task Force:

- Decide whether the school needs to provide masks for students/families/ visitors.
- Limit or eliminate the sharing of equipment, toys, etc.
- Consider reducing class sizes and/or moving desks apart to promote social distancing.
- Have students face one direction in class.
- On busing, a range of options, from getting rid of transportation to assigning seats -- based on where students live on the route.
- Create one-way traffic patterns for hallways, limit locker use.
- Consider moving PE classes along with music/chorus classes outside.
- On lunch, options range from feeding students in class to monitoring lunch room for social distancing.
- Stagger arrival time and/or define traffic flow into building for students, visitors, staff.