

Safe Return to Learning Plan

Stages 1-3

Pillager Area Charter School would like to THANK our students, families, and staff for your patience and commitment to PACS during this challenging time!

- **Stage 1 : Distance/Virtual Learning**

- Students will have daily contact with staff.
- Classroom work will be assigned to each student and available via Google Classroom, or paper packets.
- Each student will be assigned a day of the week and time of day to be on campus to meet with their Advisor and to make arrangements to receive direct instruction.
- Students on an IEP will consult with their learning team to determine the optimal setting and schedule to continue to receive services.

- **Stage 2 : Hybrid Learning-2 groups**

- Student body split into 2 groups of equal size
- Each group will participate in on-site learning and virtual learning using a model of 1 week on-site, 1 week distance/virtual learning.
- Students without an appointment will NOT be allowed to enter the building, with additional or other on-site schedule needs being arranged with advisors.
- No more than 6 students in a room (8 people total) spaced 6 feet apart. Appointments are for connecting with specific teachers/staff for help. While in the school, students must be supervised by a staff member. Students may only be in school during their scheduled appointment time.
- Shared materials will be minimized. Any materials that are shared must be sanitized using school approved cleaner
- Breakfast/Lunch offered at school as well as bag lunches available to bring home during this stage.

Attendance

- Attendance will be taken each 24 hour period beginning at 9:00 am.

- **Attendance will be taken via Google Classroom** where students mark their own attendance within the 24 hour period. Your student must know their login. *If they do not, please have them contact their advisor ASAP.*
 - ***In accordance with state law, students who do not participate in distance/virtual learning for 15 consecutive days, meaning communicating attendance, will be dropped. However, if a student is dropped, they can re-enroll at PACS and begin distance/virtual learning.***
 - Advisors will contact parents daily for students that have not marked themselves present the previous day.

- **Stage 3 : Full In-person Learning**
 - All MDH guidelines must be followed
 - This will only happen when social distancing requirements allow for full classes.

Attendance will be returned to normal procedures where students will be marked present for attending class in the school building. Truancy procedures will follow state and county guidelines at the point in time we enter Stage 3 of the learning model. Any distance learning plans must be approved by a parent/guardian and advisor.

Stages 1-3 Grading:

- MDE recommends districts involve teachers, parents and students in the review and revision of a grading system in preparation for the fall. Districts should continue to consider the principle of “do no harm” to avoid damage to both students’ future education opportunities and struggles that students and families will experience during this time beyond their control. Grades should include evidence of mastery at the end of a unit or course and that evidence should be able to be collected in a variety of manners to allow students to demonstrate their understanding.

Testing:

NWEA was given online at the end of October 2020. PACS had NWEA trained staff members proctoring each test. The NWEA will again be administered in the spring of 2021.

In classes, teachers utilize various functionality within Google Classroom to administer formative and summative assessments. Staff review data from assessments and classwork to adjust instruction to better meet student needs.

General PACS COVID-19 Safety Protocols

COVID-19 Cases and Exposure: MN Dept of Health Decision trees for schools
(ENGLISH)

<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/schools/exguide.pdf>

(SPANISH)

<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/schools/exguidespanish.pdf>

GUIDELINES FOR DELIVERING DIRECT STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES (masks shields dividers):

<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/schools/directsupport.pdf>

CLICK HERE TO REPORT A COVID-19 CASE:

https://qfreeaccountssjcl.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5z04aH5JbHCPAjQ

- COVID-19 Safety Protocols
 - Symptom Monitoring
 - Symptom checks
 - Students will not be allowed to enter the building without a signed “Parent Acknowledgement of Symptoms” form.
 - Only current students and parents/guardians who have appointments will be allowed to enter the school.

- All visitors to the school must submit a Symptom Check before being admitted.
- At lunch
- Take temperature upon entry:
 - Barriers will be set up to ensure anyone who enters the building must pass by the front desk. Anyone entering the building will be required by front desk staff to take and document temperature before they are allowed to continue into the school.
 - Must document
 - Front staff will log all people who enter building
 - 100.4°F is threshold
 - Only return to school if fever free for 24hours
- If a student coughs
 - Sent home
 - Quarantined for 10 days unless family COVID tests, and the result is COVID negative
- Masks (only take off while eating)
- Bathroom
 - Breaks only during class, not during passing time
 - Only one at a time
- Lunch
 - Eat in their assigned classroom
 - Commons area is closed
- No students allowed to congregate together in commons, hallways

COVID CASES

Quick facts: onset of symptoms after exposure could be 2-14 days

Optimum testing window is 5-7 days after exposure - earlier can result in negative test

MDH GUIDANCE FOR SCHOOLS:

<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/schools/k12planguide.pdf>

HANDLING A SUSPECTED COVID CASE:

<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/schools/casehandle.pdf>

- [Does a school or classroom have to shut down if a student or staff member has symptoms or tests positive?](#)

The first step in the process of responding to a COVID-19 case in a school is to conduct contact tracing to identify close contacts of anyone with a confirmed case who attended school while infectious. Close contact is when someone is within 6 feet of the ill person for at least 15 minutes. All close contacts of a confirmed case will be notified of their exposure and asked to stay at home for 14 days since their last exposure to the confirmed case.

The decision to close a classroom or school is made on a case-by-case basis and depends on the length of time the ill person spent in the space, whether 6 feet of distancing was maintained consistently, the extent of the ill person's activities while infectious in the school facility, and the extent to which all close contacts can be identified. Schools must work collaboratively with local and state health officials to identify close contacts of a case and evaluate the extent of the exposure to determine if a full classroom or school closure is warranted.

- [Do districts notify the staff when a student or a staff member reports a positive COVID-19 test result?](#)

Schools must report all confirmed cases of COVID-19 to the MDH or their local public health agency. MDH or the local public health agency conduct a case investigation and identify anyone who potentially has been exposed to the confirmed case. MDH or the local public health agency notifies those who have been exposed and provides them with information about how to protect themselves, their families and their communities.

Schools are asked to assist in the notification process of all close contacts. See [What To Do When Notified of a Lab-Confirmed Case of COVID-19 in a School or Child Care Setting \(PDF\)](#) for more information about the contact tracing process in schools.

Safety/Supplies at School

- Following MDH recommended for schools:
- <https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/schools/supplies.html>
 - Face coverings or face coverings WITH face shields, including an extra supply available for staff and students who forget to bring their own. *Use of face shield only will not be allowed except for when an accommodation needs to be made*
 - Liquid soap.
 - Running water.
 - Paper towels.
 - Tissues.
 - If soap, water, and paper towels are not readily available, provide alcohol-based hand rubs (ABHR) for use if hands are not visibly dirty. Only ABHRs with 60% alcohol or more are recommended in relation to COVID-19.
 - Non-latex disposable gloves.
 - Eye protection (face shield or goggles).
 - Surgical masks for health service staff when providing care to ill students, aerosolization treatment like a nebulization or use of a peak flow meter..
 - Face coverings and/or surgical masks (to be provided to ill students with fever and cough).
 - Thermometers (forehead/strip or digital thermometers with a disposable sleeve).
 - Disinfecting wipes.

- N95 Respirators are **not** necessary in the school health office at this time (7/22/20).
- [CDC: K-12 Schools and Child Care Programs: FAQs for Administrators, Teachers, and Parents](#)
- Symptom checklists posted on all entries
- Social distancing marked on floors
- Plexiglass dividers: one placed at front reception
 - Two extra on hand- used for services where 6 feet of distance cannot be maintained

PACS currently has CDC approved cleaning and sanitizing products and has continued to order them throughout the year. These items will be shipped to the school property, with a designated staff member receiving them. *Any time staff enters the building, it is recorded.

Transportation

PACS will continue to communicate safety procedures to students and families through : emails, Remind announcements, posters for in-school learning, and staff commitment to daily reminders.

When transportation is offered again at PACS, van drivers will take student temperatures before they enter the vehicle. These will be recorded.

Disinfectant wipes will be provided and stored in the vehicle for wipe downs after each use.

Frequently Asked Questions:

- If student is experiencing 2 or more common symptoms, student and siblings must stay home or be sent home.
- If student is coughing and asthma has been ruled out, student must go home.
- Student is exhibiting covid symptoms, their test is neg but the Dr diagnosed them with presumptive Covid, student and siblings must be out for at least 10 days.
- Family/staff member is choosing to not test for Covid. They must quarantine for 10 days or until they are fever free for 24 hours.

- Child has sore throat and diagnosed with respiratory infection. Tested negative for covid and strep. They can return to school if fever free for 24 hours. Can only come back after test results come back.
- New onset of runny nose and cough are symptoms for exclusion. Headache and nausea are symptoms for exclusion.
- If provider provides an alternative diagnosis or there is a negative Covid test result the child can return if fever free for 24 hours.
- Anyone who lives in the household is considered a close contact. If you are in close contact with a person who has covid, closer than 6 feet and for at least 15 minutes. . All close contact need to stay home for 14 days. Also suggest that close contacts get tested 5-7 days after. **MUST QUARANTINE FOR 14 DAYS IF YOU ARE A CLOSE CONTACT!**
- What to do if waiting for a test result? Stay home!
- If you were in close contact with someone who tested positives but you tested negative, will you need to stay home? YES! Someone who comes in contact with a covid positive person has to stay home and complete a 14 day quarantine even if you do not have symptoms.

Addressing learning loss created by disruptions to the 2019-20 and 2020-21 School Years

The PACS Staff has implemented several initiatives new to the 2020-2021 school year to address learning losses specifically due to COVID-19:

- Continuing work with curriculum consultants to design standards-based curriculum specific to virtual learning.
- Modification of grading expectations to meet students where they are academically and emotionally.
- Continuation of Field Experience days for mental health support during virtual learning.
- Small group targeted interventions with Special Education support
- Scheduling 1-on-1 student meetings
- Implemented of Personalized Growth Plans for all students
- Diagnostic probes in Math and Reading for all students
- Connecting with community resources as secondary support

For PACS Staff:

- Ongoing updates and training takes place in our weekly team meetings. Emergency planning meetings take place when plans for changes need to be made quickly. As a staff, we also review MDE, MDH, Osprey Wilds email updates to increase our preparedness
- Staff working in the building
 - Staff will be working from home or in the school building. When working in the school building, staff will be following all MDH guidelines for safety. Temperature checks will be conducted upon entering the building. Staff will practice social distancing (6 feet) and will wear a mask at all times (unless they are alone in their personal classroom/work space).
 - Must wipe down tables with supplies given in between student meetings
 - Practice good hygiene with hand washing and sanitizing often
 - For further info see MDH guidelines:
<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/schools/k12planguide.pdf>
- Accommodations in the Workplace
 - Please reach out to PerCom (personnel@academicarts.org) to inquire about potential accommodations you might need (for example, working remotely from home instead of in person if you are considered at-risk) that are in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). More information can be found in the “Navigating COVID-19 - Info for Staff” Google document in the AAHS Employee Hub Google folder.

COVID-19 program coordinators: Greg Zimmerman