Roadmap for 2021 Return for Parents and Students
PCS Parents and Families,

Enclosed is the PCS Roadmap for 2021 Return for Parents and Students.

With the safety and well-being of all of our students, staff, and community members being of the utmost importance, this guide contains the steps PCS will undertake to ensure the safety of our staff and students and prevent the spread of the novel coronavirus that causes COVID-19.

PCS receives guidance from the Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Public Instruction, and from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention. Working within the guidelines provided by these organizations requires our district to seek innovative solutions as we prepare for the return of our staff and students.

Person County Schools will operate under full in-person learning for the 2021-2022 school year. In addition, social distancing requirements have been removed as well as COVID-19 screenings. Contact tracing will take place as needed and the parents of students who are required to quarantine will be notified by the school.

While continuing to put the safety and well-being of our students first, we look forward to having a school year that is as normal as possible given the continuation of the spread of COVID-19.

Rodney L. Peterson, Ed.D.
Superintendent
Mask Mandate

All students and staff (K-12) will be required to wear a cloth face-covering while on the school campus or school bus (unless medical restrictions or behavioral health needs prevent one from being able to do so). These cloth face-coverings will be provided to our students and staff, as needed. Guidance and information regarding the proper use, wearing, removal, and cleaning of cloth face coverings can be found in the following links; [CDC’s guidance on wearing and removing cloth face masks](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/professional/health-care-clinicians.html) and [CDC’s use of cloth face coverings](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html). If a parent chooses to purchase a face covering for their child, it must meet the standards of [PCS Board Policy 4316](https://www.person.k12.nc.us/docs/default-source/policies/board-policy-4316.pdf) for student dress code.

Strong Schools NC Public Health Toolkit (K-12)

After months of decline, North Carolina experienced a rapid increase in COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations among those who are unvaccinated. The Delta variant, which is now the predominant strain of the COVID-19 virus in North Carolina, is significantly more contagious than the original virus. While the original virus spread from one person to an average of two or three people, the Delta variant is spreading from one person to an average of six people. Therefore, unvaccinated people are at greater risk of catching and spreading COVID19, and they pose a risk to children under 12 who cannot be vaccinated and those who are immunocompromised. Getting vaccinated is the most effective way to prevent serious illness, hospitalizations and death, and slow community spread.

The Strong Schools NC Public Health Toolkit is revised regularly based on transmission and number of COVID-19 cases throughout the state. Person County Schools follows the guidance of this toolkit along with that of the Person County Health Department.

[Click here](https://www.person.k12.nc.us/strong-schools-nc) for the latest version of the Strong Schools NC Public Health Toolkit.
Click here to submit feedback or questions regarding Person County Schools COVID-19 response procedures.

Additionally, you can contact Tracy Scruggs with any questions and/or comments.

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