



Roadmap for 2020 Return for Parents and Students

Letter from the Superintendent

PCS Parents and Families,

Enclosed is the PCS Roadmap for 2020 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.

Our PCS staff, students, and parents worked collaboratively to achieve success during the uncertainty of the spring. Since May 2020, our focus has turned to our return in August. Given the changes our community has undertaken as a result of COVID-19, this school year will be like no other. It brings the opportunity to rise above challenges and show the best of Person County Schools.

As PCS staff contemplate our path forward for returning to on-campus operations, we recognize that we are still learning about this virus. Predicting with certainty where PCS staff and students will be in August through May is impossible. From the parent surveys conducted in June and July, the majority of stakeholders want to return to campus while others are understandably reluctant. We assure you that PCS's Roadmap for 2020 Return places the utmost importance on safety and well-being for our students, staff, and community members.

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.

This Roadmap is designed to provide information to staff, students, and parents about what to expect upon return to school. This Roadmap is a living document that will be updated as new information becomes available from State agencies. We ask you to take some time to familiarize yourself with the important information contained in this guide. As you do so, please know that our care and concern for your child's safety and learning guides all we do. This will never change.

Rodney L. Peterson, Ed.D.
Superintendent

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Reopening Plans for Returning to School

When our students return to campus this school year, we will be on Plan B. Details of each plan is included below. Each family needs to plan accordingly for the upcoming school year. As the Governor monitors what plan we will be on, we will update this document accordingly and inform you of these changes.

Reopening Plans for Education Continuity

| COVID-19 REOPENING PLANS | School Facilities and Students | Health Precautions * | Teaching and Learning | Scheduling Options |
|--|---|---|---|--|
| REOPENING PLAN A <i>Minimal Social Distancing</i> | Open All students in the school at the same time | Enhanced health protocols as required by NCDHHS. | Traditional with preparation for Blended Learning | Normal Schedule for Students and Staff. |
| REOPENING PLAN B <i>Moderate Social Distancing</i> | Open Limit density in facilities to meet social distancing guidelines. | Enhanced health protocols as required by NCDHHS requirements. Increased requirements in addition to Plan A | Face to Face for non-Virtual option students and remote learning for Virtual Only students. | <u>Face to Face</u> Normal Schedule for Students and staff. <u>Group 1</u> Monday, Tuesday Face-to-Face/ Wednesday, Thursday, Friday Remote Learning <u>Group 2</u> Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday Remote Learning/Thursday, Friday, Face-to-Face <u>Virtual Only Option</u> Remote Learning Only |
| REOPENING PLAN C <i>Remote Learning</i> | Closed No students in school facilities | N/A All at home | Remote Learning for all | Full change to Remote Learning |



Personal Protective Equipment

PPE is designed to protect the wearer and/or those nearby from the spread of illness-causing germs. When used properly, PPE acts as a barrier between infectious materials such as viral contaminants and the wearer's skin, mouth, nose, or eyes (mucous membranes) The barrier has the potential to block transmission of contaminants from blood, bodily fluids, or respiratory secretions.

PPE will be used by school nurses or delegated staff in specific situations, including:

- Monitoring or assisting a symptomatic person when it is not possible to maintain the recommended distance of six feet;
- Completing certain breathing-related health care procedures; and
- Completing health care procedures for an asymptomatic person while the person is awaiting transportation to go home

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. 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](#) and [CDC's use of cloth face coverings](#). If a parent chooses to purchase a face covering for their child, it must meet the standards of [PCS Board Policy 4316](#) for student dress code.



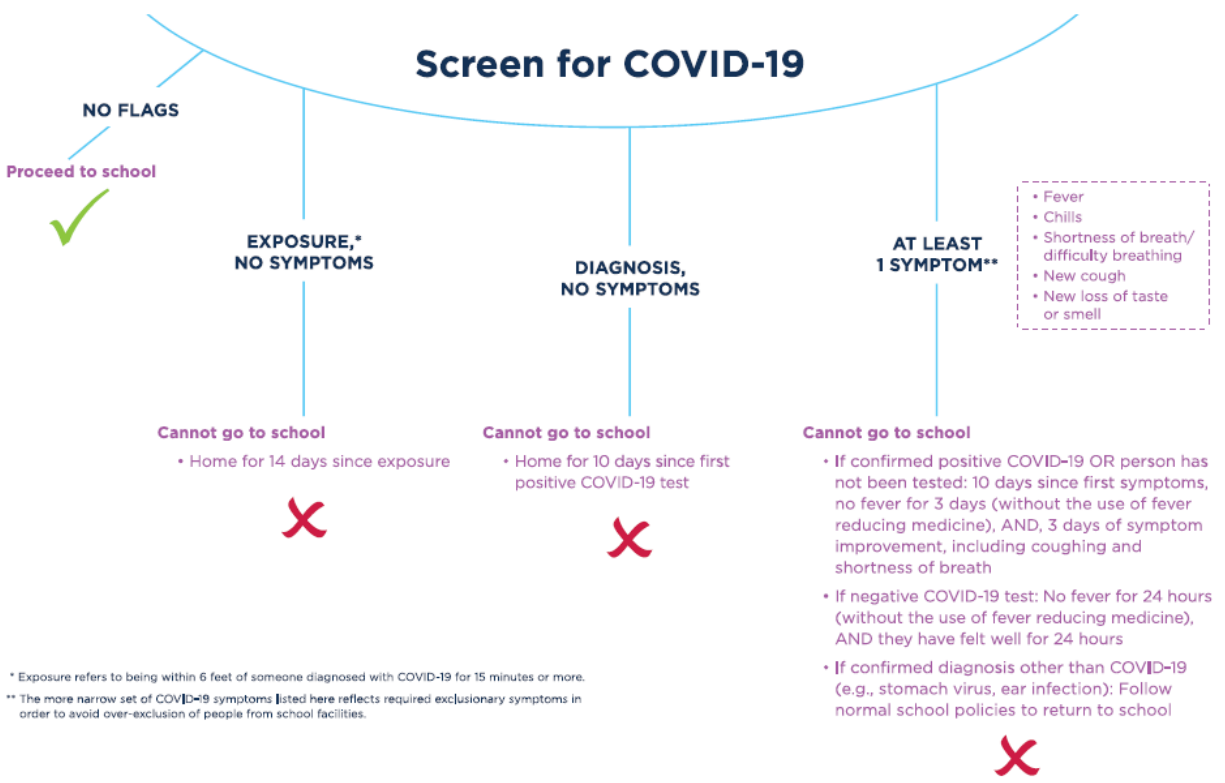
Health Screenings

Trained staff will conduct daily symptom screening on students, staff, and parents before they enter into PCS schools. Principals are developing entry plans, that are specific to the school, to identify how these daily screenings will take place before staff, students, and parents entering into the building. The graphic below illustrates the general steps that will be taken when our students arrive on our campus.



Screening Flow Chart

For step-by-step instructions for school personnel, review the [Reference Guide for Suspected, Presumptive, or Confirmed Cases of COVID-19 \(K-12\)](#)

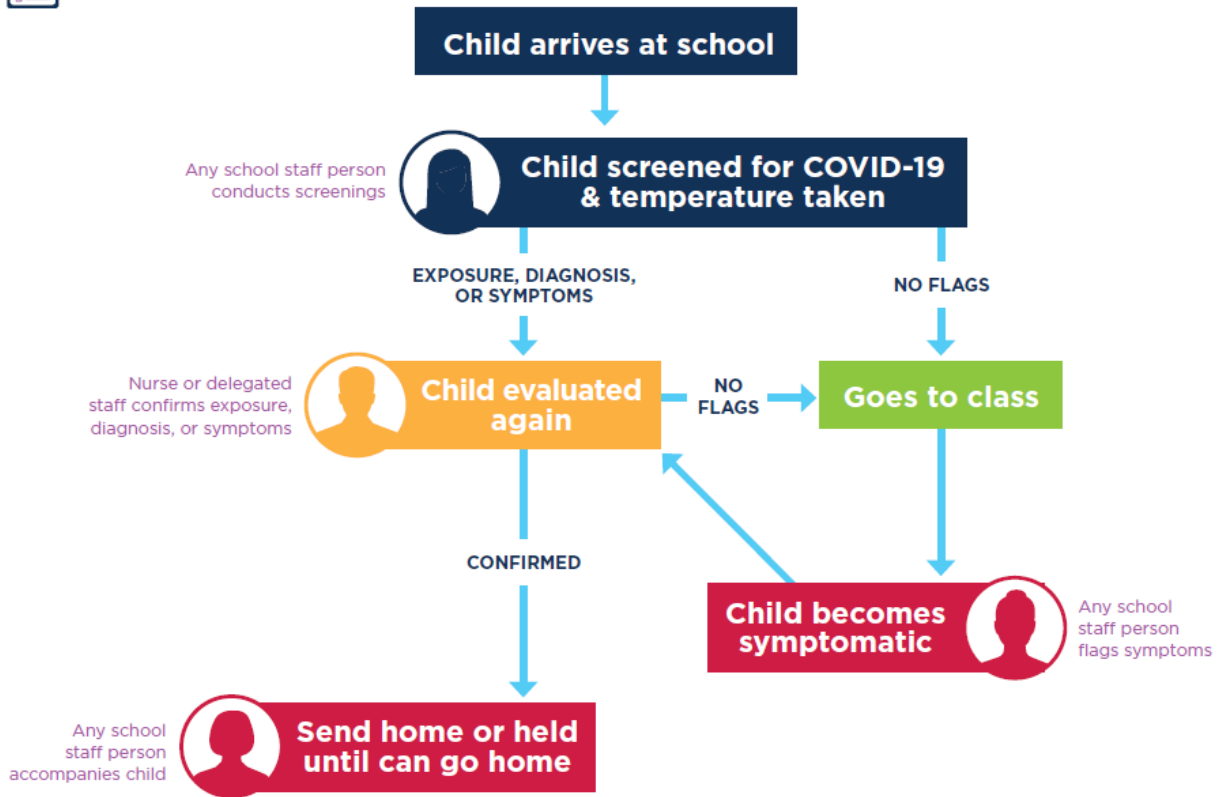


Abstracted from the Reference Guide for suspected, Presumptive, or Confirmed Cases of COVID-19 (k-12); Interim Guidance June 30, 2020.

The Screening Flow Chart below illustrates NCDHHS guidance on days a student or staff member is to be removed from peers if there is exposure with no symptoms, a diagnosis with no symptoms, or at least 1 symptom with a positive or negative test. If a student falls into a category that requires removal from school, the student will be placed in remote learning while out.

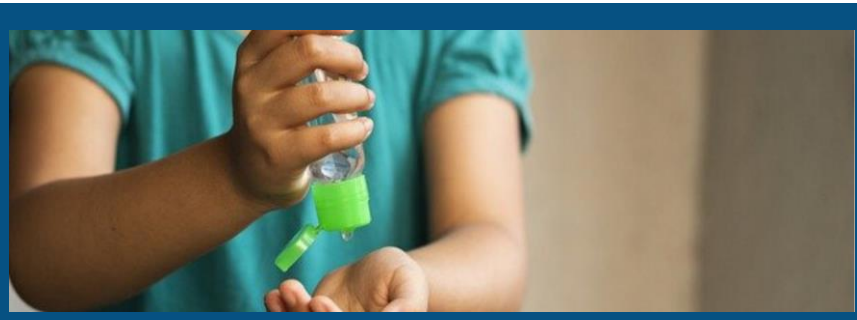


Staff Roles Flow Chart



Abstracted from the Reference Guide for suspected, Presumptive, or Confirmed Cases of COVID-19 (k-12); Interim Guidance June 30, 2020.

If school personnel is made aware of a positive diagnosis of COVID-19 case among staff or students, we will contact the Person County Department of Health and follow their procedures for contacting students, staff, and families, and for contact tracing.



Hygiene and Cleaning

The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services notes that washing hands with soap for 20 seconds or using hand sanitizer reduces the spread of the disease. PCS schools will incorporate frequent handwashing and sanitation breaks into classroom activities. Additionally, time will be allowed between activities for proper cleaning and disinfection of high-touch surfaces. There will be reminders incorporated into classroom procedure discussions about proper handwashing and coughing or sneezing into elbows. Likewise, students' personal items will be separated from their peers. PCS will be providing the following hygiene items in these locations for student, staff, and community use:

| | Items Provided by PCS | |
|------------------|--|---------------|
| Location | Hand Sanitizer (at least 60% alcohol) | Facial Tissue |
| Buses | X | X |
| Cafeteria | X | |
| Classrooms | X | X |
| School Entrances | X | |
| Hallways | X | |

PCS will establish a schedule for and perform ongoing and routine environmental [cleaning and disinfection](#) of high-touch areas (e.g., doors, handles, stair rails, faucet handles, toilet handles, playground equipment, drinking fountains, light switches, desks, tables, chairs, kitchen countertops, cafeteria and service tables, carts, and trays) with an [EPA approved disinfectant for SARS-CoV-2](#) (the virus that causes COVID-19) and increase the frequency of disinfection during high-density times and disinfect all shared objects (e.g., gym or physical education equipment, art supplies, toys, games) between use. Paper-based materials, such as books and loose-leaf paper, are not considered high-risk for COVID-19 transmission and do not need additional cleaning or disinfection procedures.



Social Distancing and Minimizing Exposure

The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services indicates that social distancing is a key tool to decrease the spread of COVID-19. The following table denotes how PCS will be providing social distancing under Plan A and B.

| Plan B |
|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Provide social distance floor/seating markings in waiting and reception areas.– Mark 6 feet of spacing to remind students and staff to stay 6 feet apart in lines and at other times when they may congregate.– Provide marks on the floors of restrooms and locker rooms to indicate proper social distancing.– Limit nonessential visitors and activities involving external groups or organizations.– Keep students and teachers in small cohort groups that stay together as much as possible during the day, and from day to day.– Ensure sufficient social distancing with at least 6 feet between people at all times in school facilities and on school transportation vehicles.– Limit density of people in school facilities and bus occupancy to ensure social distancing of at least 6 feet apart between people.– Where viable, our schools will designate hallways as one-way. |



Special Education/ 504 Accommodations

Students with disabilities may require modifications to the general health guidelines to provide required services and maintain healthy practices. We are committed to working closely with students with disabilities and their families to address individual concerns and needs.



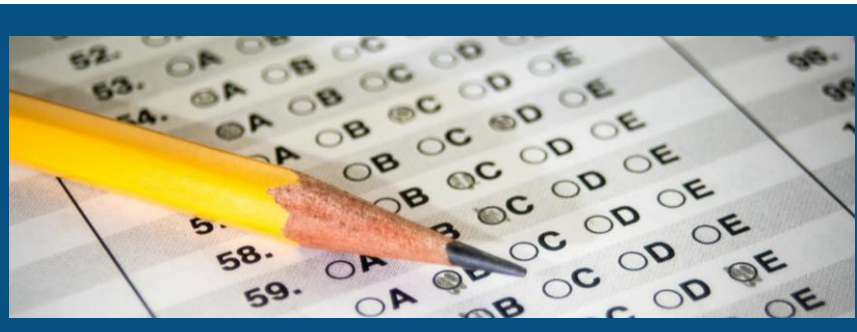
Sports

Person County Schools will follow the guidelines of the North Carolina High School Athletic Association to determine a resumption to competitive play for our middle and high school students. At this time a decision will be forthcoming on September 1, 2020, about the resumption of Fall sports.



Cafeteria

Cafeteria routines will change as a result of being on Plan B and not being able to meet the social distancing guidelines in our dining halls. During Plan B, PCS will discontinue the use of any self-service food or beverage distribution in the cafeterias. Meals and/or snacks served in the cafeteria will be individually packaged and served directly to students. Milk or juice may be available separately and will also be served directly to the students. Students will be eating lunch in their classrooms.



Grading & Attendance

Grading

- Although grading provisions were made by the state easing the grading requirements from March to June 2020, these provisions are no longer in effect. Beginning in August 2020, standard grading requirements are in place for all school districts for the 2020-2021 school year.
- Remote learning student assessment and assignment grading expectations will follow the same grading practices as face-to-face learning. Types of assessments may look differently in a remote/virtual setting.
- Grading Practices and deadlines will be included on Google Classroom pages.
- Grades will be entered into PowerSchool weekly.

Attendance

- Attendance during remote learning days will be established by the completion and submission of daily assignments and participation in virtual learning sessions.
- PowerSchool will be used to report attendance according to state guidelines.
- Attendance procedures will be shared with parents via the beginning of school information/orientation, email, text, social media, school and district website, phone call, etc.
- Attendance procedures will also be clearly posted on Google Classroom pages.



Blended Learning

In NC K-12 public schools, remote learning is defined as learning that takes place outside of the traditional school setting using various media and formats, such as but not limited to: video conference, telephone conference, print material, online material, or Learning Management Systems (LMS).

Person County Schools is offering two options for our families including the **Face-to-Face/Remote 2-1-2 Model and the Virtual Academy**.

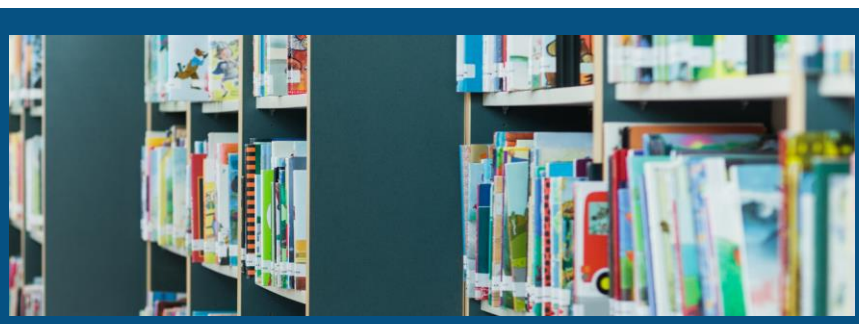
Face-To-Face/Remote (2-1-2)

In the 2-1-2 model, students will be divided into two groups, an A group, and a B group. Group A will attend school face-to-face on Monday and Tuesday and will work remotely on Wednesday-Friday. Group B will work remotely Monday-Wednesday and attend school face-to-face on Thursday and Friday. Students will be working with the same teacher face-to-face and remotely. The teacher will meet with students face-to-face and remotely during various times of the day. Teachers will share individual schedules with families. Students will be expected to participate remotely in live sessions. If a student has connectivity issues on remote days, his/her teacher will work with him/her to download materials, videos, recorded lessons, assignments, etc. to complete offline during remote days. These assignments can be submitted electronically or submitted upon return on face-to-face days.

Virtual Academy

In the virtual academy, students will attend school remotely Monday-Friday. Internet access is **required** for this option. Remote instruction will be both synchronous (live instruction) and asynchronous (work at your own pace). Attendance will be based on participation in synchronous sessions and completion of assignments. Grades will be taken and entered into PowerSchool weekly. Standard grading practices will be in place for the 2020-2021 school year including EOG and EOC testing. At this time, students are

required by the state of North Carolina to come to the school building to take state assessments. Guidelines for this will be determined at a later date



Elective Classrooms/ Library

We will be considering the unique needs of our elective programs to ensure we meet the 6 feet distance between participants and hand hygiene. PCS will have protocols in place for the disinfection of shared equipment. When possible, physical education classes will be conducted outdoors. Book circulation will be provided to our students.



Bus Transportation

PCS will comply with the required cleaning and hygiene guidance established by the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services. PCS will clean and disinfect our buses regularly. Before students are allowed to enter the bus, an attestation screen must be completed by the parent or guardian. Students that are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 or have been exposed to someone positive for COVID-19 must stay home and not board the bus. As mentioned in the PPE section of this roadmap, all students will be required to wear cloth masks while riding the bus. Also, hand sanitizer (with at least 60% alcohol) will be provided to support healthy hygiene behaviors on all buses for safe use by staff and students.

Under Plan B, students riding the bus will be socially distanced under guidance outlined by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction and the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services. Students will be wearing facemasks and will be seated one to each seat unless they are siblings in the same household in which case they may sit two to a seat. Parents need to understand that under Plan B, multiple routes will be required to get our students to school. As such, transportation services will be providing parents with approximate pickup times and bus numbers for the coming school year.

Due to the limited number of seats available on each bus, students who are not assigned to the bus will not be allowed to ride home on any bus except the one to which they are assigned, morning, or afternoon. Notes for rides home with relatives and friends will not be honored while under Plan B restrictions. Due to

the ridership limits, students waiting outside in the AM at an address different than their own will not be transported to school.

If a new student enrolls and needs bus transportation they will be put on a waiting list for the next available bus slot. As such, same day service from any school will be unavailable. To obtain maximum ridership during Plan B, bus ridership on each bus must be the same for AM and PM; therefore, student stops will be the same AM and PM. If a student does not ride the bus for several consecutive days without any communication to the transportation department, we will be unable to save the transportation spot and it will be assigned to another student. It will be imperative to notify the school about any illness or situation that would keep your student from their assigned spots on the bus.

If you have a custody agreement where a student lives at different addresses on different weeks, please call the bus garage at 336-599-5672. We will take the information and work out the busing for those students.