



UNIONTOWN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Phased Reopening Plan and Procedures

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected us all in different ways. We realize that there is a lot of uncertainty surrounding many aspects of our lives and our decision to return to school was not taken lightly. This will be no easy task and we will need your assistance to ensure the safety and well-being of our students and staff. The following information will assist you in preparing for your child's return and hopefully answer any questions that you may have regarding procedures that we will implement, or measures that have, or will be taken in order to maintain a safe and healthy learning environment. Cafeterias, classrooms, and hallways have all been redesigned to adhere to social distancing and other safety measures. Each school has created a Welcome Back video to highlight the changes students will see upon returning to in-person learning. These videos can be found on each school's webpage as well as their social media pages. We are looking forward to seeing our students' faces and welcoming them back to Raider Nation.

Reopening Dates & Calendar:

The phased reopening plan for families that selected in-person learning will begin on Monday, October 19, 2020 starting with Kindergarten, 1st, and 9th Grade students. Students in grades 2, 3, and 10 will return on Wednesday, October 21st. Followed by grades 4,5,6, and 11 starting Monday, October 26th. Students in grades 7,8, and 12 will return on Wednesday, October 28th.

Please pay close attention to the "Remote Days" highlighted in yellow on the revised calendar. On these days, all students district-wide, will participate in remote instruction; there will not be a "live" feature on these days as your teachers will be using this time to prepare upcoming lessons.

Home-Screening Tool:

Parents and Guardians are asked to screen their children, daily, before they leave for school. The Pennsylvania Department of Health and the Pennsylvania Department of Education have provided school districts with a home symptom screening tool that we strongly encourage all parents and guardians to utilize every morning. If your child is exhibiting symptoms that meet the criteria listed, it is highly recommended that you keep your child home from school until the symptoms have improved or resolved. A copy of the screening tool along with a letter explaining the district's expectations of use, and instructions on 'how to properly wear a face covering' will be sent home with students on their first day of returning to in-person learning. This information is also available on the district's webpage under the "Updated Health and Safety Information."

All UASD staff is responsible for monitoring their own health and conducting a home-screening, daily, and prior to coming to work. The home-screening tool can be found in the employee portal

and the district's webpage.

Thermal Imaging Cameras:

The Uniontown Area School District has secured and installed thermal imaging cameras in all school buildings as a preventative measure to ensuring everyone's safety:

- Students' temperatures will be taken by a thermal imaging camera system as they enter the buildings.
- Any student who reads a temperature of 100.4 or higher will be escorted to the nurse's office for additional screening.
- All visitors will have their temperatures checked upon entry into the buildings.

Health-Room Screening Tool:

Nurses will use the Health-Room screening tool when additional screening is required. The criteria listed on the Health-Room screening tool is the same as what is listed on the Home-Screening tool provided to families.

If a student exhibits these symptoms and meets the criteria provided by the PA Department of Health and the PA Department of Education at any time during the school day, the nurse will contact the child's parent or guardian and arrangements will be made for the child to return home. Parents and Guardians will be asked to follow the guidelines provided by the PA Department of Health and the PA Department of Education for when the child should return to school. The guidelines are included on the Health-Room screening tool and a copy will be provided to the parents and guardians when picking up their child.

- **If a student or teacher becomes symptomatic during school hours:**
 - The student or teacher will notify the nurse, leave the classroom immediately and report to the nurse's office.
 - The nurse will assess the student/teacher using the UASD screening tool, including a temperature check and questions about any pre-existing conditions that may explain the symptoms.
 - Students and staff may be moved to the isolation room after further screening by the nurses.
 - As the situation warrants, the nurse will contact a parent/guardian to arrange for transportation off-site.
 - Parents/Guardians will be provided with a copy of the Nurse's screening tool for their child. This can be used if the parent chooses to seek medical attention.
 - The student or teacher would need to follow the CDC and Pennsylvania Department of Health's guidance on returning to school. Options are also listed on the back of the Nurse's Screening
 - The school will continue to operate as normally as possible until additional information becomes available on the student or teacher's status. There are many common reasons other than COVID-19 that could explain someone not feeling well at any particular time. Notifications would not be warranted in the absence of further details

Transportation:

Face coverings are required to be worn by all students at all times while on district

transportation, including vans.

Buses will be loaded back to front to limit student interactions/congregations. Students will be assigned seats according to the order in which they are picked up in the mornings and will be expected to sit in those seats, daily, to and from school. Members of the same household will be assigned to the same seat to the extent possible.

To maximize safety and limit the number of “contacts”, no deviations/changes will be made to scheduled transportation. All students will ride their regularly assigned bus (as per their address). No bus passes will be issued for students to ride another bus to or from school. Please make arrangements for students to be picked up in the event that they need to go home in another manner than their assigned bus.

Face-Coverings:

Due to the Secretary of PA Department of Health’s Order on July 1, 2020 and updated on August 17, 2020, mandatory face coverings apply to all students, staff and visitors age two and older while in school entities, including public K-12 schools, brick and mortar. "Face covering" means a covering of the nose and mouth that is secured to the head with ties, straps, or loops over the ears or is wrapped around the lower face. For any in-person instruction, face coverings are required to be worn by students and staff at all times including, schools buses, cafeteria, classrooms, hallways, and in other large gatherings.

Students will be given opportunities for “mask breaks” throughout the school day. Students will be required to social distance during the scheduled mask breaks.

Visitors’ Policy:

Due to the recent COVID-19 Pandemic, changes have been made to the Uniontown Area School District’s Visitor’s Procedures to ensure the safety of all students, staff, and visitors.

Any parent or guardian requesting to meet with district personnel, i.e. building principal, will need to schedule an appointment with the building secretary in advance. Only the parent and/or guardian will be permitted to meet with the district personnel; please do not bring other guests.

Any parent or guardian who is scheduled to meet with district personnel should self-monitor prior to their appointment. If you are sick, please call the building secretary and reschedule your appointment.

Upon arrival at the school, all visitors must wear a face covering and have their temperature checked upon entering into the buildings. Visitors will be asked to provide their driver’s license or identification card to Security. Visitors will be required to sign in and out and will be escorted to their destination by Security. All bags, purses, etc. are subject to search prior to entry into the school.

15-Minutes prior to dismissal:

To maximize safety by reducing congregations of people in the buildings, early dismissals will not occur starting 15 minutes before student dismissal. We understand that emergencies arise and ask that Parents and guardians contact the school in the event that a student requires an early dismissal within this 15 minutes time frame. Parents must adhere to all visitor policies in place when picking up their student.

Attendance Policy:

The district’s attendance policy for students has been revised to include flexibility in the number

of days students will be excused by parental notification. Previously, students were given a maximum of 10 days of excused parental absences; the policy has been changed to reflect a total of 20 days in which a student would be considered “excused” with parental notification. This information can be found on the district’s website and in the student handbook.

Water Fountains:

Touchless water filling stations have been installed in all buildings and will replace the use of water fountains. Students are asked to bring their own reusable water bottle for use throughout the day and expected to take water bottles home to be cleaned on a daily basis. Water bottles should not be shared with other students.

Food Services:

All students in the district will be provided with a free breakfast and lunch through the CEP program.

- **Breakfast**
 - All students will receive a grab and go breakfast every morning.
 - Students will eat in their classrooms/homerooms
 - Social distancing will be practiced to the extent practical.
- **Lunch**
 - All students will go through the lunch line to receive lunch
 - Lunches will be pre-packaged and prepared, daily.
 - Masks are to be worn at all times UNLESS the student is eating or drinking.
 - Students will eat in the cafeteria and other designated spaces using appropriate social distancing guidelines to the maximum extent possible provided by the CDC and the DOH/PDE.
 - All seating will be assigned. Students will be expected to sit in their assigned seat, daily. This protocol is to assist with the limiting of “contacts” in the event that contact tracing occurs.
 - All transactions will be cashless. Monies must be added to the student account to purchase Ala Carte items.