



Pine Grove Area School District School Reopening Health and Safety Plan

This plan has been reviewed and recommended for approval by Lehigh Valley Health Network.

This plan has been reviewed and recommended for approval by Schuylkill County Emergency Management.



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Purpose

According to the Pennsylvania Department of Education, each school entity must create a Health and Safety Plan which will serve as the local guidelines for all instructional and non-instructional school reopening activities. The School Reopening Health and Safety Plan Committee was composed of Pine Grove Area administrators, teachers, health professionals, and the members of the community that contributed to form a comprehensive plan for the safe reopening of our schools for the 2020-21 school year. This plan follows the guidance from the Pennsylvania Department of Health, Pennsylvania Department of Education, the Center of Disease Control (CDC), and [Governor Wolf's Process to Reopen Pennsylvania](#). We have also consulted with Lehigh Valley Health Network and Schuylkill County Emergency Management, who have both reviewed and recommended this plan.

The Health and Safety Plan, once approved by our School Board, will be posted on our District website. In our plan, we have outlined our guidelines for our schools to continue to operate and provide educational services as normally and as effectively as possible, while balancing the health and safety needs of our students and staff.

The overall purpose of this plan is to communicate to our students, parents, faculty, and our community the safety precautions and the potential instructional formats that may be utilized in order to keep transmission of COVID-19 as low as possible. The Pine Grove Area School District families and students are at the heart of our decision-making process during these uncertain times. As a district, *we will follow research, use common sense, be flexible, and take time in order to not rush to judgement*. The Pine Grove Area School District's Phased Reopening Health and Safety Plan represents our current thoughts and intended plans for the upcoming school year.

School Reopening Health and Safety Team

Each school entity is required to identify a pandemic coordinator and form a School Reopening Health and Safety Team with defined roles and responsibilities for health and safety preparedness and response planning during the phased reopening of schools. The pandemic coordinator and team will be responsible for facilitating the local planning process, monitoring implementation of your local Health and Safety Plan, and continued monitoring of local health data to assess implications for school operations and potential adjustments to the Health and Safety Plan throughout the school year. Each member should represent different stakeholder groups and have defined roles and responsibilities as either Health and Safety Plan Development or Pandemic Crisis Response Team.

| Individual(s) | Position | Stakeholder Group | Team Roles and Responsibilities |
|----------------------|---|--|------------------------------------|
| Heath Renninger | Superintendent | School District | Both |
| Dave Lukasewicz | School Board President | School Board/Community | Both |
| Genavieve Moyer | School Board Member | School Board/Community | Both |
| Vince Hoover | Director of Curriculum | Administration | Both; Pandemic Coordinator |
| Henry Snyder | Director of Facilities | Safety and Facilities | Both |
| Leigh Herber | Certified School Nurse | Health/Community | Both |
| Sandy Burns | Elementary Principal | Elementary School | Both |
| Melissa Mekosh | Middle School Principal | Middle School | Both |
| Mike Janicelli | High School Principal | High School | Both |
| Jill Hlavaty | Director of Special Education | Special Education | Both |
| Dr. Carmine Pellosie | Chief of Occupational Medicine | Lehigh Valley Health Network | Both |
| Brian Leader | Vice President, Neuroscience and Orthopedics | Lehigh Valley Health Network | Both |
| David Maxted | Director of Sports Medicine | Lehigh Valley Health Network | Both |
| John Matz | Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator | Schuylkill County Emergency Management | Both |
| Barry Newswanger | Owner/Operator of Newhurst Transportation | Transportation | Health and Safety Plan Development |
| April Reinbold | Transportation Secretary | Transportation | Health and Safety Plan Development |
| Bernie Kelly | General Manager of Metz Culinary | Food Service | Health and Safety Plan Development |
| Scott Dimon | Athletic Director | Athletics/Community | Health and Safety Plan Development |
| Gerald Salen | Pine Grove Area Education Association President | Faculty/Community | Health and Safety Plan Development |
| Wes Johnson | AFSCME President | Support Staff | Health and Safety Plan Development |
| Katie Rogers | High School Teacher | Faculty | Health and Safety Plan Development |
| Melissa Yourey | High School Teacher | Faculty | Health and Safety Plan Development |
| Tracey Bohn | Middle School Teacher | Faculty/Community | Health and Safety Plan Development |
| Erin Frantz | Middle School Teacher | Faculty/Community | Health and Safety Plan Development |
| Shandra Allar | Elementary School Teacher | Faculty/Community | Health and Safety Plan Development |
| Megan Schwartz | Elementary School Teacher | Faculty/Community | Health and Safety Plan Development |
| Ken Gibson | Band Director | Faculty | Health and Safety Plan Development |

Type of Reopening

One of the primary goals of this plan is to be able to have multiple instructional formats available that will allow us to smoothly transition into a different learning format, if necessary. The School Reopening Health and Safety team have identified **three** instructional reopening formats: Total Reopen learning format, Blended Learning format, and Total Remote Learning. Each format will include an option to select a full-time learning experience through **Cardinal Virtual Campus**. Guidance from local and state health officials as well as protocols outlined in this plan will determine which format we begin this school year and what format we might move to if necessary. We plan to consistently communicate to our students, their parents, our faculty, and community through the use of the district website, social media, recorded phone messages, and text messaging.

The Pennsylvania Department of Education calls for school districts to outline their planned Action Steps under the Governor's **Yellow Phase** and **Green Phase** of Reopening. We will continue to monitor and evaluate conditions in the Pine Grove Area community and in our schools to determine if we must change our plans to be more or less restrictive.

Total Reopen Learning Format

In the **Green Phase** or at the discretion of the Superintendent, each school will reopen for all students and staff with health and safety precautions in place. Students and their families would be able to opt out of this format for a full-time virtual learning experience through Cardinal Virtual Campus. Families considering this option are highly encouraged to commit for at least one semester as soon as possible. *More information about Cardinal Virtual Campus is provided on the next page.*

Blended Learning Format

In the **Green Phase** or **Yellow Phase** or at the discretion of the Superintendent, each school will reopen in a blended format with health and safety precautions in place. This instructional format balances in-person learning with virtual learning. Students will be designated as a red or grey team member. Students on a designated team will be on-site for in person learning for 2 specified days and in a virtual asynchronous learning for 2 days. Each Friday, in person instruction will alternate between each team. One week, the grey team will be on-site on a Friday and the following week, the red team will be on-site. When students are not on-site, they will participate in asynchronous learning, which will allow for students to complete assignments online that day, but not at a specified time. Some teachers may choose to incorporate synchronous learning in their classroom.

This format allows for greater social distancing measures and limits the number of students in a classroom environment. It also gives students and families consistent days of the week for in-person instruction for the majority of the week. Students and families will need to know which team is expected on a particular Friday.

Students and their families would be able to opt out of this format for a full-time virtual learning experience through Cardinal Virtual Campus. Families considering this option are highly encouraged to commit for at least one semester as soon as possible. *More information about Cardinal Virtual Campus is provided below.*

Blended Model with Alternating Fridays

| | <i>Monday</i> | <i>Tuesday</i> | <i>Wednesday</i> | <i>Thursday</i> | <i>Friday</i> |
|------------------|---|---|---|---|---|
| <i>Red Team</i> | <i>In-Person Instruction</i> | <i>Virtual Asynchronous Instruction</i> | <i>In-Person Instruction</i> | <i>Virtual Asynchronous Instruction</i> | <i>In-School Alternating Fridays for Red and Grey Teams</i> |
| <i>Grey Team</i> | <i>Virtual Asynchronous Instruction</i> | <i>In-Person Instruction</i> | <i>Virtual Asynchronous Instruction</i> | <i>In-Person Instruction</i> | |

On Fridays, in-person/virtual instruction will alternate based on the calendar. A calendar of red versus gray days will be provided. If any day is missed due to a holiday or cancellation, the schedule will continue as designed.

Total Remote Learning Format

In the **Red Phase** or at the discretion of the Superintendent, we will provide virtual instruction only. In this learning format, all students will be off-site in remote instruction. Students will engage in synchronous and asynchronous learning activities with a student-assigned device. There would be an expectation of virtual daily attendance, participation of synchronous sessions or asynchronous recorded video sessions, and completion of graded assignments. A schedule for synchronous learning would differ for each building.

Cardinal Virtual Campus (Available during any phase)

Pine Grove Area School District has been educating students effectively for many years and recognizes that all students learn differently. With a partnership with Virtual Learning Network, Cardinal Virtual Campus offers flexibility paired with comprehensive support to ensure students are equipped to achieve their educational goals. Parents/guardians are also provided with a robust suite of tools and reports to enable them to fully support their students’ education.

Cardinal Virtual Campus students benefit from the flexibility of an online learning program and the unique opportunities provided by the school district. Our online learning program provides an integrated, team-based system of support. Students learn from online multimedia lessons designed to accommodate a variety of schedules. Teachers are available in both the morning and afternoon to offer individualized support and to augment the recorded lessons.

Parental support is critical to student success. Our program offers parents tools to easily monitor their student's attendance and academic progress. Cardinal Virtual Campus students receive a student device and textbooks to supplement their online coursework.

Families interested in this Virtual Option should register in advance for the [Cardinal Virtual Campus \(CVC\) 2020-2021 Virtual Open House](#) by visiting <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlvf-6urzlvGtJW8GsQFOCXzCMFXZ1WM0t>. Additional information can be found at <https://www.pgasd.com/> and selecting Services.

Anticipated School Reopening for the Pine Grove Area School District:

- Total reopen for all students and staff (but some students/families opt for distance learning out of safety/health concern).
- Blended reopening that balances in-person learning and remote learning for all students (i.e., alternating days or weeks).
- Total remote learning for all students. (Plan should reflect future action steps to be implemented and conditions that would prompt the decision as to when schools will re-open for in-person learning).

Anticipated launch date for in-person learning for students in a Blended Reopening Format: August 27, 2020

Key Strategies, Policies, and Procedures

For each domain of the Health and Safety Plan, a detailed summary describing the key strategies, policies, and procedures that Pine Grove Area School District will employ to satisfy the requirements of the domain is provided. Below the summary you will see differences, when applicable on how safety precautions and protocols might change in a different learning format. This document communicates the strategies and procedures that all school buildings and programs including extracurricular activities (athletics, clubs, Schuylkill ACHIEVE) would follow in different learning formats.

Cleaning, Sanitizing, Disinfecting, and Ventilation

Summary: The custodial staff of Pine Grove Area School District will follow guidelines from Center of Disease Control, Pennsylvania Department of Education, and the Department of Health as outlined in [Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfecting Schools](#). Custodial staff will be instructed on how to properly clean, disinfect, and sanitize in accordance with these guidelines. Custodial staff will be strategically assigned locations and duties.

The custodians will increase the frequency of disinfecting in common areas, restrooms, high-touch areas and items such as door handles, throughout the day as staff and students enter and exit areas of use. Disinfecting of all areas after students and staff exit the building will be completed daily.

In addition, teachers, staff, and administrators will have access to face coverings, EPA approved disinfectant sprays, and gloves in classrooms and office spaces to be able to additionally disinfect surfaces as used and in an ongoing effort to ensure student and staff safety.

| PDE Considerations | Total Reopen Learning Format Green Phase or at the discretion of the Superintendent | Blended Learning Format Green or Yellow Phase or at the discretion of the Superintendent |
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| *Posting of signs in highly visible locations, that promote everyday protective measures and how to stop the spread of germs | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure information is posted about everyday protective measures such as proper handwashing, proper face covering and social distancing through the use of signage and announcements. • Communicate with parents/guardians often (district website, social media, emails, and phone messaging). | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Same as in Green Phase |
| *Cleaning, sanitizing, disinfecting, and ventilating learning spaces and any other areas used by students (i.e. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces and objects within the school and on school buses at key points during the day. • Clean and disinfect bathrooms at least once a day. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Same as in Green Phase |

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| restrooms, hallways, and transportation) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Use of Electrostatic Spray Disinfectant daily. ● Ensure ventilation systems operate properly and increase circulation of outdoor air by opening windows and doors when possible. Replace HVAC filters prior to the beginning of the school year. ● Discontinue the use of water fountains. Encourage use of personal labeled water bottles. ● Follow CDC's Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfecting Schools. | |
| Other cleaning, sanitizing, disinfecting, and ventilation practices | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All instructional staff will be provided with additional cleaning supplies (disinfectant, microfiber towels) and personal protective equipment (additional masks, gloves, and hand-sanitizer). ● Disinfect buses after each morning and afternoon run. Thoroughly clean and disinfect buses daily. ● Follow the recommendations of the NFHS for Covid-19 Cleaning of Instruments. ● Disinfect gymnasium, locker rooms, weight room, and sports equipment after each use. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Same as in Green Phase |

Social Distancing and Other Safety Protocols

Summary: Pine Grove Area School District will follow the guidelines to the best of our ability for social distancing and other safety protocols depending on the learning format. We will utilize social distancing to the maximum extent feasible. We will encourage regularly scheduled hand-washing or hand-sanitizing. We will require face coverings of students, staff, and visitors. We will also limit the use of shared materials to the maximum extent feasible.

Social distancing means keeping a safe space between yourself and other people who are not from your household. Social Distancing is “fundamental to lowering the risk of spread of COVID-19, as the primary mode of transmission is through respiratory droplets by persons in close proximity.” Pine Grove Area School District has implemented protocols that limit the number of individuals in classrooms and other learning spaces, and interactions between groups of students. Each classroom and learning space will position desks and seating to allow for social distancing to occur to the maximum extent feasible.

On July 1, 2020, the [Secretary of Health issued an Order requiring all individuals to wear a face covering](#) when they leave their homes. The order outlines situations when a face covering must be worn and includes limited exceptions (see Section 3 of the Order). The Secretary issued this Order to continue to protect all in the Commonwealth from the spread of COVID-19, mindful of the need to slow the increase in the number of cases as the Commonwealth reopens and in order to avoid the resurgence that is overwhelming the health care systems and public health systems in other states that have been less successful in reopening than the Commonwealth.

This Order applies to any individual aged two and older whenever outside the home, including while in school entities, including public K-12 schools. The Order was effective July 1, 2020 and will remain in effect until the Secretary of Health determines the public health risk is sufficiently reduced so that face coverings are no longer necessary as a widely utilized public health tool.

If a student intentionally refuses to wear a face covering without medical documentation, the student will be excluded from in-person instruction and be placed into Cardinal Virtual Campus.

| PDE Considerations | Total Reopen Learning Format Green Phase or at the discretion of the Superintendent | Blended Learning Format Green or Yellow Phase or at the discretion of the Superintendent |
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| <p>*Distancing student desks, seating and other social distancing practices</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Position desks to face in the same direction or have students sit on only one side of tables to limit face-to-face seating. ● Strive to meet social distancing guidelines of 3 to 6 feet, to the maximum extent feasible. ● Utilize student desk shields in elementary classrooms. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Same as in Green Phase ● Strive to meet social distancing guidelines of 6 feet, to the maximum extent feasible. |

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| <p>*Distancing student desks, seating and other social distancing practices (continued)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Limit activities in classrooms that do not support social distancing. ● Limit large gatherings, events, and extracurricular activities to those that can maintain social distancing. ● Implement strategies to reduce the number of individuals in the hallways at one time. ● Lockers and locker rooms may be limited, if necessary. ● Indoor group singing and indoor group wind instrument use may be limited, if necessary. If in-person classroom instruction is pursued, social distancing and/or use of physical barriers should be employed. ● Use physical barriers, such as plexiglass, in reception areas and workspaces where the environment does not allow social distancing. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Same as in Green Phase |
| <p>* Hygiene practices for students and staff including the manner and frequency of hand-washing and other best practices</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Encourage staff and students to practice regularly scheduled hand washing or sanitizing including but not limited to entry into the school, classroom, after using the restroom, before and after eating, after coughing/sneezing. ● Hand sanitizer, with greater than 60% alcohol, will be made available in all common areas, hallways, and in classrooms. ● Teach and reinforce washing hands and covering coughs and sneezes among students, staff, volunteers and visitors. <p>CDC Handwashing Techniques</p> <p>CDC When and How to Wash Your Hands</p> <p>CDC Teaching Handwashing Activity</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Same as in Green Phase ● Increase awareness of regularly scheduled hand washing or sanitizing including but not limited to entry into the classroom, after using the restroom, before eating, after coughing/sneezing. |

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| <p>*Guidelines on the use of face coverings (masks or face shields) by all staff and students</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Face coverings (masks or face shields) must be worn by all staff and visitors (including parents and guardians), while on school property, including during student drop-off and pickup. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Individuals must wear a face covering (mask or face shield) unless they have a medical or mental health condition or disability, documented in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, that precludes the wearing of a face covering in school. ● All students must wear a face covering (mask or face shield) that covers their nose and mouth inside the school and while outside when social distancing is not feasible. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Children two years and older are required to wear a face covering unless they have a medical or mental health condition or disability, documented in accordance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act or IDEA, that precludes the wearing of a face covering in school. Accommodations for such students should be made in partnership with the student's health care provider, school nurse, and IEP/504 team. ● Teach students and families how to properly wear a face covering (cover nose and mouth), to maintain hand hygiene when removing the face covering for meals and physical activity, and how to replace and maintain (washing regularly) a cloth face covering. ● Provide face covering breaks throughout the day. Maintain a distance of at least 6 feet during these face covering breaks. ● Schools may allow students to remove face coverings when students are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Eating or drinking when spaced at least 6 feet apart or to the greatest extent feasible; ○ Seated at desks or assigned workspaces at least 6 feet apart; ○ Engaged in any activity at least 6 feet apart (e.g., face covering breaks, recess, etc.); or ○ When wearing a face covering creates an unsafe condition in which to operate equipment or execute a task. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Same as in Green Phase |
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| <p>*Procedures for the use of cafeterias</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Utilize additional spaces other than the cafeteria to allow for social distancing for students and staff to the maximum extent feasible. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pre-K, Kindergarten, and 1st grade will eat in their classrooms. ○ Middle and High Schools will utilize gymnasium in addition to cafeteria. ● Seat students in stagger arrangements to avoid “across-the-table” seating. ● Serve individually plated meals/box lunches. Cashier will enter in the lunch account number for the student. ● Avoid sharing of food and utensils. ● Discontinue use of buffet style options. ● Utilize single serve condiments and silverware. ● No outside treats will be permitted in schools to be distributed to the class for celebrations. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Same as in Green Phase |
| <p>*Protocols for sporting activities consistent with the Considerations for Youth Sports for recess, and physical education classes</p> | <p>Recess</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● During scheduled recess social distancing will be encouraged to the greatest extent possible. Classes will have assigned areas of the playground to avoid large gatherings in designated areas. ● Have students and staff wash their hands or use hand-sanitizer before and after being on the playground. <p>Physical Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Select and provide safe opportunities for exercise and sports events for students in accordance with CDC Considerations for Youth Sports. ● Have students and staff wash their hands or use hand-sanitizer before and after physical education. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Same as in Green Phase |

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| <p>*Protocols for sporting activities consistent with the Considerations for Youth Sports for recess, and physical education classes (continued)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Strive to maximize physical proximity of students. ● Limit the amount of touching of shared equipment. ● Engage in social distancing while engaged in active play. ● Consider engagement of players at higher risk. ● Limit size of teams. ● Train teachers, coaches, officials and staff on all safety protocols <p>Athletics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Athletic programs will continue to follow protocols as outlined in the Pine Grove Area Return to Participation Plan. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Same as in Green Phase |
| <p>*Limiting the number of individuals in classrooms and other learning spaces</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Limit gatherings, events, and extracurricular activities to those that can maintain social distancing and/or follow current associated guidance specific to their activity. ● See social distancing above. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Same as in Green Phase |
| <p>Procedures to limit the sharing of materials among students</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Assign individual laptops/devices to the greatest extent possible. ● Limit shared items to the maximum extent feasible. ● Clean and disinfect shared items between uses, when possible. ● Keep each student’s belongings separated from others and in individually labeled containers, cubbies, lockers or other areas as recommended by American Academy of Pediatrics. ● Do not share your pencil, pen, phone with others. ● If needed, shared instruments will be wiped and disinfected after each use. When possible, students will utilize the same instrument in each session. Students should use their own instruments, and will not share, including drum sticks, for each rehearsal. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Same as in Green Phase |

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| <p>Processes for identifying and restricting non-essential visitors and volunteers</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Restrict nonessential visitors, volunteers, and activities that involve outside groups. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ If restrictions for nonessential visitors/volunteers are not feasible the school must screen for symptoms and temperature prior to entry and require face covering while on school property. ● IEP meetings, GIEP meetings, and parent conferences will occur virtually or via phone if at all feasible. ● Student teachers are allowed. Practicum experience opportunities are restricted. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Same as in Green Phase |
| <p>Transportation practices to create social distance between students</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Promote social distancing on bus stops. ● Students must wear face coverings while on the bus, in accordance with the Secretary of Health's Order Requiring Universal Face Coverings issued July 1, 2020. ● Bus drivers must wear face coverings while on the bus, in accordance with the Secretary of Health's Order Requiring Universal Face Coverings issued July 1, 2020. ● Assign students to specific seats on the bus. ● Minimize the number of people on the bus at one time within reason and to the greatest extent feasible. ● Buses can operate with a maximum of two students per seat. ● Students from the same family should sit together. ● Highly recommend all students use hand-sanitizer immediately upon entering and leaving the school bus. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Same as in Green Phase |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Send students directly to their assigned classroom or cafeteria upon entering the building. Do not allow students to congregate in a lobby or hallway before school starts. ● Any outside adult buckling in students must wear a face covering, in accordance with the Secretary of Health's Order Requiring Universal Face Coverings issued July 1, 2020. ● Open windows/hatches, if weather allows, to improve ventilation. | |
| <p>Coordinating with local childcare regarding on site care, transportation protocol changes and, when possible, revised hours of operation or modified school-year calendars</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pre-K students, located in our elementary school will follow all of the same protocols as our classrooms and schools. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Same as in Green Phase |

Monitoring Student and Staff Health

Summary: Staying home when sick is one of the most effective ways to minimize the risk of transmission of COVID-19. Both symptom screening and testing are strategies that will be utilized to identify individuals with COVID-19. It is imperative that everyone in the education community are aware that staff and children should not come to school and to notify school officials if they become sick with [COVID-19 symptoms](#), test positive for COVID-19, or are [exposed](#) to someone with COVID-19 symptoms or to someone with a confirmed or probable case of COVID-19.

| PDE Considerations | Total Reopen Learning Format Green Phase or at the discretion of the Superintendent | Blended Learning Format Green or Yellow Phase or at the discretion of the Superintendent |
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| <p>*Processes for monitoring students and staff for symptoms and history of exposure</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● There will be ongoing communication to parents/guardians and staff about the importance of daily symptom monitoring and staying at home if sick. ● Symptom screening of students will be done by parents/guardians at home each morning before the school day. All staff will perform a symptom screen on themselves prior to leaving for work. A symptom/temperature monitoring tool will be provided. ● Symptom screening of students or staff may be done upon entry of school and classrooms. ● Parents/guardians and staff must notify the school if an absence is due to COVID-19 symptoms, a positive COVID-19 PCR test, or close contact to someone with COVID-19. ● Teachers will be trained on the procedure to send students to the school nurse if symptoms arise or are suspected. ● Staff will go to the nurse immediately if feeling symptomatic. ● On-site screening for symptoms and temperature will be required for all visitors and volunteers. Non-essential visitors and volunteers will be limited. ● Nurses will be provided with personal protective equipment (gowns, fit-tested masks, gloves, eye protection, etc). | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Same as in Green Phase |

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| <p>*Steps to take in relation to isolation when a student, staff member, or visitor becomes sick</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Individuals who exhibit COVID-19 symptoms must go home or to a healthcare facility if symptoms are severe. ● Anyone who exhibits COVID-19 symptoms will wear a mask and be placed in an isolation area until the individual can be transported home or to a healthcare facility. ● Parents/guardians must designate emergency contacts who can be reached quickly by phone and be available to pick up their child from school in a timely manner. Parents are highly encouraged to pick up their child within 60 minutes of receiving notification. ● A school designee will contact the Department of Health before acting in response to a known or suspected communicable disease. The designee will call DOH at 1-877-PA Health (1-877-724-3258). The DOH will provide guidance to the school regarding disease information, appropriate letters and communications, identification of high-risk individuals, appropriate action and treatment, and on-going support and assistance. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Same as in Green Phase |
| <p>*Guidelines for when an isolated student, staff member, or visitor may return to school</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Prior to leaving school, requirements for returning to school will be provided to all individuals who exhibit COVID-19 symptoms. These requirements will be developed in accordance with community health guidance. ● Parents/guardians should be prepared in the event their child has to stay home per the exclusion requirements. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Same as in Green Phase |
| <p>*Steps to protect students and staff at higher risk for severe illness</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Limit all non-essential travel. ● Consideration should be given for high-risk students to be in a full-time virtual environment. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Same as in Green Phase |

Other Considerations

| PDE Considerations | Total Reopen Learning Format Green Phase or at the discretion of the Superintendent | Blended Learning Format Green/Yellow Phase or at the discretion of the Superintendent |
|------------------------------------|--|--|
| <p>Other Considerations</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Given the nature of the current pandemic, the District will review individual cases in regards to regular student attendance as outlined in District Policy #204. Parents are to keep their student at home if they are exhibiting any symptoms that may be associated with COVID-19. ● Daily absentee rates will be monitored. Consideration needs to be given to the procedure parents/guardians and staff are to follow for absentee phone calls. ● Guidelines will be developed regarding appropriate reasons for students to go to the nurse's office. Consideration should be given to having self care / first aid stations in classrooms for band-aids, etc. ● PGASD will communicate with the Department of Health DOH when there is a probable or positive COVID-19 case. Local DOH staff or the CMHD will notify the school entity and PDE immediately upon learning that someone who tested positive for COVID-19 was present at the school or school event while infectious. DOH or CMHD staff will assist the Pre-K to 12 school with risk assessment, isolation and quarantine recommendations, and other infection control recommendations. DOH or CMHD staff will assist the Pre-K to 12 school entity with contact tracing and may request information regarding potential close school contacts from school nurses. ● PGASD will utilize these measures to allow for exposed individuals to be more easily traced: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Use assigned seating for each class when feasible. ○ Take attendance for every class and include all individuals (staff and contractors) who were in the classroom. ○ Use sign-in sheets for in-person meetings to document attendees. ○ Keep accurate records of any persons other than students and staff that enter the building, their reason for being there, the locations in the building they visit, and the names of close contacts they visit in the building if possible. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Same as in Green Phase |

Health and Safety Plan Professional Development

The success of your plan for a healthy and safe reopening requires all stakeholders to be prepared with the necessary knowledge and skills to implement the plan as intended. For each item that requires professional development, document the following components of your professional learning plan.

- **Topic:** List the content on which the professional development will focus.
- **Audience:** List the stakeholder group(s) who will participate in the professional learning activity.
- **Lead Person and Position:** List the person or organization that will provide the professional learning.
- **Session Format:** List the strategy/format that will be utilized to facilitate participant learning.
- **Materials, Resources, and or Supports Needed:** List any materials, resources, or support required to implement the requirement.
- **Start Date:** Enter the date on which the first professional learning activity for the topic will be offered.
- **Completion Date:** Enter the date on which the last professional learning activity for the topic will be offered.

| Topic | Audience | Lead Person and Position | Session Format | Materials, Resources, and or Supports Needed | Start Date | Completion Date |
|--|--------------------------------|---|-------------------|---|-------------|-----------------|
| Cleaning and Disinfecting Practices - Building and Classroom | Custodians | Henry Snyder, Director of Facilities | In Person | Disinfecting Protocols | July 2020 | Ongoing |
| Transportation Protocols | Bus Drivers | Barry Newswanger, Newhurst Transportation | In Person | Transportation Protocols | August 2020 | Ongoing |
| Symptom Monitoring | Staff, Students, and Parents | Nurses | In Person/ Online | Symptom Monitoring Checklist | August 2020 | Ongoing |
| Health and Safety Classroom Protocols | Teachers and Paraprofessionals | Building Principals | In Person/ Online | Classroom Protocols | August 2020 | Ongoing |
| Health and Safety Classroom Protocols | Students | Building Principals/ Teachers | In Person/ Online | Classroom Protocols | August 2020 | Ongoing |
| Health and Safety Cafeteria Protocols | Teachers and Paraprofessionals | Bernie Kelly, Metz Culinary | In Person/ Online | Cafeteria Protocols | August 2020 | Ongoing |
| Health and Safety Cafeteria Protocols | Students | Building Principals/ Teachers | In Person/ Online | Cafeteria Protocols | August 2020 | Ongoing |
| Hygiene Practices | Students and Teachers | Nurses/ Building Principals | In Person/ Online | Hygiene Protocols for hand washing, hand sanitizing, and face coverings | August 2020 | Ongoing |
| Health and Safety Health Room Protocols | Nurses and Teachers | Nurses | In Person/ Online | Health Room Protocols | August 2020 | Ongoing |
| PGA Staff and Student COVID Response Protocols | Pandemic Crisis Response Team | Lehigh Valley Health Network | In Person | COVID Response Protocols | August 2020 | Ongoing |

Health and Safety Plan Communications

Timely and effective family and caregiver communication about health and safety protocols and schedules will be critical. Schools should be particularly mindful that frequent communications are accessible in non-English languages and to all caregivers (this is particularly important for children residing with grandparents or other kin or foster caregivers). Additionally, LEAs should establish and maintain ongoing communication with local and state authorities to determine current mitigation levels in your community.

| Topic | Audience | Lead Person and Position | Mode of Communications | Date |
|--|--|---|--|---------------|
| Family School Reopening Survey | Families | Pandemic Coordinator | Survey | June 15, 2020 |
| Athletic/Facility Update | Families and Staff | Superintendent | Email/Website/ Social Media | June 18, 2020 |
| PGA Athletics Return to Participation Plan | Families and Community | Athletic Director and High School Admin | Email/Website/ Social Media | June 18, 2020 |
| Schuylkill County Reopening of Schools Guiding Principles | Families, Staff, Students, and Community | Superintendent | Email/Website/ Social Media | July 16, 2020 |
| School Reopening Update | Families, Staff, Students, and Community | Superintendent | Email/Website/ Social Media | July 16, 2020 |
| Staff School Reopening Survey | Staff | Pandemic Coordinator | Survey | July 21, 2020 |
| School Reopening Plan Update | Families, Staff, and Students | Superintendent | Email/Website | ongoing |
| School Reopening Health and Safety Plan | Families, Staff, and Students | Superintendent, Pandemic Coordinator | Board Presentation/ Website/Social Media | July 30, 2020 |

Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors for **Pine Grove Area School District** reviewed and approved the Phased School Reopening Health and Safety Plan on July 30, 2020.

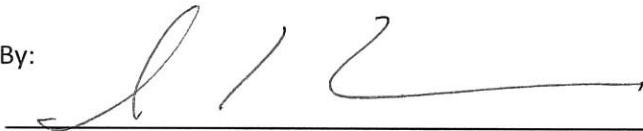
The plan was approved by a vote of:

5 Yes

2 No

Affirmed on: **July 30, 2020**

By:



(Signature* of Board President)

David J. LeKasewicz

(Print Name of Board President)

*Electronic signatures on this document are acceptable using one of the two methods detailed below.

Option A: The use of actual signatures is encouraged whenever possible. This method requires that the document be printed, signed, scanned, and then submitted.

Option B: If printing and scanning are not possible, add an electronic signature using the resident Microsoft Office product signature option, which is free to everyone, no installation or purchase needed.

Pine Grove Area School District

Blended Instructional Format

Attendance Plan

Attendance on Off-Site Days in the Blended Instructional Format will be accounted for Engagement/Completion in Learning Experiences between Face-to-Face sessions.

Attendance on off-site programming days will be measured through evidence of engagement or completion in assigned learning activities. Engagement will be determined through the professional judgment of the teacher who assigned the work. At the secondary level, where students will engage in remote experiences across multiple classes, engagement in assigned learning activities in at least two classes will fulfill attendance for the off-site days.

Professional Considerations for Engagement (when evidence of completion is not present)

- Attendance at scheduled class engagement opportunities
- Attendance at scheduled opportunities for support
- Frequency of non-completion of assignments
- Challenges with current content demonstrated within the Face-to-Face setting

Repeated lack of evidence of completion and engagement should result in a plan for support communicated with the student’s educational team. Students continuing to not complete or engage in off-site learning experiences with a communicated plan of support, may lead to a Student Attendance Improvement Plan.

PGASD Attendance Decision Matrix

| Possible Engagement/Completion Combinations | Confirmation of Engagement | Timely Submission of Assignment | Attendance Decision |
|---|----------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| Evidence of Engagement and Completion | Yes | Yes | Present |
| Evidence of Completion, but not Engagement | No | Yes | Present |
| Evidence of Engagement, not Completion | Yes | No | Present |
| No Evidence of Engagement or Completion | No | No | Absent |

Steps to account for student Daily Attendance:

1. Teacher will mark Period Attendance for any assignment not completed on remote days. This update must be made the end of the next face-to-face day. For example:
 - Monday – Student is scheduled to complete an assignment via off-site learning.
 - Tuesday – Teacher determines off-site engagement did not occur. Teacher will enter appropriate grade and change the period attendance in Sapphire for Monday.
 - Wednesday – Attendance Secretary will pull Monday’s Period Attendance.
2. Attendance Secretary will pull Period attendance and adjust the Daily attendance using the following criteria:
 - Absent Full Day = Student is not marked present in Homeroom (Elementary)
 - Absent Full Day = Student is not marked present in two (2) or more classes (Secondary)



INTRODUCTION

The COVID-19 pandemic has presented athletics across the world with a myriad of challenges. The COVID-19 virus is a highly contagious illness that primarily attacks the upper respiratory system. The virus that causes COVID-19 can infect people of all ages. Research from the Centers for Disease Control, among others, has found that while children do get infected by COVID-19, relatively few children with COVID-19 are hospitalized. However, some severe outcomes have been reported in children, and a child with a mild or even asymptomatic case of COVID-19 can spread the infection to others who may be far more vulnerable. While it is not possible to eliminate all risk of furthering the spread of COVID-19, the current science suggests there are many steps schools can take to reduce the risks to students, coaches, and their families.

The Pine Grove Area School District will take the necessary precautions and recommendations from the federal, state, and local governments, CDC, PA DOH, as well as the NFHS and PIAA. The Pine Grove Area School District realizes the knowledge regarding COVID-19 is constantly changing as new information and treatments become available. These recommendations will be adjusted as needed as new information becomes available in order to decrease the risk of exposure for our staff, students, and spectators.

Vince Hoover, Director of Curriculum, is the Pine Grove Area Pandemic Coordinator.

REQUIREMENTS

1. Requirements for all phases for Junior and Senior High Athletics and Student Activities

Per Governor Wolf's administration and the Pennsylvania Department of Health, the universal use of face coverings will be required. This applies to all students, staff, and community members while on school property.

Below are Frequently asked Questions that directly impact Athletics and Student Activities.

Does the Order apply to athletes and sports activities?

Yes. Everyone must wear a face covering, such as a mask, unless they fall under an exception listed in Section 3 of the Order. Coaches, athletes and spectators must wear face coverings unless they are outdoors and can consistently maintain social distancing of at least 6 feet. Athletes are not required to wear face coverings while actively engaged in workouts and competition that prevent the wearing of face coverings, but must wear face coverings when on the sidelines, in the dugout, etc. and anytime 6 feet of social distancing is not possible.

Under what circumstances are students permitted to remove their face coverings (e.g. masks and face shields)?

2. Schools may allow students to remove their face coverings when students are:
 1. Eating or drinking when spaced at least 6 feet apart;
 2. Seated at desks or assigned work spaces at least 6 feet apart; or
 3. Engaged in any activity at least 6 feet apart (e.g. face covering breaks, recess, etc.).
3. All out-of-season athletic activities must complete a "Facility Request" form and submit to Henry Snyder and/or Sarah Readinger. (No change from previous years)
4. Lehigh Valley Health Network trainer, Kyle Smitreski, must be notified of all off-season activities.

5. Outdoor off-season activities may begin Monday, June 22 following the Pine Grove Area School Board's approval of the Return to Participation plan.
6. Indoor off-season activities may begin July 1, provided the school board approves the plan at their June meeting.
7. This plan will remain in effect for the remainder of the summer or until the guidelines and regulations are modified by the federal, state, local governments, CDC, PA DOH, NFHS or the PIAA.
8. The first legal fall practice date for football is Monday, August 10 (heat acclimatization) and Monday, August 17 for boys' soccer, cheerleading, cross country, girls' soccer, golf, and volleyball.
9. Coaches who are participating in off-season workouts are required to complete "Coronavirus Awareness" through the Safe Schools link on the Pine Grove Area web page. This is a 10-minute course. If you need login information for the Safe Schools website, please contact Vince Hoover, Director of Curriculum, at his email address (vhoover@pgasd.com). To access, visit **www.pgasd.com – Resource Links – Safe Schools – View Library – Health – Coronavirus Awareness**
 - a. Upon completion of the course, please email your certificate to Mr. Hoover or me.
 - b. Head coaches are asked to send the names of participating coaches to Mr. Hoover.
10. All coaches are responsible for the material presented in this plan. After reading, please send the **athletic director** an email stating that you have received it and have read it.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations for **all phases** for Junior and Senior High Athletics at Pine Grove Area School District

1. Athletes, Coaches, and Staff should, when available, undergo a COVID- 19 health screening prior to any practice, event, or team meeting. The type of screening will be dependent upon the available resources and the Phase level. The purpose is to check for signs and symptoms of COVID-19.
2. Promote healthy hygiene practices such as hand washing (20 seconds with warm water and soap) and employees wearing a cloth face covering as feasible. Face Coverings may not be used for athletes while practicing or competing. Hand Sanitizer will be available for team use as resources allow.
3. Intensify cleaning, disinfection, and ventilation in all facilities.
4. Encourage anyone who is sick to stay home.
5. Encourage social distancing through increased spacing, small groups, and limited mixing between groups, if feasible.
6. Plan for if a student or employee gets sick.
7. Regularly communicate and monitor developments with local authorities, employees, and families regarding cases, exposures, and updates to policies and procedures.

8. Athletes and Coaches **MUST** provide their own **water bottle** for hydration. Water bottles must not be shared.
9. PPE (gloves, masks, eye protection) will be used as needed and situations warrant, or determined by local/state governments.
10. Identify Staff and students who may be at a higher risk of severe illness from COVID-19 due to underlying medical conditions such as:
 - Age 65 or older
 - Lung disease, moderate-severe asthma
 - Serious heart conditions
 - May be immunocompromised
 - Obesity
 - Diabetes
 - Kidney or liver disease

REQUIREMENTS FOR YELLOW AND GREEN PHASES

1. Each student-athlete and his/her parent/guardian must sign the Participation Waiver before participating.
2. Attendance should be taken at all activities.
3. The "Covid-19 Screening" form should be completed prior to all activities.
4. Any person with positive symptoms reported should not be allowed to take part in workouts. They should be sent home and contact his or her primary care provider or other appropriate health-care professional

REQUIREMENTS FOR YELLOW PHASE

1. Per Governor Wolf's order on 7/15/20: There shall be no indoor gathering of more than 25 individuals per group including coaches/advisors per scheduled activity space. All outdoor gatherings combined may not exceed the 250-person threshold. The recommendation is to split activities into multiple groups.
2. Controlled non-contact practices only.

Facilities Cleaning:

- Adequate cleaning schedules should be created and implemented for all athletic facilities to mitigate any communicable disease.
- Athletic Facilities should be cleaned prior to arrival and post workouts and team gatherings, high touch areas should be cleaned more often.
- Weight Room Equipment should be wiped down after and individual's use.
- Appropriate clothing/shoes should be worn at all times in the weight room to minimize sweat from transmitting onto equipment surfaces.

Physical Activity:

- Lower risk sports practices may begin.
- Modified practices may begin for Moderate and High risk sports (practices must remain non-contact and include social distancing where applicable).
- Students should refrain from sharing clothing/towels and should be washed after each practice, including pinnies.
- Athletic equipment that may be used by multiple individuals (balls, shields, tackling dummies, shotput, discus, pole vault, etc.) should be cleaned intermittently during practice and events as deemed necessary.
- Hand Sanitizer should be used periodically as resources allow.
- Spotters for maximum weight lifts should be stationed at each end of the bar.

Classification of Sport

High Risk: Sports that involve close, sustained contact between participants, lack of significant protective barriers, and high probability that respiratory particles will be transmitted between participants.

Examples: football, wrestling, cheerleading (stunts), dance

Moderate Risk: Sports that involve close, sustained contact, but with protective equipment in place that may reduce the likelihood of respiratory particle transmission between participants OR intermittent close contact OR group sports that use equipment that can't be cleaned between participants.

Examples: basketball, volleyball, baseball, softball, soccer, ice hockey, tennis, pole vault, high jump, long jump, 7 on 7 football

Low Risk: Sports that can be done with social distancing or individually with no sharing of equipment or the ability to clean the equipment between use by competitors.

Examples: running events, cross country, throwing events, swimming, golf, weightlifting, sideline cheer

Hydration:

- **Students MUST bring their own water bottle.** Water bottles must not be shared.
- Hydration stations (water cows, water troughs, etc.) should not be utilized.

REQUIREMENTS FOR GREEN PHASE

Pre-workout/Contest Screening:

- Any person who has COVID-19 symptoms should not be allowed to participate in practice/games, and should contact their primary care physician or another appropriate health-care provider.
- Team attendance should be recorded.

Limitations on Gatherings:

- **Per Governor Wolf's order on 7/15/20: There shall be no indoor gathering of more than 25 individuals per group including coaches/advisors per scheduled activity space. All outdoor gatherings combined may not exceed the 250-person threshold. The recommendation is to split activities into multiple groups.**
- When not directly participating in practices or contests, social distancing should be considered and applied when able.

Facilities Cleaning:

- Adequate cleaning schedules should be created and implemented for all athletic facilities to mitigate any communicable disease
- Athletic Facilities should be cleaned prior to arrival and post workouts and team gatherings, high touch areas should be cleaned more often.
- Weight Room Equipment should be wiped down after and individual's use
- Appropriate clothing/shoes should be worn at all times in the weight room to minimize sweat from transmitting onto equipment surfaces.

Physical Activity and Athletic Equipment:

- Low, Moderate, and High Risk practices and competitions may begin (As per State, Local, and PIAA Guidelines).
- Students should refrain from sharing clothing/towels and should be washed after each practice, including pinnies.
- Athletic equipment that may be used by multiple individuals (balls, shields, tackling dummies, shotput, discus, pole vault, etc.) should be cleaned intermittently during practice and events as deemed necessary.
- Hand Sanitizer should be used periodically as resources allow.
- Spotters for maximum weight lifts should be stationed at each end of the bar.

Hydration:

- **Students MUST bring their own water bottle.** Water bottles must not be shared.
- Hydration Stations may be used but **MUST** be cleaned after every practice/event.

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:

Transportation:

Pine Grove Area will not provide transportation during the summer for any athletic activity. School vans will not be available for use.

Modifications for student/coach transportation to and from athletic events may be necessary. This may include:

- Reducing the number of students/coaches on a bus/van
- Using hand sanitizer upon boarding a bus/van
- Social distancing on a bus

These potential modifications will be determined by the school district, bus companies, Department of Education, State and Local governments.

Weight Room

- Limited to **15** people at a time
- If creating groups for the weight room, the groups should remain the same.
- Equipment should be sanitized after each use.

Social Distancing during Contests/Events/Activities

- Sidelines/Bench – appropriate social distancing will need to be maintained on sidelines/bench during contests and events, as deemed necessary by the school, PIAA, state and local governments. Consider using tape or paint as a guide for students and coaches.

Who should be allowed at events?

Football

Conditions:

- 1 – Southern end of the Home bleachers is one venue and is designated as the band classroom in which graded instruction will occur
- 2 – Field and northern end of Home bleachers is the event venue and is capped at 250

Procedure:

- 1 – Every vouchered spectator must enter through the main stadium gate
- 2 – No season passes
- 3 – No senior passes
- 4 – All spectators must have a voucher to enter the stadium
- 5 – There is no admission charge for this fall
- 6 – The visiting team will not receive any vouchers
- 7 – Live stream information will be provided to visiting team and the general public

Voucher/Ticket Disbursement:

Vouchers may be distributed through the football, band and cheerleading programs. Number of vouchers will be determined prior to game day.

Venue Set-up:

- The band classroom will be roped off. This section is limited to band members and advisors.
- Band will enter the classroom from the southern end
- 12-15 foot area will separate the band classroom from the spectator area
- Spectators will enter through the main gate. The area from the stadium spectator section to the goal post of northern end will be roped off for those wishing to stand.
- No spectators on the away side of the stadium
- The field and northern end of the home bleachers have a cap of 250 people
- Spectators without a voucher are permitted outside of the fence on campus areas outside the stadium with a viewing point. These areas will be monitored for safety violations.
- Alcohol and tobacco products are prohibited on school grounds

Boys & Girls Soccer

Conditions:

1 – Field and bleacher area is considered one venue. It is capped at 250

Procedure:

- 1 – Every spectator with a voucher must enter through the main stadium gate
- 2 – No season passes
- 3 – No senior passes
- 4 – Vouchers distributed through the respective soccer programs
- 5 – There is no admission charge for this fall
- 6 – The visiting team will not receive any vouchers
- 7 – Live stream information will be provided to visiting team and the general public
- 8 - Pine Grove Area will not be closing the campus.
- 9 – Spectators without a voucher are permitted outside of the fence
- 10 - On-campus areas outside the stadium with a viewing point will be monitored
- 11 - Alcohol and tobacco products are prohibited on school grounds

Cross Country

- 1 – Stadium area will be monitored by the athletic director or his designee
- 2 – Runners begin and end inside the stadium in the fenced in area
- 3 – No spectators are allowed inside the fence
- 4 – Spectators are requested to sit in the bleachers upon entrance
- 5 – No “gathering” around the finish line
- 6 – Area will be blocked off with safety cones

Volleyball

- 1 – Subject to the 25 max people rule
- 2 – No spectators allowed
- 3 – The league will develop a plan involving waiting areas for players

***The Superintendent has the authority to modify the plan as needed if the guidance/orders/mandates change from the Governor’s office/PDE/PaDOH.

Positive Cases and Coaches, Staff, or Athletes Showing COVID-19 Symptoms

What are the signs and symptoms of COVID-19?

Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. The symptoms may range from mild to severe. (See CDC Fact Sheet in Appendix)

Symptoms may include:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore Throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

What to do if you are sick?

- If you are sick with COVID-19 or think you are infected with the virus, **STAY AT HOME**. It is essential that you take steps to help prevent the disease from spreading to people in your home or community. If you think you have been exposed to COVID-19 and develop a fever and symptoms, call your healthcare provider for medical advice.
- **Notify** the school immediately (principal, athletic director, athletic trainer, coach)
- It will be determined if others who may have been exposed (students, coaches, staff) need to be notified, isolated, and /or monitored for symptoms.
- If a Positive case of COVID-19 is Diagnosed Contact Tracing will be implemented with the assistance of local health professionals and the CDC/PA DOH. See Information in Appendix.

What to do if a student or staff become ill with COVID-19 symptoms during practice, event, or during transportation to or from an event?

- Every effort will be made to isolate the ill individual from others, until the student or staff member can leave the school or event
- If student, parent/guardian will be contacted immediately, and arrangements will be made for the student to be picked up
- Ill individual will be asked to contact their physician or appropriate healthcare professional for direction

Return of student or staff to athletics following a COVID-19 diagnosis?

- Student or staff should have medical clearance from their physician or appropriate healthcare professional, determined to be non-contagious, Fever free (without fever-reducing medicine), improvement in respiratory symptoms (cough, shortness of breath), no vomiting or diarrhea.

EDUCATION:

Coaches are required to complete the Coronavirus Awareness course through Safe Schools. Staff, Parents and Athletes will be educated on the following (through posters, flyers, meetings, emails, phone calls):

- COVID-19 signs and symptoms
- Proper ways to limit exposure to COVID-19 (hand washing, cough in your elbow, disinfecting touched surfaces, social distancing, etc.)
- The content of this Return to Sport Guidelines Document
- Any pertinent COVID-19 information released by state/local governments, NFHS, and PIAA.

**Pine Grove Area School District
Athletic Department
Participation Waiver for Communicable Diseases Including COVID-19**

The COVID-19 pandemic has presented athletics across the world with a myriad of challenges concerning this highly contagious illness that primarily attacks the upper respiratory system. Some severe outcomes have been reported in children, and a child with a mild or even asymptomatic case of COVID-19 can spread the infection to others who may be far more vulnerable.

While it is not possible to eliminate all risk of furthering the spread of COVID-19, the PGASD will take necessary precautions and comply with guidelines from the federal, state, and local governments, CDC, PA DOH, as well as the NFHS and PIAA, to reduce the risks to students, coaches, and their families. As knowledge regarding COVID-19 is constantly changing, PGASD reserves the right to adjust and implement precautionary methods as necessary to decrease the risk of exposure for our staff, students, and spectators. Some precautionary methods in the PGASD Resocialization of Sports Recommendations include but may not be limited to:

1. Health screenings prior to any practice, event, or team meeting with participation in the activities being limited and/or prohibited where an individual displays positive responses or symptoms.
2. Encourage social distancing and promote healthy hygiene practices such as hand washing, using hand sanitizer, etc.
3. Intensify cleaning, disinfection, and ventilation in all facilities.
4. Educate Athletes, Coaches, and Staff on health and safety protocols.
5. Require Athletes and Coaches to provide their own water bottle for hydration.

By signing this form, the undersigned voluntarily agree to the following Waiver and release of liability. The undersigned agree to release and discharge all claims for ourselves, our heirs, and as a parent or legal guardian for the Student named below, against the PGASD, its Board of Directors, successors, assigns, officers, agents, employees, and volunteers and will hold them harmless from any and all liability or demands for personal injury, psychological injury, sickness, death, or claims resulting from personal injury or property damage, of any nature whatsoever which may be incurred by the Student or the undersigned relating to or as a result of the Student's participation in athletic programs, events, and activities during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The undersigned acknowledge that participating in athletic programs, events, and activities may include a possible exposure to a communicable disease including but not limited to MRSA, influenza, and COVID-19. The undersigned further acknowledge that they are aware of the risks associated with COVID-19 and that certain vulnerable individuals may have greater health risks associated with exposure to COVID-19, including individuals with serious underlying health conditions such as, but not limited to: high blood pressure, chronic lung disease, diabetes, asthma, and those whose immune systems that are compromised by chemotherapy for cancer, and other conditions requiring such therapy. While particular recommendations and personal discipline may reduce the risks associated with participating in athletics during the COVID-19 pandemic, the risk of serious illness, medical complications and possible death does exist.

We knowingly and freely assume all such risks, both known and unknown, even if arising from the negligence of others, and assume full responsibility for Student's participation in athletics during the COVID-19 pandemic. We willingly agree to comply with the stated recommendations put forth by the PGASD to limit the exposure and spread of COVID-19 and other communicable diseases. We certify that Student is in good physical condition or believe Student to be in good physical condition and allow participation in this sport at our own risk.

Student Name: _____ Sport: _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Student Athlete: _____ Date: _____

Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

(REVISION)

The Board of Directors for Pine Grove Area School District reviewed and approved the Phased School Reopening Health and Safety Plan on _____

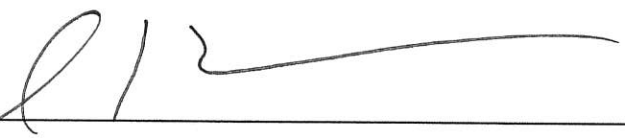
September 8, 2020

The plan was approved by a vote of:

7 Yes

1 No

Affirmed on: (INSERT DATE: MONTH, DAY, YEAR) September 8, 2020

By: 

(Signature* of Board President)

David T. Lukasewicz

(Print Name of Board President)

*Electronic signatures on this document are acceptable using one of the two methods detailed below.

Option A: The use of actual signatures is encouraged whenever possible. This method requires that the document be printed, signed, scanned, and then submitted.

Option B: If printing and scanning are not possible, add an electronic signature using the resident Microsoft Office product signature option, which is free to everyone, no installation or purchase needed.

Pine Grove Area
Winter Sports Plan

Events in the High School

JV/Varsity Boys' basketball, JV/Varsity Girls' basketball, JH/Varsity wrestling

Home spectators: 2 per Pine Grove Area participant
Seating Area: Bleachers on the girls' locker room side
Teams: No bleachers will be pulled out on the cafeteria side
Chairs will be placed for the participating teams
Chairs will be placed behind the "bench area" for opposite level
Scoring tables will be at least 2 fold out tables
(Clock operator, 2 scorebooks)
Cheerleaders: Yes – Bleacher area
Visiting spectators: No
Visiting cheerleaders: No
Wrestling: 2 corner chairs for each team
Mat sanitized prior to JH, after Varsity

Events in the Middle School

7th & 8th grade boys' basketball, 7th & 8th grade girls' basketball

Home spectators: 2 per Pine Grove Area participant
Seating Area: Bleachers on the locker room side
Teams: Teams & opposite level on bleachers
Cheerleaders: Yes – Stage
Visiting spectators: No
Visiting cheerleaders: No

Officials are asked to come to the event dressed and ready to officiate.

***Please note that our Health and Safety Plan prohibits outside entities from using our indoor space during the pandemic, this includes Bidy Basketball and Bidy Wrestling which are considered outside organizations. The admin is in full support of this, especially during the current uptick of cases.

Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors for **Pine Grove Area School District** reviewed and approved the updated Phased School Reopening Health and Safety Plan on November 19, 2020.

The plan was approved by a vote of:

Yes

No

Affirmed on: **November 19, 2020**

By:



(Signature of Board President)*

Mr. Dave Lukasewicz

(Print Name of Board President)

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PINE GROVE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Promoting Growth, Achievement, Success, and Direction for ALL Children!



*Heath W. Renninger
Superintendent*

February 12, 2021

Dear Cardinals,

I am writing to update our school community on the district's Phased Return to Full In-Person Instruction for both our Middle and High School students. Last night during the Committee of the Whole meeting our School Board reviewed the most current COVID-19 data from the State of Pennsylvania, Schuylkill County, and Pine Grove Area School District Zip Codes: 17963 and 17981. From that discussion, the Board has directed moving forward with a Phased Return to Full In-Person Instruction. The Phased Return to Full-In-Person Learning Calendar is attached to this document as pages two and three.

A synopsis of the Middle School Phased Return is:

- Grades 5 & 6 return Full In-Person on February 22, 2021
- Grades 7 & 8 return Full In-Person on March 1, 2021

A synopsis of the High School Phased Return is:

For the weeks of February 22nd, March 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd:

- Grades 9, 10, 11, 12 - Remain in the Blended Learning Model (*Monday - Thursday*)
- Grades 9, 10, 11, 12 - "All" Students Return to Full In-Person Instruction (*Fridays only*)
- On March 26th, day #1 of marking period #4, "ALL" Students Return to daily Full In-Person Instruction

Please know that the Pine Grove Area School District will continue to make decisions to the best of our abilities that serve our students and families. I continue to encourage our entire community, to please be diligent about abiding by recommended health and safety practices.

Have a great weekend,

Heath W. Renninger, Superintendent



Pine Grove Area School District

Phased Return to Full In-Person Instruction for Middle School Students

Cardinal Virtual Campus will remain an option for all students

Pine Grove Area Middle School Phased Return to Full In-Person Learning Calendar

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|--|---|---|---|---|
| <u>Week of February 15th</u> Grades 5, 6, 7, 8 remain in Blended Learning Model | | | | |
| February 15, 2021 RED – In-Person GRAY – Asynchronous | February 16, 2021 RED – Asynchronous GRAY – In-Person | February 17, 2021 RED – In-Person GRAY – Asynchronous | February 18, 2021 RED – Asynchronous GRAY – In-Person | February 19, 2021 RED – In-Person GRAY – Asynchronous |
| <u>Week of February 22nd</u> Grade 5 & 6 return to Full In-Person Instruction Grades 7 & 8 remain in Blended Learning Model | | | | |
| February 22, 2021 <u>Grades 5 & 6</u> Begin Full In-Person | February 23, 2021 <u>Grades 5 & 6</u> Full In-Person | February 24, 2021 <u>Grades 5 & 6</u> Full In-Person | February 25, 2021 <u>Grades 5 & 6</u> Full In-Person | February 26, 2021 <u>Grades 5 & 6</u> Full In-Person |
| <u>Grades 7 & 8</u> RED – In-Person GRAY – Asynchronous | <u>Grades 7 & 8</u> RED – Asynchronous GRAY – In-Person | <u>Grades 7 & 8</u> RED – In-Person GRAY – Asynchronous | <u>Grades 7 & 8</u> RED – Asynchronous GRAY – In-Person | <u>Grades 7 & 8</u> RED – Asynchronous GRAY – In-Person |
| <u>Week of March 1st</u> Grades 5 & 6 remain in Full In-Person Instruction Grades 7 & 8 return to Full In-Person Instruction | | | | |
| March 1, 2021 <u>Grades 5 & 6</u> Full In-Person <u>Grades 7 & 8</u> Begin Full In-Person | March 2, 2021 All Grades 5, 6, 7, & 8 Full In-Person | March 3, 2021 All Grades 5, 6, 7, & 8 Full In-Person | March 4, 2021 All Grades 5, 6, 7, & 8 Full In-Person | March 5, 2021 All Grades 5, 6, 7, & 8 Full In-Person |
| <u>For the week of March 8th and moving forward: Grades 5, 6, 7, & 8 remain in Full In-Person Learning</u> | | | | |

***All parents, guardians, staff, & students should continue to prepare to pivot to virtual learning in case a school closure is needed or warranted in the future.



Pine Grove Area School District

Phased Return to Full In-Person Instruction for High School Students

Cardinal Virtual Campus will remain an option for all students

Pine Grove Area High School Phased Return to Full In-Person Learning Calendar

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|--|--|--|--|---|
| For the week of February 15th: Grades 9 -12 Remain in Blended Learning Model | | | | |
| February 15, 2021 RED – In-Person GRAY – Asynchronous | February 16, 2021 RED – Asynchronous GRAY – In-Person | February 17, 2021 RED – In-Person GRAY – Asynchronous | February 18, 2021 RED – Asynchronous GRAY – In-Person | February 19, 2021 RED – In-Person GRAY – Asynchronous |
| For the weeks of February 22nd, March 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd: Grades 9 -12 Remain in Blended Learning Model (Monday-Thursday) Grades 9-12 All Students Return to Full In-Person Instruction (Fridays only) | | | | |
| February 22, 2021 RED – In-Person GRAY – Asynchronous | February 23, 2021 RED – Asynchronous GRAY – In-Person | February 24, 2021 RED – In-Person GRAY – Asynchronous | February 25, 2021 RED – Asynchronous GRAY – In-Person | February 26, 2021 All Grades 9 – 12 Full In-Person |
| March 1, 2021 RED – In-Person GRAY – Asynchronous | March 2, 2021 RED – Asynchronous GRAY – In-Person | March 3, 2021 RED – In-Person GRAY – Asynchronous | March 4, 2021 RED – Asynchronous GRAY – In-Person | March 5, 2021 All Grades 9 – 12 Full In-Person |
| March 8, 2021 RED – In-Person GRAY – Asynchronous | March 9, 2021 RED – Asynchronous GRAY – In-Person | March 10, 2021 RED – In-Person GRAY – Asynchronous | March 11, 2021 RED – Asynchronous GRAY – In-Person | March 12, 2021 All Grades 9 – 12 Full In-Person |
| March 15, 2021 RED – In-Person GRAY – Asynchronous | March 16, 2021 RED – Asynchronous GRAY – In-Person | March 17, 2021 RED – In-Person GRAY – Asynchronous | March 18, 2021 RED – Asynchronous GRAY – In-Person | March 19, 2021 All Grades 9 – 12 Full In-Person |
| March 22, 2021 RED – In-Person GRAY – Asynchronous | March 23, 2021 RED – Asynchronous GRAY – In-Person | March 24, 2021 RED – In-Person GRAY – Asynchronous | March 25, 2021 RED – Asynchronous GRAY – In-Person | March 26, 2021 (4 th M.P. begins) All Grades 9 – 12 Begin Full In-Person |
| March 29, 2021 All Grades 9 – 12 Full In-Person | March 30, 2021 All Grades 9 – 12 Full In-Person | March 31, 2021 All Grades 9 – 12 Full In-Person | April 1, 2021 All Grades 9 – 12 Full In-Person | April 2, 2021 All Grades 9 – 12 Full In-Person |

For the week of March 29th and moving forward: Grades 9, 10, 11, & 12 remain in Full In-Person Learning

***All parents, guardians, staff, & students should continue to prepare to pivot to virtual learning in case a school closure is needed or warranted in the future.

Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors for Pine Grove Area School District reviewed and approved the Phased School Reopening Plan to Full In-Person Instruction on February 18, 2021.

The plan was approved by a vote of:

6 Yes

0 No

Affirmed on: (February 18, 2021)

By:



(Signature* of Board President)

Dave Lukasewicz, School Board President

(Print Name of Board President)

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**Pine Grove Area
Spring Sports Plan**

1. Home and visiting spectators will be allowed to attend events.
2. Spectators must wear a face covering as per the most current order from the state.
3. Spectators must observe proper social distancing in all areas.
4. Any student-athlete not participating must wear a face covering.
5. Any student-athlete not participating must attempt to observe proper social distancing.
6. Any student-athlete actively participating in an athletic event will follow the face covering guidelines as established by the PIAA.
7. Game Managers/Admin/Athletic Director will monitor face coverings and social distancing.
8. Concessions are now permitted. *in Pre-Packaged Form only.*
9. Outside facility requests will be approved for entities located within PGASD (ex. youth soccer, teener league, outside booster club meetings, etc.)

Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors for Pine Grove Area reviewed and approved the Spring Sports Plan on **Thursday, March 18, 2021.**

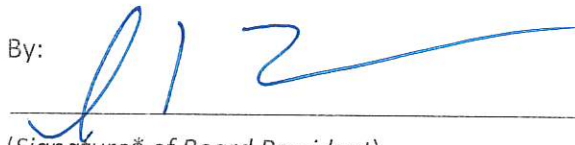
The plan was approved by a vote of:

8 Yes

0 No

Affirmed on: **March 18, 2021**

By:



(Signature* of Board President)

Mr. Dave Lukasewicz



(Print Name of Board President)

PGASD Health and Safety Plan Revision Recommendation 5-20-21

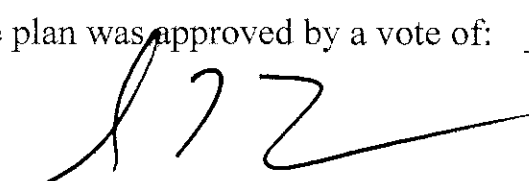
1. Effective Friday, May 21, 2021
 - a. The most recent version (3-18-21) of the PGASD Health & Safety Plan remains in effect until 11:59am, June 4, 2021.
 - i. With the exception of:
 1. Indoor facility requests may now be approved for entities located within PGASD (ex. youth, boosters, pto's)
 2. Concessions will now be permitted fully.
2. Effective Friday, June 4, 2021 at 12:00pm the following will be implemented for the **Summer months of 2021**.
 - a. All indoor and outdoor gathering limits are lifted (6ft social distancing is still recommended by PaDoh for individuals from different households)
 - b. Inside classrooms & other instructional areas
 - i. Elementary Schools
 1. Students should remain at least 3 feet apart regardless of transmission level
 - ii. Middle & High Schools
 1. Students should remain at least 3 feet apart in areas of low and moderate community transmission. In areas of substantial community transmission, middle and high school students should be 6 feet apart, or to the maximum extent feasible
 - c. In all settings outside of the classroom and other instructional spaces, Everyone should attempt to maintain 6 feet of distance to the maximum extent feasible including:
 - i. Between adults in the school building and between adults and students.
 - ii. When eating, in meetings, or riding in district vehicles.
 - iii. During activities when increased exhalation occurs, such as singing, shouting, band, orchestra, or sports and exercise. These activities should attempt to moved outdoors or to large, well-ventilated spaces.
 - iv. In common areas such as school lobbies, gymnasiums, and auditoriums.

- d. Case Investigation / Contact Tracing / Quarantining
 - i. Lifting the targeted mitigation orders does not change the process for case investigation or contact tracing, or subsequent quarantine guidance that may result from those processes.
 - 1. Move from 14 day quarantine to 10 day quarantine, 7 days with a negative test, after the fifth day. (N/A)
- e. Visitors / Field Trips for Summer months 2021
 - i. May be approved as per building admin discretion.
- f. Face coverings
 - i. Following the latest CDC & PaDoh guidance:
 - 1. Outdoors
 - a. Face coverings are now optional for everyone if 3-6 feet of social distancing can be obtained.
 - 2. Indoors
 - a. Face coverings will no longer be required for fully vaccinated individuals (2 weeks beyond final dose).
 - i. Staff & Contractors must show evidence of being fully vaccinated to supervisors.
 - ii. Students must show evidence of being fully vaccinated to building admin.
 - iii. Visitors must show evidence of being fully vaccinated to building secretary.
 - b. Individuals who are not fully vaccinated will still be required to wear a face covering at all times while indoors, or inside district operated vehicles.

Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of directors for Pine Grove Area School District reviewed and approved the revisions to the current Health and Safety Plan on Thursday, May 20, 2021.

The plan was approved by a vote of: 6 YES 0 NO

By: 
Mr. Dave Lukasewicz, Board President