



Return to School Education Plan - Phase III Frequently Asked Questions

Reminder –The circumstances related to COVID-19 evolve constantly. Therefore, we will update our plans as necessary based on guidance from national, state and local sources.

How many students will be in a typical classroom?

Class size will vary depending on grade level.

When will the 4 day-a-week in-person learning model begin?

In order to provide time for proper planning, the middle school 4 day-a-week model will begin on Monday, February 1, 2021.

Which EF students will have the 4 day-a-week, in-person learning model option?

Middle school students in grades 6, 7, & 8 that are currently in the hybrid model, will have the option of attending school 4 days a week. The district will continue to monitor health data and work with local and state health officials to evaluate the possibility of extending this option to our high school students.

Will students continue to follow 6-foot social distancing guidelines?

In nearly every classroom, enrollment will dictate that students are seated less than 6 feet from one another. Every effort will be made to ensure that students are separated by the maximum extent when possible.

Will we return to a hybrid model if case counts increase?

Returning back to a hybrid model from a 4 day-a-week model would present many challenges and would severely limit student access to in-person instruction. Should case counts in the middle school increase, the district would work closely with the Allegheny County Department of Health to determine the safest course of action. A hybrid model would be recommended after a prolonged closure resulting in district-wide full-time remote learning for all students.

Will the rules for face covering change?

The face covering rules will remain in place. Students will not be separated 6 feet apart in the classroom, mask breaks will be limited.

When will the classroom and other areas be cleaned?

Wednesday has been used for deep cleaning purposes since the beginning of the year. Spaces will be cleaned during the day and classrooms will be thoroughly cleaned each evening.

What other mitigation steps will be followed in the middle school?

There will be no changes to mitigation steps in the middle school. This includes the limiting of outside visitors, the use of symptom screening procedures, the implementation of cleaning and sanitizing procedures, and all steps included on the district's Health and Safety Plan.

How long is the district asking parents to commit to a 4-day-a-week/remote learning model?

The district is asking parents and guardians to have their student(s) remain in their current in-person or full-time remote learning model. All students currently attending the 2 day-a-week hybrid model would now attend school 4 days-a-week. All students learning remotely full-time would continue with no change. Parents that are interested in changing their child's instructional model would be asked to contact the building principal (412) 896-2332.

What will lunches look like for middle school students?

Students will be able to enjoy their lunch in the cafeteria or iCreate studio. They will be socially distanced while eating and drinking and each table will have plexiglass partitions. Please note that the USDA is extending flexibilities to allow for free meals (breakfast & lunch) to continue to be available to all children throughout the entire 2020-2021 school year.

What will transportation look like for middle school students?

Buses may double their current occupancy. This will be dependent on the number of students that are driven to school. Students may be required to sit two to a seat and ***MUST*** wear their masks for the entire trip. It is critical that all students follow the [current loading and unloading procedures](#).