



WILLIAM J. GRETZULA, Ed.D.
Superintendent

PENNSBURY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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October 23, 2020

Dear Pennsbury School District Parents/Guardians,

I hope this letter continues to find you healthy and well. I write today to provide an update on plans to potentially reopen schools for in-person instruction. At a special Action Meeting of the Board of School Directors, held Wednesday, October 21st, the Board approved a revised Continuity of Education plan that phases students back into schools for in-person instruction. A link to the presentation is included [here](#). Current dates and student levels are as follows:

Phase 1: All Students in Grades PreK-2 and All Invited Students in Specialized Learning Classrooms K-12

- In-person instruction will be offered through a hybrid model beginning **November 12, 2020**. Students in Cohort A will report on Monday and Tuesday. Students in Cohort B will report on Wednesday and Thursday. All students will participate in synchronous instruction from home on Friday. Students in Specialized Learning Classrooms will be offered 4 days of in-person instruction per week beginning November 12, 2020.
- The 100% remote instruction option will continue to be available.

Phase 2: All Students in Grades 3-5 and 6-8

- In-person instruction will be offered through a hybrid model beginning **December 7, 2020**. Students in Cohort A will report on Monday and Tuesday. Students in Cohort B will report on Wednesday and Thursday. All students will participate in synchronous instruction from home on Friday.
- The 100% remote instruction option will continue to be available.

Staff will work in the coming weeks to assign students to either Cohort A or Cohort B in their respective school settings based upon survey responses. Families interested in returning for in-person instruction through a hybrid model, please consider the data provided in the elementary and middle school survey sent two weeks ago to families. If you have yet to complete the survey, or may wish to change your preference, the survey remains open and can be accessed below. Duplicate answers

MISSION

Recognizing our proud traditions and diverse community, the Pennsbury School District prepares all students to become creative, ethical, and critical thinkers for lifelong success in a global society.

will be removed, and we will use the latest submission to guide our planning. Again, the survey is below:

For Parents/Guardians of Students at the Elementary and Middle Schools

https://pennsbury.iad1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_787JglW20Z42GvX

As for our high school students, the administration maintained the proposal that was approved by the Board of School Directors on August 20, 2020, which can be found below as Phase 3.

Phase 3: All Students in Grades 9-12

- Continue to follow full remote learning through first semester
- Hybrid A/B to begin February 2, 2021

In Person Keystone Testing:

- Winter Wave 2
- January 4-15, 2021

In Person End of Course Assessments:

- ALL students will report per scheduled times
- January 19-29, 2021

However, the Board also expressed collective interest in reopening schools for in-person instruction sooner than originally planned for our high school students. Administration has been directed to present various options at the Board Education Meeting on November 5th. This will be held virtually and a link to view the meeting will be shared with the community as the date approaches.

In order to facilitate high school planning for a potential return to school prior to February 2, 2021, we are once again interested in knowing the thoughts of our families and would appreciate input regarding preferences for in-person vs. remote learning options. ***Please consider completion of the new survey found below by Tuesday, October 27, 2020:***

For Parents/Guardians of Students at Pennsbury High School

https://pennsbury.iad1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_81XJ02ZbtPsv0fH

Reopening Decision

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While we continue to plan, it is essential to recognize that schools will only reopen if the conditions support such a decision. Specifically, School Board President, Mr. Kannan, and the Board have offered a framework for considering COVID metrics to determine if we can safely return to schools in any capacity. While we monitor weekly updates from the county and state Departments of Health, we are in constant communication with our neighboring districts to learn from their experiences as well.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William J. Gretzula". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

William J. Gretzula, Ed.D.
District Superintendent
Pennsbury School District