



## PENNSBURY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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**THOMAS A. SMITH, Ed.D.**  
*Superintendent*

August 13, 2021

Dear Pennsbury School Community,

I hope you are having a safe and enjoyable summer. I am writing to provide you with a brief update regarding our return to school planning. We are excited to return to a full-day, five days per week, in-person program, beginning on August 30 ([click here for the district calendar](#)). Due to the increase in the COVID-19 virus, we are reviewing our in-school health and safety protocols and adjusting them accordingly to ensure the safety of our students and staff.

### **Health and Safety Plan**

We are committed to mitigation efforts that will minimize the spread of COVID-19, specifically the Delta Variant. Our Health and Safety Committee has been meeting to update our draft Health and Safety Plan. The [updated plan](#) will be shared at the August 19 Board of Directors meeting for their review and approval. This plan is intended to be a fluid document that will be updated in response to changing transmission rates and/or local, regional or state guidance. The updated plan includes these mitigation efforts:

- Required mask-wearing for all students Prek-5 and strongly recommended for unvaccinated students and staff in grades 6-12.
- Required mask-wearing on school buses (as required by the CDC).
- Additional changes to mask-wearing protocols will be based on local cases and/or local, regional or state guidance.
- Distances of at least three feet or more will be maintained wherever possible.
- Notification and modified contact tracing and quarantining will continue. Details will be shared prior to the start of school.

### **Student Schedules and Transportation Information**

- On the afternoon of **Thursday, August 19**, high school schedules will be available.
- On the afternoon of **Friday, August 20**, student schedules, elementary class placement, and bus stop information for all students will be available in [Pennsbury Home Access Center](#) (HAC).
- This information is also available using a mobile app. Mobile app directions are available by [clicking here](#).
- **Please try accessing your account prior to August 19.** If you need help accessing your account [click here](#).

### **Mental Health Supports**

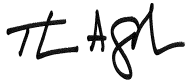
We recognize the impact the past 18 months has had on our families, staff, and students. Please take the time to speak to your children about their mental wellness and any issues they may be facing. We are committed to

working with our teachers, school counselors, and staff to support the mental health and wellness of our students. Our counseling department has developed a [list of resources](#) for families.

In an effort to support families who would like an on-line program, Pennsbury will offer the [Cyber Academy at Pennsbury](#) (CAP) for students in grades K-12. This program differs from the remote learning program offered to all students last year. It is presented as a fully asynchronous program which offers students the flexibility to learn and study in a self-paced manner with submission deadlines for assignments.

Thank you for your continued support of the Pennsbury School District as we prepare to welcome back over 10,000 students into our schools. We are working diligently to provide a safe and comprehensive educational program for all of our students and staff when they begin to return on August 30. Please look out for additional updates in the coming weeks.

Sincerely,



Thomas A. Smith, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools  
tsmith@pennsburysd.org

**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.*