

WEST PERRY SCHOOL DISTRICT
2606 Shermans Valley Road
Elliottsburg, PA 17024
Mr. David M. Zula, Superintendent
(p) 717-789-3934
(f) 717-789-4997
www.westperry.org

8/18/2020

Dear WPSD Parent/Guardian:

Today's update provides important information you will need regarding the reopening of schools on Monday, August 24, 2020. Please take a few minutes to review the following items:

❖ All K-12 students are expected to wear a face covering when on the school bus and in the school building. Students are expected to arrive at school wearing their own facial covering, but WPSD will provide disposable facemasks for anyone who forgets or damages their mask.

On August 17, 2020, the PA Department of Education released updated guidance on the wearing of facial coverings, which changes the original guidance that permitted masks to be removed when students were seated 6 feet apart at their desks. Based on the information that was received yesterday, facial coverings may only be removed when students are eating/drinking and during mask breaks not to exceed 10 minutes.

Please see this <u>Updated Facial Covering Requirement document for more information.</u>

A <u>facial covering</u> means a covering of the nose and mouth that us secured to the head with ties, straps, or loops over the ears or is wrapped around the lower face. An approved face covering can be made of synthetic or natural fabrics, including cotton, silk, or linen. Face coverings also include a plastic face shield that covers both the nose and mouth.

The District will work hard to build multiple breaks into students' schedules. Teachers are recommended to provide mask breaks when students are working independently at their workstation. We do not envision students wearing masks on for an entire school day.

- ❖ PA interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA) has not yet made its decision on the future of sports. PIAA is meeting again on Friday, August 21 to determine if fall sports will commence on September 4, 2020 as previously announced. The District will update parents if new information is released.
- ❖ Parents are expected to conduct the following <u>daily pre-screening check</u> with their child(ren) before they leave home each morning.

Students who present with symptoms should not be sent to school. Please notify the building nurse immediately if symptoms are evident. Upon arrival each day, all students will have their temperature checked before entering homeroom/first period. Students whose temperature alerts school personnel to a possible fever will be immediately taken to an isolation room and parents will be contacted to pick up the child. Further directions will be provided to the parent upon arrival.

❖ Last week PDE and DOH issued joint guidance to school districts regarding decisions to close classrooms, buildings, or a school district if a confirmed positive case of COVID-19 occurs. The links below take you to the guidance that the District will use regarding decisions related to an exposed or positive case of COVID-19.

COVID-19 Symptomatic K-12 Student of Staff Process Flow

WPSD Closure Response Criteria

- ❖ Parents who are considering West Perry Virtual Academy, should complete the <u>survey</u> located on the website. Due to demands for enrollment, any registrations that were made after August 14 will have a start date of September 8. Enrolled students should attend face-to-face instruction for the first two weeks or until contacted by the building principal.
- ❖ The plans for the next two weeks are to continue with the A/B schedule for students. During the next two weeks, the District will gather data that will come from parent and staff surveys, and review data related to COVID-19 in the schools and community. A decision on the educational schedule for students beyond September 4 will be made by Friday, August 28.

We will update you when additional information is available. The District goal continues to be providing every student with an excellent educational experience! We will do this is the safest way possible. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding during these trying times. If you have any questions or thoughts, please do not hesitate to contact me at <u>dzula@westperry.org</u>.

Thank you,

David M. Zula

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Superintendent of Schools